

Hi! In April, I had an enormous number of new experiences, and I would like to share this amazing stuff that happened.

From 11th to 16th of April, I joined an excursion which was provided by QLD government for exchange students. I chose a trip to Uluru, and it was my first time going there! For the first day, I was so nervous since everyone on this trip will be strangers to me. When I arrived at the airport, I thought there will be so many students from Asian countries. However, there were only people with blond hair. Asian was only me!! I was so shocked that there are so many exchange students from European countries. After three and half hours of flight, I arrived at Alice Springs which is in Northern Territory. It wasn't as hot as I expected, and we got on a bus to visit our first campsite. In a bus, I encouraged myself and talked to a girl next to me. She was from Germany, and it was my first time making friend from Germany. For my second day, we went to see Uluru and moved from one place to another. I've only seen Uluru in my textbook and the first time seeing it in real life was so beautiful. It was changing color a few minutes after sunset started and turned red, which was like the one on a textbook. Also, did you know that there is a waterfall in Uluru? I thought it was a very desertified place, but actually, there is a huge pond and small waterfall. The guide told us that a long time ago, Aboriginal people were catching animals at Uluru because those animals came there to drink water. It was so interesting to know a lot of history about indigenous people. Our trip was a camping trip, so we slept in a tent. I thought it was going to be really hot since my image of Northern Territory was very high temperature place. However, at night, it was freezing cold, and I couldn't even sleep well because of it! It was so funny to see everyone, including me, wearing two or more jackets at night and so many people seemed to wear two long pants. For our fifth's day, we hiked for two hours at Kings Canion. There, I saw a wild kangaroo hopping down the hill and a small wild dingo which was in a parking area. I felt so much Australia by seeing wild animals. On the last day, we came back from Alice Springs to Brisbane. It was so sad to say goodbye to friends I made on this trip, but I'm sure it will be the most memorable experience in this exchange program.

25th of April was Anzac Day. It is a public holiday which one of the most important events in Australia. Anzac Day is a day we mourn people who died in WW1, and WW2. I joined a ceremony of it, and I saw people singing, marching, and listening to speeches. I knew that there's a history that Japan did a lot of bombing during WW2, so I thought it is important to know what they are doing on Anzac Day.

I felt that it was important to learn about Japanese, and Australian history before I came here since I experienced Anzac Day and Uluru trip. These two have a strong connection to history and learning these are making me new point of view. I would love to take these opportunities in my exchange program and be more global person!!



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