

Newsletter Styria, Riegersburg and chocolate factory Zotter



Marzia from Italy, Mengke from China, Katie from Canada East, Giulia from Italy, in front: Francesca from Italy and Stanka from Slovakia (Rebecca from Australia is not on this picture:o)

A whole day in Riegersburg - the host families and exchange students' meeting in Styria together with the arearep Hannelore and her daughter Ira and her nephew :o)

We met early in the morning, at 9:30 at the foot of the hill of the Riegersburg, a castle of the late medieval times which has never been conquered by the enemies - of course because of its extraordinary situation. We walked up the steep hill to the castle - enjoying the wonderful weather - the blue sky and the pleasant autumn temperature. There was an amazing view over hundreds of kilometers to the southern and eastern areas of Styria and Slovenia. We, we were 4 host families and 7 exchange students (Rebecca, Mengke, Katie, Stanka, Marzia, Francesca and Giulia), my daughter Ira, my nephew Simon and me. After having visited the castle we went to the Zotter chocolate manufactory, to a more than one hour lasting "feed" of the extraordinary chocolate with flavors of e.g. chili, pepper, champagne, white wine, Greek wine, rosemary, berries, spices, brittle, fruits, sesame,...and mixtures of any kinds you can imagine.

Francesca tasted too much chocolate what wasn't good for her stomach. That's why she could not really enjoy the dinner in a Buschenschank (a typical east Austrian restaurant) afterwards. At about 6 o'clock p.a. the last of us of the big group said good-bye to Riegersburg.

It was a wonderful day with lots of events and chats about life with the exchange students and families.

Here are some pictures and as well some comments students wrote after the event...some wrote in German, because their English is not good enough



Stanka and Katie on the castle wall



Katie, Stanka and Mengke together with their AR Hannelore



Riegersburg

Funny, that is how students follow the rules



In front of the Chocolate factory

Stanka, Marzia, Francesca and Giulia with their tickets to the factory





Too much chocolate, dear Francesca!!! :o)



Stanka tasting the chocolate fountain



Chocolate like Gold



Host dad of Stanka trying chocolate

Hallo!

Da ist die Mengeke.

Ja, on 18th, Oct, I have a great time with other friends and Hannelore, I also made new friends, such as Stanka, Katie, Giulia. And other nice host families, the castle is historical and attractive, my hostsister Eva told me the event about the palace. Of course, we also had fun in the chocolate factory, thanks, Katrin. We had tried to taste so many kinds of chocolate, and we had known how the chocolate make, it is so interesting. After that, some host families and students left earlier, but when we ate food, several girls still talked well, though talking, we know each other better, I have see, host parents also had a good chat ^^, Rebecca and I thought maybe it is the last meeting with STS for us, but I hope not. I bought a chocolate as a small present for my host family, I want to tell them, or you, during the past 7 months, Ich bin immer glücklich, danke euch!

Am Samstag haben wir uns getroffen und es war schön enige von den welcome party wurden zu sehen, schade dass nicht alle kommen konnten aber ich habe mich froh Stanka una Katie zu lernen: -)))

Wir verbraghten einen wunderschon Tag und Hannelore hat alles sehr gut organisiert.

Wir haben da Schloss Riegersburg angeschout, ich habe viele Fotos gemacht und es hat mir sehr gefallen.

Die Schokolade Manufaktur Zotter war sehr schön!! Wir haben SchokoladeTheater gesehen und viele Schokoladesorten gekostet und gekauft.

Und dann fahren wir in die Burscherschank und dort haben wir typisch österreichische Speisen gegessen.

Bussi Giulia

Liebe Katrin,

entschuldige mich, dass ich dir auf Deutsch schreibe, aber ich kann nicht mehr Englisch denn den ganzen Tag spreche ich nur Deutsch! Riegersburg ist wirklich ein wunderschoenes Schloss, wir haben es besucht und viele Fotos gemacht.

Zu Mittag haben wir eine Kleinigkeit gegessen und dann sind wir nach Zotter gefahren. Am anfang haben wir die Geschichte von Kakao gehoert und dann haben wir die Manufaktur besucht. Im Zotter produziert man 210 Sorten von Schokolade, aber ich habe nicht jede Sorte gekostet!! ich habe viel Schokolade gegessen und spaeter habe ich ein bisschen Bauchschmerz gehabt... (zu viel schoko,aber sehr sehr lecker!!!).

ich habe auch Schokolade fuer meine Gasteltern gekauft und sie hat ihnen sehr geschmeckt.

Als wir fetig waren, sind wir alle zusammen in einen Buschenschank gefahren.. da habe ich etwas salzig gegessen!!!

Hannelore hat alles super organisiert,sie ist mit uns immer sehr nett und ich danke ihr sehr!!

ich war sehr zufrieden, weil ich Stanka und katie kennengelernt habe!!

bis bald..

Bussal.. Marzia aus Italien..

ich danke dir auch sehr fuer alles!! ciao Marzia

Hello Katrin!

The day with Hannelore was lots of fun! When I arrived with my host parents we meet up with many other exchange students (all girls) It was nice to finally meet some of them because I did not go to the Welcome Party. ONce everyone was there we decided to walk up the castle instead of take the elevator, This was nice because we had lots of chances to take pictures with the group! It was a very beautiful view and nothing like I have ever seen before in my life! When we had all walked through the museum we met for something to eat before going to the chocolate factory - which I was really excited for! YUMMY! haha, The Zotter factory was amazing. So much chocolate and all different, funny flavours. I had seen the chocolate in some stores in Weiz before but it was really great to walk through and see how it was made. (and all the samples) At the beginning of the tour, everyone was taking lots of samples but by the end, when there was still lots of interesting things to try, everyone was too full. I think that the Zotter chocolate makes a really good christmas gift for some of my family and friends back home!!! We took some more group pictures and some of the group went on the restraunt with Hannelore but myself and a few others went home from here. Overall, it was a really nice day - THANKYOU

Hope this helps,

Katie

Finally, let me thank here very much Hannelore who our wonderful arearep and does a great job,
Your Katrin