

Trip to Scotland

Never in my wildest dream did I think that I would be able to visit the UK. When my english teacher told me and my classmates about the competition and the grand prize it all seemed so far away, but me and a classmate of mine thought we should give it a try as a „fun learning experience” thinking nothing of it.

Then a couple of months later our english teacer told us that both of us made it into the finals and we were over the moon. When they announced the winner I still couldn't belive it and it took me some time to fully understand that I was going to Scotland this year.

I didn't belive it until the moment we landed in Glasgow and we were hit by the cool weather that would accompany us during the trip, it was a stark contrast to weather we experienced in Budapest before boarding. Afterwards we got onto the first bus that took us into the city centre and from there we had to do a short walk before we finally made it to our hotel.



During the trip we were staying at the Sandyford Hotel, not only was it in a good spot close to the city centre but there were many restaurants and small supermarkets around aswell, wich we took advantage of as soon as we got the chance to set down our heavy suitcases and bags in our rooms. Afterwards we went out to eat and went on a small walk to get more familiar with the city. We walked through beautiful streets and visited a park aswell before heading back to the hotel and finishing the day with lots and lots of getting to know each other.



On the second day we woke up around seven am and had breakfast in the hotel before we headed off to the Sunday service at Queen's Park Govanhill Church, where we spoke with members of the church and had some tea and a few sweet treats made by some of the members, which we were very grateful for. Before the service we got the chance to hear more about Jane Haining and saw the famous stained glass windows of the church.



In the afternoon we took the train to Edinburgh, it was an hour long train ride but the beautiful scenery made up for it. Once we arrived in Edinburgh the weather turned warm and the sun shined brightly so we were really fortunate. We spent most of the afternoon in the castle of Edinburgh, to say that the view from there was incredible is an understatement. We walked around the castle going through each and every exhibit there. It honestly felt like we went back in time, it was incredible.





Afterwards we went on a small walk down Castlehill and ate some fish and chips, then we headed back to the station and took the train back to Glasgow. By the end of the day we were pretty tired so some of us decided to head back to the hotel while the others went out to watch the soccer game between Hungary and Scotland with face paint on – true patriots of our country. I decided to watch it from the comfort of my bed in our room, but we won either way.



The next day we headed to Dumfries, there we visited Dumfries Academy and got a small tour of the school. Throughout the day we were accompanied by Pam and Colin Mitchell who became our tourguides for the day and we weren't complaining, both of them had lots of interesting stories to tell and our conversations with them were quite pleasant. After visiting the academy they drove us to Dunscore, a small village in the countryside where Jane Haining grew up. Once we arrived we had the pleasure of meeting some members of the local church and talk with them over a cup of tea a few sandwiches and desserts. Talking with them was quite an enjoyable experience, all of them were very welcoming and kind.





Once we ate Pam and Colin drove us around the village showing us the farms and the beautiful scenery of Dunscore, we visited the church aswell and Pam showed us the small exhibition of the church. We still had a bit of time before our train so Pam invited us for tea and we got to relax a bit and talk with her and Colin before heading back to Glasgow.



Ont he last day of the trip we had to leave the hotel at around ten am, we spent the rest of the day walking around and shopping for gifts to give to our families and friends .Once we met up again we went to find somewhere to eat. Lastly we visited River Clyde and we finished our trip at the river banks before taking a bus tot he airport.

Overall I'd say that I'm really happy and thankfull that I had an opprotunity like this and I will always cheris the memories that we made on this trip and hope that everyone went home with the same feeling.

