

We are Gabriela and Nayra, students from Spain and we belong to the Stop Fences Erasmus project.

We are very happy to be part of this great opportunity of cultural and language exchange that allows us to enrich ourselves in terms of new knowledge and develop our linguistic and social skills.

Nayra's opinion:

From the moment I knew that I was going to come to Belgium and visit this country I was really happy, as I considered that it would be a very good opportunity to be able to practice my English skills and to be able to improve it since it is a country that is continuously in contact with other cultures for being the European capital.

To be completely honest, I didn't have any expectations about how the experience was going to be, I just thought about how cold we were going to be and that it could probably snow because of the rain and the cold. I didn't want to look up anything about the country so I could experience it all for the first time without any ideas in mind. What I never imagined was to see the effect of autumn on the trees and the incredible constructions that are so unique to this country.

I had some very fun and exciting experiences. The first day we went for a long walk in the park of Tervuren; it was beautiful because of the fact that we were seeing autumn in the landscapes for the first time. The next day we visited Antwerpen, a place that created a thousand butterflies in me because of its architecture, its cathedral, the train station and of course, the exciting and delicious chocolate museum that made me start to like chocolate. And finally, Brussels, which together with its famous Parliament where we felt like real politicians and its great square, made me cry.

I am very happy to have come and experience Belgian traditions, food and life first hand.

Gabriela's opinion:

Personally I didn't come with any particular expectations, I preferred to be surprised and not even look for pictures or anything similar to that.

You could say that if I had expectations, this experience has far exceeded them! I should also mention that this is my first trip to another country and outside the Canary Islands, so I am very happy to be here.

For me Belgium is like being in a dream, in a movie. I love that everything is so green and beautiful, the people are very friendly and the scenery everywhere is amazing.

I think what has impressed me most about this country so far are the houses. That's why I think I feel like I'm in a dream, the landscapes, the customs?

The sunsets and the sunrise have also impressed me a lot for now, the vegetation, seeing so many animals, seeing the buildings in Brussels, the statues, etc.

All in all, I think this trip has been, is and will continue to be wonderful throughout the week, and I will probably miss the people, the place and especially the family that welcomes me.