

Greetings from Germany: Part 3

*Deutschland, Ich
werde dich vermissen!*

Germany I will miss you!

By Jenna Greenhill

I can't believe it, but my time here in Germany is coming to an end and it has really gone by too fast!

But Germany is really an amazing country! After spending a weekend in Berlin, you really get to see some of Germany's history. Standing near the Berlin wall, or walking through the Holocaust memorial. It's always interesting to learn about the history of another country.

My exchange to Germany has really been more than expected. I've been able to learn a new language (in the native country!), I've been able to try new foods, and visit new places and countries in Europe, and I've been able to try new things, that I wouldn't have been able to do in Canada. But I've also made so many friends, that I intend to visit again soon!

It's nice to learn about a new culture, but it's also great getting to share your culture with another country. People are always eager to know about Canada here, and also ask me questions about life there. For my social studies class I was able to do a presentation about Canada, and

talk about my school and life in Canada, and everyone asked so many questions. I definitely feel more proud and patriotic towards Canada now!

People in Germany are also very welcoming, and let me join into their social circles very quickly, and are always inviting me out to do things with them.

All in all, I would DEFINITELY recommend a student exchange to anyone! Spending a year or a semester abroad will most likely change your life! (It changed mine!) You learn so much, and get to see a country different from your own. It truly is amazing. You become more mature, you learn a little more, and you will feel as though your horizons have been broadened! (At least that is how I feel!)

So if you have ever thought about, or are thinking about doing an international exchange, just go for it! You won't regret it! And you'll come home with some many stories and memories to share.



AND NOW...for a little bit of fun...A Canadian exchange student explains German Stereotypes!

All German People wear Lederhosen: I'm sure most of you have heard about the famous German lederhosen (if not, they are a pair of shorts with attached suspenders). But honestly, I haven't even seen a pair of lederhosen while in Germany. It's traditional to wear them in Bavaria and southern Germany, but mostly for special occasions.

German People drink a lot of beer: This stereotype is correct. Drinking beer is an important past time for many people here, and Germany produces many different kinds of beer as well.

People in Germany are strict and mean: This stereotype bugs me the most, because German people have been nothing but kind to me, and they are all very nice and welcoming, and they are great when you don't understand something or need help.

Each meal has to consist of sausage: Okay, Sausage is popular here, and each region has a special kind of sausage, but it isn't apart of every meal. Though it is still popular.

Buses and trains in Germany always run on time: that is basically true, only on a rare occasion will the bus be late, or the train be slightly behind schedule.

Germany is soccer crazy: This is so true, I can't even begin to describe it. During the FIFA World Cup, every car is decked in Flags. Flags hang from house windows, and on days that Germany is playing a game, everyone dresses up in the most patriotic attire for school. They even have a public viewing in front of the city hall! Also the local soccer clubs are extremely popular, and the newspaper always has at least four pages of soccer news.

So thank you everyone for following my stories while I was in Germany, and though I'm looking forward to coming back to life in Canada, the experiences I've had here I will never forget.