

Taiwan Preparation Course
13th August – 1st September 2018
in Hamburg & Berlin

Week 2

Saturday, 18th August

On Saturday, the students enjoyed their breakfast as everyday between 8 and 9 o'clock, and additionally got a lunch box because this day we wouldn't be there for lunch. Around 10 o'clock we met to walk to



the train station and start our trip to the beautiful city of Lüneburg. After arriving at Lüneburg train station we walked to the city centre where the students formed 7 groups to do a rallye through the city centre of the city. Bert translated and explained all the important words and then the students were free to explore the city and answer all the questions. After two hours we all met again at the "Wasserturm" where a wedding party took place with some typical German wedding traditions. The students were interestedly watching and thought the bride and her groom were very beautiful. Afterwards, the students got another two hours of free time which they used to get some delicious ice cream, to stroll through the stunning streets of Lüneburg or to do a little bit of shopping. In the late afternoon, we took the train back to Bad Oldesloe.



Sunday, 19th August



On our 7th day, another excursion was planned. After a nice breakfast at the usual time around 8 o'clock, the students took their lunch boxes and at 10 o'clock we left our accommodation to go to Lübeck. At first, we went together to the "Holstentor" to give everyone some basic facts about Lübeck, explain their next rallye and of course give them some time to take photos. As the day turned out to be very nice, sunny and warm, we decided that we would spend three hours in Lübeck. During this time, the students should do the rallye and have a look around the city. Most of them got some ice cream at the Café Niederegger which is famous for its almond paste. Unfortunately, the taste of the almond paste which we offered the students wasn't too popular. As all the shops were closed, there was no time needed for shopping. Instead we left Lübeck early to visit the beach at Travemünde and spend some time enjoying the blue water with a clear sky and the sun.



Monday, 20th August

On Monday, the students had their German courses starting at 9 o'clock again. On this morning, the last students finished their postcards for their host families. After having some delicious lunch, we all meet to go to Hamburg. This time we wanted to visit the Miniaturwunderland. It is located in the marvellous Speicherstadt. For two hours, the students had time to explore all three floors with miniature cities and landscapes like Hamburg, Rome, Switzerland and Scandinavia. Many of them took a lot of time to gaze at the detailed little scenes with special effects and lights, while the lighting of the rooms changed



between day and night. When everyone was done we went for a little walk through the Hafen City to show the students the beautiful and historical buildings of the Speicherstadt. During a short 10 minutes history lesson the students learned that the buildings of the Speicherstadt were used to store trading goods like coffee, grains, fabrics and carpets from all over the world. Walking only a hundred meters further, we were standing on a canal between modern apartment buildings with a very interesting shape. As we learned, when a flood comes the shape of the houses should prevent that the apartments get filled



up with water.

Tuesday, 21st August

After all of our students enjoyed a good breakfast, they went to their German courses. This time they started the classes with a little "greeting game" where they should practice examples of every day conversations which they already learned about. Then, instead of having the regular German courses, we met our students in one room to have a session together. Tim already waited for them with a presentation about German politics in his bag. He gave us a short introduction into politics and prepared the students for our plans the next day. After lunch, we left for Hamburg again. However, this time we visited the private university called "Macromedia Universität" where a nice lady did a presentation for us on how to study in Germany, on the Macromedia university and she showed us some projects that students at the university did. Also, everyone got some sweets as a little gift. After visiting the university, we had around an hour of free time to have a look around on Mönckebergstraße. For some of the students it was also already time for dinner because they would be going to see the musical "Aladdin". In the late afternoon we all met together again, it was time to split the group in two. While half of the students went back to Bad Oldesloe with Bert, the rest took the S-Bahn to see "Aladdin" with Desiree. They spent a great evening together in the theatre with an astonishing show, incredible music and mind-blowing actors.



Wednesday, 22nd August

On the 10th day, we were invited to visit Hamburg's beautiful town hall. So, after our morning routine of having breakfast, German courses and lunch, we took the train to Hamburg and then went to the



Rathausplatz. Our group entered the town hall and while waiting for a guide to pick us up, Bert refreshed our memories on German politics. Then, we were lead into a room where we watched a short movie on the townhall, Hamburg's politics and Hamburg's parliament. During the movie, Mr. Ovens entered the room. He invited us and gave us the opportunity to experience a German politician first hand.

Mr. Ovens gave us a short introduction to his person before our students were allowed to ask some questions. Luckily, we prepared some great questions with Tim the day before. Even Mr. Ovens was very impressed by all those great questions which he answered in detail. After a very interesting hour in the town hall we already had to leave again. In front of the building, Bert told us a little bit more about its history before he led us over the Rathausplatz to the Jungfernstieg. On the way, we learned about Hamburg's swans, how the Jungfernstieg got its name and how the Alster came into existence.



Thursday, 23rd August

Thursday was a big day for all of us. It was the day of our Taiwanese evening at the aubiko office. As



usual, we had breakfast at 8 o'clock, then, at 9 we all met to go through our program and all plans for one last time. Every group had time to practice their performance again. Before we had a quick lunch, the whole group did a final rehearsal, so that nothing would go wrong in the evening. At 1 o'clock the first group of chefs and helping hands to buy all ingredients made their way to the office. Two hours later, the rest of us also arrived. Everyone was busy preparing food, decoration, music and other stuff. When the first guests arrived, the

students got very nervous. For some this would be the first time that they meet their host parents. While the aubiko team, students and guests enjoyed the Taiwanese and German food, people were chatting all over the place. Exchange students talked to their host parents, guests talked to the staff and all of them were having fun. After an hour, the program of the students was about to begin. Lin and Ethan moderated the program and introduced fantastic performances like singing songs, playing flute, ukulele and the piano, magical tricks and introducing little drawn portraits of all of the course participants. It was a great evening with a lot of fun and happiness.



Friday, 24th August

Our Friday morning followed the same routine as always. First, we all had a nice breakfast before the students went to their German courses. There they talked about the Taiwanese evening and wrote a



little summary of the evening in German. After lunch, we planned to have culture preparation classes and to go canoeing later in the afternoon. At half past one we started cultural preparation all together. We talked about important events in German history. Therefore, we gave the students several dates and events which they should match. In the end, we checked the results and Bert gave a small summary for each event. Afterwards, we split

the students in two groups. The first group would do some more cultural preparation while the other group went canoeing on the river Trave. During the cultural preparation we talked about first impressions and asked the students to think about and to perform some plays which present each a good and a bad first impression in different situations. In the meantime, the other group explored the river and the nature around the river. They could see beautiful swans, ducks and fishes on their trip. At half past four the groups changed. In the evening we all met again to have a nice and delicious barbecue with some music and a lot of fun.

