

The UNESCO World Heritage Walk

What is UNESCO?

'In November 1945, just after the war. Representatives of 44 countries decided to create an organization to establish the "intellectual and moral solidarity of mankind". 37 countries founded the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) which was established by the UN General Assembly on November 16, 1945. ' (<http://en.unesco.org>)

UNESCO aims to strengthen the relationship between societies and nations. It values education, cultural diversity, freedom of expression, democracy and human dignity. There are at the moment 11 UNESCO schools in Luxembourg and the Athénée de Luxembourg is one of them.

The day of the trip

On Friday, the 6th October 2017, we, the girls from 2A, had the privilege to accompany the 7C4 on a quest to discover the historical UNESCO monuments of Luxembourg City. All in all, some 450 pupils from the various UNESCO schools participated in this great day out.

The excursion aimed at giving the young students an understanding of the Luxembourgish culture and history, in order to bring them closer to their origins.

The pupils were put into different groups and everyone had his very own task. We got to supervise the various teams. During the adventure, the students had to follow a trail and they had to answer tricky questions about different topics like politics, history, music, art and national culture. The solutions were hidden all along the way.

We started off at the Glacis and we crossed the *Boulevard Robert Schuman* where the youngsters were asked to answer their first question which consisted in finding out the year in which Robert Schuman had written the Declaration of the 9th May.

Afterwards, we crossed the Red Bridge, continued past the *Philharmonie* and the *MUDAM*, and stopped by the *Dräi Eechelen*.

We hiked through the *Tour Malakoff* and visited the *Casemates*. It was the first time for a lot of the pupils to visit this historical place. Then we walked to the Neumünster Abbey, where a free lunch offered to all the participants. After lunch, we continued our journey by hiking through the *Pétrusse*.

Having finished the journey on early notice, we all drank a hot chocolate together to end the day in splendour.

Poem

*Little country,
Little city,
Should there even be things to see?
There are definitely, we knew as we
Were participating at the UNESCO outing.
So many historical spots and patrimony
Telling this little country's story
Sadly enough most people tend to forget and ignore
That Luxembourg has been way more than just poor
Castles, churches, "Casemates" and a lot of green space
Proving that Luxembourg is more than just a finance place.*

Interview

Anonymously, we asked one of the students (S) for a personal feedback:

2A: If you had to summarize the day in one word, which word would you pick?

S: Exhausting, because we had to walk 12 km.

2A: What was the best part of the day?

S: My favourite part was when we walked through the “Pétrusse” past the skate ramps.

2A: Would you recommend this experience to the following generations of students?

S: Yes, but only if the questions were easier the next years. I could only answer a few of them.

When educating the minds of our youth, we must not forget to educate their hearts.

-Dalai Lama

by BIVER Lee, CLEMENS Lynn, KRIEPS DUPONG Marie, LENTZ Jessica, OÉ Julie,
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2^eA, Athénée de Luxembourg
