

Octombrie în România

After accomplished meetings in Poland, Croatia and Italy, participants of project set off to Romania. The meeting of partner schools in Pitesti was scheduled for the second half of October. Early in the Saturday morning seven students; Mirta Džida, Andrea Mihal, Antonija Mišković, Irena Budimir, Matea Žilak, Sara Roginić, Barbara Tolić and three professors; Nataša Blažić, Biljana Mikić and Andrijana Nemet-Kosijer comfortably settled in the bus and the journey could begin.

Almost thirteen hours of driving through the dark was behind us so we started feeling a bit nervous because we didn't know where exactly we were going and what we could expect. Finally, we arrived into the center of the city where we were greeted by our equally excited hosts. Next day some of us visited Bucharest with their hosts, while the other were resting, talking, sightseeing in Pitesti as the day slowly passed by. For our Romanian friends, Monday meant return to school where they would introduce us to all their friends. For us, it was just one in a series of new and unknown things that we should face.

The following days were exhausting and full of surprises but we enjoyed it. We spent most mornings in the school where the official part of the meeting opened, as always, presentations; this time they were about Romania and The Comenius Day, which was celebrated in June. We could also see presentations about traditional dishes of each partner country and Internet conferences. After all of that, we had fun at a dancing competition. Interested students could learn steps of traditional Romanian dances and show their own. Andrea Mihal was one of the most successful, and in the end she even sang us a song.

Except working on the project and spending free time with hosts, we went on different excursions; first let to city Curtea de Arges and Poienari fortress, after which we saw Transylvania: Bran Castle, better known as Dracula's castle, and the city of Brasov. We saw many religious buildings, mainly in the Gothic style that impressed us with their luxury and beauty, but the Poienari fort will probably be best remembered because of thousand steps which we had to climb to see the fort. When we finally succeeded, we saw only the ruins of the former estate of Count Dracula who is suspected of many crimes that he possibly committed there. We couldn't decide whether a fantastic view in front of was worth climbing all those stairs or not. But all in all, it was a nice and exciting trip.

Meeting came to its end pretty quickly and soon it was time to return home. Some of us couldn't wait to see friends and family, some wanted to stay in Pitesti, but finally it was time to put our luggage in the bus and say final goodbye to our Romanian friends. We promised to stay in touch and see each other again, waved once more and left the city. Even the sun, which we hadn't seen for almost entire week, escorted us to the road. Everybody was happy and just a bit nostalgic while talking about all the things that happened. That was a really great week.

ROMANIA – THE GREAT EXPERIENCE

On Saturday, 22nd of October, we arrived in the beautiful town of Pitesti. Romanian students welcomed us and introduced us with their families. The next day was the day off when we could spend our free time with families. In the afternoon that day, all the Croatian students with their hosts went to the nearby mall where we came to socialize. We even watched some romantic comedia in the cinema together.

On the first day of our work-week we went to visit their Economic school where we had all sorts of presentations prepared for that day. After that we went to the Town Hall where we were warmly-welcomed. After some more work connected with the common article about internet piracy, we went home. Later that day, Romanian students introduced us with some famous pubs in the city.

On Tuesday we participated on the conference about E-learning. It was pretty interesting. After that, we had a chance to see how is to take part in some of the classes in their school. There is not a big difference than in Croatia. For that day there was an organised trip for Curtea de Arges and Poienari Fortress. The nature is really beautiful but it was a little bit exhausting because of the climbing on so many stairs. Despite of that, we all went out that night in some big club. It was really fun to experience partying on a romanian way.

We were lucky because the next day we went on a trip to Bran castle and Brasov so we could sleep while travelling. The castle is really big and we liked it very much. But what we liked even more was shopping in Brasov where we had some free time. Thursday was the last day of visiting their school. Besides some more presentations, there was an organised dance competition. It was really fun to learn some of the romanian traditional dances. The competition was big but a girl from Croatia succeeded to win the competition. After that, the project meeting was officially closed.

When we came to our houses that day, we all packed our things and prepared for the last night in Pitesti. We went to the town square where the fountains performed especially for us. After the rough night of partying, we all left our host families with sorrow but hoping that some day we will see each other again.

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