

# Our impressions from Bulgaria

The trip to Bulgaria was an experience that I will never forget. ' When I decided that I would take part in this program and tell my parents about that they looked surprised and full of questions asking me if I was sure that I wanted to travel to a foreign country and live for a few days with people I didn't know. I explained to them that it was a small adventure for me but of great importance as it would be an experience. So I got the final OK from them.



Looking back at the trip now, I feel that I was right for my choice as it was an unforgettable experience. I went to a place I hardly knew anything about. I stayed with a family I met for the first time. It was difficult for me at first but everything went on very well. I came in contact with a new culture, I saw and learned new things, I made new friends and learned that I can survive and handle new experiences and situations on my own.

The new environment and the fact that I was on my own helped me cope with new situations and find only the positive things from any case. Finally the journey is what it counts more than the destination. Bulgaria and its people will remain in my heart for ever !

**Stylianos Stylianou for the Cyprus group.**

**Our first impression coming out of Sofia Airport was the colour. Green everywhere. For us the Mediterraneans, a little bit unusual ! All the way to Gorna Oryahovitsa, we enjoyed the beautiful landscape. The warm welcome at school made us feel at home. Visiting places like Arbanasi, Veliko Tarnovo, Bojenski gave us the opportunity to get to know the civilization of the country and the effects on it by the various people who passed from there through the centuries. We admired the beautiful churches with the Byzantine icons and among them the signs of the Ottoman rule.**

**Time flew quickly and the moment came to leave. As always , students were very much moved as they had already made new friends in Bulgaria. We left full of memories with the desire to go back another time.**

