

French Trip 2009 - Pupils' Views

French Trip 2009

When I went to France, it was the first time I had been abroad, and I loved it! I had never experienced anything like it. You walked past many people who were speaking French fluently. It was amazing. One of the most fascinating things I had seen was watching the White Cliffs of Dover get smaller and smaller as the ferry was driving away from England. The whole time we were having fun, even on the coach.



The accommodation was lovely. When we added a few homely touches to our rooms, it felt like we were actually at home. I don't really like fish; I always choose not to eat it. But when we got given fish for tea, I was still willing to try it, and it was so yummy, one of the best fishes I've ever tasted.

We went to a museum, and everything was so interesting. From beautiful art pieces, to REAL Ancient mummies. I couldn't take my eyes off everything I saw.

The talent show was one of the best parts. Watching everyone show off their talents was really fun. Some acts were really funny, and some had amazing singers and dancers in them. It was a fun activity I won't forget for a long time.

Lunchtimes were great. There was one time we were eating lunch, and a woman was taking our food we had thrown away in the bin. It was so shocking; I had never seen anything like it. It really made me think about how lucky I am to be able to afford food for myself, and how I should be thankful for what I have, and not just throw away things I don't want to try. Some things we have we don't want, but those things we don't want, other people need.

My favourite part of the trip was the hypermarket. It was a chance to do what girls love to do... SHOP! I was looking forward to it the whole time in France. The place sold so many things I wanted; I just didn't have the time and money to buy them all. I wished that I could live there forever and buy everything I could. The hypermarket was so big I bet there were lots more things waiting for me to pick them up off the shelf and buy them. It was like heaven, I could just shop all day.

The French trip is something that will stay with me forever. I would definitely go again if I had the chance to. The trip made me better friends with the girls that shared a room with me. I thought I knew them all so well, but then I got to know even more about them. Our friendship has grown so much since the French Trip; I feel I know my friends a lot more at school now. The French Trip was an experience that will stay with me for a long time. It was so enjoyable it's unforgettable.

E Lofthouse Year 7 Pupil

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On Tuesday 5th May 2009, 7L and 7M set off for France in our coaches at 10pm, waving goodbye to our parents standing outside school. Travelling south overnight, we arrived in Dover after sunrise at around 5am. As we sailed away from England at 5:30am, we all looked forward to four days of fun in a foreign country, and of course, lots of French!

We arrived in Calais at around 8:00 am French time. We climbed back onto the bus and headed for St Omer. We split into groups of 11 and walked around the town, looking for different kinds of shops and noting them in our booklets. We visited the St Omer cathedral. As an organist, I found the gigantic organ amazing and just wished I had brought my organ music!

We then split into groups of 4 and went to buy postcards and stamps to send to our families back at home. We could also buy a drink in a cafe. We bought our postcards, stamps, drinks and ice creams (and sweets!) and met up again as a whole group before setting off to have lunch.

We walked to a beautiful walled garden-cum-park and sat on the grass to eat our lunch. We then walked back to the coaches, past a bandstand and lovely arrangements of flowers.

We then travelled to Merlimont, where we were staying. Unfortunately our rooms were not ready, as we had arrived early. Instead we went to the beach, a ten minute walk away. It was amazing to think that Merlimont beach was only around 25 miles from England, yet was as different as it was possible to be.

When we went back to Les Argousiers, where we were staying, we got assigned rooms, changed, unpacked a little and went down to a dinner of barbecued chicken, salad, chips and creme chocolat which was all very tasty.

In the morning, we got up, dressed and had a breakfast of hot chocolate, cereal and bread. This was thoroughly enjoyed by all, especially dunking your bread in the hot chocolate!

We then went to a chocolate factory. It was very interesting and the smells were delicious. We were shown how chocolate was made and then tasted the chocolate we had watched being made. It was very easy to spend lots of money in the actual shop but we were all given a free sample to take home.

Then we went to Azincourt. This was the place where the battle of Agincourt took place. We drove past the actual field where the battle took place, and then visited the museum. The museum had longbows everywhere, a main part of the structure. Longbows were the main weapons used in the battle. We were guided through the museum and then watched three presentations, on the battle.

We then travelled to Montrieul, and walked around the ramparts. We ate lunch to spectacular views across the French countryside.

We then went to the beach again, and the sun was just setting over the sea. It was really beautiful. We went back to the centre and ate dinner.

On Friday we visited Boulogne to do some Geography work. My group visited the fish markets where we made a survey of the different kinds of fish. Then we went to Boulogne Castle, and the castle museum where there was all sorts of exhibits, from art work to Egyptian mummies to ancient Alaskan snow goggles. This was extremely interesting.

We then went to Auchan, a big hypermarket. This was a kind of big supermarket, with lots of different shops. There was a massive general supermarket, where we had pages to complete in our booklets, and then we had time to visit the other shops.

In the evening, after dinner, there was a talent show. We were in groups of eleven, and had to have acts of dancing, singing, acting and comedy. There was also a quiz. A friend and I did the comedy for our group, in the way of puppetry.

Our group won, with 30/30 for the talent show, and 21/25 for the quiz. We each received a real French rough book, or *Cahier de Brouillon*.

This trip was really fun and I really enjoyed it. I had loads of fun with my friends while expanding my knowledge of the French language and learning more about France.

H Jackson Year 7 Pupil