

Report February Norway

February 13: I arrived at my host family's house at 10:30 pm, I was tired because I got up at 3 am, but I was also very excited to meet the family. We ate together, they were very nice, and then I went to put my things away and go to bed.

February 14: It was my first day of class, and also Valentine's Day, a group of students had made cupcakes, which you could win with a challenge, which was to say hello to a stranger, compliment someone and also hug someone. There were also necklaces of different colors:

Green for single.

Yellow if you talk to someone.

And red if you are taken.

Anyway, the atmosphere was really relaxed, and it really shocked me to realize that everything was less serious here, and that there was much less academic pressure than in France.

In the morning when I asked if I could go to my locker, they seemed amused and explained to me that you could leave the classroom whenever you wanted. I also saw later that they were allowed to eat and drink in class. There were many different things but also better than in France. In the evening I ate with Thea and her mother and then I went to bed, but Synne (Thea's twin) and her friend, suggested me to go to the gym. At the time I didn't feel like it but I said yes to make friends, and I didn't regret it, they were very nice and supportive.

February 15:

I went to class, and Wednesday is one of my longest days, unlike in France, but it's still not very long.

We did a radioactivity experiment in chemistry, and a confidence game in social studies (which Enora and I lost because everyone was betraying us).

We also had sports in the solvinhalle, a very large sports gym, it is one of the largest in the world.

We had to place balls on blocks with our eyes closed, and other games like that. I had social studies again where we studied the conflict between Ukraine and Russia.

It was surprising cause my sport teacher was the same as my social studies teacher.

I found out later that it was common here for a teacher to teach several subjects.

Then I went home and had lunch. Another thing that surprised me was the time of day that we eat here. There is really no set time. Lunch varies from 11am to 3pm and dinner from 4pm to 9pm, and if you're hungry you can make yourself food whenever you want. I had a little bit of trouble with that because for me, when I eat the evening meal, I go to bed after. But here they usually go out after they eat. In the evening we made a brownie, and played cards. I learned that the loser of the president, in Norwegian, is called the bloom, which means the homeless person.

February 16:

Thursday is a day where I only have language classes: German, French, and English. It was really a very quiet day because I had a good timetable and we watched movies in all subjects, maybe because of the approaching vacations?

In French we watched an episode of "Bazar de la charité", it was funny and easy to understand, unlike the movie we watched afterwards in German with Norwegian subtitles. I had a little difficulty to follow but thanks to the images I understood that it spoke about RAF. In English, we watched "mice and men", it was also easy to understand and it was good to discuss it afterwards with the others of the class. In the evening we went to deposit empty bottles in a garbage and we gained 600 crowns, it is a shame that there is not that in France!

It surprised me that here, it's daylight and then in one minute it's dark, there is no sunset. And then also the night falls very early.

February 17:

That day we had a normal day of classes and then in the afternoon, a footballer came to give us a presentation in Norwegian, so I unfortunately did not understand much.

We ate pizza while watching films and drank what Thea calls "soft", it's a kind of syrup mixed with water, and it's the first word Thea taught me. We then said "takk for maten" as we left the table. That was the first phrase Thea taught me. They say that at every meal.

February 18:

It was the first day of vacation, and also the first day of snow! I was very amazed in the morning when I woke up and saw that everything had turned white.

In the morning I walked to the gym with Thea.

And in the afternoon nobody was home before 4pm for various reasons. Kristin took Enora and me to a theater sketch, I must admit that I didn't understand much, but it was nice to watch, and the actors sang well.

February 19:

That day I slept until quite late then I packed my bags and left for the family cabin, when we arrived it was dark so we just chilled and play cards.

February 20:

In the morning we went for a walk and had a snowball fight, then when we came back we went to clear the snow from the barbecue (a very big barbecue), it was very hard. Just to get to the barbecue we had snow up to our thighs.

After that we sat in the snow and ate oranges and kiwis and made a snowman.

Then we ate lunch and went shopping and visited the nearest town (half an hour away).

When we got back, we had dinner and played cards.

February 21:

We packed up some stuff, and headed out to ski. We did some cross-country skiing and then the parents started a fire in the snow to cook our sausages for lunch. Meanwhile Thea trained me on the downhill and uphill slopes. Then we joined the family to eat but only Thea had the chance to eat a sausage, because afterwards the wind changed and the fire went out.

So we ate a Kvikk-lunsj, a kind of chocolate bar very famous in Norway. It is often eaten with oranges, in the snow. There is even on it a manual with precautions to take before going too far in the snow! After this we continued on the slopes a little, we returned to the cabin, and finally ate the sausages. Then we did a snow bath in shorts, T-shirt, and then sona. And we did that 3 times. To end this good day, we ate dinner, played a game with trains, and went to bed.

February 22:

On this day, we got up early and left the cabin at 6am. We got home and Kristin, her mom and Enora picked me up to go to Cafe Koselig, which is a restaurant in Kyrkaseotora, while Thea was taking a test for her driver's license. Then they took me to their house and we played geography quizzes with Enora. After that, Thea joined us, and we played games with her, Kristin and Enora. Then Thea and I went home with Thea's dad and went to bed.

February 23:

Thea and I woke up again at six, and walked to the gym. Then Tore, Thea's dad, drove us back, we showered, and we met Kristin and Enora to go to Sweden. It was a four-hour trip, and Kristin was driving. We took a short break to get sandwiches and resume our journey. Then we arrived in Sweden and only went to a supermarket. Which was, in my opinion, a bit of a shame

because eight hours in total, not to visit the country at all, was not good for the ecology. Moreover, we went here because it was cheaper, but with all the fuel used, I'm not sure it was worth it. But fortunately the day ended better. Kristin and Thea took us to a restaurant in Trondheim on top of a tower that was slowly rotating so we could get the full view. The food was just as good as the view. Then on the way back we stopped at a cafe known for their very good milkshakes, and I can tell that was not a myth.

February 24:

In the morning and in the afternoon I worked, at noon I went to eat a salad at the bakery with all the family except Tore who was working. In the evening I went to the gym, for a family session with Annette, Thea's mother who is a sports coach and Thea's father. After finishing the session, they came back and I joined Thea in the gym to work out with her.

February 25:

That morning I worked again, then in the afternoon we went for a snowshoe walk with Thea, Annette and the dog. It was very beautiful with beautiful colors and it was also funny, but we had to go back because it was dark. We ate, played cards and went to bed.

February 26:

That day I was very tired and I woke up very late (at noon), I worked, and in the evening I went to the gym.

February 27:

Monday was the day of our return at school, we started with German and we learned the declensions, what we did not make in German in France because it was too complicated, so I was a little lost. I noticed that the Norwegians were very strong in German, and I was told that it was because Norwegian was close to German. Then, in the afternoon I had math, then Norwegian for the others, and individual work for me and Enora, so we took the opportunity to advance our work in France

February 28:

That day we had a school trip to Trondheim to see museums about the Jews and the Holocaust. I didn't understand the explanations, but afterwards there was some group work like making propaganda posters, so I did some stuff though. Then we had some free time in the Trondheim shopping center, and Enora and I drank a bubble tea and visited the bookshop