

My life in the states

Summary

Hi dear reader,

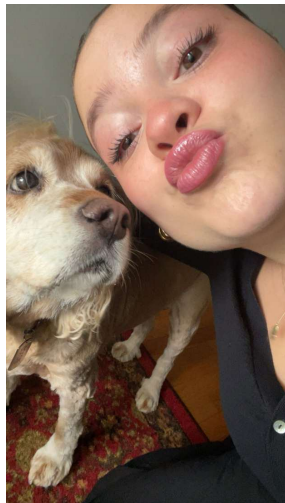
I am here to share with you my 3 weeks American experience. In a few words, it was fabulous, interesting and surprising all at the same time : the city, the work, the people, my family, my new friends... But before I begin, I wanted to say that I was so grateful of being able to live that crazy experience and I hope it will be felt in my words. Ready for an insight view of my trip, here we go !

People

The first thing that surprised me when I arrived in the States is the people, it might be kind off “cliché” but they seemed welcoming, happy, and warm. My first thought in the airport was : “Well, not in Paris anymore that’s for sure”. And my first hypothesis turned out to be true over time.

- The families : I feel like the families that welcomed us deserve a paragraphe at least! Whether it was my family, Melissa’s or even Noémie’s, you ALWAYS felt at home. The tree of us spend a lot of time with the 3 families : we went shopping, traveling, out eating, bowling... They were always generous, and always drove us from places to places. We had many conversations with the different families that were interesting, we talked about everything, and it was just magical. I always felt at ease with them and I’m sure that they made my trip hundreds time better!
- My friends: Thanks to this trip, I became really close to Melissa and Noémie. We spent almost every day together and I loved every minute of it! This trip made me realize that even if I did not know them really well at the beginning, they became really important to me. Even in a different country, with a different language and with different surroundings, we stayed together and I am so thankful for that. I also met some new people of my age in Winchester and that was a rich experience. They had different point of view, different life, different slang and I loved discovering all of it.
- Work: The people in my job were incredible : they were calm, comprehensive, explicative, and super sweet. I learned a lot through them but I will talk about that more on the next page.

These pictures are 😊



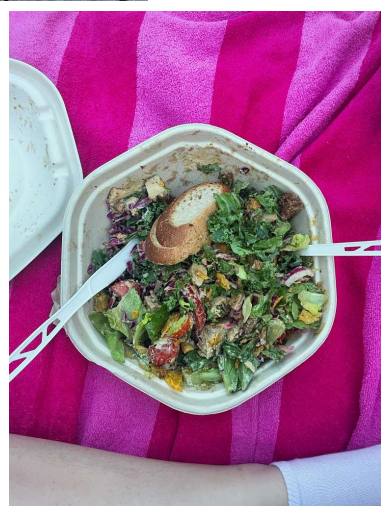
Work

For three weeks, I worked in Bookends, in the center of Winchester. I spent my days organizing the shop, making myself useful for when they needed me, packing the books, giving advices and discovering American culture. It was a rewarding adventure but at first, I'm going to admit, I was a little bit scared : How would I, the French 18 year old girl, give advices to Americans in an area that is unknown to me : American books ? in fact, I worried over nothing because the clients were really patient with me and my colleagues also. After two bad advices I gave, I understood my way around the books and was able to help everyone (almost). This experience gave me an insight of an ordinary day in Winchester and it made me think of Saint germain en Laye in ways, they are not twin cities for nothing!



Food

There was a huge gap between French food and American food, that is for sure! For 3 weeks, I though I would eat burgers, barbecues, fries, corn, and not much vegetables... In fact, that statement was only partly true because when I wanted to have an “American culinary experience”, I would choose those options but when I was at my house, I ate with my family all kind of courses, including vegetables! But I noticed the fact that in France, it’s sort of a tradition to eat all together at dinnertime but it is more rare in the States. I really loved that freedom and I was also super happy because I did not have to set the table! Here are some photographs of our American culinary experience:



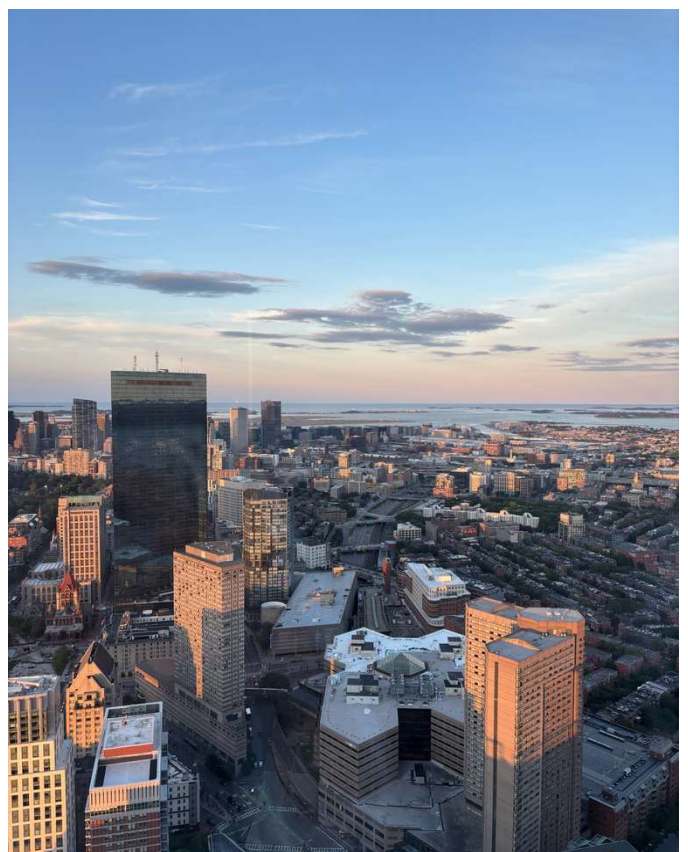
Winchester

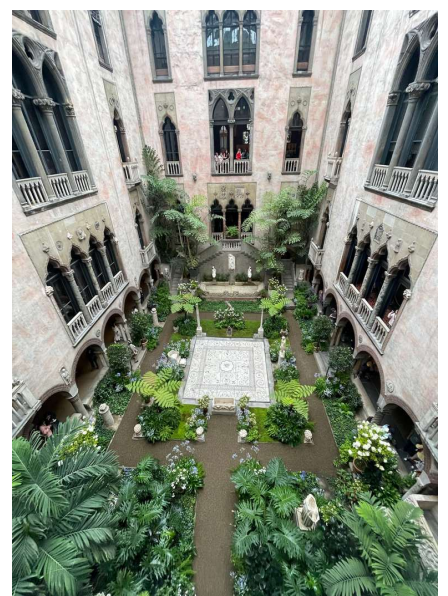
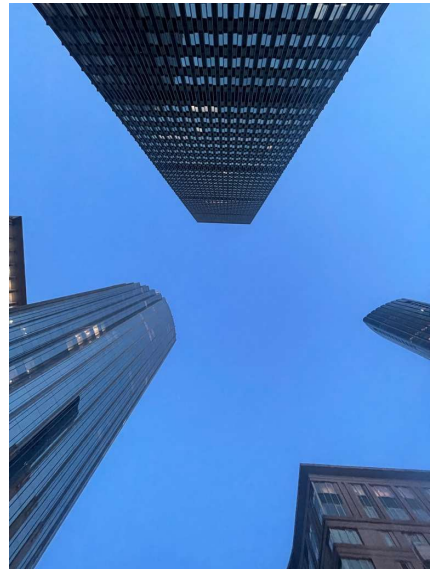
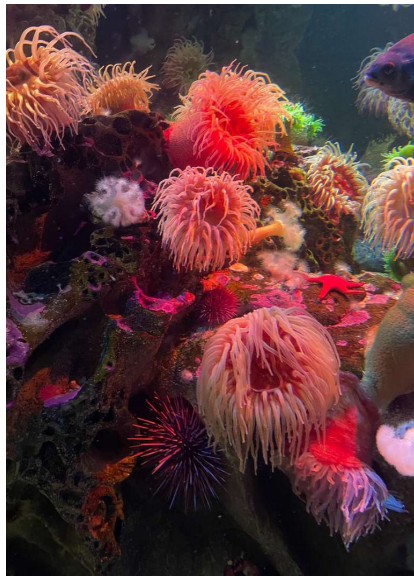
I loved Winchester, it's not a big city, far from it but it was a beautiful one! That city is green, welcoming, has many shops and churches and quite simply, is a really pleasant city! With my personal experience, I think I explored most of the town with my bike. Every morning and evening, you could see me hope on my bike for my 15 minutes ride, either to go to work or to come home. My favorite was the evening ride: I could see the houses lighting up, the town becoming quiet, and the sky becoming pink and orange. That part was my favorite part of my day. Also, we met many persons on the town hall meeting and on the barbecue that were part of the jumelage. They were welcoming and super interesting. For 3 weeks, that city was my home and I hope that one day, I will comeback to it.



Boston

Of course, we HAVE to talk about Boston : the liberty cradle! I think most of my tourist experience took place in Boston: museum, parcs, freedom trail, state house, rooftop, cruise, shops, restaurant... We walked many miles in that city, discovered neighborhoods, buildings and secret streets. I could talk for a very long time about that city but I do believe that photos are worth thousands of words so I am not going to tell you that I loved that city, I'm going to show you:





The end

After 3 weeks, I came back in France with thousands of memories, new friends, a new culture, new vocabulary, and I do think that it was the all point. I will always be grateful for the luck I was given and I hope I will come back to the states as soon as possible!

