

My Study Abroad Experience

Erika Hernandez

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What I expected

Before this trip, I really had no idea what to expect. I had never traveled abroad before, I didn't know anyone going on this trip, and I'm not even a civil engineering major! Deciding to take this trip was beyond my comfort zone, but I couldn't be happier that I did.

Brief Timeline



Paris, France

My first day in Paris, we spontaneously bought tickets to the Orsay Museum, ate overpriced food, and walked around until our feet hurt. It was the perfect first day. Connections between my classmates and I formed quickly and I soon felt comfortable with them. Most of our days were spent gathering as many people together as possible to eat with, visit a monument with, or walk around with. I didn't sleep much in Paris, but it was worth every moment.



Aix-En Provence, France

Aix was such a fun town. I got to really immerse myself in the French culture and was able to grow close with some of the locals there, especially with our French ambassador student, Lucas. My friends and I loved spending our money at IT Trattoria off the main road and the casino. I couldn't be more happy then I was when I was living in Aix. I loved my walks to class in the morning, I loved living in the dorms with my friends, and I loved ordering a coffee and pan au chocolate every morning at the cafe right next to school.





Nice, France

Nice was the first trip my friends and I went on. The beaches there were absolutely stunning and the weather was perfect. We spent most of our time relaxing on the beach, playing spikeball and cards, and eating lots of gelato.



Luekerbad, Switzerland

Switzerland is where we spent our 6 day weekend. Words cannot express how breathtakingly beautiful it was there. We spent most of our time hiking and exploring. One of my favorite days there, we took a train to a city named Oeschinen where we hiked to a beautiful lake, went on a toboggan ride down the side of a mountain, and ended the night back at our airbnb cooking a big pasta dinner. It was the best time.





Marseille, France

Marseille was the last place we went to.
The town was right on the port and filled
with



Conclusion

Going on this study abroad program was one of the best decision I have ever made. It is bittersweet to say goodbye to my time in France but I will always cherish the sweet memories I made.

Au Revoir!

Thanks and Gig 'Em