

What has Erasmus done for me?

Nine months ago I was given the opportunity to join the Erasmus project, easy to say in hindsight that I am so grateful for it. Everything started with a couple meetings every month. Because I was abroad I missed the first ones, but anyway once I came back I could get to know more kids who have always been in my own school that I had never seen before and straight from the beginning I knew this project would have brought me new friends.

With a lot of patience, hope and thanks to our incredible teacher my classmates and I got the chance to set off from Bologna to Funchal. During the time spent at home preparing for the different activities I was so excited but scared as well. Little did I know I had no reason to be worried at all. Sure we have been through some stressful times like when we didn't find our suitcases once we lent in Madeira, or when we had to face our fears and speak in public, whether it was at the public assembly or at the radio. Beside all the work, we did enjoy the place! Everyday we had the chance to see a bit more of the island and all the beautiful landscapes; I guess one of my favourite trips was the Levada walk or the boat trip.

I was lucky enough to be hosted by one of the kindest girls of the island and her family has been the fourth to host me in my life and honestly it has been the best one so far. They really made me feel like I was a member of their family. Also I have met other great people, from Madeira and the other countries which were part of the project. In fact I met some guys and we found out our birthdays are pretty close to each other's and it would be amazing to celebrate them all together one year!

After this incredible experience I can truly say that it's true: **no man is an island**. We all need somebody to feel good with ourselves and I found that somebody.