

Caspar Feldmann
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My time in Kimberton

My name is Caspar Feldmann and I am an exchange student from Berlin, Germany. I came here in the beginning of January and stayed for 6 months. My English was already good enough to say what I wanted to say, but I learned many important words and I got a lot better during my the time here. On my first day of school teachers and students came up to me and introduced themselves. I was really impressed, how helpful and open everybody was. By the end of the first week I knew almost everybody, and after the second week I was able to name almost every high school student. I really like the community of Kimberton because everybody is connected and people help each other out. For example, I borrowed a guitar from a teacher for 6 months and I got asked many times if I needed a ride home.

During my time here I visited New York, Washington, Philadelphia and Boston which are the four most popular east coast cities. I also went to the beach and we went on a class trip to Vermont which was really interesting. I saw very much of America in only 6 months which was very cool. I was really impressed by the size of the grocery stores here, because they are a lot bigger then the grocery stores in Germany. They have a huge choice of food and each product certainly 100 times.

The biggest difference to my life in Berlin is how I get around. In Berlin I'm a lot more independent because we have a very good public transportation system which takes you everywhere you want to go and there are a lot of places I can reach with my bike. Here it is different because you have to drive everywhere by car. Another difference, people here say a place is close, when it is 25 minutes away by car and in Berlin for me something is close when I can get there in 10 minutes by bike. But it is another lifestyle I was able to experience here.

When I had to make the choice if I want to go to another country I thought it would probably be very cool but I would be away from home for 6 months. In the end I chose to come here, and the weeks before I left I had mixed feelings. On the one hand I was excited to go but on the other hand I didn't want to go. The day at the airport I thought I would be sad but I was actually really excited and then I really wanted to go. In the end it was a very good decision to come here because I learned English very well, I made new friends and I now know how to deal with some situations I didn't know before. So I would say to everybody: If you are thinking about doing an exchange I can only recommend it.