

JANE HAINING TRIP REPORT

On the first day of the trip, we gathered at the airport about two hours before our flight. Fortunately, we got through security rather quickly, and by some miracle, my bags didn't get pulled aside for an extra security check. Since we still had loads of time before the gate opened, we sat down at a bench where we got to know each other much better by talking (tbc....)

After landing at Glasgow Airport we went to find the bus which would take us into the city. During the walk from the bus stop to the hotel, we had the chance to admire the architecture of the old buildings in the city and even discover some restaurants nearby. We took a quick rest after arriving at the hotel, and headed out for dinner after. Only two people out of the group were brave enough to try a haggis burger, whereas the others had pasta or chicken.

Once we headed out of the restaurant, we decided to head up the hill and explore the area. We walked along the streets and even visited a park where we had a beautiful view of the city. After the walk, we went back to the hotel and talked more in one of the rooms to get to know each other better.

DAY TWO:

Our first activity of the day was visiting the church named after Miss Jane Haining herself. We got to learn even more about her and her life with her girls in the school where she worked and lived.

Our second day was most definitely eventful. We took a train to Edinburgh where we walked up the hill to the famous Edinburgh castle. Unfortunately we didn't have too much time to explore, but we made sure to make the best of it. Inside the castle, we split up to look around on our own or in smaller groups. I visited the museum of war and the prisons and also walked around and looked at the viewpoints. Though the castle had already closed, two people were still missing. We waited and visited the gift shop in the meanwhile.

Once the rest of the team reappeared, we took a walk down the Royal Mile, which is a mile long street, starting at the bottom of the castle.

We got to see buildings, cathedrals and even closes which were over 200 years old.





After getting back to the hotel, a few of us hurried down to a nearby pub to watch the football match, which was comedically, Scotland versus Hungary.

Monday was one of our most eventful days. We took a two hour long train to Dumfries, the town where Jane Haining grew up and went to school.

We were picked up from the train station by Pam and (her husband) where we split into two teams and drove to the school of Jane Haining. We didn't get to go into the old building but rather visited the newly built one. We got to look around inside the main hall, various classrooms, the library and even the garden where we could see a memorial of other Scottish people who have impacted the lives of others.

During this time, we had the chance to talk with a fellow student from said school, which was arguably my favourite part of the school visit. She told us about school life in Scotland, and we discussed about the differences between school in Scotland and Hungary.

Once again splitting into two teams, we drove to the village, near the farm where Jane Haining spent her younger days.

After having lunch in (the not so heated) city hall, we walked up to the memorial tomb of Jane Haining and placed a wreath, as per the tradition. We then walked into the church, located just a few meters from said tomb. We got the chance to look around, and a short briefing about the story of the church, and its reparations. Pam was very excited to show us the new digital machine they had gotten, which contained tons of information about the church, and even videos of Jane Haining, so after watching a short film about Jane and her life in Budapest, we set off to exploring once again.

We drove around and looked at tons of beautiful scenery, including the river flowing through the village, a donkey sanctuary, and even told some jokes to a herd of cows (they didn't find it very funny).

After the excursion, we headed back to Pam's house, where I enthusiastically looked around at all the flowers in her garden, and then joined the others inside the house for tea.

Unfortunately, all good things come to an end, so after the lovely time spent with our hosts, we headed down to the train station, to catch our train back to the hotel.

On our last day, we walked to the bus station with our suitcases and headed into the inner city. We decided to do solo activities and meet later at our mutual meeting point. After a few hours of going around shops with my roommate, and eventually getting lost, we finally found our way back to the rest of the team (15 minutes late).

We ate a quick healthy lunch at McDonalds, we walked back up to the bus station one last time and headed to the airport.

Even though we arrived early, we didn't expect to be stuck in the airport for so long, when we heard that our flight had been delayed by an hour. We played various games to pass the time, explored the airport's shops, and even lost a few pounds in arcade games.

Once we saw our gate number on the board, we headed there and waited to depart.

3 hours later, we were once again, back in Budapest, having to say goodbye to each other, but finally seeing our families again, and by the end of it all, these four days didn't even seem that long, or maybe we just enjoyed it so much, that all that time flew by.