

Xianne Williams February 2019 RYE report

Hello Kansas!

28 days later and tons of new experiences! I am now living with my third host family, Mette (mom) Stig (dad) Christian (son) Rebecca (daughter) and Elisabeth (daughter). Last week I had winter break. Mette, Elisabeth, Rebecca, and I took a trip to Copenhagen.

We left on Saturday and drove 4 hours to Roskilde (which is medium sized town close to Copenhagen) where Mette's brother lives. We got to drive over the gigantic bridge connecting Fyn and Jutland (which are the two big islands that make up Denmark (I live on Jylland which is the third big section that is connected to Germany) We left late Saturday afternoon, so we arrived just in time to unpack and go to bed. On Sunday Rebecca was sick so we took a relaxing day. We went for a walk (a very common Danish thing to do) and visited Roskilde Domkirke, a really old church where most of the royal family is buried and where the queen of Denmark will be buried. Then we decided to go bowling to end the day.

On Monday Rebecca was feeling better so we took the train/metro into Copenhagen (about 30 minutes from where we were). We did a lot of walking all around Copenhagen. We saw Amalienborg, where the Queen and Royal family lives. We saw the little mermaid statue and Mette and I took a canal tour through Nyhavn, the street with all of the colorful houses. After the tour we drank coffee and hot chocolate. The weather was surprisingly not rain but it was a little cold.

Everyone was very tired when we woke up on Tuesday, so we took another day just to relax and hygge. On Wednesday we took into Copenhagen again and we visited the botanical gardens, Rosenborg slot (slot means castle in Danish, but it sounds better to say Rosenborg slot). Afterwards we ate Dessert Hus (when I say ate, I mean drank milkshakes). And then we went shopping.

On Thursday we visited Christiania (which is a "freetown" inside of Copenhagen where there is "no government" and they do not pay taxes). Then we went up the tower of Christiansborg slot and had a great view of Copenhagen. That evening I got to meet up with one of my exchange student friends from Mexico and eat at Royal Pancake Copenhagen. On Friday we drove up to Kronborg slot (which is in the northern part of Jutland and is the castle that Shakespeare bases Hamlet off of... "to be or not to be. That is the question") It is also from this castle that you can see Sweden (less than 4km away) Next we drove to Frederiksborg slot and saw the enormous gardens (although they were not at yet full of many flowers). We ate sushi that night and began to pack our things. Then next morning we drove happily home.

The end