

# **Report on the trip to Croatia as part of the Erasmus + project “Bridges Over Opened Minds”**



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**17-23. 03.2019 r.**

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From 18 to 23 March 2019 students and teachers together with the coordinator - Mrs Maria Pirecka - director of The Primate of the Millennium of Stefan Cardinal Wyszyński in Fanianowo participated in the trip of the Erasmus + project in Croatia.

At 17<sup>th</sup> of March at 8.00 o'clock a.m., a group of nine students from the sixth and seventh grade said goodbye to their parents in Bydgoszcz. From there, the team set off by bus to the Chopin airport in Warsaw. At 15.45 we flew to Zagreb thanks to Polish LOT lines. For most children it was the first flight in a lifetime. The trip went without problems. From the airport we went by bus and then by tram to the destination - the Chillout hotel. There, we met pupils and teachers from the Italian school. After a delicious dinner, we were very tired and we went to sleep. On Monday we went to the Plitvice Lakes National Park, located near the border with Bosnia and Herzegovina. Although the weather of that day was more winter than spring, we had a great time. A trip by bus allowed to admire the beautiful landscapes. There, at the Mirjana restaurant, we ate dinner and dessert. From there, we went to Nova Gradiska, where families who hosted their students were waiting for their students.

Teachers along with Mr. Director were accommodated in the Tomislav hotel. On March 19, we came to school in the morning - Osnovna Skola "Matija Gubec" in Cernik. Our students with our Croatian colleagues and teams from Italy, Romania and Croatia were waiting for us there. The headmaster greeted the guests at the school. She introduced everyone to her history and organization. After she invited to visit the building. During this time, students were in class. A human rights calendar was being prepared in international groups. The Polish team presented their calendar, which was very liked. That is why during the workshops, following the example of Polish work, materials for a common calendar on human rights were developed. In free time we practiced a theatrical performance about tolerance in the gym. After the classes, the students went to Croatian homes. Teachers, on the other hand, took part in a conference conducted by a Polish coordinator - Maria Pirecka, devoted to the eTwinning platform. After they went to the hotel and then took a walk through the streets of Nova Gradiska.

On the last day of the winter calendar, after breakfast, we set off by bus to Osijek. It is a city in eastern Croatia in the historical Land of Slowania, on the river Drava. It has 130,000 inhabitants and is the fourth largest agglomeration of the country. There, we visited the most interesting places of the city, especially the Cathedral of St. Peter and Paul. From there, we went to the water park in Bizovac. After a delicious dinner, it was time to take a walk, where beautiful outdoor photos were created. The weather of this day was really beautiful. After a sweet snack and tea, we set off to the place of accommodation. In the evening, together with partners from Italy, Romania and Croatia, we ate dinner at a nearby SOHO restaurant.

On Thursday, we all went to school. The students presented their native legends during the workshops. After which they started to create an European legend. At the same time,

journalistic workshops were held during which the newspaper was being created. That day we also presented our theatrical scenes about tolerance, which they liked very much. After lunch, we had the opportunity to visit the Saint Peter the Apostle church, located near the school. In the nearby biblical and archaeological museum, we saw the exhibition of the Bible. We were extremely impressed by their number, as well as the places from which they were brought. From there, we went to the accommodation to prepare for the gala dinner party at the hotel. Beautifully dressed and prepared for great fun, we started an unforgettable evening. Together with host families, teachers from the Croatian school and all project partners, we have mentioned the most interesting moments of stay in Croatia. It was time for commemorative photos, thanks and giving gifts. There, too, all the bands were given certificates.

On Friday morning we went by bus to Zagreb. We visited the neo-gothic cathedral of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, whose towers tower above the city. It is the highest sacral building in the country. Our attention was drawn by the church of Saint. A brand with a distinctive roof with historical arms of Croatia and Zagreb. We participated in the festival of lights, which was an amazing experience. After dinner, we went to sleep.

We spent the Saturday morning in the center of Zagreb. We bought souvenirs. After we went to the airport. At 18.15 we said goodbye to Croatia. We landed in Warsaw at 19.40. From there, we set off by bus to Bydgoszcz. Around 24.00 we arrived safely to our destination.

The trip was an amazing adventure for students, new colleagues, beautiful places that others can only dream about. However, above all, it was an opportunity to check and improve your communication skills in English. The huge distinction that has been met by children will remain in memory for a long time.

Fig. 1. Journey to Zagreb



Fig. 2. Plitvice Lakes National Park



Fig. 3. Osnovna Skola "Matija Gubec" in Cernik



Fig. 4. Developing materials on human rights



Fig. 5. Scenes to the calendar on human rights



Fig. 6. Project teams from Croatia, Poland, Italy and Romania



Fig. 7. A trip to Osijek



Fig. 8. Bizovac



Fig. 9. Presentation of scenes about tolerance, creation of a European legend and newspaper



Fig. 10. The biblical and archeological museum in Cernik





Fig. 11. Farewell dinner and handing of certificates



Fig. 12. Upper Town in Zagreb



Fig. 13. Center of Zagreb



Fig. 14. We're coming back home

