

The start of an incredible exchange year!

It has already been several weeks since we have arrived in England. It wasn't easy to say goodbye to our families and friends, but I'm happy to say that I have settled in very well.

During the first two weeks I stayed with a hostfamily in Totnes as we had an intensive language course there for this time. Our hostfamilies welcomed us warmly and we could feel like home. Together with the school we made a trip to Dartmoor. Dartmoor is a unique place with wild, open moorlands and deep river valleys. For the first time I saw wild horses and sheeps, which showed no shyness to come to us.



After those two weeks we started our internship in different places. My start in Torquay wasn't exactly the best because my host mother thought I'd come a week later. Two other students were with her at the time. We had to improvise how and where I could stay for this week. Now that everything has settled down, I am very

happy to be with this host family. However, I'm very pleased with my workplacement. I'm working as a Receptionist in the Metropole Hotel based in Torquay. The staff is very friendly and helpful. While working I can talk a lot to the guests and learn interesting things about England. A big difference to Switzerland is for sure the shorter shifts and I could really get used it.

Torquay is a beautiful place to be! The English are very open-minded and like to talk to strangers on the street and tell them about their lives. In the beginning it was a bit unfamiliarly, but I really enjoy it now. Another thing I'm happily surprised is the food. I've been told that beans and toasts are on the daily menu. Luckily it isn't just like this. Though we all really miss our fresh bread from Switzerland.

During the weekends we like to explore the west coast. In Torbay were some beautiful fireworks in the last weeks of summer. On the sunny days we enjoy our time by the beach or we visit other places like Exeter, Brixham and Paignton. Of course, a trip to London was not to be missed. This weekend we went to Bournemouth to visit the other group. I am curious to see what the next few months will bring and I am already looking forward to it.

