

England 2023



Day 1 - Departure and Arrival on the Ferry

22.04.23

Dear Diary,

It's a quarter to three in the morning and both classes, 4c and 7s, arrive at the Billa Plus parking lot in Wels. Soon after also the bus arrived. So we've said good bye to our parents and departed off to our first „Health-Break“ shortly before Nürnberg, where the drivers have changed and our main driver Helmut has entered the building.

The first few hours have been rough because you could hardly sleep in the bus. I thought, if I would stay awake until we depart, I would be able to fall asleep earlier, but in fact it wasn't.

Our destination of the day has been the Hoek van Holland near Rotterdam.

Our trip to get there took us through three different countries: Austria, Germany and finally the Netherlands. After arriving at the Hoek, we've waited to board on the Ferry. At around 19 o'clock we've boarded and had gone to our cabins.

We've all enjoyed a nice evening on the deck and had gone to sleep at around 22:30.



Day 2 - Arrival in England and Visit in London

23.04.23

Dear Diary,

Today has been the first day of our England Trip on the British Island. We arrived at the Harbour at 5 o'clock in the morning and have had breakfast at the Ferry from 05:30 to 06:00. Afterwards we took our stuff, went to the bus and left the Ferry in Harwich.

The next stop has been the capital of England. London. After the arrival at the parking lot next to the North Greenwich Underground station and the O2-Arena, which looked on the first sight like an art piece.

We took the underground and took a ride to the centre of the city. Out of the station and the first thing to see, the Big Ben and the Houses of Parliaments. This has been a marvelous view. Unfortunately there has been the London marathon, so a lot parts and streets all over the city has been closed.

After the Big Ben we went to the Westminster Abbey, which is situated right next to it.



That's the cathedral, where for example the crowning of King Charles will be taking place.

After this we headed out to the Buckingham Palace, where I've seen the King's Guards changing their duties.

Our next goal has been the St.Paul's Cathedral after a break at the Picadelly Square, where we all have eaten at Five Guys.

On our way to the Tower Bridge, we've seen the Globe Theater, the Hay's Galleria and an old British Battleship, which the Brits used in the Wars they have fought in. The ship was situated directly in front of the famous Tower

Bridge. On the bridge we have witnessed a couple who has just engaged in front of us.



The rest of our London visit took us to the Tower of London and then again with the subway again back to North Greenwich.

Afterwards we had finished our stay in London and we headed out to Cambridge to our first Youth hostel.



We finished our day with an enjoyable round of „Wer bin ich?“ with the whole class in the hotel Lobby.



Day 3 - Cambridge and Stratford Upon Avon

24.04.23

Dear Diary,

Today our day started in the youth hostel in Cambridge. We had breakfast and had to quickly pack our stuff because we headed out to our first event of the day. The visit at the most known college in the british university city Cambridge. King's College. In the patio of the university we got a presentation about Cambridge from Elena and afterwards Mrs. Moser added some necessary informations about the colleges and the city itself.

After that we were able to take a look into the great and gorgeous Chapel of the King's College and the textures and patterns have been breathtaking. In the middle of the building has been a big wall with a big organ on top of it. The wall should once separate the monks and aristocratic people from the „normal“ ones.



The next big event of the day has been the famous „Punting“ on the rivers of Cambridge. We took a ride with a punting-boat, which is simply a boat with a guy pushing the boat with a stick from the ground. The guy who pushed us down the river Cam told us a lot of

interesting storys about the colleges of Cambridge and in general a lot about the whole city. The ride was completely relaxing and it was really nice listening to Alec's storys, who has graduated four years ago at one of the colleges he has shown us.

For me it was really interesting seeing the colleges because they are so different from the colleges I have seen before. The colleges here could also be some buildings or mansions from some aristocratic english landlords. Most of them are made of sandstone, so they look like a lot of cathedrals.

After the tour on the river we had some leisure time where we've eaten something and then we went back to the bus and headed out to Stratford Upon Avon.



It was raining and I forgot my raining jacket in the suitcase so I got really wet on the stroll through the city of Stratford. The most important building is the house where the famous playwright William Shakespear used to live in his youth.



We ended our day with a lovely games night at the youth hostel.

Day 4 - Ride to and arrival at Bath

25.04.23

Dear Diary,

Today in the morning we got up and had our breakfast. Afterwards we took our suitcases to the bus because we departed to our next destination where we are going to stay for two nights.

On our way to Bath we stopped at two small towns in the Cotswolds. At the first town we just stopped for a short break of the bus ride but we visited the town's church, which is among the 1000 most beautiful churches in Great Britain. After this we had some freetime where I tried Fudge for the first time.

Our second break has been Buerton on the Water. The town has been beautiful with its house Fassades and its bridges over the small river which flows through.



At around three o'clock in the afternoon we arrived at Bath. The first thing we did was a Bus Tour through the city with audio guides.

We saw all the important attractions of Bath from the Bus deck of the doppeldecker.

After a short break and some spare time in the city we visited the Roman Baths which are located in the center of the city directly next to the church. We got audio guides and were allowed to stroll through the exhibiton.



In the evening we dined in the inner city and afterwards drove to our youth hostel. Paul, Noah and I have to sleep with three boys from Mrs. Fath's class, which is slightly annoying but we will deal with it.

The day found his end in the hostel lobby where my class and

Mr. Rauber enjoyed a round of „Hosn Owi“. It was a really nice day/evening and we had a lot of fun.



Day 5 - Bath, Glastonbury Abbey and Wells

26.04.23

Today in the morning we had breakfast and afterwards we rode down to the center of the city where we had one hour of freetime to buy some food for the tour to Glastonbury Abbey and Wells.



Our first stop has been the Glastonbury Abbey where once the well know King Arthur used to live. Our tour guide „Good Wife Molly“ toured us through the ruins of the chapels and the castle of Arthur. Paul was choosed first to be the monk of the tour. I was choosed to be King Arthur himself and Wiebke was the Queen.



Molly was really into her role and she really felt the work she was doing. It looked a bit like she was in a little trance while she was explaining the storys to us.



After the tour was finished we had some freetime again and then we drove to the city Wells where the big Wells Cathedral was built. Mrs. Moser explained a few details and informations about the city itself and also about the cathedral. At around three o'clock an old woman toured us through the cathedral. She was really lovely and did her job really well. We also got a new guest because all of a sudden a little girl stood in front of Mr. Rauber and me and joined our group. We had us in stitches because at Glastonbury Abbey also two elder man sneaked into the group and pretended to be with us.

Later that day the Wells Cathedral Choir sang in the Even-Song in the cathedral. It was really nice and there was a relaxing atmosphere. Grally and I have been nearly the only ones to pray in the services and the other students thought we are really strange because we do so. But we think if you are in the church you can also pray.



After the service we drove back to our youth hostel to Bath and dined together. Afterwards the whole 7S met up in the Lobby and wrote some of the texts for the matura-paper. Back in our room the three boys of the forth class have been really loud until midnight so Mr. Meschuh sometimes knocked at the door and told us to shut up.



Day 6 - Lanhydrock and Arrival in Penzance

27.04.23

Dear Diary,

Today early in the morning we got up and had breakfast because later after we had to leave to drive to our next destination. Penzance, which is in the south-west of England.

But before we have arrived the city we stopped for a visit at the Lanhydrock Manor House. Before we arrived there I had to hold my presentation about the Manor House. It was really interesting I think. At the house we split up into three groups and walked through the property. The most beautiful parts of the house have been the gorgeous gardens or the 32 meters long gallery.

At one of the rooms has been a rug, where the steps for a Waltz are printed on. So Grally and I and some other students danced through the room. We literally cut the rug. Another funny room has been the one with the foto box in it.



It was raining, so the weather wasn't perfect but Mrs. Moser said that this is pretty normal for this part of England.

Afterwards we drove to our youth hostel in Penzance where we finally once will have three nights without the boys and girls from the fourth class.

In the afternoon we played with our balls 🍌 in front of the hostel when some random three girls came by. Elias, Paul and Noah immediately interacted with them and talked to them about what we are doing here and generally about our trip. Elias had the W-Rizz so the girls asked if we want to go to the Pub with them ten minutes away from our hostel. So we went along. It wasn't that funny I had expected but after we returned to the Hostel we all played „Werwolf“ in Mr. Meschuhs room. Even Mr. Rauber and Mr. Meschuh played with us.



It was a really nice day and I guess everyone of us really enjoyed it.



Day 7 - St. Michaels Mount and Surfing in St. Ives

28.04.23

Dear Diary,

Today is the seventh day of our trip through England and I am really impressed from all I've seen so far. Early in the morning we got up and had our breakfast. We really felt the peace and quite because the smaller students weren't there in the morning. A couple of minutes later our bus driver Helmut caught us up and the big reunited group drove to the St. Michaels Mount which is remoted a few minutes with the bus.

After arriving at the parking lot of nearby a boat took us on the small island where the castle is located. Normally there is a pathway where you can walk to the island. At the island we listened to Grally's presentation about the Mount. Then we walked through the visitor part of the property and had to ask some questions about it. Afterwards we returned to the bus and drove to the youth hostel of the fourth class because Mrs. Fath replaced Mrs. Moser.

The bad thing about the last few day have been, that nearly the whole fourth class was throwing up several times. It got worse from day to day. Luckily they haven't infected us yet.



Our next big thing of the day was surfing in St. Ives. Everybody was excited and was looking forward on it. The big shock when we arrived at the beach next to the harbour, there haven't been any waves. Luckily the surf school was on the other side of the city. The waves were perfect for the learning process. For me they could've been a bit bigger but all of us really enjoyed it. All the instructors were really friendly and after the surf lesson they recommended us to snack at the takeaway bar next to the school. I ate a burger and it was amazing.

Later at home we had some relaxing time before dinner. After it we realxed as a group in Meschuhs Room and played some Werwolf.

The day was really exhausting so we went to bed pretty early.



Day 8 - Minac Theatre and Lands End

29.04.23

Dear Diary,

Today in the morning we had British breakfast again. It's always the same so it gets more dull everytime you eat it. Luckily we have just three more days with the same breakfast everyday again.



After breakfast we packed our bags and drove with the bus to the Minac theatre, which is a theatre built shortly before the first world war on the cliffside of Cornwall. The view is amazing and the place has a very welcoming atmosphere.

A guy called Billy the gardener held an audition on the stage, where the sea is right behind. He told us the story of the theatre as the founder himself. He made it quite funny so I think it was really enjoyable.

Again Mrs. Fath was in the Youth hostel because several kids of her class have been sick.

Directly from the Minac theatre we went for a short cliff walk at the big gorgeous cliffs of Cornwall. It was really great I think.

I climbed on a rock and the view from the top was amazing. Noah also flew with the drone and got some really great shots from up there.

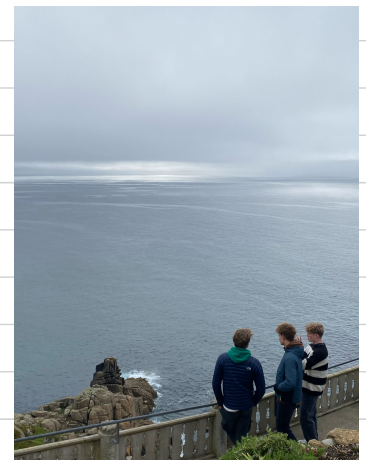
That hasn't been the only cliff walk that day because after the first walk we drove to Lands End and walked on the cliff again. It was really great but also exhausting because Mrs. Moser was in a biiiiiig hurry and nearly sprinted the cliffs along.



On our way home we changed our plans and drove to Mousehole, a small fisher village. It was quite unnecessary to be there because we just had freetime and it was nothing special there. I ate Fish'n Chips for the first time and the funny thing about it was the waitress because she always sang while she was taking our orders.

After that wanted to drive back to our youth hostel but suddenly a lot of the students had to throw up so we had to stop at the Lidl parking lot. We didn't want to get back on the bus so we walked back home. One guy on the road didn't want us to cross the road in front of his car so he drove away. Mr. Rauber got angry and showed him the middle finger.

In the evening we again had our dinner and afterwards we played some Werwolf again.



Day 9 - Ride to Brighton and Exeter Cathedral

30.04.23

Dear Diary,

Today was really relaxing. Early in the morning we got up, packed our stuff and headed to the breakfast. This has been the last breakfast without the fourth class. After this we went down to where Helmut and the rest of the group picked us up.

Our final destination of the day was Brighton but before we stopped at Exeter.

The bus ride was a little bit struggling because all of us didn't want to get sick so every student of the 7S wore masks so nobody of us will throw up in the following days. But in the end everyone of us managed to cope with it.

After arriving in Exeter we strolled to the great Exeter Cathedral in the center of the city.



We wanted to go in but unfortunately there has been a baptism so we had to wait for about 25 minutes until we could go in and look at the interior.

Mrs. Moser explained us a few things about the cathedral and we also met the austrian ambassador in front of the building.

We couldn't stay longer so we had to get back on the coach and go for another ride which lasted around two hours.

Our arrival at Brighton was at around 18:00. We brought our luggage into the rooms and the room

was the best room so far. The Palace Pier was directly in

front of our hostel so shortly after we were on the Pier playing with machines and riding with the roller coaster. There were some really strange people at the Pier but it was much fun.

In the evening we dined at an italian restaurant which was really delicious. I ate a pizza

and as a dessert I got an italian chocolate cake. It was one of the best things I have eaten in England so far.



Later, back in the youth hostel, some of us sat together to write some textes again for the matura paper.

This night was also the first night when all the boys of my class were in one room together. It was really funny and I think we went to bed at around half past two in the morning.



Day 10 - Brighton and Drive to the Last Youth Hostel

01.05.23

Dear Diary,

Today we started our day in the beautiful Brighton. We had our breakfast and afterwards we headed out to the Royal Pavilion which is situated nearby. There we met a friend of Mrs. Moser. Hannelore used to work in the pavilion so she knows the place very well. The interior was built in a Chinese style and the outdoor decoration was built in an Indian style.



Hanni did a really good job and she was funny as well.

The tour through the estate lasted around one hour and afterwards we had some spare time to go shopping for the long bus ride which was planned for the afternoon.

On our way to the next destination, which was a small town near Canterbury, we stopped at the Sissinghurst gardens for two hours. Nobody knows why we stayed there that long but the fact is we did. I think there was nothing special about it. It looked like any other garden in Austria.

After the visit at the gardens we drove to our youth hostel, which was in the district Kent. As a meal we had sausages and a lot of cheese with bread and some vegetables. In Austria we would say it was „Restlessn“.

In the evening, after the smaller students have returned to bed, the 7S and all the teachers sat down together in the Lounge and enjoyed a nice evening full of Werwolf Games, talking, a little bit of drinking and for sure a punch in the face from Mrs. Moser. It was the last evening in England so we had to enjoy it as much as we could. We all went back to our rooms at half past twelve and afterwards we played Hosn owi in the room of the other boys.

We went to bed at around half past one and wanted to catch some sleep for the long bus ride home on the next day.



Day 11 - Canterbury and Bus ride to our Final Destination

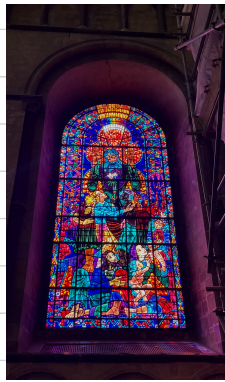
02.05.23

Dear Diary,

Today was the last day which actually started in England. So for the last time we ate our english breakfasts, packed our luggage for the last time and then got on the bus to drive towards home. But before we shortly stopped at Canterbury to have a look at the cathedral which is one of the most famous ones in whole Great Britain.

Some old guy gave us a tour through the cathedral which was really detailed. Mrs. Moser told him before we started to keep it short but I think he didn't understand the assignment. In a room full of windows he wanted to explain every window and every other group overtook us.

I personally think that the cathedral was really gorgeous and stunning but the tour made it a little bit dull.



After the tour we had some free time where we could prepare ourself for the ride back home to Austria.

Our first stop at the journey was Dover. That's the city where the Ferry will depart.

On the ship we ate Fish'n Chips and played some cards so the two hour ride didn't feel really long. It was also really windy on the deck.

The Ferry took us to Dunkirk and then we drove through Belgium, and Germany back towards Austria.



Day 12 - Arrival at Home

03.05.23

Dear Diary,

Today was the very last day of our journey. We spent the night in the bus, so it wasn't the most comfortable night we've had this week but we managed to do it. I slept around four hours so I'm quite tired right now.

Our foreseen arrival time was 09:20 at the school. I'm looking forward to my own bed and a shower which I don't have to share with 20 other guys.

Nevertheless I'm looking back on a really interesting, fun and great week of visiting in England.

Day 1-12 in pictures

