

23rd March – Sunday

We set out on our adventures from the railway station in Veszprém. We took the international express train running from Budapest to Ljubljana. The journey took more than 5 hours, however, time flew quickly: we were playing cards, chatting, listening to music and marvelling at the beautiful landscape. On our arrival, Mrs Alenka Blake, the coordinator teacher of the hosting grammar school had already been waiting for us. She spent a lot of time with us during the week, and was ready to help us with any kind of problems, or to have a chat with us on the topics we were interested in. We checked in at the hostel and then took a pleasant walk around the city to get to know it. We finished the day with a nice pizza.

24th March - Monday

Considering the fact, that the museums are closed on Mondays in Celje, our we headed to Bled this day. We knew that Lake Bled and its surroundings are the most popular tourist destinations in the country, thus expected it to be more crowded. However, we were positively disappointed. The castle (Blejski grad) met all our expectations in every way, even exceeded them. We had the opportunity to see relics preserved from various historical periods, as the castle has a history spanning several centuries. We were extremely pleased with this, because it provided plenty of background information for the project's implementation. From the castle, we took a pletna (a special vessel similar to the gondolas in Venice) to the island on the lake, where we rang the famous luck-bringing bell three times. Lastly, we finished the day with a well-deserved Bled cream cake (blejski kremšnita, invented by a Hungarian pastry chef).

Szántó Dániel, Zanati Dominik András

25th March - Tuesday

On the morning of our second day, we took a local bus to Celje Castle, which had already opened on this day. At the castle, we were given a guided tour by Mrs Tatjana Rozman, the highschool's history and philosophy teacher. We enriched our existing, in some cases incorrect knowledge with new information, which Mrs Rozman helped a lot with, due to this being her area of expertise. Accompanied by Mrs Blake, we got an insight into the school life and the building, where the students demonstrated their helpfulness, cheerfulness, and we also enjoyed a delicious meal in the cafeteria. Afterwards, in rainy conditions, we headed to the Regional Museum of Celje, where a knowledgeable guide, heated up the atmosphere in the otherwise cold museum with her competence, enthusiasm and love for her profession. To end the day, we tried local specialties at Koper restaurant.

Horváth Bence, Horváth Levente

26th March - Wednesday

Today after having breakfast, we went to the Grammar School of Celje where we got to see a little show where the students sang and played the piano. They also made a short presentation about their school, and the principal greeted us, as well. After this the group was split into smaller groups. We could have a peek into various lessons (Philosophy, German, Music, Sport, History), and we could compare the Slovenian educational system with the Hungarian one. During these lessons we could sharpen our English with the students and the teachers. After the lunch in the school canteen, in the afternoon we visited the ancient Roman city of Celeia at the regional museum where an archaeologist guided us in English.

Bacchioni Dániel, Marton Zoltán

27th March – Thursday

On our 4th day we visited the wonderful city of Ljubljana. First, we explored the castle, where we could see several interesting exhibitions, which also helped us with our project. At the exhibition "History of Slovenia" we read about the Counts of Celje. We also watched an amazing 4D film about the history of Ljubljana Castle and we got to know that the Hungarian prime minister Batthyany Lajos was imprisoned in this castle after the war of independence in 1848-49. Then we took a walk through the city and saw famous buildings and places. The accompanying Slovene teacher, Ursa Dvorc told us a lot of interesting fun facts about the capital, and also its connections with the counts of Celje. In the evening we attended a spectacular dance night in Lasko, a spa town 10-minute train ride from Celje, where we could see a variety of productions performed by students of the Celje Grammar School. It was a fascinating day with a lot of memorable moments.

Tarnavölgyi-Benedek Hédi, Molnár Lujza

28th March – Friday

On our last day, we presented our work on the life of Barbara of Cilli. We performed our presentations to two classes in the high school. We were really nervous at first, but the students showed great interest in our presentations and were ready to participate in the games and tasks we had prepared for them. This has further improved our public speaking and language skills. We also got the chance to visit a PE lesson and play volleyball with the local students. In the afternoon, we could also explore an escape room connected to our topic, the Counts of Celje. We finished our adventures in the town by having a fantastic dinner together in a local restaurant.

Halász Gréta, Módos Anna

29th March – Saturday

Our last day was only about getting home by train. It was drizzling when we left the city, as if the weather had mirrored our feelings. We were sad to leave but at home a lot of tasks had been waiting for us already. We had a fantastic time in Slovenia: we saw wonderful places, we learnt a lot, and we also made friendships with the Slovene students. We got experiences which will never be forgotten. We will return to Slovenia and Celje one day, that's for sure.