

# Feedback Program STEP - Short Term Exchange Program in Jihlava, Czech Republic

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As we saw the entry "STEP Jihlava" in the CIS, it was not clear what we should expect. Two weeks of learning czech and a few other subjects in Jihlava, including visits to some cities. Who joined the exchange program? Is this just something for excellent students? As we saw, that the trip and the food are for free, we decided to join it. It was one of the best decisions we every made!

We had the first contact to our fellow students days before departure by email. Who sits where on the train? Where do we meet? Do we want to reserve seats together? These questions were some of the first questions. At the station it turned out that we were mixed and funny group of students. The students nationality started by Austrians, from different provinces, to Hungarians, Bulgarians and Ukrainians.

At the train station in Jihlava, we were warmly welcomed. On the one hand, the project manager and the other hand Armina and Kristina who guided us the whole two weeks. At this point we want to say thank you to the two girls, who spent their free time and guided us through the cities, planned the evenings with us!

From Monday to Friday we had Czech-course and some other lectures. During class we also had time for some small games that supported us learning the language. There was also a game where we had to solve quests in Jihlava. There we had to apply our knowledge of Czech language. Unfortunately, a few interesting lectures were dropped. On some days we visited companies in Jihlava like Bosch, Optokon and Valeo. But there was also enough free time for relaxing and learning.

Our accommodation was relatively centrally located in the middle between the school and our restaurant, and also next to a large shopping center. The restaurant was located a few kilometers away but so we had time to talk to our colleagues and get to know them better.

During the weekend visits of different cities were scheduled. Here we were able to visit UNESCO sights as Třebíč and Telč. Thanks to Kristina and Armina, because they made it possible for us to visit Prague on one day. The tours were wonderful and interesting, even if one day is far too little for Prague, we have seen a lot.

The group size of 17 students was ideally. The group was large enough that there were always motivated colleagues who wanted to do something in the evening, but small enough to get to know all of them. Because of the fact that some students came from abroad and spoke only English we were able to improve our English skills beside learning Czech language.

Overall we can say that these were two very interesting weeks and we've learned and saw a lot. We had a lot of fun there, mostly because of the nice colleagues and our local guides Armina and Kristina. Thank you guys! And also thanks to VSPJ Jihlava and UAS Technikum for giving such a possibility to their students. We got to know many new friends with whom we are still in contact and sometimes we also meet them at the UAS again. We would advise all students to take place in such an exchange program if the opportunity arises.