AIX EN PROVENCE

SPRING 2000
Class out of Class

Art History field trips

Win Tasting

Education (Ooo... little French kids!)

Archaeology treasure hunting...
Arch and Art Hist. Fieldtrips
"... all the places you'll go..."

Famous

Monuments
À la régal, au cul, et surtout
à votre santé !
C'était la vie en Aix...
Dear friends,

The first semester of the new millenium is drawing to a close. We have our plane tickets home, we’re making final travel plans, we’re mentally preparing ourselves for our return home. We’re approaching our departure with mixed feelings—excited to get home yet sentimental about leaving behind all of the memories we have made in Aix-en-Provence.

This semester, we have grown together, laughed together, and cried together. We have learned a new language or have become more fluent in one we have been studying for years. We have managed the ups and downs of living with a family who comes from a totally different background than our own. We have eaten the food. We have sat in café’s for hours, not thinking about homework. We have danced in fountains.

We have sat freezing outside The Red Clover in January, not minding the cold because we had our pints of Heineken and our new friends. We have danced on tables at Tapas. We have mastered flaming shots and consumed bottles of sangria at Al Chupita’s. We have flirted with the waitresses at O’Sullivan’s. We have closed down the Bistro at 5 a.m. singing the six words of Sex Bomb that we actually know.

We have gone skiing in the Alps. We have met gondola drivers during the carnival of Venice and have been sprayed with silly string in Nice. We have experienced pickpockets in Barcelona. We have relocated Braveheart to Ireland, but it’s close enough, right? We have sat on the Spanish Steps in Rome and have basked on the beaches of Greece. We have bought (expensive) rugs in Morocco and ridden camels in Egypt. We have graced the pubs of London, chilled in the coffee shops of Amsterdam, and danced at the discoteques of Spain. We have painted in Venice and in the fields outside of Aix. We have seen the museums of Europe. We have celebrated Easter Mass at the Vatican and have gone on a safari in Kenya. We have paid fines for tampering with our Eurail passes and have been harassed on night trains. We have climbed Mont St. Victoire and have gone cliff jumping in Cassis in January.

We have also gone to class, missed class, and had valid excuses for missing class such as, “My plane from Corsica was delayed. Sorry.” We have been sick and called home in tears. We have written massive papers in our second or even third language. We have written papers in English. We have read books. Lots of them. We have written in journals and on postcards. We have checked the mail daily, still waiting for the package that was sent a month and a half ago. We have endured strikes and have craved peanut butter. We have learned that there are more than three types of bread, cheese, and wine. We have endured the Mistral. We have sat in Virtuoso for hours, waiting to check our e-mail or drooling over Piero. We have complained about the hike to the FAC and Marchutz. We have rented cars, bicycles, and mopeds. We have lived in France.

How many times have you heard people joke about “Aix-en-Vacances,” the land where deadlines are arbitrary and school is secondary to fully immersing ourselves in the life of a non-working, fast-spending student. But we have also taken our studies seriously. We have done independent studies and have done oral presentations. We have taught at French schools and have taken classes at the French University. We have passed up staring at endless hours of countryside in favor of reading French novels or European Economics on the train. We have sketched, painted, and photographed. We have taken midterms and have thought about studying for finals.

We have learned about new places in America and have hopefully learned where “some of those middle states” are. We have made lifelong friendships. We have exchanged addresses and have promised reunions. We have made friends from all over the world.

If you leave this semester with nothing else, I ask you to remember one thing. Don’t forget about the bonds you have formed at IAU. Despite the winds of the Mistral, lack of sleep, and harassment from strange foreign men spouting out any English possible, you have had good times. Hopefully you have learned some more of yourself and will take that new-found knowledge back home with you. Some of us will never see each other again but some of us will travel great distances to reunite. Just don’t forget about your experiences here and if you’re ever bored, drop Yamina or some of the staff a line. They would love to hear from you. Try to return to Europe. If not, at least show your grandkids the pictures and say wistfully, “I remember when the Euro was terrible and the dollar was worth 7.5 Francs.” I wish you save travels, a good summer, and a relatively easy return to real life.

Sincerely,
Natalie Jones
Quotes

“Oh yeah, I forgot there’s only one.”
-Lane on Popes in Rome

“Wait, Julie’s taking a picture.”
-Natalie Jones

“Rock stars never die,
Work like you don’t need the grade,
Dance like no one’s watching
And love like you’ve never been hurt.”
-Karen Buxton

“If he was a skeleton, he’d still have a nice butt.”
-Amanda Boleik

“I can’t talk now, Tyra just found the dwarf key in the forbidden forest.”
-Quin

“This semester was strewrrific.”
-Jeremy Goldkind

“Guess what, I saw homegirl today!”
-Amanda Smith

“Getting to know people, hanging out in Geneva and other rad cities made my semester worthwhile.”
-Christine Kornbau

“I am Zeus, I can crush bottles with my but cheeks!”
-Jeff Chatellier

“Guess who got mail today.”
“Shut up.”
-Stacey Sweeney

“Did you want anything to eat or drink or something, some salad, crackers, I bought cookies today.”
-Skye Sumiyoshi

“If I could be one thing in this world, I would be a rock star.” -James Matthew Trent

“Damn train strikes.”
-Taha

“And then she tried to suicide herself.”
-M. Florian Croise

“I can’t imagine life before the A-Teens and S-Club Seven!”
-Matt Wheeler

“Wanker!”
-Patty Velez

“That’s fantastic.”
-Nancy Atorino

“I’ve seen enough Ali-Babas to last me a lifetime. Where did you say our resort was?”
-Barbara Brenkus

“Hiieeeeee!!!!”
-Helen Mitchell

“Can I have a bite... Come on, I didn’t have any lunch.”
-Kat Paulson

“Call me and wake me up cuz I don’t have an alarm clock and I don’t wanna miss class.”
-Caitlin Slayback

“Portugal... etc.”
-Mark

“Vraiment?”
-Katie Bell

“It’s your choice how you live your life so choose to stay positive and happy and you surely won’t regret it!
Good luck to everybody in all future happenings. I hope your goals will become realities and that you will strive to overcome obstacles. K.I.T. Will miss ya’ll.” —Christine Kornbau

“Ok, ciao baby.”
-Pilar
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