



Erik
from
Burlington Central
to
Poland

“Punkt połowiczny-Halfway point”

As an exchange student as and as someone who has spent time in many countries for considerable amounts of time. I still find seem to somehow myself completely and utterly dumbfounded with I think that I have spent five and a half months in another country and that I am going to be staying for five and a half more. Time truly does go faster than we think and since November I have seen and experienced so much much more.



December was a crazy month I meet up with all the Exchange students in Poland and travelled to Wrocław. All to see the beautiful and festive Christmas markets and old castles. Beautiful German churches and to most importantly have an early celebration of the holidays together and a good time. At Christmas I learnt about a ton of new traditions that I may or my not try and bring home.

For example these beautiful paper stars or straw under the table cloth. Also celebrating and having dinner with family on the 24th and 25th than friends on the 26th.

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Although there are so many great new traditions you can't help but remember the old, even so I had a blast. The rest of the month was so great with fireworks getting shot off in between apartment building on new years and more.



January was a very slow month getting back to school however at the end of the month I got a once in a lifetime chance to go skiing in the Austrian Alps. Thought the journey there was a treacherous journey of almost 24 hours in a bus with around thirty six exchange students. We survived and woke up to the beautiful and honestly breathtaking alps. There is no other place like it.



The trip was six days of skiing, getting closer with the other exchange students and the view...piękny(beautiful)...nie do wiary(unbelievable). I had so much fun we had a slalom competition where I placed 5th in the exchange students (1st was another Canadian exchange student....GO CANADA 2018 WINTER OLYMPICS). I also got to do a black diamond and some of trail skiing which was amazing. It was a great time.

I forgot to mention this earlier but I feel that I have to: my birthday December 4th I got a new host family. Though was kind of worried about what they would be like, since I was told nothing about them before the switch, except that I would have a host mom and a brother my age. Now, I am so happy I got them we have a great time together. We cook together we watch old tv shows together like, "3rd rock from the sun" for example. We make a little home cinema with a projector and watch movies. Me and my host brother will make up songs on the piano sometimes and last but not least they have so many pets five cats, a dog and some fish at home. Then at their friends stable, two more cats and 3 horses. I have such a good time with them.



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As the title suggests this represents the halfway point of this trip and I am going to dive straight in headfirst into the second half of my exchange year.

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