

Diary of Germany

We departed early on a cold morning and drove up to Dover. We arrived fairly early so we had to hang around for a while, waiting to board the ferry over to Calais. We got to Calais at about midday in French time and from there we knew we had an awfully long journey to Cologne. By the time we arrived at the youth hostel, everyone was extremely tired after the long journey.

The following morning, we visited an absolutely massive cathedral in Cologne! The cathedral was packed with tourists from all over the place who had come to see what it was actually like to be inside this enormous cathedral. After we had seen some of the sites in Cologne we had a journey to Frankfurt International School, where we were to meet up with our host families. Mitchell and I met a boy called Sanjay. We got one of the school buses home. It was very different to England because the school buses didn't even have seat belts! When we got to our host family's house we had fun playing cricket and basketball. Unfortunately, Sanjay and his younger brother Arun beat us at basketball!



As soon as everyone had arrived at the school, we left for a concert at a school in Wiesbaden. It didn't go too well but luckily the audience didn't seem to notice. Straight after the concert, we had a superb time sightseeing! We went to a series of caves and had some fun exploring them. Afterwards, we returned to Frankfurt International School for a tremendously long rehearsal which was followed by free pizza as a gift from Frankfurt International School. At 7pm we had a joint concert with Frankfurt International School's own choir. This concert went better than the last one but it still wasn't perfect. There was a small party for both

choirs after the concert but Mitchell and I went home with our host family shortly after the concert.



We gave two short performances at Frankfurt International School which went well and then we had an enjoyable meal in the hills above Frankfurt. Soon after, we set off for Wackernheim Church for an evening concert, but unluckily, we arrived unbelievably late. To make up for this, our concert was so good the audience stood up to cheer us on at the end! Later that night, we arrived at Bingen Youth Hostel, knowing tomorrow would be the best day of the trip.

We started the day by going to a museum which had all sorts of old models etc. Later, we had lunch along a high street near the Rhine, awaiting the boat trip still to come. The boat trip on the Rhine was certainly the highlight of the day; we saw extraordinary sights, took plenty of pictures and had a great time! In the evening, we all did amazingly well at our final concert in a church in Ingleheim.



It was a tremendously hot journey back to the UK. The heat hit us worst as we were travelling through Belgium and in to France. Despite the sizzling journey home and everything else that's gone wrong, it was definitely a fantastic trip.

By Aleks Goodier