

About Japan and Me

Since I passed the exam, I knew that this is my destiny. Despite, when we landed at Narita Airport, and still after three days I was at a loss to understand, that I am in Japan, and could not be excited about it. It was just natural, even if the sweaty hot weather was totally different from the summer in Hungary.



With all of the European students, it did not took a long time, to become friends. We were quite similar, even though we came from different countries. We had interest in everything about Japan, so it was easy to be friends, and I am sure that someday we will meet again in Europe, or in Japan.

I did not thought about what Japan would be like , because I knew that I have an image in my head, but Japan is still the opposite side of the globe. Afterwards I repeated it may times in my head, because it was true.

With this program I had a chance to become friends with other Europeans, to get to know well the Japanese culture, to get a new home in a small city called Yuza, and Sakata where my school was, at the East-West part of Japan, and to travel to many different places, like Tokyo, Osaka, Nara, Kyoto, Kobe, Tsurouka, Yamagata, Awaji-shima and be amazed by it.

When I got into the plane at Haneda Airport, was the first time when I really became excited, „Today I will meet my Host Family” - I thought. I did not imagine that, after four months they will become my real second family, and the only one in Japan. Thanks to them I could get to know the Japanese traditional culture and lifestyle. I was able to discover different places, visit festivals like Hanabi and try many things such as making



Japanese food and wearing traditional Kimono. I had a lot of discussion with my father, but we never made a deal because I am headstrong like him. But on the other hand I



strongly respected him because of who He is. My mother treated me as a real mother, she taught me a lot of things, and she, and actually everybody in my family was always sincere with me, that is also a reason why I like them really much. My best friend was my brother. We have talked about all kinds of

issues, sometimes even at late night after he came back from a business trip.

Also, I can never forget my two nieces. After they accepted me, we played, talked a lot together, and sometimes I helped them to write their homework or take a shower, and go to sleep.

I spent the most of my time in my school. 7/7 From Monday to Sunday. I never thought that the whole school and all of the students will become my friends.

Because I wanted to attend on a lot of different lessons, I had opportunity to take those together with many different classes.

Most of the students had a good sence of humor, so I had a lot of fun everyday.

I learned many Japanese things from them, like how to talk, and react, and be one of them. However I never wanted to become Japanese, because I am an exchange student who represent her own country,



but I worked hard to get to know their way of thinking. In the end, they said that I was a student who became a real Japanese compared to the exchange students before me.

I learned in school what does the word busy 忙しい means, and if you have some free time how should you take it to survive, and not to get sick of tiredness.



My club activity was the reason why I got up early in the mornig even at weekend. I trained Japanese archery Kyudo. When I first tried it, I already fell in love with it. And I can not tell with words how thankful I was to all the club members for their kindness.



I am happy that I was able to make friendship with all of my classmates, even with boys, and learn



traditional, and ordinary subjects too.

I was lucky that I could go for the school trip to Osaka, Nara, Kyoto with the second grade.

At least I won a prize at calligraphy, and hit the target in Kyudou. Unfortunately it was already winter, so even if I was happy about it, because I worked so hard to be good at 書道 and 弓道, the weather always reminded me that I have to leave soon.

Finally, I want to say „ありがとうございます” to Sakata and Yuza, the two towns where I lived, to become my home, I will never forget those stores where the owners always greeted me and treated me so well. I absolutely fell in love with Sakata, It is a really charming city.



I will never forget how the seasons passed over my head. As summer, and autumn ended, I slowly breathed in the culture. Until December I learned when I need to say „Thank you” with a bow. It became simply natural. When I came back to Hungary, and a car stopped to let me pass the crossline I bowed to the driver so naturally, and after that laughed out loud.

最後に MOFA と IFA と大使館と西高と 2 年 3 組の皆さんに感謝の気持ちを伝えたいので、礼をして「ありがとう」を酒田の言葉で言わせていただきます「もっけだの」。

- I. From the left to the right: Miss Romania, Miss Litvania, Miss Latvia, and me
- II. My host family at the New Year's party
- III. With my younger brother, and his girlfriend at Tokyo Station
- IV. After the last calligraphy lesson with 1 年 5 組
- V. I wrote „michi” to the Japan calligraphy contest
- VI. Me at the archery club
- VII. I won a prize at the calligraphy contest
- VIII. The date of when I first hit the target
- IX. My farewell party