

Kein Bier vor vier- und auch nicht nach zehn

Scotland- the mysterious place up in the far north of England where it's rumored to have people eat a sheep's intestines in its own stomach (Haggis) joined by some unsettling screeching sounds (bagpipes).

None of us had any experience with Edinburgh and its culture and it would show during those crucial 4 days we spent in this particular part of Britain.

Welcome to „EdinBRUH“, the only field trip blog from students, by students!

We are the language profile class of 2020, Johanneum zu Lübeck. The predominantly female class has made the decision to pay the UK a visit, specifically, Edinburgh. Our documented experience will be more than enough proof that there's more to Scotland than alcoholism, bagpipes and bad weather.



Our first day started off meeting at the train station back home in Lübeck and then continuing our journey at the Hamburg airport.

Packed with more than sufficient gear to sustain the suspected rain we were defeated to find out that our British neighbors were currently enjoying a rather comfortable climate. All that didn't matter, as we had approximately two hours to be grumpy about our inability to predict the damn weather.

Due to an unfortunate delay of almost exactly one hour, we used the time wisely by entertaining ourselves with card games and bad jokes. The flight itself was pleasant and endurable, making the very first view of the city even more astonishing. It almost made everyone forget that we were running late according to schedule.

Shortly after checking in we realized that the staircase wasn't gonna be the only thing that had us short in breath. Our dorms were so tiny, the air was constantly fogging up the windows. There were bunk beds squeezed into the corners and we quickly adapted by ducking our heads and manoeuvring around the furniture.



Quickly recovering from the initial shock we then rushed outside collectively to search for our evenly sustenance. However, the task has proven to be very difficult and we arrived and unloaded right before 10pm, making nearly every pub that we intended to eat in unavailable for our underaged group. Despite the reputation, the Scots were actually very strict with the exposure of minors to alcoholic beverages, whether we ordered them or not. So after being denied entry by several pubs we ended up in swell Italian restaurant. Somewhat satisfied and exhausted from our first day we headed back to the hostel, carefully paying attention to not being run over because of the Brits' unusual driving patterns on the *left* side of the road. Meanwhile one peer of our fellow male trio has recovered from his spooky nausea enough to retrieve to his dorm and we could all relax after a long and eventful first day.



Exploring the Royal Dick of Edinbra

Bob the builder¹ did a good job waking 14 exhausted, tired students plus two equally exhausted teachers from Germany up to start into the very first day of the class trip. After we all had a super healthy, balanced breakfast consisting of peanut butter toast and cereals, a, let's say quite Scottish man, dressed with a



kilt, picked us up from the hostel. We spent the following three hours getting to know the beautiful, old town of Edinbra- the capital of Scotland. Very dramatically and slowly our guider tried to test the limits of our English skills. Letting us into the story of a famous veterinarian,

aka "The Royal Dick of Edinbra", and giving us the chance to make friends with the royal guards of the

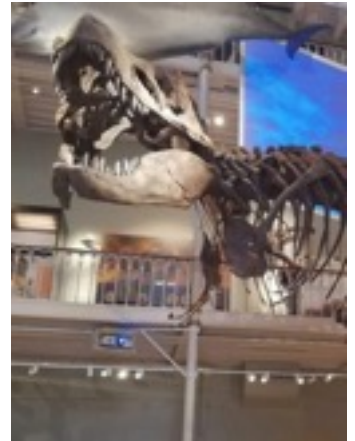


city's palace, he really gave us some nice first impressions of Ed-



inbra, also known as the city, where J.K. Rowling wrote her incredible Harry Potter books. After our three hour- workout we re- stored our resources with more or less Scottish food.

Relaxed and with a full stomach, we entered the National Museum of Scotland surprised to find a giant hall with hundreds of rooms and various exhibitions from dinosaurs over designing future babies to racing cars and airplanes. Feeling like little children we played reaction and thinking games getting a sneak peek of topics and inventions throughout the years. After two hours we left the museum overwhelmed after having looked at only a tenth of it. The free entrance and huge variety of things to explore really turned this museum into a recommendable event in our opinion. After this great experience we had two hours of free time, which we spent walking and discovering the city or relaxing at the hostel. But as



all this was quite challenging for our legs and feet, it was finally time for some typical Scottish food in a typical Scottish pub. No matter if you eat vegan, vegetarian or love the taste of meat-



"Wetherspoon" offers something for everyone. This evening was the perfect way to end our first day happily and motivated for the upcoming days in Edinbra- the heart of Scotland.

1

bob the builder= loud street workers who woke us up in the morning

Speed dating Mary, Arthur and Nicola



Hullo! Hoo are ye?

That's hello, how are you in Scottish. Yes, we are still in Scotland, but today our question is:

Have you ever travelled in time? Well, we have.

This morning, after a good long night and a strengthening breakfast, we set off into the past and visited the 400 year-old Mary King's Close. Guided by a character who used to live (in) there, we went downstairs into the former city of Edinburgh, which is covered up with the new town nowadays. Down in dark chambers we learned about the life of Queen Mary, the outbreak and the cure of the plague and listened to stories about other known inhabitants of Mary King's Close.

With our thoughts still in the past, we started our hike up the green hills of Edinburgh Half way up we encountered new friends meeting the little dog Alfie and his owner. Since the duo climbs the hill every day, they take pictures with dog loving people quite often. We are proud to announce that we are officially the largest group surrounding Alfie in his daily photo, which you can see on his facebook page supporting www.alfieadventures.com! Make sure to check it out!

When we finally reached the top of Arthur's Seat the overwhelming view brought even the last person back to the present.



After a picnic, we returned to the city where we visited the Scottish Parliament. Some of us, even attended the First Minister's Question time and listened to the Prime Minister Nicola Sturgeon answering questions regarding the Brexit, traffic and general future choices.



In the evening, we explored the city further in small groups until we finally got back together and ate our well-deserved dinner at Vapiano.

Jette, Laura and Paula, who enjoyed a nice day travelling in time

Source:

<https://travel.sygic.com/de/poi/schottisches-parlament-poi:2227>

and Helene's photos

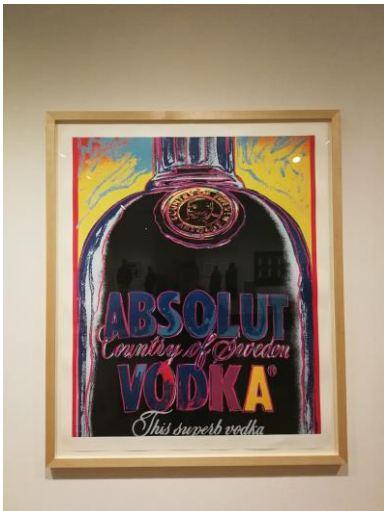
“DAY 4 – An Absolut Vodka for everyone!”

Hey guys,

did you know that the developer of a famous computer game lives in Edinburgh? We didn't know that, but we found out on our 4th day in Scotland.

First, we explored the “New Town”, which we haven't been to before. With a 30 minutes walk through this newer, but still old part of the Scottish capital we got to the “Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art”, which was for free like almost all museums in Great Britain. We really enjoyed the exhibition of Andy Warhol and Eduardo Paolozzi! Next to the colourful Marilyn Monroes we luckily found a bottle of vodka – unfortunately a painting too...After being revived with a cup of coffee in the museum's café we were motivated to go on a little hike along the “Water of Leith”. We discovered some really nice places with beautiful nature and lovely houses, also the one in which the famous game developer of GTA lives.

We arrived in the “Royal Botanic Garden”, where we had a little picknick. We couldn't enter the glass house because it was too expensive, but also outside we saw lots of different plants. In the afternoon we had free time which we all passed differently, for example going shopping or relaxing in a park with a nice view. Later we all met for dinner at the Hard Rock Café, where we happily ate burgers and ice cream. Finally we finished the day cozily and spent our last night in the St. Christopher's Inn in Edinburgh.



Leaving paradise EDENburgh

Sadly, our last day has come, exhausted but also happy about all the places we've explored and the things we've learned, Friday morning we met in the kitchen one last time to share our final breakfast together. All of us agreed that we'll even miss the daily cheese-sandwiches in the morning;) After having packed all of our Allwetterjacketen into the with souvenirs (whiskey,...;) filled bags, we wanted to enjoy the beautiful city to the fullest. That's why we chose to walk up the Calton Hill. Which is a famous lookout spot between the new and old town to relax and take photos. But of course, the always hungry Q1a never goes anywhere without food. So, we spent our remaining pounds on typical hiking supplies: chocolate, donuts and of course traditional Scottish fudge. Being impressed by the amazing view over the entire town, we stood on the lookout for some time without being able to take



our eyes off the beauty of Edinburgh.

We sat down to reflect the past days, but also to inform the others about the things we've learned talking to real Scots, which was part of our class trip task. Interestingly everyone felt like Scottish people were really open, nice and welcoming. After talking and of course eating our snacks, we spread into groups to stroll around the city for the last time.

Some of us joined the on-going Fridays for Future demonstration in front of the Parliament, that we visited earlier, others went to buy some souvenirs for family and friends. And one group of girls went to get an everlasting reminder of the wonderful trip we had: One got a nose-piercing and three others one in the ear. Of course it's legal in Scotland and priority confirmed with their parents;).

But everyone spent their last hours in Edinburgh remembering the fun and experiences we had and went to say goodbye to their favorite spots.



Then the time has come to leave our hostel and the city for now to fly back to Hamburg. Even though the flight had a little delay, it went by fast by reviewing the past days. And then, in the middle of the night, a tired and exhausted group of students and teachers was welcomed back in their also very beautiful town Lübeck, where some chose to end the trip with a beer in a bar or others with a long and well-deserved sleep in their own comfortable beds.