



Caitlyn

from Milton

to

France

“Oh, how quick the days have passed”

Somehow, I have managed to make it to 5 months abroad. Only 5 to go! Which is both exciting and scary. Although this is a real thing happening it still doesn't feel real. From all the amazing people I've met to the amount of trips I've gone on that were life changing, They don't feel real. I feel Like I'm a star in a movie which could be both good and bad. I definitely think that my life has changed and I've only been here for 5 months! That's insane!



So far I've been in 3 families and with each one my French and my grasp on French culture improves! With my first family I was shocked by a lot of things. For example, which hand held the fork and knife. During the first break I also discovered how extremely active French people are. We hiked a mountain every day for a week. My host mom didn't look tired at all during it! She was really brave.



With my second family I experienced a French Christmas or at least their family's way of having Christmas! Which I found out was not very different from a Canadian Christmas! I also got to try a bunch of French food such as raclette which is basically cheese that you pour over potatoes and meat (if you choose to put meat, I didn't). We also had our second break during this time and my host sister and I went skating!

Now I'm onto my third family. I've only been with them for 3 weeks but they are extremely kind! Sadly, they don't have any pets but from what I've heard my next family has a cat and everyone knows cats are the best animal! In my first few weeks with this family I have celebrated a birthday, My host brother turned 20! I got to have lunch with all of their family and play games with them! It was really fun even though I lost most of the time. I also celebrated the birthday of one of the other exchange students. For that birthday we all went to Arras!



I've also celebrated my own birthday in France when I lived with my first family (September 11th)! We invited all 4 of my families over for the afternoon to have some cake and play games. Even though my French was not very good at this time it was still great to play games with everyone. If we celebrated something like it again, I'm sure it would be much better as I understand French pretty well now.

Throughout my exchange I have met some amazing people such as my host families and my close friends! I have a few friends in school who I always eat lunch with. Their names are Persephone (Like the goddess, because she is a god), Louis-Marie, Justine and Marie-Esperance. They are all super kind to me and are very happy with my progress in French (especially since they don't understand English, It's great to practice my French with them).



One strange thing I have noticed while being on exchange is; as the time goes on and my French gets better my English gets worse. It's quite strange but I guess that's good since I'm learning another language now after all. It's definitely something I didn't think would happen.

I still can't believe I'm even in France! It's like a dream come true being on exchange. Although some parts are hard, the majority are things I'm going to remember forever. I don't even know how to begin to thank everyone who has got me to this point. So, I guess the best place to start is now, Thank you!

Cait

