

Texte voyage en Italie

This year (2022/2023), 12 students in 12th grade had the opportunity to travel either in Italy or in North Macedonia thanks to the Erasmus+ project entitled "Populism in Europe". I've personally been part of the group of 6 students who've been travelling to Italy with 3 of our teachers; Mrs Houdebert, Mrs Gahat and Mrs Marchand. Our journey took place between Sunday, October the 2nd and Sunday, October the 9th. From Sunday to Friday, our group had been staying in a hotel in Foligno, the city where's the high school where we got to meet the Italian, Greek, Swedish and North Macedonian groups.

On Monday we participated in ice-breaking activities where we had to split up in groups with students of different nationalities. In the afternoon, we visited the city with the Italian students as guides.

On Tuesday, we went to Florence which was actually quite far from Foligno. There, we got to see the Cathedral Santa Maria del Fiore as well as the Ponte Vecchio. We got to visit the Galleria degli Uffizi (a museum) where we've had the chance to admire famous paintings such as "La Nascita di Venere". Moreover, we also visited the Giardino Boboli where we saw amazing viewing points. On our way to the garden from the museum, we stopped to taste Italian ice-creams which were actually very good as expected. It was sunny all day long and Florence was a beautiful city to visit, I won't lie though, at the end of the day, our feet were hurting so bad that most of us could barely walk.

On Wednesday, in the morning, all the groups did their presentation about their country and in the afternoon, we visited Assisi and its beautiful basilica.

On Thursday, we made presentations about different issues related to populism (abortion, immigration...), we were once again separated in groups with each nationality represented, we all had to explain how the specific topic chosen was used in our country by populist politicians. We then visited a small castle and the city hall in the afternoon, in the evening we all ate dinner together and have

been distributed diplomas for our participation to the project.

And finally, Friday was our last day in Foligno and the time to say goodbye to our European friends. We took the train to go to Roma where we stayed until Sunday. In Roma we saw the Colosseum, the Pantheon and a lot famous squares such as Spain and Navona squares as well as places like the Trevi fountain. We also went to the Vatican to visit Saint Peter's basilica which was spectacular.

To conclude, I'd say that this trip was instructive, definitely enjoyable and memorable. We had the opportunity to meet people we would have otherwise never met, we also had the opportunity to make friends from abroad and among our own group since we didn't all knew each other before. It was wonderful to see monuments and places we had only seen in pictures before. What a wonderful experience !



Cathedral Santa Maria del Fiore



The Ponte Vecchio



The 6 of us in the Giardino Boboli



Us during our presentation



The Cathedral is Assisi



The Colosseum



Saint Peter's basilica



Our group with our teachers in front of the Trevi fountain