



Erasmus+



Az Európai Unió
támogatásával

Two of Our Teachers Participated in a Language Development Programme in Florence Through Erasmus+

This summer, two of our colleagues once again took advantage of an opportunity provided by the European Union. With funding from the Erasmus+ programme, they spent several days in Florence with the aim of improving their English language skills. Below is the account of Tímea Puskásné Hegedüs and Csilla Boglárka Kurucz.

Thanks to the Erasmus+ programme, we had the opportunity to spend a week in Florence, the heart of Tuscany, Italy, in mid-July. We boarded the ÖBB night train in Vienna, and after approximately 12 hours of travel, we arrived in the city on the 13th. Our accommodation was located in District 1, in the historic city centre. On our way to the apartment, we were already impressed by Florence's most iconic landmark, the cathedral known officially as the *Cattedrale di Santa Maria del Fiore*.

Our English language course was organised by the Europass Teacher Academy, which operates several educational centres across Florence and offers not only language programmes but also a wide range of methodological training courses throughout Italy and various other EU countries.

We chose to improve our English skills in hopes of participating in further training opportunities in the future, and therefore enrolled in the **English Language Course for Beginners**. We started our studies on the 14th, alongside two French, one Slovak, five Portuguese, and another Hungarian participant. Under the guidance of our instructor, Mr Leonardo Benozzi, we reviewed the fundamentals of English grammar, expanded our vocabulary, practiced reading comprehension and communication tasks, enriched our methodological knowledge, and – last but not least – established international connections.

As the course sessions ended by early afternoon each day, we had ample time to explore the city's landmarks. Florence's historic centre, a UNESCO World Heritage site, is rich in Renaissance architectural heritage. During our afternoon explorations, we visited not only the beautiful buildings of the old town, but also the Uffizi Gallery, the Pitti Palace and its Boboli Gardens, and admired Michelangelo's *David* at the Galleria dell'Accademia. Thanks to Europass Teacher Academy, we also enjoyed a wine tasting in Chianti, and on Saturday we travelled to Pisa, where we spent time at the iconic Leaning Tower and walked along the medieval city walls.

Due to the heat and limited time during the day, we often skipped larger meals, quickly adapting to the Italian custom of having dinner as the main meal of the day. Evenings were dedicated to exploring Italian cuisine: beyond the expected pizza, we sampled focaccia,

bruschetta, lasagna, spaghetti, tortiglioni, and tagliatelle – fully immersing ourselves in Italian culinary culture.

All in all, it was a truly unforgettable experience, and we are deeply grateful for the opportunity.