

# Pa România

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Goodbye Romania, this is the meaning of these strange words.

Why am I saying that? Because this beautiful country hosted four students of our school for five days. I was involved in this Comenius project with three other students: Greta, Alessandro and Rossana. We had the opportunity to improve our English and at the same time to visit a country characteristic for its

cultural background.

First of all, the main theme of the week was folk dances, which is an important part in the culture of a country. As a matter of fact, some students showed us particular folk dances and wore their traditional costumes and we could also dance with them!



The lifestyle in Romania is very different from ours because they have different habits. Firstly, we were staying in Buzau, a town not so far from Bucharest, so teenagers were more free and independent than us. In addition to this, some of the students live on their own because their parents live in some villages in the countryside around the city.

At school they have to wear a uniform: a skirt and a blouse for girls, and a pair of trousers with a shirt for boys.

Their timetable is not so different from ours: they have school in the morning and they have free time for doing their homework in the afternoon; they also dedicate a lot of time to improve their cultural background and arts. For example, they have a choir and the school is full of talents like dancers of every kind of music and singers famous all over the country.

A particular thing we noticed is that there aren't different buildings for every educational level, but the pupils are in the same building, from kindergarden to high school.

We had the opportunity to taste some typical drinks and dishes, like "sarmala" (cabbage rolls stuffed with a mixture of minced lamb, rice, egg and semolina) and "chiftele" (meatballs in eggplants).

Their activities in the free time are the same as ours: they go to the mall, to the park, to the bar and they do sports.

People in Romania were very sociable and kind to us. Our stay with the host families was good even though we had to adapt to their habits and lifestyle.

We went to Romania in March and this month is very important in Romanian culture because it is the symbol of fertility. People wear some gadgets like bracelets or brooches painted with red and white colours.

To sum up, it was a very exciting experience that has taught us a lot of new things not only about Romania but also about Poland, Germany, Sweden and Greece.

Experiences like these are useful to improve our knowledge of foreign languages but also to get to know about other countries and cultures.

