

My major experiences

A study abroad story through photos

By Eric Alvarado



The Eiffel Tower

- This was one of the many panoramic views available through a boat ride on the Seine river
- An event placed into the program, this was a wonderful boat ride that took place around sunset
- this was also one of the first experiences I had in France
- sunset allowed for atmospheric change in addition to the lights of the tower being turned on creating a breath taking view

Place de la Libération

- This photo captured the moment right before our group tour through Dijon
- The walking tour consists of various stopping points throughout the city talking about the history, architecture and food
- This scene captures the central plaza in Darcy, on a beautiful summers day
- Although it was not the first time in Darcy, it was the first time learning about it



Gare de Dijon Ville

- This scene captures the moment in which our group entered the general waiting platform in the Dijon train station
- During one of our weekends the group of students and I decided to head to Paris from Dijon for the weekend as an unprogrammed event
- The station is reminiscent of the classic 1800's glass and iron construction that was most famous at the time



The Louvre

- This was the view that was visible while looking out through one of the windows in the upper levels in the Louvre museum
- The trip to the Louvre was among one of the events that were programmed for the trip within the first few days upon arriving to the country



The Louvre

- As we navigated the large hallways within the Louvre museum, we took our time to look at various categories of artwork
- This particular scene opens up to statues on either side with beautiful sunlight filling up the area
- This scene captures my perspective of the hallway as it leads up to one of the most anticipated paintings, the Mona Lisa





Bastille

- 14 de Juliet, French National Day, is the celebration of the storming of the Bastille which played an important factor in the French Revolution
- The time frame of the study abroad program allowed us to take part in this day and experience first hand the French holiday and the French spirit
- We got to take part in this day with all of the international students, instructors and the community as well

Nîmes

- During our excursion to the southern end of France on the coast of the Mediterranean, we passed through the wonderful city of Nîmes, often referred to as the “Rome of France”
- This area is filled with wonderful restaurants and comforting local attitudes
- As you navigate to the southern end an apparent change in weather is shown
- The area is warm with gentle winds
- This photo was taken right before sunset





Arles

- This photo was also taken right as we entered another central plaza in the city of Arles on our wonderful tour through southern France
- I would say one of the major resting points for the group on the trip would be here in Arles
- There was about a 2 hour intermission where we were free to roam about
- We got to look at various restaurants and shops that were teeming with life and customers
- There were large evident traces of Roman influence all throughout the city, most notable in the architecture

Provence

- This picture captures my panoramic view of the French countryside
- Another short resting point in our Provence excursion
- As the group and I rested on the old stone balcony we took our time to really take in the environment
- As we trekked through the area I noticed a significantly slower pace in the locals lifestyles
- The surrounding shops and restaurants had particular items like lavender, a prevailing crop in the area
- The high altitude also created large winds which caused much interaction within the local area to occur inside



The Mediterranean

- Our trip through southern France finally concluded once we hit the Mediterranean coast
- This photo captures my first few steps on the white sandy beach looking onto the ever vast sea
- This moment was particularly pivotal for me as I've never been to the Mediterranean
- The water's horizon almost seamlessly blends with the sky creating a unique view I have never seen

