

Giorgos Manis

Erasmus+

Art Is Green





Giorgos Manis - My Experience in Aveiro

Erasmus+ KA220 "Art is Green"

Aveiro | Portugal

I was motivated to take part in this student exchange because I wanted to experience something new, meet students from different countries, and learn in a more creative and international environment. I had never participated in an Erasmus+ project before, so I was very excited about the opportunity. Before the exchange, I expected to improve my communication skills, become more independent, and create unforgettable memories with people from across Europe.

To prepare for the exchange, I learned some basic information about Portugal, its culture, and the activities of the programme. I also tried to be open-minded and ready to cooperate with others. During the mobility, I participated actively in all the workshops and group tasks. I contributed by sharing ideas, working responsibly with my team, and helping whenever support was needed.

During the exchange, I gained many new experiences. I worked in international groups, communicated with students from different backgrounds, and discovered new ways of expressing ideas through art. I learned that creativity can connect people, even when they speak different languages. I also learned more about Portugal, its traditions, its warm hospitality, and the beauty of Aveiro. Through the theme of the project, I understood how art can support wellbeing, inclusion, and environmental awareness.

Personally, the exchange helped me become more confident, open-minded, and independent. I learned how to adapt to new situations and feel comfortable outside my usual environment. As a student, I improved my teamwork, communication, and problem-solving skills. I also learned how important cooperation and respect are when working with people from different cultures.

The part of the programme I enjoyed the most was the creative workshops, especially the activities using recycled materials. I liked the idea of turning simple objects into something meaningful and artistic. I also really enjoyed meeting new people and spending time with students from the other countries, because every conversation was a chance to learn something new.

What worked especially well during the exchange was the friendly atmosphere, the organisation of the programme, and the balance between educational activities and cultural visits. These are things that should definitely remain the same in future exchanges. If I could improve something, I would suggest having a little more free time for students to explore the city, relax, and spend even more time with the new friends they made.

Three moments I will always remember are the first time we all met and started getting to know each other, the boat trip through the canals of Aveiro, and the final farewell when everyone realised how strong the friendships had become in only a few days.

I would definitely recommend this kind of student exchange to my classmates and friends. It is a unique experience that helps you grow, learn about the world, and make friendships that can last for many years.