

Surely everyone is familiar with the scenario - those dull class trips with their strange and monotonous program. And then there are some teachers, with whom you go somewhere and just walk around, while actually each of us just wants to go home... But when our class was standing at the train station in Ahaus at 7:39 a.m. on May 17, 2023, it was clear to all of us: These four days will become legendary!

Everyone was looking forward to a few nice days together to switch off from all the learning stress. In the weeks before, many exams and term papers were written. The choice of the class trip was quite a mess. First we wanted to go to London, then to Dublin or Stockholm and finally we ended up in Brussels. So we took the train from Ahaus to Dortmund to change trains for the first time. From there we went to Cologne and made a short stop at the Cologne Cathedral. This was also our last stop, because from Cologne we drove through to Brussels. The ride was already fun, some played UNO and some started to play "schocken" for the drinks in the evening.

When we arrived in Brussels, the sun greeted us. After only a few minutes of walking, we arrived at our place to stay for the next three nights. First of all, the rooms were divided, which was not too difficult with 15 people. After freshening up we went into the city to explore it a bit. The evening we spent in a sports bar with one or the other cool drinks. What could not be missed was the conclusion in a karaoke bar.

The next morning, after breakfast, we went out again in small groups. Some took a closer look at the city, others ended up at the Irish Pub and some others went to the Atomium. After lunch we all got together and had a Beer and Chocolate Tour booked. We started with many different kinds of chocolates. At Pierre Marcolini it all started and at BS40 we ended up tasting Belgian chocolate. In between we were allowed to taste and learn to love the delicious Belgian waffles. In addition, we were meanwhile shown the city a bit and the history was explained. By the way, Manneken Pis is quite small and was dressed up as one of the three musketeers that day. After that the beer part of the Beer and Chocolate Tour started. There were quite a few sweet beers in Brussels, which many of us didn't like at all. Still, my favorite was the Pecheresse beer from Lindemans, it tasted so deliciously sweet like peach, quite drinkable. Late in the evening, our entire tour came to an end. How could it be otherwise, we ended the evening in a karaoke bar. From the song Tequila by The Champs, to Baby by Justin Bieber, to Breaking Free by Highschool Musical, it was all there. Tired, we all fell into bed.

It was Friday, the day before departure. The girls from our class took the train to the Atomium. The boys wanted to take another look to see if there was a beer that wasn't sweet. After the girls were back in town from their trip, bought souvenirs for home and ate really good burgers, they met up with the boys for a drink or two. Because our hostel was not far away, everyone could leave when they wanted. So it was then that seven people were still looking for a club at night and unfortunately did not find it. With a snack on hand and loud singing through the city, it went for them back to the hostel.

On Saturday morning, at quarter past nine, we met to walk to the train station. No more games were played on the way back, because we were all pretty tired. Shortly before we reached the Hagen main station, there was, how could it be otherwise, a technical defect at the Deutsche Bahn. Thus our train arrived 45 minutes later in Dortmund and we had to take a train later. After we arrived in Ahaus at 17:15 instead of 16:15, it was clear to everyone that this was the end of our class trip. Through this trip, many people got to know and appreciate each other and I would definitely call this a successful class trip with a happy ending. Thank you for this great time!