

## Diary entry: Wednesday, 26<sup>th</sup> of March 2014

Today we went to Gdynia, a city at the Baltic Sea. As I woke up, the sun was shining through the windows. Luckily the weather was better than yesterday. After breakfast we walked to the bus stop. This day we met at the swimming pool so that the bus could pick us up more easily. Some of the Polish students came with us whereas the rest went to school because they would go with us the next day for the trip to Gdansk.

It took about one and a half hours to reach Gdynia. The city is very young; it was founded about 60 years ago. But it already is quite popular especially because of the marine. After splitting up in two groups, our group started visiting the Blyskawica, at its time one of the most modern marine ships. The captain of the ship showed us the old cannons, the rooms for the sailors, which are now designed as the museum part of the ship, the engine rooms and gave us the most important facts. The ship was built in Cowes, a town in England, and therefore all people living there know what you mean when you talk about the Blyskawica.

Afterwards our group visited another ship, the Dar Pomorza. It's a sailing ship which was actually build for training in another country. But one time, as it wasn't used anymore, the Polish government bought it. Nowadays it is a museum as well. You could see how little space each sailor had with his hammock. Moreover, it was surprising how much luxury could be created in small rooms for the officers. The beautiful weather offered good possibilities for taking photos.

For lunch the Polish organized a speciality of Poland, the so-called dumplings (Pirrogi). Dumplings are some kinds of pastry cases filled with different things. In that restaurant they offered, for example, dumplings with chicken, meat, spinach and more, everything in two types: cooked and fried.

After lunch we had some free time in Gdynia. First we walked through a small shopping mall we had discovered before. Afterwards we walked along the Boulevard towards the sea. At the coast we had a great view, because of the good weather. After taking some photos of the Baltic Sea we took some photos of our small group that walked around together. Later we heard that the teachers had not finished talking about a new project so our free time was expanded for one hour. So we sat around and enjoyed the sun.

As the bus brought us back to Tczew it was some time to get home to our host families. Dinner was quite similar to Germany so I did not have to change my habits of eating. In the evening we met again in a small tea house we had already been the day before. So the whole group could sit together and enjoy the evening.

Now we are home again and I am excited to see Gdansk tomorrow. So I say: Good night or dobranoc in Polish!