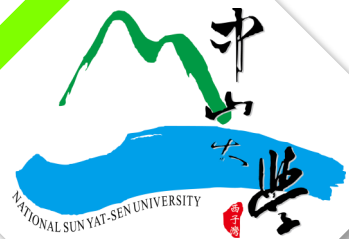




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暑期訪問學生 心得分享 (02)



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SANZ Jeremy

French student at CPE Lyon

Introduction

Hello, my name is Jérémy SANZ and I am a 22 years old French Engineering student living in the city of Lyon. Back in France, the name of my school is CPE, it's a well-known chemistry school with also computing and networking majors. I am in the network major.

In this school, I am doing sandwich courses, which means that one week I am in school studying, and the other week I am working for a big French telecom company, Orange. In this company I am a project leader on subjects such as network monitoring, tools deployments, etc.

I will be entering 5TH year once I go back home, so it will be my last year of study. In order to graduate I have to pass an English test that is



Here is a picture of us two. I am on the right side and Nicolas on the left.

We were at the lotus pond not so far from the apartment we are renting for the 2 months.

We were about to enter the dragon's mouth and coming out of the tiger's one to bring us good luck as the tradition wants it.

called the Cambridge FCE. Which finally leads me to the reason of my presence here in Taiwan. CPE, our school, want us to do a 2-month internship abroad to practise and improve our English level.

Some students of the previous promotion came here in Taiwan for their internship; they told us so many things about how this country is beautiful and how the people here are great, so we just assumed that it was worth giving a shot. So here we are, few weeks after that, here in Kaohsiung for our 2- month adventure.

Indeed, I said “us” because I am not here on my own. I am with Nico-



las ROUQUIE, a classmate and friend. We assumed that for a big travel like this one, it would be good to have someone to rest on and indeed, after the cultural shock we experienced, I think it was a good idea.

We did a lot of tourism here in Taiwan in the first weeks of our arrival, I think the best way to explain the cultural differences and my feels about the country is to explain our travel around the island step by step.

We wanted to go around the island and one day we just went to take the train at the Zuoying train station, for a one-week trip.



▶ Taichung and the Sun Moon Lake

Our first stop was the city of Taichung. We wanted to go there because it was the biggest city not so far away from the Sun Moon Lake. We stayed here only for one night before going on the road again. This means that on the same day we had to arrive in the city, drop our luggage and figure out how to go to the lake. So, the first step was to drop our luggage at the hotel and here is one big difference with France, we just let our luggage at the reception, on the hall under the watch of employees and this tells a lot about the trust people have on each other. In France, I am pretty sure that someone would have tried to rob something, but here, at the end of the day, every-

thing was there and it just feels really great to feel safe in a country.

Then we just took a bus to the lake for about one hour. Once we arrived there, the weather was not so great but stable enough for us to enjoy the view, here is some photos I took of the lake.

A few hours of visiting and one hour of bus after we were back at the hotel for a well-deserved rest.





▶ The beautiful city of Taipei

The day after we were back on the train for a 3 hours standing travel. We learned by the hard way that buying train tickets don't always means that you will have a seat.

After this quite painful experience, we arrived on the city of Taipei, which I personally really loved. Once we dropped our luggage



again, we just met up Tristan, a friend I made myself on a bus in Kaohsiung. He is living in Taipei and we really enjoyed having him there because he was basically our guide during those 3 days in Taipei, he showed us numerous of beautiful things, and thanks to him we could have a great idea of what Taipei is really like.

He made us taste local food, showed us ones of the most lovely places that I have ever saw, and told us so many things about Taiwan history and culture. After those wonderful days, we took the train once again, heading for our final stop.

▶ Hualien and Taroko gorge

The final step for this trip was Hualien and the famous taroko gorge. We had the chance to have a beautiful weather this day. I was surprised to see so many people doing the trail, and also, how beautiful this place was with its clean water and beautiful rocks.

However, an event made me realise something about Taiwan. We were quite out of the trail, near the water resting a little bit, having our feet on the water, and admiring the view when out of nowhere someone started whistling and waving a panel at us for being too close to the water. Water which by the way was hardly high as my middle leg (so no danger for anyone).

Following the rules we went back on trail, looked down by other people. This wasn't the first time we had an experience like that. This made me question myself about those rules, and I came to the conclusion that there was too much rules here in the name of "safety". In Europe, you just basically are responsible for yourself and if some-

thing happens it's your fault. Here people are taking care of you by forbidding you to do things and, from my European point of view, I think that is really sad in a such beautiful country where there is so much to see.

But fortunately we didn't let this event ruin this visit, we finished the trail, went back to our hotel, and the day after we were heading back home, for Kaohsiung.



To conclude, I would say that this trip around the island made us discover so much about Taiwan, the culture, the country, and the people.

Overall, I would say that for me Taiwan is a really lovely place where you feel safe and people are nice to each other. I think that maybe to encourage the tourism and the visibility of the island around the world, it would be a good thing to be less strict about the rules and to trust more people. Finally, Taiwan will stay for me a really great place



where I loved to live for 2 month. I will probably try to make discover the island to my family and friends it the near future.

One thing left to say,

Thank you Taiwan!

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