

SICILY

8.11. - 15.11.2015

1. Day, Sunday 8.11.2015

Already at 3.00 on Sunday morning we went from Žiri to the airport in Trieste. When we arrived in Trieste we submitted luggage and boarded the plane. From there we flew to Rome, there we moved on another plane for Sicily. We arrived at the airport in Catania at around noon. There we were awaited by our host families with a poster that read: "Welcome in Catania." My host was Gaia Tripoli and her family. Families led us to their home. At home they first showed me all the rooms in their house and they showed me where I will sleep this week. It was very exciting because I will live with an unknown family for a week. They accepted me with very open arms.

The remainder of the day we talked a lot and got to know each other. In the evening we went to the town of Taormina,

where we met other students on exchange from Slovenia, and their host families. Here we had dinner.

We ate pizza and took a walk through the magical old town. When we arrived, we were all very tired so we went immediately to sleep.



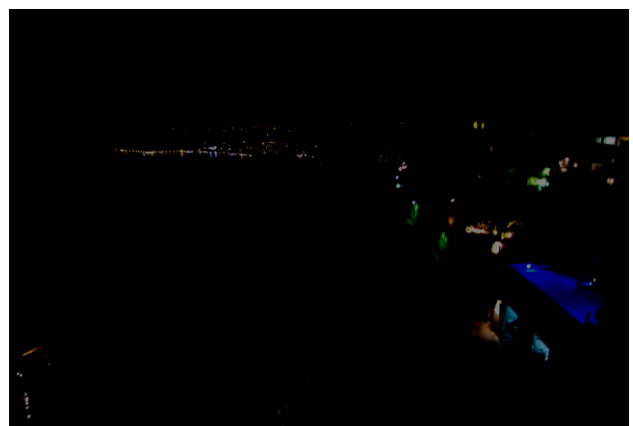
Me and Gaia. She was my host.



Students and teachers who went on exchange.



Me and my hosting family.



City Taormina at night

2. Day, Monday 9.11.2015

We woke up around 7:00 in the morning and we got ready for school. We ate breakfast and then Gaia's father drove us to school. The way to school was for me one of the most horrific experience in my lifetime. They drive very fast, they don't take into account most of the rules and cars aren't exactly in the best condition.

There their lessons start at 08:15. In school, we first had some kind of meeting where they told us where we were going to go that day. Around 09:00 we went to the train station and from there we took the train to the station nearest to the center of Catania. From there we went by underground to the center of Catania. For me it was a new experience because I traveled with underground for the first time.

When we arrived at the center of the city we had the tour and description of the sights in Catania. We had lunch in the center in a small restaurant.

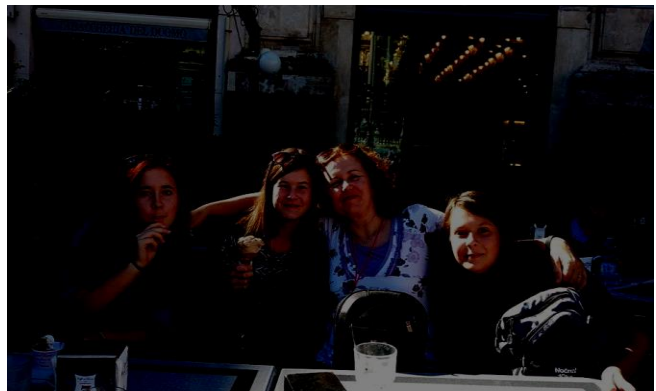
After getting back to school, we had a lesson with the orchestra in which I and Katarina played the piano. A very large number of children participate in the orchestra there. Unlike as in Slovenia there are more wind instruments and string instruments. Nobody played the guitar or the flute.

After the lesson with the orchestra, we went to our hosts.

At home, we had dinner. Again, we talked a lot, I've taught them some basic Slovenian words. And so another day passed in a jiffy



In the city center. Katarina, Ema and me.



In the city center having ice cream.

3. Day, Tuesday 10.11.2015

I woke up around 7:00 in the morning and we had breakfast together with the host family. Then I got ready for school and Gaia's father took us to the school. The first hour in school, we had the presentation of individual schools and individual countries. Many presentations were about Sicily, about Italy and in general about their culture and their traditions. After the presentation we went to a nearby school where younger children prepared welcome for us. They were waving to us with flags and they sang a few songs for us. It was very nice and kids were very cordial when they sang. They prepared us a lot of traditional Sicilian food (mostly desserts, including some salty pastries). Everything was delicious.

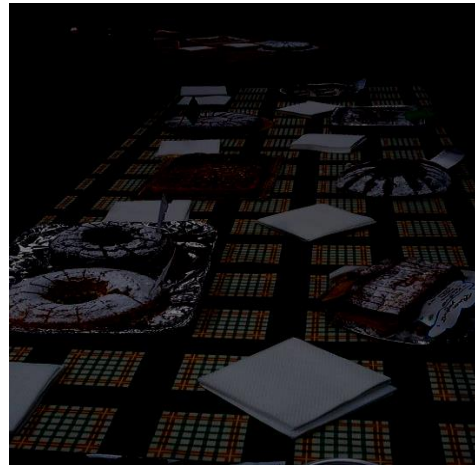
Then we returned to the school where we were before and here we had tour around their school and we could see what their lessons look like. Later in school we had lunch. For lunch they prepared many different types of pizzas, lasagna which was prepared in many different ways and a few different cakes for dessert.

In the evening we had bowling night with all the students who were in Catania on the exchange and all host students. It was great and fun. We also had dinner there.

Everyone got the appetizer which was fries and then each one get a whole pizza. I doubt that anyone ate the whole pizza (except, of course, some Italian pupils). We get two different cakes on each was a sign of Erasmus and flags of all countries. Cakes were delicious. We went to sleep very late because we arrived home late.



Welcome from the youngest children



Lots of great food.



Cakes that were made for us

Game 1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	TOT.
Agnes	31	19	28	36	42	47	65	73	80		80
Katarina	6	14	21	29	48	57	62	70	79	86	86
Lucka	8	14	23	25	32	46	54	63	71	79	79
Eva	7	14	22	30	37	44	57	64	73	78	78
Gerard	9	12	20	28	28	32	40	44	61	70	70
Nicolas	10	26	34	38	47	55	69	80	85	103	103

Per una nuova partita, Inizia Agnes NICA

Ours bowling results

4. Day, Wednesday 11.11.2015

I woke up around 7:30 and I prepared for a hike on Etna. Again, we ate breakfast together and then Gaia's father drove us to school. In front of school, bus took us to the foot of Etna. We walked through the park of the Etna and visited natural attractions. The foothill of Etna is mostly rocky and covered with some dry grass. Rock is black to brown colour and doesn't have great weight. We went to several inactive craters. The view from Etna to Catania was wonderful. We saw a very large part of Sicily. The view was amazing.

Later we drove even higher on Etna. There in one of the huts, we ate "packed Lunch," we got this morning from our hosting families. After lunch we went up to one of the non-functioning craters from which the view was even better. Here we shot a lot of photos and then we took the bus to eliminate farm where they are producing honey. There they showed us how to produce honey, what are the different types of honey, also we could try different type of honey and they told us some of the characteristics of the local honeys.

We visited the city in which was this honey production farm. The city is near the sea and is very well maintained.

Most people live in blocks or in detached houses. We did a very quick walk around town, then we had to go back to school. There were parents waiting for us and took us home. Of course, the day was not yet over. In the evening, we went in the shopping center and on whe had the dinner in Mcdonalds. When we arrived home, I was very tired but happy because it was a wonderful day.



Selfie with teachers



Jump on Etna



Slovenian students.

Heavy walking on



Etna

Slovenian students and teachers.



Teachers and Slovenian students



Slovenian students and Italian hosts

5. Day, Thursday, 12.11.2015

I woke up a few minutes past seven. The morning was as any other morning there. Together we ate, then I got ready and Gaia's father took us to school. In front of the school the bus drove us to the paper factory. There we found out that in fact there they aren't making paper but diapers and inserts, etc.

So we actually saw the production of diapers for babies. From here we continue to drive to the farm where olive oil is produced. They showed us how they produce olive oil and they gave us to taste their olive oil. It was really good. It was interesting, because I don't know if I will ever have the

opportunity to see how they make diapers and processing of olives into olive oil.

From there we drove to the institute, which is actually a school for the hosts and some other similar professions. Here they have prepared a good reception with cocktails and they invited us inside for lunch. Everything was very nice and majestic. It looked like we came to the wedding and not just for a simple lunch. They prepared us a lot of food. We got several different dishes of which, however, were not too big. The dessert was the best. We got a kind of caramel-walnut ice cream in chocolate with fruit. It was great.

In the evening, our host families again took us to the shopping center. Although we came home around 22:15, we went to sleep very late.



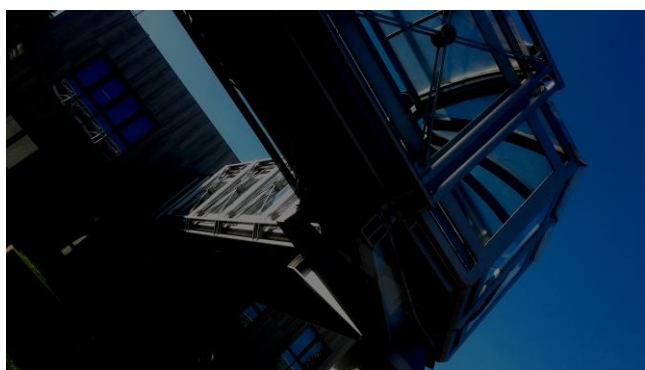
Dessert, we get at the institute.



Lunch at the institute.



Main dish at the institute.



Part of the paper factory

6. Day, Friday 13.11.2015

The morning was as any other morning there. At school we first agreed what to do. We had sports activities on the program. We could choose between football and volleyball court. I chose football, although I'm not very good at it. Although I can't play football very well, it was very fun because we played together for the first time with unknown students. After sporting activities, teachers presented what would be this year's logo for the project Erasmus +.

Then we drove to the kindergarten where the youngest prepared dancing and singing welcome. They danced at the songs from the movie Mary Poppins. They were very cordial. There we got some traditional Sicilian snacks. For us, they also prepared gifts.

Then the bus took us to the beautiful seaside town of Aci Castello. Here we went to the ruins of a castle. View from the castle on the coast and sea was beautiful. We had very good weather so it was all together even better. From here we went along the coast to the restaurant where we ate lunch. For lunch we got fries and, of course, each one its own pizza. After lunch we went back to school. There we had 15 minutes of work with the orchestra, then musical performance. We will surely

remember this musical performance as a very good experience. After the performance we went home and get ready for the party which they prepared for us. Party was different from those which we organize at school. We had a choreographer for whom we all repeated the dance moves. It was very fun and we had a great time. We get even closer with all the other pupils on the exchange.



Me and Katarina watching beautiful city.



Children while they are singing for us



Katarina, Ema, Lučka and me

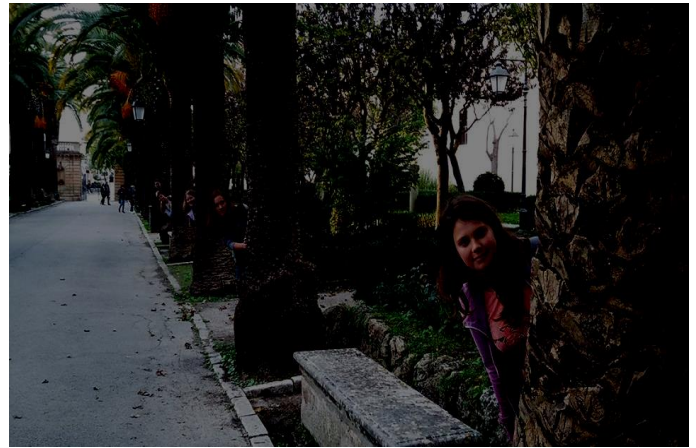
7. Day, Saturday 14.11.2015

This morning I woke up at around eight o'clock because our classes started at 09.00. We all gathered in front of the school where the bus picked us and drove us to the farm where they make cheese and other dairy products. First we saw the cows and how they are milked. Then they showed us how they make cheese. On the farm we had lunch. After lunch, the bus took us to a very beautiful and old town of Ragusa. Here we had a city tour. We visited the park which was beautiful and the church. After visiting the city we drove back to Catania.

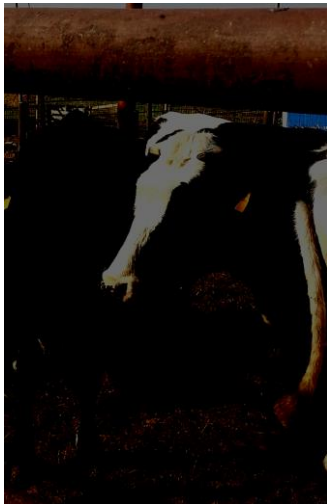
In front of the school we said goodbye to students from other countries, by the next day we will no longer see. It was all very sad because we knew that certain of us will never see again. After a long saying goodbye we went home. There we had dinner and prepared for sleep. Of course there we had to pack our things in the suitcases. This evening we didn't go to bed so late.



Us and our teachers in park in Ibla Ragusa.



Us, hiding in park in Ibla Ragusa



Caws



Us, taking selfie with italian students



Park in Ibla Ragusa

8. Day, Sunday 15.11.2015

Last day. I woke up at around 10:20 because today we didn't have classes and we didn't have to go to school. For breakfast, we had pancakes. After breakfast, I got ready and then we went to the beach. There we met with Katarina, Kristjan, Ema and Lučka and with their host families. On the pier we took some more photos and then we went to a restaurant for lunch. All together, it was a little sad because we knew that this is our last day together.

After lunch we went home. At home I had to finish packing all my luggage, and then we said

goodbye to all their relatives, and soon it was necessary to go to the airport. It was very difficult to go at the airport, because we spent this week with them and we got very close to each other. But everything beautiful has to come to an end. We exchanged few last hugs and goodbyes. They went home, and we had a plane to Slovenia.

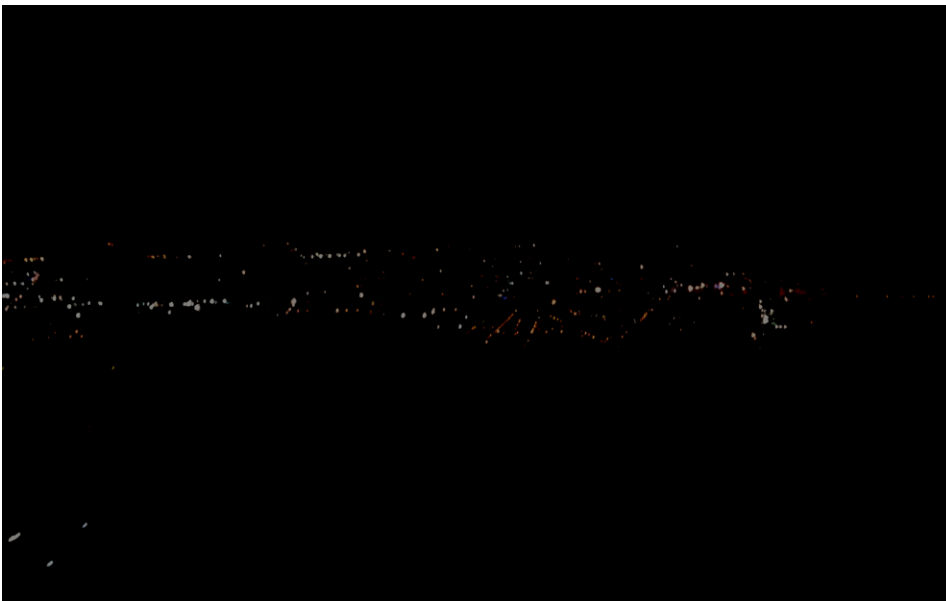
In Sicily, it was very nice. But even better is when you come back home.



Going on plane....



Last picture.



View from the airplane.

Agnes Cankar, 9. b