

MY PEOPLE TO PEOPLE STUDENT AMBASSADOR



TRIP TO LONDON, ENGLAND AND PARIS, FRANCE

By
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Day 1

Arrival in Paris

- I woke up nervous and excited. The plane didn't leave until 3pm so Mom and I went to a movie. Mom, Dad and I went to lunch near the airport and had a big panic when we realized we forgot to put the suitcase in the car! Dad raced home to get it while Mom and I checked in. Dad made it in time (whew!) After lots of hugs we got on the plane. The flight was long and boring. I watched movies and slept. We arrived in Paris and got to our first hotel (The Explorers Disney Resort) which took about three hours on a bus.



DAY 2

EuroDisney

- We went to a Disney amusement park in Paris called EuroDisney. I have been to DisneyWorld in Florida and it wasn't very different. There was a Star Wars ride that was my favorite. It was in French which was cool. Unfortunately I forgot my camera and lost my umbrella.



DAY 3

Touring Paris

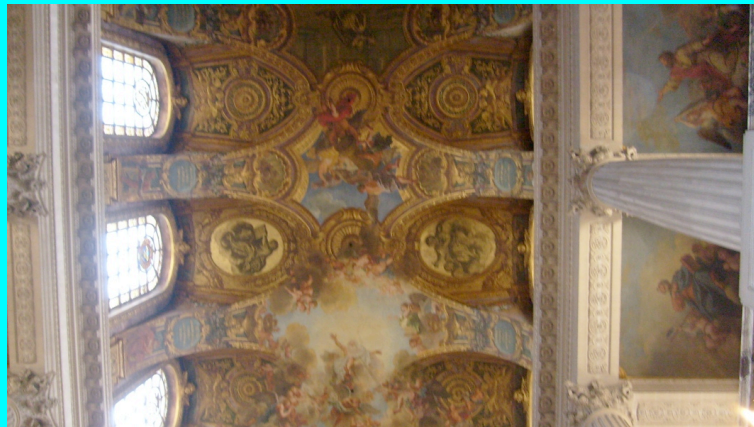
- We went on a tour of Paris. Mostly we rode the bus but sometimes we walked. Our tour guide was named Michelle but she asked us to call her Mimi. We saw many interesting sights such as the Arc de Triomphe and our first look at the Eiffel Tower. One of our big stops was the Louvre Museum. It had cool art like the real Mona Lisa. It was lots of fun.



DAY 4

An Art Lesson

- Today we met an artist who talked to us about the basics of drawing. We tried to sketch the Mona Lisa's face. No one could do it exactly right but with practice I could. We also went to the Luxembourg Gardens. There was a building where we started that had lots of old paintings and statues. They were cool. The outside gardens were very pretty. Lot of different flowers and trees. There were also music halls with people playing classical music. It was a lot of fun. That night for dinner we had frog legs and escargot.



DAY 5

Eiffel Tower

- This was the day we got to go up in the Eiffel Tower. We went up as far as they let people go. We went in the elevator which was cramped. At the top I was a little agrophobic. The view was pretty good.



DAY 6

Normandy

- This day we went to the Normandy Memorial Museum. It was interesting to get some history of the area before the battle. We then went to Omaha Beach and the Normandy graveyard. It was very sad. I felt more connected to it because I had just done a school project on Normandy. This was our last thing in France.



Day 6-7

Traveling to England

- After seeing Normandy, we took an overnight ferry to London. It was extremely cramped. You couldn't move without stepping on someone's stuff. I had some trouble sleeping but eventually I got to sleep.



DAY 7

Stonehenge

- Our first day in England we went to Stonehenge. It was really cool even though they wouldn't let us get very close. I bought a cool umbrella that made me glad I had lost my other one. The rest of the day we did casual touring. That night was really neat because we got to sleep in tents on the grounds of Warwick Castle. Warwick castle is like a medieval experience. It is also the strongest and oldest castle in England.



DAY 9

Shakespeare's Birthplace

- We went to Shakespeare's birthplace. It is called Stratford-upon-Avon. That was a lot of fun. I learned a lot of cool things about Shakespeare such as he was the second longest to live in his family. His sister lived longer (57). Then we got to go to Christ Church which is where a lot of Harry Potter was filmed. Christ Church is a college now but it was fairly empty when we were there.

Day 10

Rafting

- One day we tried to go rafting but failed. What we had to do was build a raft as a group. There were 4 people in each group. It fell apart every time we tried but it was fun anyway. We had also tried punting. Punting is with multiple rafts tied together pushed around by a pole. We also went to Bath. Bath has lots of old Roman bath houses.

DAY 11

Touring London

- We took a tour of London. Most of it was on the bus although we did walk around a little bit. We saw many interesting sites such as Big Ben (below) and our first glimpse of the Eye of London. We got to visit the Natural History Museum. It was very large - larger than the museums I've seen in America.



DAY 12

The London Eye

- Today we went on the London Eye. The London Eye is a giant ferris wheel that goes about 1,000 feet in the air. It moves slowly enough that you can get on and off it while it's moving! This was my favorite part of the trip. I didn't even get agrophobic. I also enjoyed a cuppa which is English for tea. We went by Buckingham Palace to see the changing of the guard. There were to many people around who were taller than me so I couldn't see well.



DAY 13

The Tower of London

- We went to the Tower of London. The Tower has a long history. It was like the first castle of London. I forgot my camera (again) but it was still a lot of fun. The Crown Jewels are the crown, sceptor and jewelry of the queen (or king if they have one). They also have the worlds largest diamond. We also got to meet a member of Parliment. Unfortunately we came in late and I didn't hear his name.



DAY 14

Time to go Home

- At last came the day we came home. The trip home was eventful. First they had to turn the airplane around and return to London because someone was sick. We had to wait 3 hours. It was **EXTREMELY** boring! Then we had to stop in Houston for an hour and our flight got delayed another hour. At last we made it home!



My Trip Review

- Overall I think the trip could have been better. I wished there hadn't been so much rain and that I would have remembered my camera better. It was still a lot of fun. I made new friends and saw amazing places. I can't wait until next time (Antartica, hmm...)