

London

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London is the capital of England. With the industrialisation, the population grew a lot and London became the most populated city in the world. London was a small city which included the old part of the current London: 'The City'. However, nowadays it is one of the biggest cities and it has between 10-14 millions of inhabitants.

The most important river in Britain is the Thames and it is navigable, it divides the city in two parts, it has had a big influence in the development of the city of London. London Bridge was

the only bridge on the Thames for centuries, so the most historical and important part of London has always been on the north bank of Thames.

The weather in London is warm and wet, if you visit London, you must take an umbrella because it usually rains. It is the most polluted city in Europe.

You can visit a lot of interesting places and see incredible monuments and buildings. Here, there are some of the best things you can do if you go to London:

Places to visit in London



* You can rent a boat and sail down the Thames. From the river you have wonderful sights of London.

* Buckingham Palace was built in 1703 by the Duke of Buckingham, but it didn't become a royal residence until 1837. You will be fascinated by it.

* Trafalgar Square, which was laid out on the site of the demolished King's Mews 170 years ago. It is the most famous square in London.

* The Big Ben is a luxurious and impressive clock that is in a tower of the Houses of Parliament.

* London Bridge was the only crossing point into the city. It crosses the Thames.

* The British Museum: the mighty British Museum began life in 1753, when royal physician, Dr Hans Sloane's, bequeathed to the nation his 'cabinet of curiosities, which was a miscellany of books, paintings, classical antiquities and stuffed animals .

*The National Gallery was founded in 1824 with just thirty-eight pictures, a far away from its position today as one of the world's greatest museums of Western European painting.

*Camden Market is the fourth-biggest tourist attraction of London. The street fashion and retro clothes dominate the principal market, while Camden Lock maintains its legacy of occupations. It's usually busy and sometimes claustrophobic.

Ana Calvo,
Lorena Herranz,
Belén Quintana.
S4°C

Exchange *with* Germany

Last year, the teachers of the English Department, Isabel Hernández Elices and M^a Asunción García Saíz organized an exchange with students of 4^o ESO and 1^o Bachillerato from our school and students from the high school “Dietrich -Bonhoeffer - Gymnasium” in Wertheim, Germany. We visited them from 26th April to 2nd May 2006 and they came over from 16th to 24th June. In these articles you can read about the experiences of some of the students who took part in the exchange.

In April - May last year, some students of 4th ESO and 1st BACH went to Germany on an exchange trip with German students.

We had a very beautiful experience in which we learned some German, and we improved our English level because we could talk to people with more knowledge of this language. With the family we communicated in English and in Spanish. In this article we want to speak about the parties we had in Germany and about the school of Wertheim.

Aida Miguel del Pozo B1^oD/ Laura Serrano Arranz B1^oC)





Parties

One of the traditional festivals we knew was “The tree of May”, which is a tree placed in each one of the cities of Germany. It consists on the rising of a wooden trunk full of decorations, among which there were knots that hung from a suspended circular crown of flowers. It was all fixed to the end of the tree with some ropes in such a way that it could move with the wind. When the trunk rose, all the people that were around applauded and this way the month of May was welcomed. This day is special in Germany and people eat out of their houses. At night the party continues. In a field a big fire is made and it is burning for eight hours. People place themselves around it, sitting or kneeling down on blankets. Most of the people take their own food and they spend the night - since they start the fire, approximately at 7:00 o'clock, until it goes out, eating sausages and

drinking German beer. There are also people who do jugglings. That night we returned home at 3 in the morning.

Another party was when one afternoon we had a game of skittles. It was a very amusing day because a German student, after throwing the ball and observing that it didn't return, decided to go for it and in order to catch it he entered through the hole where the skittles fall. In that moment the machine started again and it hit him in such a way that, as a result, it began to rotate wildly and... it was ruined. After the experience with the skittles, some Germans and Spaniards went to a German house to have a party and to speak. We drank and ate a lot, and both the Spaniards and the Germans spoke very much trying to get to know each other better. This party was a bit boring because it was different from Spanish parties. That night some Spanish students

slept in the same house, something that is typical there.

The third day some students went to Wertheim to have dinner together, not all of us, because in Germany people live in distant towns and each one goes to the party that is nearer their house. After having dinner we had a cocktail in a bar. Then we went for a walk in the streets of the town, and we had some unexpected incidents. Finally we returned home at 11 o'clock (a very early hour for us!!!!).

The last party that we had was a barbecue in a local primary school. We ate sausages and other types of meat that our German partners took from their houses. Some people played with some giant balls and others played volleyball. It was the best party since we all had been together, a fact that was not possible every day.

School

The last day we woke up at the usual time for our Germans to go to school. After having breakfast we went to the school, where the headmaster was waiting to welcome us to the place. Firstly, we said goodbye to our brothers and sisters, who had to attend class, and then the headmaster gave us a welcoming speech. Later, we were shown the Dietrich Bonhoeffer Gymnasium, which is how the school is called. As expected, it consisted of classrooms, laboratories, cafeteria, teachers' room, assembly hall, swimming pool, gym and a great external area with a soccer field, tennis courts, tables of ping pong and a basketball court. Later on, we divided ourselves in groups to attend different lessons, where we could perceive the advanced technology of this German school. For example, the blinds were electronic, the blackboard had different adjustable

heights to take the maximum advantage of the space to write, and everything was new and very expensive. It attracted the attention of the Spanish students the fact that the German students



entered and left the classroom when they wanted and without giving explanations, and they could have the mobile on their desk when being in class! The school had students with ages between 6 and 19 years old. After a couple of lessons we met the German students in the assembly hall, and there they sang Spanish songs like "Ójala que llue-

va café en el campo" and others. When the show finished, it was already lunchtime and our German partners waited for us with some delicious pizzas in the cafeteria. After eating, we played different sports like volleyball, football and basketball, and about four o'clock in the afternoon we left the school. It was very sad and we were very sorry because it was the time for our farewell. We said goodbye to our "brothers" and "sisters", who we would see in two months, and we went by bus to the airport of Frankfurt, where we would take the airplane to Madrid.

This exchange was an unforgettable experience, because we learned how to live with a family we had never met before. Also we had adventures because their language is very different from ours. Now we hope to be able to have another exchange soon.



Last year I was in a German town for one week. We had an exchange with twenty-five German students. We were in a village about a hundred kilometres from Frankfurt - this village was Wertheim. When we got to the German home, my friend Felipe and his partner, Max, called us and we went to drink a beer.

Two days later, in another village we had a wine party. This night was really intense. The other days we had organized activities.

On the last day, it was very hard to say goodbye, but we knew that everybody was going to meet in two months.

I had a very good experience because I learnt a little bit of English and I enjoyed myself a lot. In the photos you can see that we had a very good time with our German partners.

Marlo Rincón Pizarro - 4º C ESO

After several hours we reached Germany. We took the bus to go to Wertheim, and there the German students and their families received us. Each student went home with their corresponding family. The next day we visited the high school and we spent the day with our German partners. We also visited the Town Hall, where we met the people from Italy.

On Friday we went to visit Würzburg by bus and we saw the Castle of Marienberg. That day we were in Bavaria and visited the Archbishops' Residence.

Very early on Saturday we went to Heidelberg to visit the castle and the old town. We missed the train back because the teachers went to see a church and they didn't return in time to take the train, and so we had to wait another half an hour. That night we celebrated a party without alcohol with the German people. We

stayed up till late and we laughed a lot.

On Sunday we were with our families the whole day. Philip and I went to visit the surroundings of his village. We went by bicycle. All the area was very beautiful. At night we went to a place to celebrate the May Tree festival with fire, alcohol, sandwiches of meat and with a lot of girls. We stayed up till late, very late!

On Monday we had a big party all together in a special place. We all played different sports. We enjoyed ourselves a lot.

The next day was the end of our trip. We went to see the classes of different teachers and we played football. In the afternoon we went to the airport and took the plane to come back. All of us were very sorry, and so we returned to Spain.

David Ruiz Linaje S4°C



DIARY OF OUR EXCHANGE WITH WERTHEIM

We started the journey at 10 o'clock. That was the exact time when we left from Jardines de Don Diego on a Wednesday of April. We arrived in Madrid at half past twelve and we took off for Germany at ten past three. We landed in Frankfurt at ten to six, and we took a bus to Wertheim. We were in Wertheim, in "Spitzer Turm", at 19:15 approximately. The welcome of the German families was very funny because they were very chatty. Later we went to our German houses.

The next day the Spanish students visited the school, whose name was Dietrich - Bonhoeffer Gymnasium, where the headmaster gave us the welcome to Germany. In the afternoon we went to the town council, where we met

some Italian people and where we ate some typical food from Wertheim. Later on, we visited the town and the castle and the Glass Museum. It was all very interesting.

The next day we went to Würzburg by train. We saw a lot of monuments but the best for me was the Archbishops' Palace, which had very good pictures and some beautiful gardens.

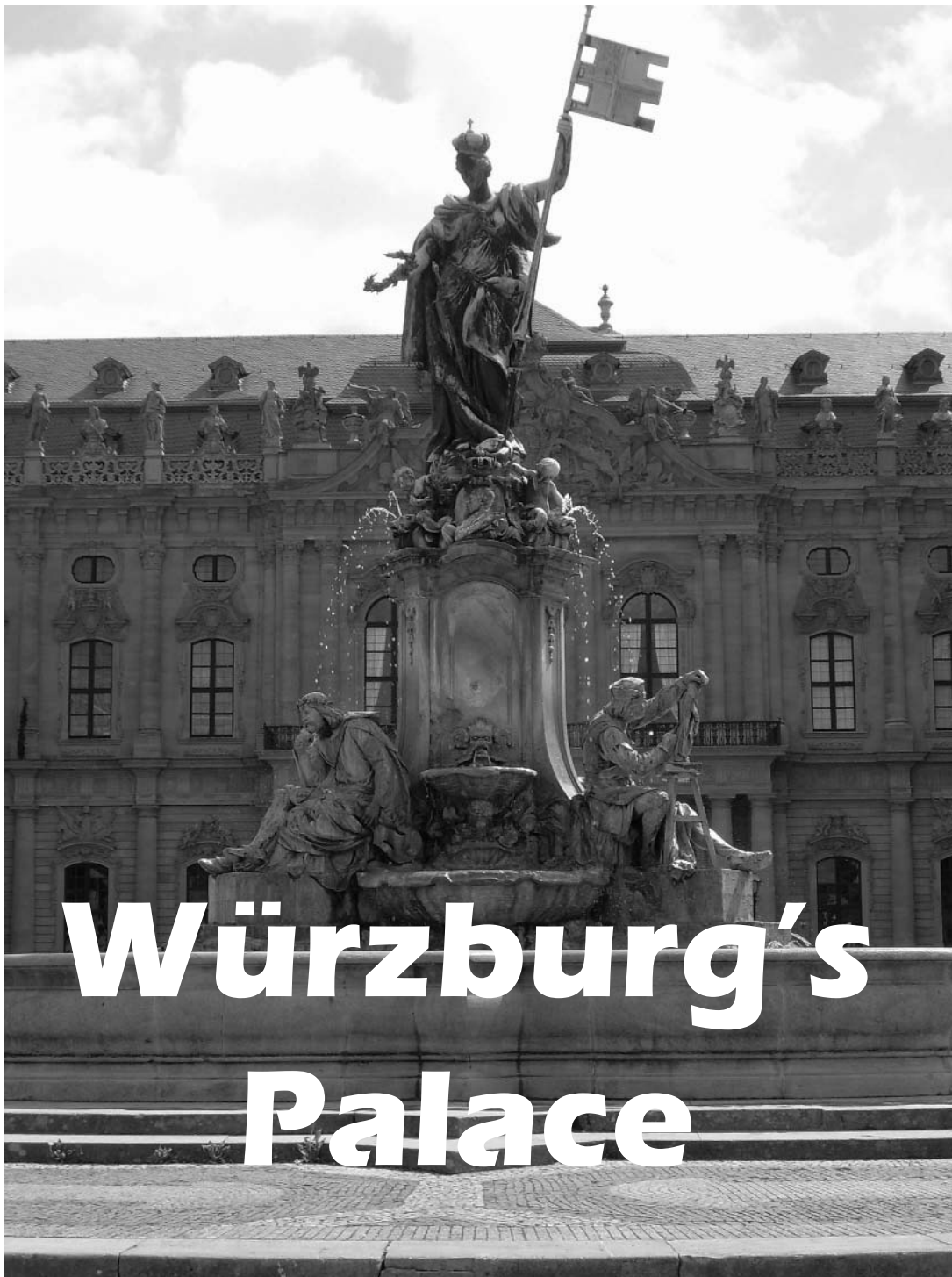
On Saturday 29th, we went to Heidelberg by train. The university of Heidelberg was and still is, the oldest university in Germany and one of the most important. In Heidelberg we visited the castle and the romantic village. There were a lot of restaurants and shops and in them we bought many souvenirs for our family. In a restaurant my friends and I spoke with a person, whose name I don't remember, who said that Spanish people were always sleeping

and eating very well! At 7:00 we returned to Wertheim.

On Sunday we had a free day with our families. I went to a village which was very peculiar. It had a very nice town hall, a lot of fountains and a very old church.

On Tuesday we packed our things and went to school, where the German and Spanish students ate together. In the afternoon we played a football match, Germany versus Spain, and we won 10-1 or more. They were very bad. At 4 o'clock we went to the airport of Frankfurt and we took off at twenty-five to eight. We had very good moments and I hope I will be able to go back in the future.

César Marina Montes, B1°C



Würzburg's Palace

The most interesting place, from our point of view, during the German trip was Würzburg's Palace.

We arrived at the Bishops' Palace the 28th of April at eleven o'clock approximately. We were very lucky because the person who showed us around was from Spain and he was very nice.

Firstly, we went up the marvellous baroque staircase designed by Johann Balthasar Neumann at the beginning of the 18th centu-

ry. Above the staircase we could see the biggest painting on a ceiling in the world. This wonderful work of art was painted by Giovanni Battista Tiepolo from 1750 to 1753. We continued our visit through the splendid rooms of the palace: the Imperial chamber, the Venice chamber, etc. Finally we went to the chapel and walked in the gardens which were blooming.

Patricia Serrano y M^a del Mar Perdiguero
B2^oA

A trip to Würzburg

On Friday the 28th of the month of April, at eight o'clock in the morning, we went to Würzburg.

As soon as we arrived, we went to see the Fortress of Marienberg.

Marienberg was an ancient castle used as a shelter in times of Hallstadt, but then in 1201 a new castle was built in its place, which was also the residence of the bishop. Today the castle is surrounded by a medieval outer wall, and it has a temple and a fountain of the 17th century. In the same century King Gustave Adolf of Sweden enlarged the fortress and made the gardens.

After seeing the fortress of Marienberg we went down the road to the Residence, but before we saw other things.

We were in the House of the Falcon, a bourgeois house with a rich rococo front, which

now is a tourist office.

Also we went to the Mainfränkisches Museum, where we saw the famous sculptures of T. Riemenschneider "Adam and Eva" in the Marienkapelle.

Finally, we arrived at The Residence. It is a World Heritage Site of the UNESCO. It is the principal baroque work of the South of Germany and one of the most important palaces in Europe. It was built between 1720 and 1744 by B. Neumann with the collaboration of L. Von Hildebrandt and M. Von Welsch. At the entrance to the first floor there is a big and beautiful central vault with the frescos of G. B. Tiepolo, who also painted the Room of the Emperors.

After seeing the Residence we returned to Wertheim.

David Lobo González B1D



Exchange Gubbio WITH



This year the English department has organized an exchange with a high school from Gubbio (Italy). The teachers involved in this exchange were M^a Isabel Hernández Elices and M^a Asunción García Saiz who were in charge of 23 students from 4^oE.S.O and 1^o Bachillerato. The name of the school in Gubbio (Perugia) was: “Liceo Statale G. Mazzatinti” and the dates we went to Gubbio were from 22nd to 29th March, 2007 and they visited us from 10th to 17th April, 2007

Gubbio's diary

By Roberto García & Jenifer Contreras 4^o E.S.O.

THURSDAY 22nd:

It was half past seven in the morning when we left for Santander. You could clearly see that everybody was very excited. We would get to Italy very soon!

After we had arrived in Gubbio, our host families took us home with them.

FRIDAY 23rd:

In the morning we visited the pretty little town where we were going to be for a week. We saw the Roman amphitheatre, the palace, some churches ... After lunch we visited a famous pottery workshop in Gubbio and we were very impressed when we saw that everything was hand made.



SATURDAY 24th:

Trip to Rome: We visited the famous Coliseum, Constantine's Arch and the Roman Forum before lunch. In the afternoon we saw other famous monuments such as the Pantheon, the Fountain of Trevi and Trajan's Column. And then we got to the Vatican! It was our last visit in Rome. There were a lot of people and we had very little time, but we managed to go into the wonderful basilica.

SUNDAY 25th:

It was a free day for us. Most of the people went to the school gym to play a volleyball match.

MONDAY 26th:

We visited the famous town of Assisi and the great Saint Francis's church. Then we went shopping to Perugia, which is quite a big city. It was a wonderful day accompanied by all of the Italians.

TUESDAY 27th:

In the morning we went to the assembly room of the Italian school, where we watched a film about one of the most popular festivals in Italy, the "Ceri". This festival is celebrated in Gubbio on May 15 every year. Then we went to the local market, but we could not see it because it was raining. In the afternoon we visited "The Consuls' Palace". It was a guided visit in an old castle and palace. In the evening the students and the teachers saw the rehearsal of a play.

WEDNESDAY 28th:

We were invited to visit the local radio and TV station, where some of our schoolmates were interviewed. In the evening we went to have dinner at a very pretty restaurant, which was not very well-known.

THURSDAY 29th:

We had to come back to Spain. We left Gubbio with our eyes filled with tears and returned to Aranda.



Our opinion

We think that it is very interesting to organize this kind of exchanges to improve the relations between different countries as well as to improve our English. Italy is a country very similar to Spain with similar customs. The area of Gubbio is very beautiful and clean. I would be very happy to go there again if I had another chance.





**Lorena Herranz Calvo
Ana Calvo García
Ledis Celorio Torres
S4ªA**

travel to Italy

That exchange was an unforgettable experience. All the Spanish students were very happy because that was the first time we travelled abroad without our parents. We were free! The first day was very tiring because we were travelling all the day long. When we arrived in Gubbio, we were really nervous because we were thinking about our next week, what would it be like? Well the experience turned out to be wonderful, it was the most incredible week in our life! During the week, we did some interesting things. We went to visit Rome with its fantastic architecture which gives a romantic touch to the city. The most beautiful places are: Trevi's fountain, St Peter's Square, Nabona's Square, the Vatican,

Trajano's column and the Coliseum. We also visited Assisi with its famous church and Perugia, the capital. We visited Gubbio too, Gubbio is a very beautiful town with medieval streets and a lot of monuments. It has a local radio and TV, and they interviewed some Spanish people there. The Italian students showed us the most important places and they explained all about them very well.

When there were a few days left before our departure, we began to feel sad. However, we knew that they were coming to Aranda and felt better. Then they came to Aranda and when they left, we were really sad because maybe we will never see some of them again. Now we are looking forward to going back to Gubbio in summer.



Département de Français



La rencontre à Salon de Provence des jeunes français et espagnols (échange 2006-07)

Visite à Saintes Maries de la Mer

Les Saintes Maries de la Mer sont situées au bord de la Méditerranée, au cœur du parc Naturel de la Camargue. Entourées d'immenses plaines d'étangs magnifiques et sauvages, la ville vous offre de nombreuses activités avec en toile de fond un environnement protégé qui est resté authentique.

Les saintes Maries sont célèbres par la tradition qu'elles ont su conserver, terre d'accueil des gitans, haut-lieu de pèlerinage, tout ce folklore riche en couleur, musique et spiritualité attire beaucoup de visiteurs tout au long de l'année.

De nombreuses manades (élevages de taureaux et de chevaux) peuvent vous accueillir, et dans certains cas vous héberger. Vous pourrez alors approcher de plus près les fameux gardians (cavaliers camarguais) et leurs élevages.

Ne manquez pas le panorama qu'offre l'étang des Launes sur la faune et la flore de Camargue, promenez-vous également le long de Port Gardian, port de pêche et de plaisance des Saintes Maries. Enfin, pour les « mordus » de la planche à voile, un canal de vitesse a été aménagé à proximité du port...émotions.

Trips & exchanges

Pèlerinage de gitans aux Ste-Maries de la Mer

On y vient de toute la Provence, du Languedoc et d'ailleurs, surtout d'ailleurs pour les gitans qui parcourent les longues routes de l'Europe, menant pendant des semaines leurs roulettes de bois à ce rendez-vous sacré. Toute une population converge vers les Saintes-Maries-de-la-Mer en l'honneur de Marie

Salomé, Marie Jacobé et Sara, l'humble servante noire, la patronne des gitans. Tous les ans depuis le Moyen Âge, le 24 et 25 mai, la foule envahit le village camarguais et conduit les reliques des saintes à la mer pour une bénédiction purificatrice. L'histoire de ce pèlerinage se perd dans celle de la fondation même de la ville.





Le mystère de Sara

On connaît la légende de cette barque sans voile ni rames, chassée de Palestine après la mort de Christ, qui accosta le rivage camarguais. À son bord se trouvaient Marie Salomé, mère des apôtres Jean et Jacques le Majeur, Marie Jacobé – selon Saint Jean la sœur de la Vierge – Marie-Madeleine, Lazare et sa sœur Marthe, ainsi que Maximin et Joseph d'Armathie qui transportait le Saint-Graal. Les avis divergent sur la présence de Sara la Noire à bord. Était-elle leur servante ? Était-elle égyptienne ?

« Sara campait avec sa tribu en pleine forêt de pins parasols, à l'endroit où se s'élève aujourd'hui Aigues-Mortes. Avertie miraculeusement elle courut vers la mer et, s'étant dévêtue, elle étendit sur les vagues sa robe qui la mena vers les saintes. Baptisée de leurs mains, elle les conduisit au temple païen où affluaient les grands pèlerinages de sa race. » Il est plus vraisemblable que Sara appartenait à une tribu celto-ligure indigène, et fort probable que Marie

Salomé et Marie Jacobé, restées pour évangéliser la région, aient transformé l'autel païen en oratoire chrétien.

À leur mort, très vite, un culte se répandit avant que la construction de l'église-forteresse au XIII^e siècle ne le confirme. Au XIV^e siècle, le pèlerinage est déjà très populaire, notamment lorsque la célébration des saintes est fixée en 1343 au 25 mai pour la première et au 22 octobre pour la seconde.

Il prendra une tout autre ampleur après 1448, quand les fouilles entreprises par le roi René sous l'autel de l'église découvrent les reliques des saintes femmes. Elles furent mises dans des châsses richement ornées et transportées dans la chapelle haute. C'est lui aussi qui fit creuser la crypte où les gitans étaient autorisés à vénérer Sara, leur patronne. Depuis cette époque, chaque 24 mai après-midi est consacré à la descente des reliques, lors d'une cérémonie chantée.