

Thursday January 4 & Friday January 5  
Day 10 - Innsbruck  
Day 11 – Innsbruck to Munich  
By: Breanna Beckering and Dylan Raveling  
Northern Lights 16-1

Thursday January 4<sup>th</sup>

We woke up at 8:45 a.m. and started our day off with breakfast in the hotel. Most of us had croissants and hot chocolate or orange juice. We quickly ate and went back to our rooms to get ready for championship day. Our team was still in the running to get first and we were all excited.

At 10 we left the hotel and started our long walk to the gym. We played at 10:50 a.m. in the semifinals against a team from Germany. They were pretty good and we ended up winning in 2. We had a short break before lunch and had toast sandwiches with pasta salad and then went back to the gym to prepare for the championship.

In the championship at 2, we played the home team and lost in 3 in a very close game. Shortly after there was an awards ceremony for all the teams and MVPs. Our 2s placed 5th and we placed 2nd and we both received a cowbell!

We went to the grocery store where we found coke and snacks and Curt got us ice cream! We walked back to the hotel and showered to get ready for 6:30 dinner.

We had chicken and french fries and it was really good. Most of us ordered cokes. After dinner we had a meeting to talk about our favorite parts of the trip and what we liked. Some included the goats, walking around the city, all the new foods we tried, and the new people we met. We started packing to leave for Munich and got lots of sleep for our early wake up to leave for Füssen - a small town in Germany.

Friday January 5<sup>th</sup>

We woke up at 7 and we all rushed to breakfast to eat our new favorite breakfast meal croissants and nutella. We finished eating and went upstairs to finish packing and getting ready for the Neuschwanstein Castle and Füssen.

We left the hotel in Innsbruck at 8:15 a.m. and started our 2 hour bus ride through the mountains to the town in Germany called Füssen.

We arrived around 10 and we got to walk around the small town until 1. Most of us found yummy food, Bre and I had pizza in a restaurant called La Perla. We learned Margherita pizza is just cheese pizza in Europe. We found little shops to buy souvenirs in and explored the town for 3 hours.

At 1 when we arrived back at the bus we got chocolate from Curt. We left around 1:10 to start the ride to the beautiful Neuschwanstein castle. The bus driver dropped us off and we started a long hike uphill to the castle. Most of us weren't ready for the walk.

Curt brought us to this bridge that had a pretty view of the castle and it was very packed. We walked back to the castle and started the tour, they gave us audio guides to learn about King Ludwig II and why he built and designed the castle the way he did. There were lots of paintings and murals that had special meaning behind them. The tour was very interesting and we all loved it. On the walk back down to the bus, Curt bought us all these donut like desserts with powdered sugar and they were really good. We recommend.

We went back to the bus and started the 2 hour drive to Munich. We are all very tired from the walking but it was worth it.

From start to end both of us loved the whole trip.

Through the long walks we got to spend time together and see new things we hadn't before. Through the long waits we had funny conversations and learned more about each other. During the bus rides and plane rides we played games, like giant Uno and cards.

We saw so many new things and met so many new teams that the whole experience was so valuable. We partied together, tried new foods, and played a lot of good volleyball.

Throughout the trip we developed as a team and grew closer. We loved all the new places we went, our favorite one was the Neuschwanstein Castle.

We had the best time on this trip and we will both remember it forever.