

My trip to Switzerland

I went on an International trip to Switzerland on Tuesday 30th July 2013 until Wednesday 7th August 2013. We camped in the grounds of Our Chalet, which is in Adelboden in Switzerland. The trip was great and an amazing experience for me. During our stay in Switzerland we got to celebrate different events; including Our Chalet's 81st Birthday, Swiss National day and the week that we were there was the week when the most different countries came to Our Chalet. Whilst at Our Chalet there was a badge that we could work towards by completing different tasks. Throughout my stay I completed the tasks and got the badge.

On Tuesday 30th July we had an early morning flight. We flew from Luton airport at 7.30 am and landed at Geneva airport in Switzerland at about 9am. We then had to catch two trains and a bus, which took 3 hours. Finally to get to Our Chalet we had to walk up the hill. Luckily we didn't have to carry our big rucksacks up; they got taken up in the minibus. When we got to Our Chalet we pitched our tents and then met the Canadian girls who were staying in the Chalet. After dinner we had a presentation and tour of Our Chalet.

Our Chalet's 81st birthday was on Wednesday 31st July. In the morning we had an opening ceremony, welcoming us to Our Chalet. Throughout the day we did different games and activities celebrating the chalet's birthday. The activities included making a hat, building a Swiss fire and doing traditional Swiss crafts. Whilst we were doing the activities we were trying to earn money so that at the international evening celebration we could buy some birthday cake and other foods. During the international evening we did swaps, ate cake and saw presentations from each county.

On Thursday 1st August we had a day at the adventure park, which was a 1 hour walk away from Our Chalet. At the adventure park we went on zip wires, did a high ropes course and jumped off of a bridge in the morning. In the afternoon we went to a climbing wall and did some climbing. To celebrate Swiss National Evening the Canadians came to our campsite and we watched the fireworks.

Friday 2nd August was the day we went to the top of a mountain, on a mountain train which went up at 60 degrees in some places. We spent an hour looking at the views which were amazing. After lunch we went on a boat trip to Thun, where we spent the afternoon shopping. We then went back to Our Chalet on the bus. On this evening I went on a Twilight hike to a waterfall. It started at 7.30pm and we arrived back at 10pm.

In the middle of the week, Saturday 3rd August we had a rest day. We had a relaxing morning and then in the afternoon we went swimming. In the evening I went to see my 2 Canadian pen friends and we did some origami which the Japanese people showed us how to do.

On Sunday 4th August we had a 2 hour hike to a mountain lift which took us to the top of a mountain. We spent the day by the mountain river and then walked back down the mountain to the coach which took us back to Our Chalet. In the evening we played a WAGGS Game and my team won. We got an Our Chalet song book.

Monday 5th August was the day we spent in Interlaken. First we had a chocolate show in the chocolaters. We then went to a place called Blunder Falls where we looked at 10 different waterfalls. For the afternoon we went to the town of Interlaken where I decided to do a scavenger hunt and then do some souvenir shopping. We didn't join in with the evening activity this evening because there was a thunder storm.

On Tuesday 6th August we went to the woodcarvers, where we could buy handmade things. The woodcarvers is owned by the Trummer family. We could buy drinks and lemon cake in the kitchen afterwards. We then walked back to Our Chalet. In the evening we took lots of pictures of everyone, whilst saying goodbye. Finally to end the camp we had the closing ceremony around the campfire, which ended with everybody saying goodbye to each other. Nobody realised how emotional it would be.

Wednesday 7th August was our last day at Our Chalet, so we had to make sure that the campsite was clear before we could leave at 2.30pm. We then walked to the bus stop, got the bus to the train station and the two different trains to Geneva airport. Finally at 9.30pm we flew back to Luton airport and then went home.

This was an amazing experience and I am so glad that I got the chance to go and took up the opportunity. I would just like to say thank you to everyone who helped me to raise the money to be able to go.

Hannah Fogg

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