## **Iason Marinopoulos**

## Impressions From The Erasmus Trip To Finland

A few weeks ago, I went on a trip to Finland as part of the Greek Erasmus team. It was one of the best experiences of my life which, to be honest, changed my entire life plans and goals. Overall, I made new friends, learned a lot and had a blast!



On the first day, I was really impressed by... everything to be honest. The school, the city, my host student and the church were all fantastic. The school was very modern, and quite different compared to my country's. The lockers were a great idea I think should be implemented in our schools as well. The city was very unique, it simultaneously felt huge and small. While there are many people living there, it was smaller than Greek cities of equal size. I suppose it's because of people living like my host student, out of town. We lived about 35 minutes away from Lahti. That didn't stop us from having a great time though. Lastly, I LOVED the Church Of The Cross. It was vastly different from any Greek church and I was truly awestruck by it.



On the second day, I vividly remember two things: the panel I did and the radio interview.

I was so anxious before for both of them! I really enjoyed those activities while I did them though. Oh, also, there was another highlight this day. We, the entire Greek team with their host students, had a sauna party at my Janna's (my host student) house! I had so much fun! We had drinks, snacks, a sauna, and a jacuzzi afterward. I definitely still miss that sauna



On the third day was the trip to Helsinki! We did so many things. We visited the National Finnish Museum, the Helsinki Library, the church Uspenski and much more. I wish the libraries in Greece were more like Oodi. It was a place I wish I could stay forever and I honestly see myself spending countless hours there.



On the fourth day, I remember going to visit Lammi with Janna. We had a great time and even visited a farm with bison.



On the fifth and final day, I remember all the project work we did and, of course, the party. We had a great time and I think it was a good end to our visit. I have lots of photos to show you.



Overall, it was a fantastic experience and I look forward to going back to Finland as soon as possible.