



My Study Abroad Experience 2022

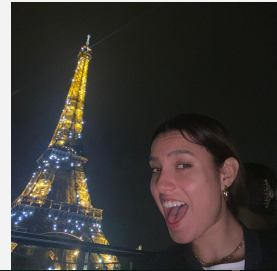
Vivi De Anda

The image features a dark, almost black background with a complex, organic pattern of thin, branching gold lines, resembling marble or a network of veins. A thin, gold rectangular border is centered on the page, framing the text. The word "PARIS" is written in a classic, elegant serif font in a gold color, positioned centrally within the border.

PARIS

Luxembourg Gardens & River Seine

During our free time in Paris, some of us enjoyed going to the Luxembourg Gardens in Paris to relax, play card games, eat snacks, and hang out. I did not expect to find such a relaxing and stunningly beautiful park that is open to the public in Paris. It showed me that while there is chaos and excitement in Paris, I can also take a minute to slow down and enjoy food and games with my friends. That same night, we did a boat tour on the River Seine and learned more about Notre-Dame, Alexander III Bridge, Grand Palais, the Eiffel Tower, Musee d'Orsay, and more. Paris has so much art and architecture with so much history behind it and I loved learning about this historical landmarks and gained a better understanding of why it is so important to its culture.



The Basilique du Sacré-Coeur de Montmartre

After a long, fun day traveling all over Paris and Versailles with the group, some of us decided to visit Sacre-Coeur, a Catholic basilica that sits on the highest hill in Paris. This was a wonderful experience for me, just being that I am Catholic and was able to spend some time in the beautiful church as well as enjoy an overview of Paris. We enjoyed pizza at a local restaurant on top of the mountain. Afterwards, we explored different roads and neighborhoods on our way back down the mountain. This furthered my appreciation for Paris' rich history behind important buildings and landmarks.



The image features a black marble background with intricate, flowing gold veins. A thin, double-lined gold border frames the entire composition. Centered within this frame is the text "St. MALO" in a gold, serif font. The "St." is smaller and positioned to the left of "MALO", which is in a larger, all-caps font.

St. MALO

Local Landmarks, Football games, & Local Food

We visited St. Malo, which is a port city in Brittany. I enjoyed St. Malo because it was a lot quieter and calmer than Paris. We explored the Solidor Tower, and had dinner at a small local restaurant with the best lasagna I've ever had. The next day we went to an Irish Pub to watch the Frankfort vs. RB Leipzig football game for the Europa League tournament. This was a great experience because we watched the game with locals and learned more about them and France as we watched the game.

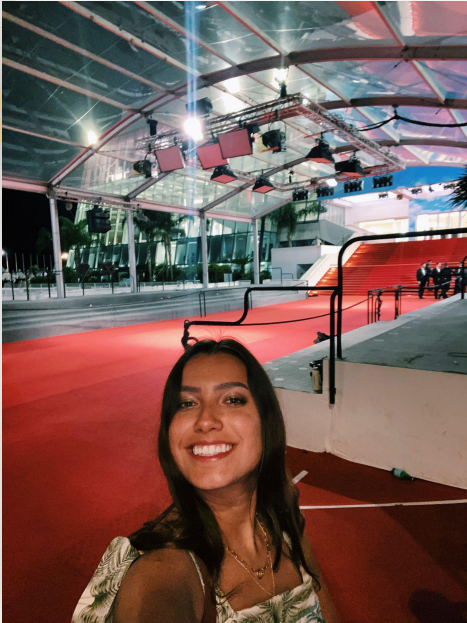


Weekend Trip to:

CANNES

Beach and Cannes 2022 Film Festival

Cannes is a city in France in the French Riviera and it is famed for its international film festival. We happened to visit Cannes during the film festival and got to experience the events first hand and watch celebrities walk down the red carpet. I loved being in Cannes during all the events. We went to a beautiful sandy beach to relax and play beach volleyball too! This opened my eyes to how much more France had to offer than just the city, because they have smaller towns by the coast that are a lot more calm.



The background is a dark, almost black, marbled surface with intricate, branching veins of gold and light brown. The veins are irregular and organic in shape, creating a rich, textured appearance. A thin, gold-colored rectangular border frames the entire image, adding a touch of elegance and definition to the composition.

AIX EN PROVENCE

Market, Cezanne Cinema, and Beach Volleyball

Having Aix as a home base was amazing because of all the events, festivals, and markets they have going on. While we were here they had an Iron Man, local pop up markets, the release of Top Gun: Maverick, and more. We enjoyed going to the market on Saturdays, going to the movie theater, and playing beach volleyball. This showed me what it would be like to be a college student in Aix and there is a lot to do, so it's always fun! I learned about Art et Metiers history and traditions and made local college friends. We enjoyed the Gala with them and they even took us to the top of a mountain for a beautiful oversight of Cassis.

I loved having a school routine and going to the grocery store with my friends. Our favorite restaurants were Parma, Prima, and Boca Loca. We loved trying new restaurants too!



More in Aix en Provence!



The background is a dark, almost black, surface with intricate, golden-brown veins that resemble natural stone or marble. The veins are thin and irregular, creating a complex, organic pattern. A thin, gold-colored rectangular border is centered on the page, framing the text. The text is rendered in a classic, elegant serif font, with all letters in uppercase. The color of the text is a bright, metallic gold, which stands out sharply against the dark background.

INTERLAKEN,
SWITZERLAND

Paragliding, Hiking, and Paddleboarding

This was my first time visiting Switzerland and I had no idea what to expect because I did not know much about this country. I was in awe by Switzerland's natural beauty, climate, and outdoor activities you could do in Interlaken. We went to the top of Harder Kulm Mountain for an incredible overview of all of Interlaken and Uterseen and hiked Harder Kulm. Paragliding was unquestionably the coolest experience in Switzerland because it was exhilarating and had a breath-taking scenery, while floating around.



EXCURSIONS

Mont St. Michel, Normandy, Marseille, Gorges Du Verdon, the
Calanques



How I was Impacted

Overall, words cannot describe how grateful I am for this experience. Deciding to study abroad was one of the best experiences I've ever had and I am leaving this trip with new friends, more culturally aware, appreciative of all the beauty and history France has to offer in so many different ways from the port cities, big cities, coastline cities, and countryside. France is a beautiful country with diverse scenery that I would have never grown to love if I never visited. I learned about the differences between our two countries in food, education, and social aspects. All while learning Fluid Dynamics and it was an enjoyable class with my new close friends.

