



SYLE Italy Report

Servas Young Language Experience

Younji Gil from KOREA

prologue



Hello, my name is Youn-ji Gil from KOREA and I'm university student. My major is advertisement and my double major is visual design. I am very interested in art and culture. I love painting. when I was a teenager I read some book about roman history and it was really interesting for me. So when I heard the information about SYLE in Italy I didn't hesitate to sign up for it, and now, after finishing all program I think it was nice really choice to do that. Through this document I will present and share what I experienced and what I felt during SYLE program by 4 category. I hope my report could be a small help to servas family in the world who are considering SYLE program

category

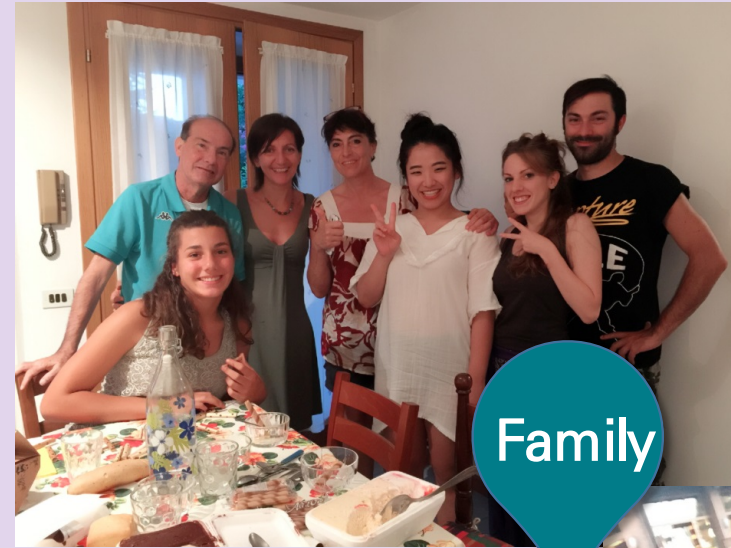
Family

Region

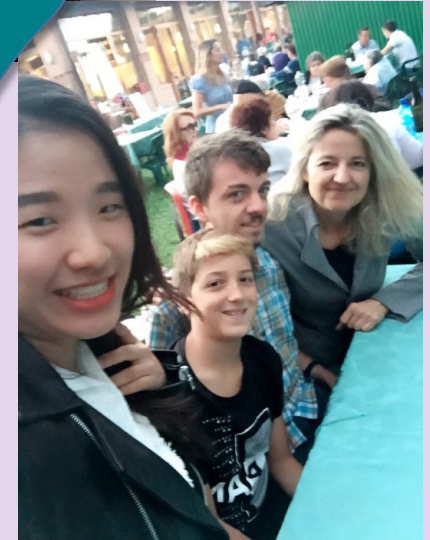
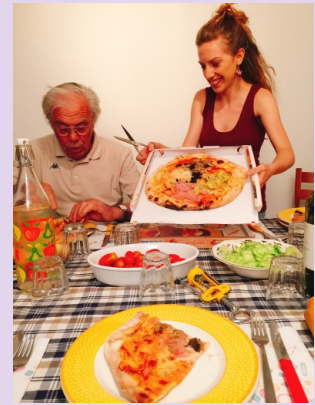
Culture

Daily

During the SYLE program, I was staying with seven servas families; Anna's, Raffaella's, Margherita's, Nives', Marina's, Nicholas', and Laura's. it was really interesting to stay with diverse families because each family has their own style and atmosphere. For example, raffealla's family has very energetic atmosphere, while marina's was calm and relaxed. Each family schedule was mixed properly, so I could spend both exciting and relaxed time timely. The common ground among seven families was that they are very friendly and very similar with feature of transitional Korean family. They like to gather together. Having a meal together is one of important indicator for both personal relationship with their friend and social community. As per this cultural phenomenon I also had a opportunity to be invited to another family who was not my host and it was really nice experience for me. Thanks to this kind of feature, I could get used to the now condition easily and feel comfortable. Language was not a matter at all to be a friend each other! What the important thing is mind! Even after I came back to Korea I keep in touch some of my friend in Italy



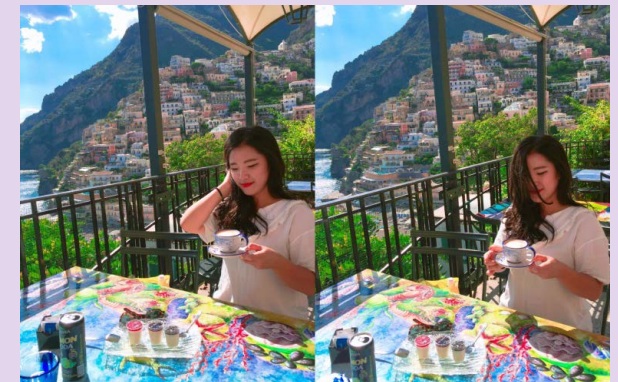
Family



During the SYLE program, I traveled many regions of Italy. Some of trip were with host family and some of were my alone. Based on Bergamo province, I went Verona, Venice, Rome, and so on. What was impressive for me was that each region of Italy has their own style for culture, architecture, and people even they are all in Italy. Atmosphere of Bergamo was very different from that of Venice and also that of Venice was different from that of Rome. I think it can be an advantage for Italy from a touristic point of view because tourist can feel as if they travel more than one country, that gives them rich feeling. What I liked and thanked was when I traveled with servas family they tried to explain for me kindly so I can understand about things more deeply and vividly. For example when I traveled Venice I had a dinner with Nives and her nephew. In the diner he explain a lot of thing of Venice that I hadn't know before. As a result of these things, I could see that how they are proud of their culture and love their lives



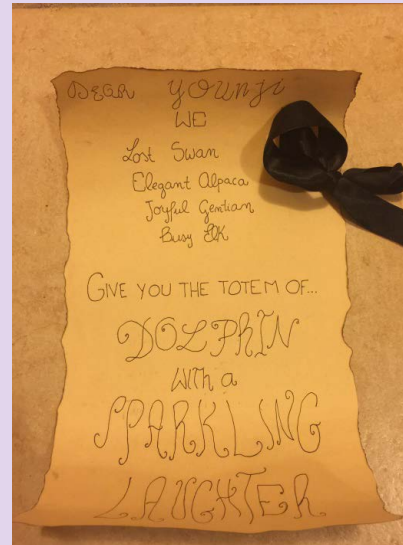
Region



Staying with servas family I could permeate deeply Italian lifestyle. I could not only see what they are eating, and doing and so on but also do these. These experiences were really meaningful to improve international mindset. Through these experiences we can understand each other more, learn from each other, accept difference and it is a little step for a world peace. Staying with Laura's family I found that most of Italian people have participated in "scout" regardless of age. Children in family participate in scout and their parent also have a experience and memory of scout. "scout thing" can be a common issue in the family and than they can have conversation more I think it is really good thing for family relationship because they can share similar experience. As I became a part of Laura's family they give me a totem used in scout! It was really nice and I feel more closer. In raffaella's house we have "all together dinner" very often what is having a dinner with many friends of her family. We introduced each other, shared a nice food, had a lots of conversations. I really enjoyed that moments!



Culture



If you ask me what nice thing of SYLE is, I would answer my whole daily life in SYLE! Leaving my complicated and routine days, going to a new world, meeting new friends sharing new life style were all refreshing for me. With Nicholas, I did a kayak for the first time in my life which is his normal hobby. I also tried to swim in the wonderful lake and watched twinkle stars in lovely house in forest. These things were all unforgettable and precious moment for me. In Anna's home, I looked around the downtown with riding a bicycle with Anna, it was quite long time ago that I had ride a bicycle so to try it again remind me my childhood. It was very emotional. I also did a cook with Laura who is daughter of Anna. Because I wrote in my LOI that I like to cook, Anna wanted to make me a opportunity to cook Italian food. She was really friendly and considerate for me. Cooking was very fun, and it is still on my mind as a nice memory



Daily



epilogue

It was my first time to participate in SYLE program. I experienced a lots of things , shared their daily life , discuss about world issue, speak my opinion, listen people's thinking and finally become a friend. Of course there happened some problems during the long travel but now even that problems have changed kind of reminiscences that make my life more plentiful. I want to go back again someday Thank you for all my host families , thank you for Raffaella, who organized everything for me I hope many young people in the world can have this wonderful opportunity and experience like me!
