

Day 1 – Prague Saturday

The train ride from Berlin to Prague was very uncomplicated and short. We were picked up by Miluska's son, who lives in Prague, and brought to the hotel. It was a very neat little pension run by the Protestant church right in the heart of Prague.



Since we were the first to meet everybody, we had some time to explore the city for a few hours on our own until we later met with the rest of the group in the hotel. Later in the evening, Ms Wandelt and Mr Giesa went to a jazz club in Prague.

Day 2 – Prague Sunday

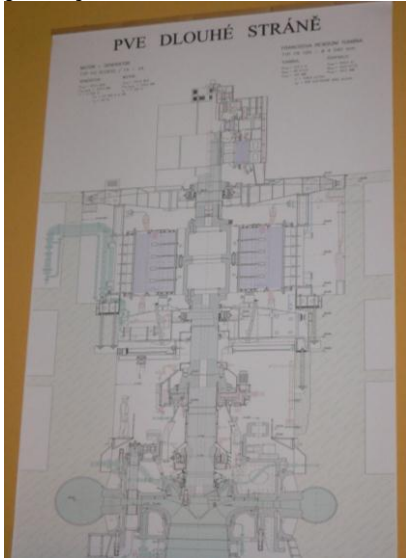
Miluska and Radka took us on a tour through Prague, which was kind of exhausting after a while, trying to keep 40 people together. We managed it fairly well, though.



In the evening we went out for dinner with the whole group in a traditional Czech restaurant.

Day 3 – Vsetin Monday

The day started very early in the morning when we headed for a pumped storage hydropower plant in the Northeast of the Czech Republic (Dlouhé Stráně hydro power plant).

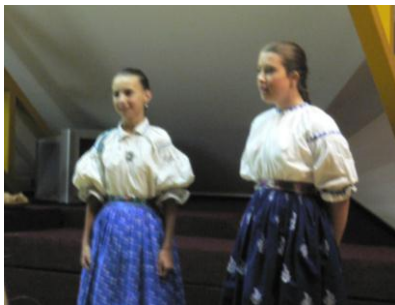


During the bus ride you could see the beautiful landscape of the country rich in woodlands. Late in the afternoon we arrived in Vsetin, where all the host students were already waiting. Everybody was very friendly and welcomed us. All students seemed very happy.

Day 4 – Vsetin Tuesday

In the morning we all met in the assembly hall of the Masarykovo Gymnázium. Asked about their host families, our students were very delighted. Most of them were integrated in the host families like a child of their own.

We had an official welcome by the headmaster and the students of the gymnasium and the nurse school.



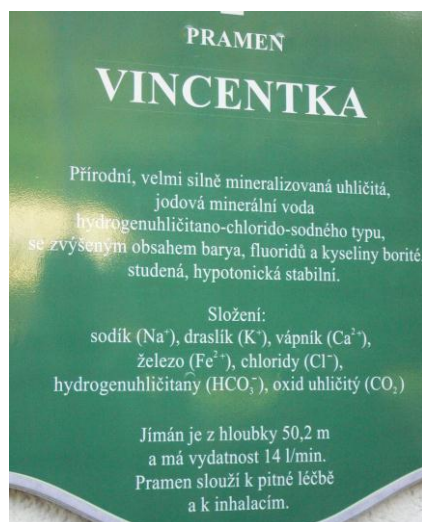


Walking around in school made us realize how many of their students are very gifted in arts. Paintings and drawings are hanging everywhere. Moreover, every student has a locker to deposit his/her personal belongings. So students only carry the materials for the upcoming class with them and leave their jackets, backpacks, and food in it. The school cafeteria is very nice as well. Students can choose their menu item via a computer one day before. The project work was at the beginning very confusing with respect to allocating all students to a group.

Furthermore, students had a hard time to communicate and to overcome language barriers. At the end it worked out fine and everybody was working hard on the project. In the evening we were invited by a Czech teacher for a barbecue in his place. We made a campfire and one of the Czech colleagues, Ludvig Schmidt, and one of his friends played songs on the guitar and violin the whole evening, with us singing to it, more or less well.

Day 5 – Vsetin Wednesday

In the morning the students had the opportunity to shortly visit Luhačovice Spa, **where mineral water is analysed.**





After that we visit the Comenius Museum in Uherský Brod in Southern Moravia.



In the afternoon Ms Wandelt went with some Czech, Turkish, Italian and German students to a local ice hockey game. Vsetin plays in the second league. We had so much fun. The atmosphere was awesome, singing, shouting and waving flags, just like games in Germany. For the Italian and Turkish students watching an ice hockey game was a totally new experience.

Day 6 – Vsetin Thursday

In the morning the project work was continued in Masarykovo Gymnázium. All groups worked on their presentations and their posters, which turned out really well. Students were able to work in the school's art gallery or IT room and could let their creativity flow. Before lunch, we were all invited to a meeting with the mayor of Vsetin in the town hall. The mayor welcomed the exchange partners and informed them about Vsetin and its history.



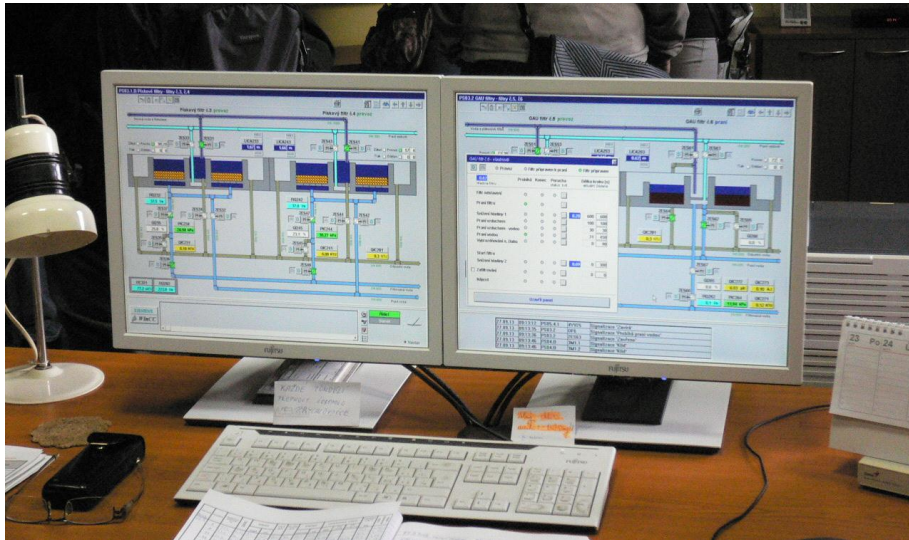
The cultural program in the afternoon, organized by a Czech colleague, was very interesting and everybody had fun, singing a German song, doing a traditional Turkish dance and an Italian dance for children. At the end the whole group was dancing Macarena.



Day 7 – Vsetin Friday

In the morning the students visited the Vsetin water works in Karolinka, where they were shown how the town of Vsetin produces its drinking water from a water reservoir.





After returning to Vsetin, the early afternoon was dedicated to the presentation of the students' work on the topics of the project they had worked on together in multinational groups during their stay in Vsetin.

Day 8 - Departure Saturday

Some of the host students brought us to the train station. They had hard time to say good bye, some even cried. You could see that during this stay some, maybe lifelong, friendships have developed.