

A Report (Hannover, Germany 30.08.2018 – 07.09.2018)

1. Accommodation

From August 30 to September 7, we were in Hannover. We were lucky to live in the city center on Osterstraße in Bed'nBudget City-Hostel. Very nice hostel with a beautiful view from the window. On the territory of the hostel there was a courtyard where we rested after studying. The interior was in neon colors. We lived five people in a room. There also was a fridge and a dining table, so we could have dinner without leaving the hostel. We had an iron, ironing board, hairdryer, kettle, TV, which made our stay comfortable, like at home. We are grateful for the provided housing.

2. Our classes

In Hannover, at Leibniz University, we had German classes. Classes lasted 5 days. Marina Friesen was our teacher. These classes we really liked. Thanks to them, we felt the atmosphere of European education. The classes were very exciting, interactive was also present. For 5 days we have mastered the methods and various approaches to how to effectively learn a language. We realized that it is interesting to learn the language and at the end we are very motivated to further study. At the classes we studied German grammar, also tried to talk a lot and lead discussions and got a lot of useful practice.

3. About city

Before going to Germany, we read a lot of information about Hannover on the Internet and we were incredibly happy to visit this beautiful city.

Hanover was founded in medieval times on the east bank of the River Leine. Its original name Honovere mean "high (river) bank" (das Hohe Ufer). Hanover was a small village of ferrymen and fishermen that became a comparatively large town in the 13th century, receiving town privileges in 1241, due to its position.

Nowadays Hanover is the capital and largest city of the German state of Lower Saxony (Niedersachsen), located on the River Leine. With a population of 518,000, Hanover is a major centre of Northern Germany and the country's thirteenth largest city. Hanover is an economic and industrial center, as well as the largest exhibition city in Germany. Hanover hosts annual commercial trade fairs such as the Hanover Fair and the CeBIT. Every year Hanover hosts the Schützenfest Hannover, the world's largest marksmen's festival, and the Oktoberfest Hannover, the second largest festival of its kind in Germany.

At first glance, Hanover impressed us with its majestic architecture and scenic nature (almost half of the urban area is occupied by parks, forest plantations and ponds). Especially for tourists in the city laid the «The Red Thread» (Roter Faden) is a 4.2 kilometre long line, which marks the pavement using red color. The line follows pedestrian ways and crosses numerous streets. The line starts at Ernst-August-Platz next to the Tourist Information opposite the main train station and ends at the equestrian statue of former king Ernst August right in front of the main train station, covering 36 of the most significant attractions. For us, «The Red Thread» was the main assistant during our walking tour.







Gothic architecture, cobbled streets, cheerful townspeople, the unique atmosphere of the city and picturesque parks that we observed during that visit left an indelible impression on us. We are happy that we managed to take part in the exchange program and we can confidently say that we would like to return to this wonderful and charming city again!



4. Landmarks

In Hanover, we visited many sights and beautiful places. The most picturesque place in Hannover is the Herrenhausen Gardens. It is an internationally famous ensemble of garden arts and culture that ranks among the most important historical gardens in Europe. We arrived there early in the morning before the opening of the fountains and before the arrival of the first tourists. We spent several hours there, admiring the stunning views and enjoying the beauty of nature.

The next fantastic attraction is the New Town Hall. It is a magnificent, castle-like building. Its size and grand architectural style make it look more "historical". At the top we were rewarded with a fantastic view of the city and its sights. The top of the dome of the New Town Hall reaches almost 98 m. The diagonal lift in the town hall's dome is unique in the world. The New Town Hall with its spectacular dome is a true architectural masterpiece. The interior is as aesthetically pleasing as the exterior, with gorgeous grand staircases, balconies and columns.

The Masch Lake is an artificially created lake, which is located near the center of Hanover. The lake is a popular recreation area. We were surprised that you can first walk around the center of the city, and after 10 minutes you will be at a huge lake, where people and tourists quietly walk around and enjoy the silence and beauty of this place.

The place where we felt the spirit of typical Germany is the Old Town. This is such a part of the city, where every house is a work of art. There are small white houses, with brown inserts and a roof of tiles. After the

bombing raids of the Second World War there was almost nothing left of Hannover's old town. During the rebuilding of Hannover, parts of the old buildings, mainly the facades, were transferred and concentrated in this area. So today they form a "new old town" in Hannover's oldest part. Walking along these streets, we were impressed by the huge contrast with our hometown. Tired of the turmoil of our hometown, we got a great pleasure from Hanover, where we didn't want to hurry anywhere.

5. Our impressions

After Hanover, we had only warm and good impressions. Our hotel was located in the heart of the city, so we could easily reach where we wanted. Living conditions were at the highest level, the hotel provided all the necessary household items, was cozy and comfortable.

The city is remembered for its architecture and cleanliness. We didn't feel like strangers as all the people were very welcoming and friendly.



Our classes were held in a good-natured and cozy atmosphere, in the open air. Marina, our teacher, set us up to communicate in German, picked up interesting and useful lessons, and gave us good advice for learning German.





This trip helped not only to improve our knowledge of German, but also to make new friends as we communicated a lot with our partners.



This trip motivated us to learn the German language and culture of this country. We will definitely return to Germany to see other cities, but Hanover will remain in our memory forever.