

Hello, my name is Evan Burac and I am 16 years old. I come from France and I went in Norway during 10 months thanks to the Erasmus+ project from August the 15th 2017 to June the 20th 2018. I was luckily living in a host family during my stay. During this school year I was in the second year of high school and I was following math, French, gym, English and Norwegian lessons, the lessons were all in Norwegian except from English of course so that really helped me to learn the Norwegian language. The school system in Norway is quite different from the one in France, for example the students in Norway have their own computer at school whereas in France we still write down our notes on a copybook. In Norway they also call their teachers by their name instead of their family names, that makes the relationship between the teachers and the students friendlier and I think it is a good thing. In Norway schooldays are shorter than in France, they usually start school at 8am and finish at 4pm.



During this school year, I was having lessons in Hemne high school it is a really modern school, there is 220 students and 15 teachers. The students are aged from 16 to 19 years old and they can choose between vocational studies and general studies. There is also a sport hall and a football pitch nearby that we use during our gym lessons.

The reasons why I decided to do this exchange is that I wanted to improve my English and to learn Norwegian. I already went to Norway in February 2017 so I was really interested in the Norwegian culture and wanted to know more about it. I also wanted to explore Norway and its beautiful landscape and to see how is school in Norway compared to France.

In my host family everybody was fluent in English so they helped me a lot to improve my English and they also helped me with my homework and especially with learning Norwegian. They showed me lots of beautiful landscapes and introduced me to Norwegian culture. We did a lot of typical Norwegians activities such as cross country skiing and mountains trips.



In the beginning, it was a bit difficult to understand the lessons that were in Norwegian but the teachers and some students helped me to understand and translated the exercises we had to do. Almost everybody in Norway is good in English so it was not really difficult to be understood neither at school nor at the shop for example. If you are open-minded it will not be so difficult to make friends.

The best part of this exchange is that now I am fluent in English and Norwegian, it can be helpful in my future and I made a lot of new friends while I was in Norway. I discovered a new culture and to know how people live in a foreign country was very interesting. Changing my way of life was at first a bit difficult but then I got used to it and I felt like a normal Norwegian citizen.

I will never forget this experience and I would recommend it to everyone who has the opportunity to go for it. It worth it even though you are going to miss your family, your host family will become your family too and your friends will become like brothers and sisters to you. This year abroad was the best year I ever had, coming home to France was a bit difficult but I hope that I will be able to go back to Norway later in my life.

I would like to say thank you to all the teachers involved in this project that made this wonderful experience possible.