

PRVA IZKUŠNJA SKUPNEGA ODGOVORNEGA **POTOVANJA**

Po osem dijakov iz štirih držav se je med 9. in 14. majem 2016 srečalo v Rumburku in Nacionalnem parku Czech Switzerland na severu Češke.

Na Gimnaziji Rumburk smo raziskovali podjetniške priložnosti za razvoj odgovornega turizma, nato pa smo tak princip potovanja preizkusili v idiličnem nacionalnem parku. Štiri skupine med seboj pomešanih narodnosti smo na različnih poteh preizkušali svoje zmožnosti skupinske izvedbe odprav. Taborili smo, s prostovoljnim delom pomagali pri utrjevanju gozdnih poti ob nekdanjem mlinu in se učili o parku. Najlepše je bilo zvečer ob tabornem ognju in po šestih dneh druženja si želimo, da se še srečamo ob naslednji priložnosti.

Seveda smo se potrudili, da smo upoštevali principe odgovornega potovanja, ki smo si jih sami zadali. Na nekaterih področjih nam je šlo bolje, na drugih pa smo že našli priložnosti za izboljšave. Dobri smo bili pri pripravah na potovanje, sodelovanju z domačini in odkrivanju novih obzorij. Upoštevali smo namero, da se poslužujemo lokalnih storitev in proizvodov, a smo ugotovili, da imamo tu še rezerve. Enako velja za varovanje okolja.



V projektu sodelujemo naslednje šole:

Gimnazija Franceta Prešerna, Kranj, Slovenija First Sofia Mathematical School LTD, Bolgarija Gymnázium Rumburk, Češka Vilniaus Jono Pauliaus II gimnazija, Litva

Franceta



O tem, kako je bilo na prvi mobilnosti na Češkem, so vsi udeleženci napisali svoje spomine in razmišljanja.

"When we first came to the city of Rumburk, I did not notice any differences in its infrastructure. It was a simple town, similar to ours. Their school is old, but still very beautiful, I think it is unique and vintage, also interesting to still have the first and original chemistry laboratory, it brought me up the most unbelievable things that could have happened there. Most of people say, that school looks like Hogwarts, the school in Harry Potter films, and it kind of did. Also I was really impressed of Czech students for being so friendly, kind and open people. A lot of them sing or play an instrument and they were not afraid or embarrassed to show us their skills. Most of them speak English very good, so it was easy to communicate.

The day I have spent the night in families was amazing. I was staying in this beautiful old weekend house somewhere in the middle of nowhere. My girl who hosted me said her family is simple and they live in a small house in a village, but well, I did not expect the house to be so big. And when she said they own a very small farm in the backyard of their house, with a garden, again I did not expect it to be so huge. When we stepped out to their »little garden«, there was actually a meadow, and everything you could see was theirs. There were a lot of sheep, three white hairy pigs, approximately 80 rabbits in cages, hens, cocks and quails, and not to forget two friendly dogs. And they lived near the woods, so I saw deer twice that evening. And I think people in Czech Republic are very hard-working. They work more and gain less money that we do. And because of that, the prices are little lower in the markets.

So when we were back in Rumburk, the school organized us a fun night, well I would say a hot night, because the band of the gymnasium was playing for us, basically three hot boys on the guitar and piano. What a dream!

And then the last and not wanted day at all came. We made last group photos together and then »Bye, bye Czech Republic. See you guys in Bulgaria in autumn." (Karolina)



"I have learned that no matter where we are travelling to, we must plan our activities and everything else that we will be doing there. We have to plan our activities that way that it will bring the best to the people that live there and who are dealing with tourism. And in Czech Republic we have learned this in a very fun way. We had few workshops about responsible tourism and we even went on an expedition to a nearby camp. I think that this expedition made us really think how much our presence mean to the people that were employed in that camp. And I also think that every one of us tried its best to consider the ten rules of the responsible travelling.

As a part of our responsible travelling project we helped to fix a road in national park and as a "payment" we got a guided tour around nearby national park. I felt good about helping the people from national park with some voluntary work." (Aljaž)



"I was excited to meet people from abroad. The most interesting part about communicating with them was speaking English all the time. Since the project is called Responsible Travel, we had to learn about it more and of course practice later in our expedition. For it to be more fun we got divided into 4 groups: 2 Czechs, 2 Slovenians, 2 Bulgarians and 2 Lithuanians in each. It was a challenge understanding what foreigners mean when sharing ideas and also explaining yours understandably. It was also interesting seeing how different people act in various situations. Especially on the expedition." (Brigida)





"I mean that whole experience was amazing. Our expedition led us through the National park Czech Switzerland. We say so many beautiful and also hidden places, we were walking through the canyon, covered with forest. Because all the participants were divided into small groups the whole trail was much easier – we were walking faster and we got a chance to know each other a little better." (Sara)



"In the evening we climbed to famous National Park sand stone to see sunset. The next day after breakfast we left our camp and were coming back 15km to the village called Doubice. On that road we saw many unbelievable views, also were hiking to some tops. I was so happy that I had my camera because I took so many beautiful pictures. When we arrived to Rumburk everyone was so tired but also so happy and proud of himself. On Friday every group were showing presentation about expedition and in the evening was concert of local boys band call The PIX. Concert was in classroom but that was amazing and atmosphere on was unbelievable. On the last day we had short walk in city center and after that we left Rumburk. I'm so happy that I'm participating in this project because I get a lot new information about responsible travelling, I met a lot new people and I had amazing and unforgettable experiences." (Gabriela)



The Erasmus + project Responsible Travel which is not important and very useful only for its main goal to teach students how to respect our countryside and nature or be secure and careful while traveling or going for expeditions but also for personal development of each student participating whithin this project. The students from the all four countries improve in the course of the Resposible Travel project their communication skills, creative thinking, problem solving and also work in a team. They also recognize theirs strenghts and weaknesses, strenghten their self-confidence, self-motivation and self-belief and the last but not the least they make friends and start useful international cooperation of EU countries. By this project, they will definitely be well-equipped for their future lives and careers adn improve their skills and key competences. (Mgr. Tomáš Vokáč, Ph.D., Executive Director, The Duke of Edinbrough Award, Czech Republic)