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# My trip to Norway with the Leonardo Da Vinci Foundation



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The first day we arrived to Norway was around 22.00, a teacher named Terje from the local maritime school waited at the airport to pick us up and get us checked in at the camping place where we should stay the next 3 weeks.

We got checked in and went to bed. The next day we was on a show around at the maritime school to see how a school like that was (the picture above is taken from the back side off the school)

The most exciting thing about the show around was to try the ship simulator at the school. It was wherry realistic and fun to try.

When we were done playing around whit the simulator we went to the town on a guided tour of two students from the school. They showed us where we could shop grocery's and where to buy a bus card so we could get around the town and to work at the local shipyard where we were supposed to work for the next 3 weeks.





First day at work.

We arrived at the shipyard around 6:45 and got introduced to the manager of the shipyard.

We went to his office to a little talk about our self and what kind of skills we had so he could place us at the right spot. We came to the conclusion that the pipe shop would be the best place for us to join in, to learn about basic pipe making, pipe welding and basic maintains on ships.

We started slow whit all the basic stuff first and slowly moved on from there.

First we got introduced to the pipe shop manager and he gave us the order to make a exact copy off a existing pipe which had rusted up and needed to be replaced. So we started slow and just tried to do our best.

They were really surprised about the outcome and we got the task to drive to the local harbor and install the pipe at the ship. It was a total match and no problems at all.

At our stay at the pipe shop we learned a lot new stuff, like bending pipes to the right degrees, to make new gaskets by hand only with the old one as a reference, weld pipes and flanges to the correct standards and stuff like that.

We also had to remake a washing table on a crab boat all in stainless steel. Again the were really happy whit the outcome. We used a angel grinder to all the cut outs and to de mount the old parts that we no longer could use. My partner Nicolaj welded it all together whit a electrode welding machine.



One day when we were working at home in the pipe workshop a man came in and he started talking Danish, we got a talk whit him about what we were doing all the way up there and what he was doing up there. He was the owner off tree ships, one for tourist trips to Svalbard, one for fishing and one for tow/rescue.

He asked us how we manned to get around the island and we told him that we did it by bus.

Then he told us that he was going to Denmark in 2 days and we could lend his car while he was away if we just could drive him to the airport and pick him up again when he got back. So Nicolaj drove him to the airport and we now had a car for the next 2 weeks.

One weekend we took a long trip all around the island to have a look at all the beautiful nature up there. It's some of the most amazing landscape I have ever seen in my entire life. You can just look at it for serval hours and you will never get tired of it.

We also took a trip to the local gondola so we could see it all from the top, it is one of the most beautiful views I have ever seen and i got some really nice pictures from that trip, i will putt them one the next page.





Nicolaj taking a rest in the snow on top of the mountain after a long walk to the top.



We learned a lot about our profession and at the same time we had a really great time in then weekends seeing a lot of stuff and learning a bunch of really nice people to know.  
I will at any time recommend anyone to take the opportunity to go on a trip like that if they get the chance.