



Katharina
From Brampton to
Germany

One year in my life seems like a whole life in a year!

I have now been in Germany for nine months, and I cannot believe how quickly it went by! When I look back at all I've done and experienced, I'm still surprised! Within less than a year, I've made a friend from every continent, traveled more than any 17 year old could imagine, learned an entire new language and grew so much as a person!

I recently went on the last trip I will attend with Rotary, the Euro-tour. The only word which could almost describe it would be ungläublich, which means unbelievable! We were ninety one exchange students in total and these exchange students became like a family to me. They were already so close to me but this trip brought me even closer to each one. In the end we all knew we would never be able to meet all together like this again and to say bye was the hardest thing you could imagine. However I will at least see my very good friends once more before I return. Luckily Germany is smaller than Canada and has an amazing railway system!

This year was not only one year in my life, but it feels like a whole life in a year. A year with memories that will always stay and lessons which impacted me so greatly to become a better person. To leave this all behind and to return to a country which now feels quite frankly unfamiliar is scary. I miss Canada, but I know I'll be back, it will be much harder to leave behind Germany, to leave my district, my town, my school, my exchange.

I've already been told that another Canadian will be coming to Germany with Rotary, they will even attend the same school that I currently go to! I'm happy, but at the same time I am jealous as I know their upcoming year is going to be the most unforgettable year for them.

But my year isn't over yet. I will be making my Euro-tour presentation on the 24th and my final "My Year in Germany" presentation in two months. I still have plenty of time to enjoy what I have been given the opportunity to experience. I still can't say enough to express my gratitude to everyone...

Thank you!

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