

Auslandspraktikum in Kalajoki, Finnland

(Jordan: 18. Juni 2023 - 30. Juni 2023)

Von Sonntag, 18. Juni 2023 bis Freitag, 30. Juni 2023 absolvierte Jordan (EF) mit Hilfe des Erasmus+-Programms ein Praktikum in einem Restaurant in Kalajoki, Finnland, wovon er im Folgenden selbst berichtet:

Finland is a new country on my list and a new experience. When we first went through this Northern country by train, it seemed similar to Germany. I had a lot of thoughts on my mind: Will my exchange student's family be nice? Will I feel lonely within the two weeks without my family in a foreign country? Will the traditional Finnish food be good? Will this journey be worth it? I had many questions on my head and was very excited.

At first I thought Finland could be similar to my native country but when we had a look at everything in detail, we saw the complete opposite. There was a foreign landscape with a lot of nature. There were forests consisting just of pine and birch. There were big distances between villages and the houses within the villages. There were hardly any mountains but there was just lowland. The language was foreign. Everything seemed and was different. This difference was not negative in the end but it was exciting. My host family was very nice and every day we did something interesting and they made delicious food for us every day. We felt more like a part of the family and helped them.

Our employees cooked for us every day and we ate together. Moreover, we told each other stories and laughed together. In addition to that, the work was very individual. We had an insight into the professional fields of gastronomy, agriculture and craft. Furthermore, we painted the cafe and animal enclosures most of the time but we also had other tasks like to design the cafe's inside, feed the animals or cut the grass and bushes.

Additionally, the use of the language English was mostly optimal for communication but some people could not speak English such as our boss at work, for example. With her we tried to communicate in sign language, which worked well. When we did not understand each other, we used a translator.

At and beside the work I made a lot of new friends and collected unforgettable memories. All of my negative assumptions of what might happen did not come true and we had an amazing time. I could not imagine a better host family. I did not feel lonely, the traditional Finnish food was interesting and delicious and the journey was definitely 100% worth it.

Jordan (EF)



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