



Germany, I always dream about this wonderful place, wonderful people, and exciting places to visit. A place where you can work and learn without getting bored, you can enjoy your time here, enjoy your life at its fullest, people will encourage you to work hard, will encourage you to relax and enjoy your time. I have always been dreaming to come to Germany, to learn and to see the as I call it “The capital of engineers “.As I want to be a better engineer and to be a better person, I have to come to this country and experience this wonderful life. The beginning of this trip was just a small idea, which grew more serious through the time I started to believe that this trip can be achieved. After I finished my semester exams in Egypt, I took this idea more seriously, and started to work on the visa and the requirements of this trip. How exciting it was that a person know that he is taking different steps that will change his entire life, and what more exciting is when I landed on the green lands of Stuttgart, that’s what I noticed when I came here, a lot of green.



There are a lot of different places you can visit, I actually didn't visit all the landmarks and famous buildings in Stuttgart, but I managed to see and enjoy the places I've visited. First I must tell you that the area I rented a room at was very cool, Almandring was a very exciting place and a relaxing area where I rested from the hard work. Me and my Egyptian childhood friend Omar Abushady were so lucky we met new friends, and at the first week we had parties at the dorms area, where we met other people and I realized that there are other international students came at this place for the same reason I came here for, it was magical how people from different countries can be in the same place at the same time just to learn more. After a while I decided we should see what Stuttgart is all about, not just some engineers and students of course, so we went to the Schlotzplatz which by the way is the most relaxing place in Stuttgart at day, and the most crazy with parties at weekend nights.



Other place we went to was Ludwigsburg with an Egyptian friend Marwan Akeel we met here and helped us with the first few days in Stuttgart,

The theme of Ludwigsburg the castle there, big huge castle with so many rooms and a very big garden outside, I think that owner of this castle was enjoying his time at its finest.



We went to Heidelberg, another gigantic castle there, this castle is well known for the Apothecary History, I noticed that a lot of people do wedding ceremonies there which is actually very beautiful because of the gardens there, and the feeling that you are living the life of the great past generations that lived at this place. Heidelberg's streets are very historical, you can see how old

it is, and the amazing thing that it was taken care of so that it can remain all those years as it was built and made, we went to this lovely place with some new friends.



You can't go to Baden-Wurttemberg without visiting the zoo in Wilhelma, it's not just a zoo where cute animals just lay there, it's a very nice place to relax too and to enjoy the company of your friends, I enjoyed it and enjoyed the black panther because I want to buy one as a pet, it's just an imaginary dream may or may not

come true, but I will try to accomplish that dream.



There are a lot of other places you can visit in Stuttgart like the Mercedes-Benz Museum, actually I regret that I didn't go there so don't make the same mistake I did, the Museum is at the Mercedes strasse 100, and you can go there easily from the Hauptbahnhof. You can visit the Porsche Museum too, you are supposed to take the U-Bahn from the Hauptbahnhof to Stammheim and drop at Neuwirtshaus station, and you will find the Porsche Museum in front of you. I went to other places I don't remember their names, not far from Almandring which is at the Universitaet station, there is this bridge which was so cool that it

acts as a bridge and a tunnel at the same time.



I had a great view from my balcony, yes I had a balcony, an awesome balcony which had a great view to a forest nearby, and the view at sun down is so romantic.



I and Omar tried to explore the forest, but we didn't go so far as it got darker and colder, just kidding it's just we had a lot to do other than exploring that forest. I call it a forest because of the trees there, very tall ones big and huge, seems to be very old trees, a lot of squirrels there just having fun. A lot of people there enjoyed their time by taking a bicycle through the woods, or just walking through it.

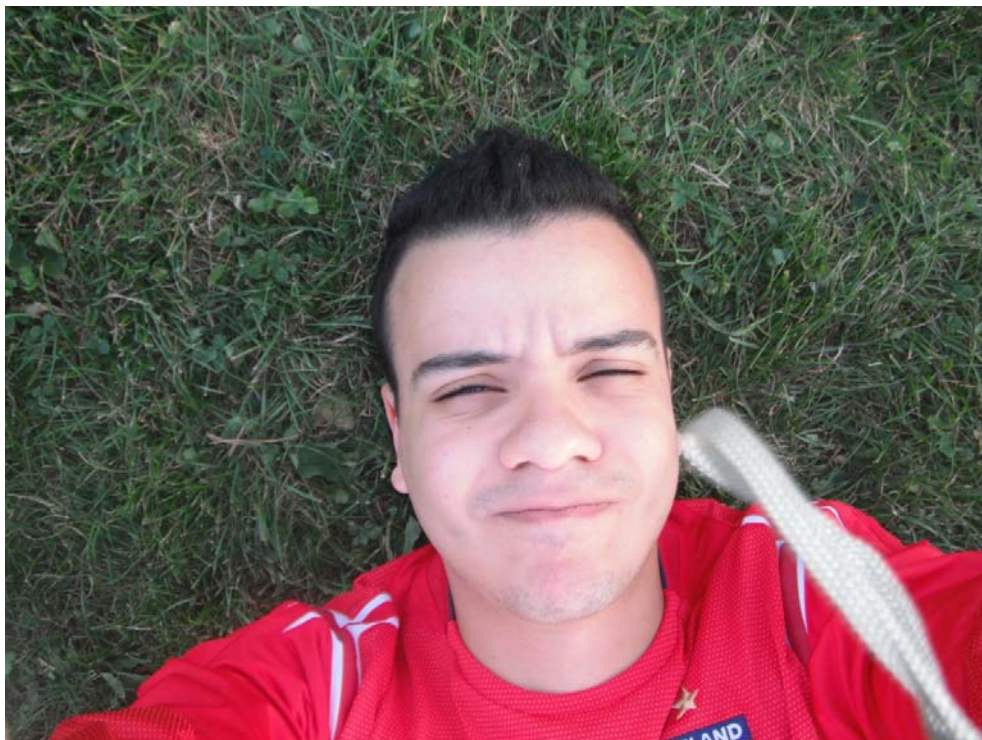
The feeling that you have this space to just be by yourself and enjoy your time with the nature is something you must not miss, it is a primary objective, and you are not visiting Germany without walking through those awesome jungles.



When I said this is a green land I meant it with its full meaning, how surprisingly this country is with all this technology and industrial development and still can take care of its nature, who doesn't want to live in Germany?

I and Omar play football as a hobby, so we found this area with football fields and other sport activity that we can do there like tennis and mountain climbing, I think I saw an Olympic sports there too I am not sure, so playing football there was like we are professional football players playing in the Bundesliga, or that's

how I felt it would be like.



I was lucky to go to a football match; it was VFB Stuttgart vs. Bucharest, it ended 2-2, awesome match and I was so amazed by the Mercedes-Benz-Arena, it is the official stadium of VFB Stuttgart. I had to go to a football match, I had to see how they cheer and support their teams, no big difference actually except some people just watch the game and don't give enough effort in cheering their team up, I from Egypt supported VFB Stuttgart with all my heart because I felt like I was a part of this great city.



I went with some of the friends I met here, they wanted to do it again but I had no time left I had to go back home. I don't have many pictures of this event, but I guess I will still have it in my mind.



The most important part of this whole trip is the experience gained, not just the learning from the university, but also the part where I meet new people with different way of thinking and a different way of living their lives, a different way of enjoying and handle their lives. A way of thinking that actually caught my mind was most of the people here if they want to plan for a big dream, they just don't look at the far end of the horizon, and they look under their feet to see where they are at the moment. Then think about the next step and then if accomplished, they start to think about the step after the earlier one. Germans that I met don't panic about problems that face them, they start to think in a more legit way, it's like a C++ program where you have a condition and

then you start to operate according to the variable given. Life here is more than just being an engineer, a good engineer must add; its more about facing what is different between other cultures, and then try to relate them, you see after a while I realized that we are similar in a lot of points, people must respect their families, must call more often and visit more often. It is so surprising that we are so similar and so close than we can imagine, one of the points that I realized was that we should make a strong hand shake, I thought we only do that in Egypt but I guess people from all around the world must show how strong and respectful they are even by a simple way. I won't forget about Stuttgart, I will always dream of this place for my entire life till I come back again, I guess I will have to dream more about it just to try to live its events that I passed through, won't be enough though. People that I have met here are lovely; there are a lot of those that I will miss, of course Agnieszka, she was responsible for the international students, and she took great care of us because she is the nicest kindest person I met. Other people that I will miss the friends I made here, some from America, Turkey, Canada, and China and of course Germany itself. On the other hand there is this person I met that I really want to see again, if it is meant for us to be together then it will be the greatest ever, because I have never seen a person like this one, a person that cares about her friends, cares about their feelings, and feel their pain and try to pull them up from trouble, how can a wonderful person even exist. I can speak about her for like forever, but I guess I have to finish this so you can realize that you should come to this country; you should start doing your papers and get ready packing because

this is the most beautiful experience I had so far, a real personal
experience :D



Mostafa Salah El dine,
28th September 2012,
Stuttgart.