

Vacková Tereza

Programme Erasmus+

My name is Tereza Vacková. I am a student of management, human resources management and economy at Vyšší odborná škola, Čáslav in Czech Republic.

This month I will finish my 5 months traineeship in Splošna bolnišnica Slovenj Gradec.

I came to Slovenj Gradec thanks to co-operation of my school and Šolski center Slovenj Gradec in programme Erasmus+. This co-operation helps students to find themselves in new environment. Coordinators also help student with accommodation and show them how to get around.

Even though a student has coordinators to help them, we still have to learn how to take care of ourselves. And that is probably the biggest experience of staying abroad. Every student gets very independent and more economical (the grant from Erasmus can this way be enough). Coordinators may moderate a bit this big change, but it is up to student to find friends, to communicate at work with colleagues and superiors, with provider of accommodation and with authorities. And sometimes it is more difficult because of some barriers. At my traineeship I met a lot of people. Some of them did not speak English at all but this was a real challenge!

Also, I realised, that students do not need level of English language at B2. I think if a student has at least A2 and is not afraid to try then he or she can go abroad.

I was never a big adventurer or traveller. I was usually afraid of changes, meeting new people, using foreign language and now I am happy I decided to go. And I am proud of myself.

I will always remember the first time I met my colleagues at a celebration of birthday of our superior. Normally the colleagues were very shy and afraid to ask me something except one. One of my colleagues, I later worked with, just really loudly asked "Who is she?". I did not know that I will work with her but after all she was one of my best co-workers I have ever had.

What may be surprising is the most difficult thing of my stay. It was ordering lunch in Slovenian language. I spoke once with a guy who was on Erasmus stay in Czech Republic and we both decided that most important word is "krompir" in Czech language "brambory".

After all what I really have to say about my traineeship in Slovenia, about staying abroad is that it is a huge life experience in every way and that I will never forget it.

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