

## 國立臺灣科技大學海外研習心得

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Semester :

2020/ Fall



Host country & university : Brno

University of Technology - Czech



Language : English



Exchange period :

2020/09/21~ 2021/02/07

The report shall contain the following sections  
(At least 2000 words):

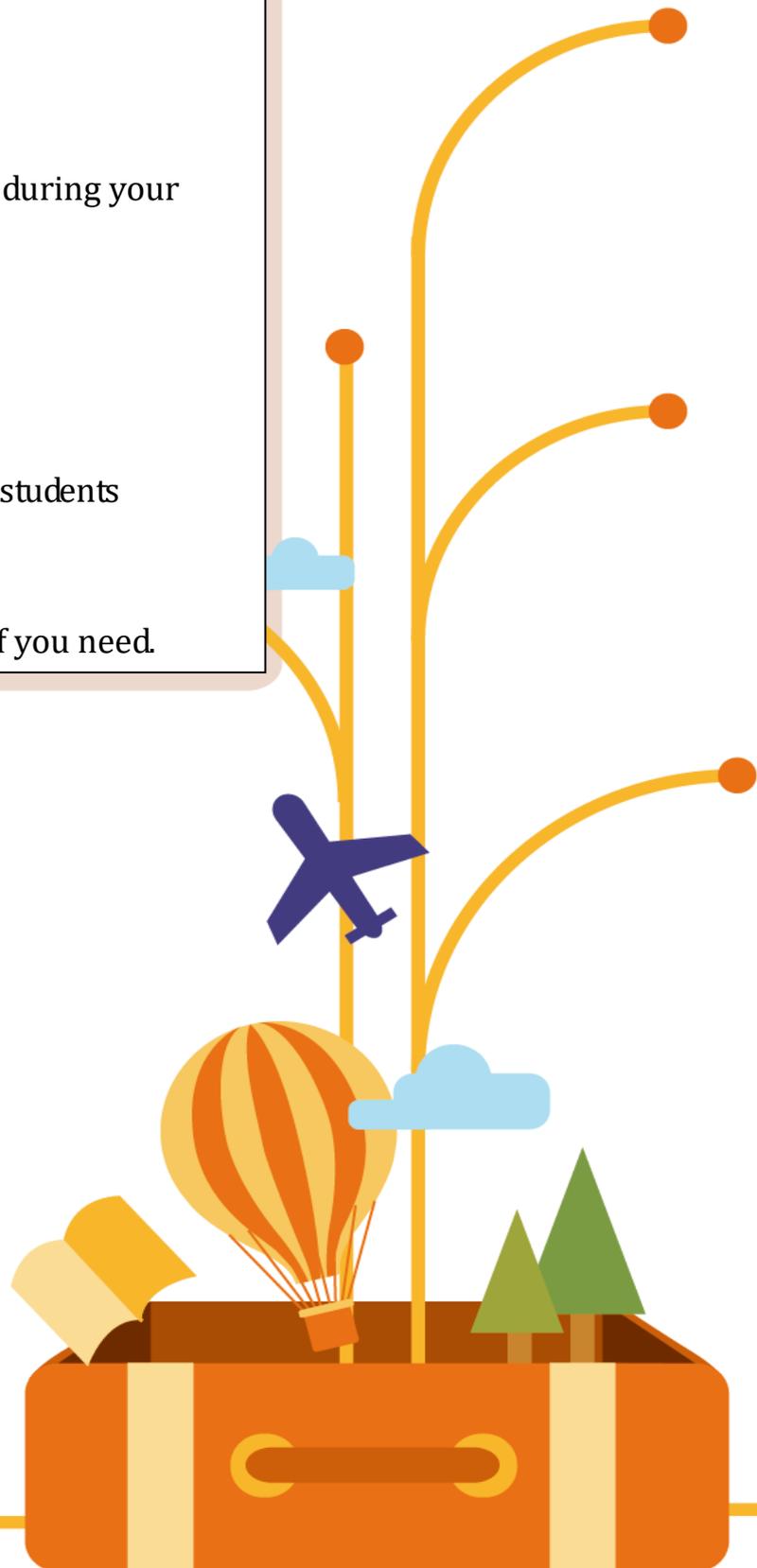
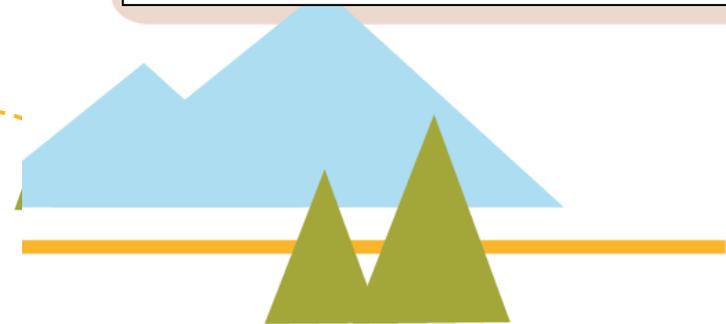
**Part A (At least 1500 Words)**

1. Preparation before departure
2. Courses take at host universities
3. Difficulties and solutions you have during your exchange stay

**Part B (200~500 Words)**

4. Experiences learned and sharing
5. Suggestions to potential exchange students
6. Picture \* 12

◇ You are free to add more page if you need.





## Part A (At least 1500 Words)

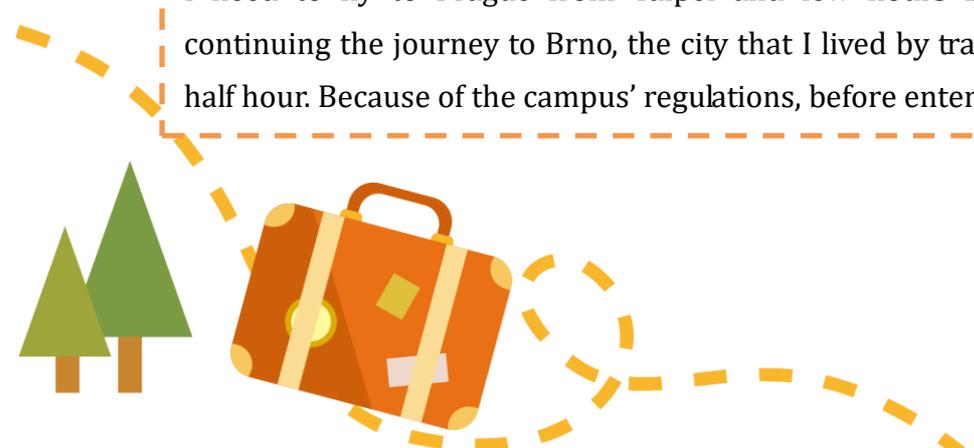
### Preparation, Courses and Difficulties you faced

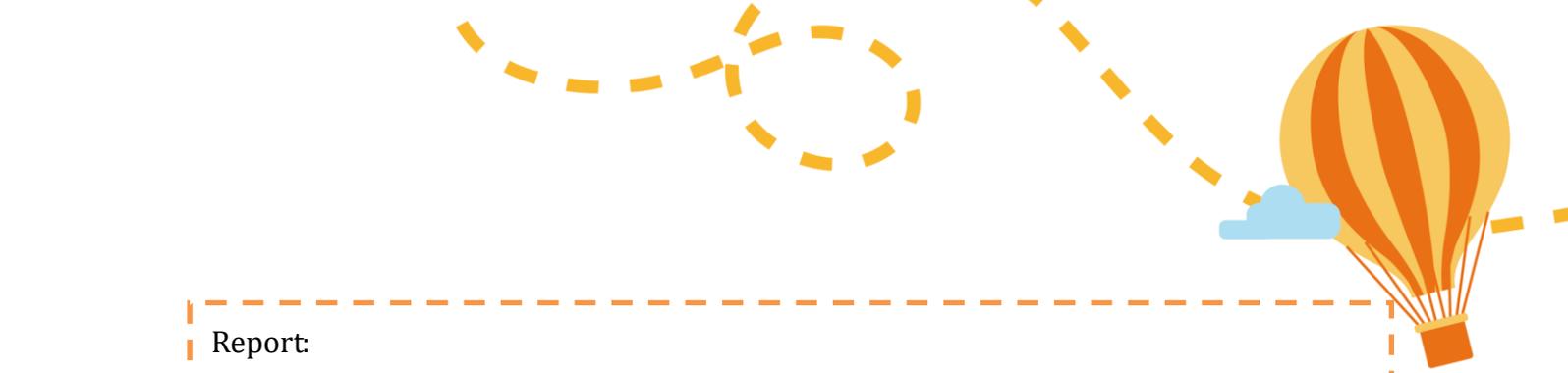
Report:

My exchange program starts around September 2020 but the preparation took almost from the beginning of the year. This exchange kind of feels special because I did this in the middle of the pandemic. It is really hard actually, but then again I still so grateful that both NTUST and host university still giving me a green light to go. I heard one of my friend who used to exchange to Czech Republic said that the visa application is not easy for us, as an Indonesian, because here in Taiwan we are also foreigners so we somehow needed other documents from our home country to complete the whole requirements. But I guess this time is twice harder than the normal time. Everything got delayed, my LOA from the Czech university also took so long to arrive. I almost give up and cancel the whole exchange program plans because I literally just completed the documents needed and go to the Czech embassy in Taipei a month before the school starts. What making me more nervous is the staff in the embassy told me that the visa application process took around 30 to 90 days, could be longer than that, or even worse could be rejected and I have to reapply again.

I have no idea in that time that my application going to be accepted or not, or maybe it will be accepted but later than my expected departure time. But I also realized that it very is not easy especially in this time to travel to other country. I ended up emailing the embassy every week, and finally my visa was out one day before my flight date. It was such a relieved because I bought my plane ticket already. The entire time I wait for my visa to be accepted, I also prepare the whole thing that I needed in Czech Republic. I searched for some accommodations outside campus as well to find out the price and the facility and stuff, but I ended up renting one of the campus dormitory rooms. I'm so glad that the campus allowed all the exchange students to stay in the dormitory. It makes me easier to arrange my itinerary. Before I depart I also need a negative PCR test in order to get in to the plane.

I need to fly to Prague from Taipei and few hours layover in Dubai. And then continuing the journey to Brno, the city that I lived by train. It took around two and a half hour. Because of the campus' regulations, before entering the campus area and-





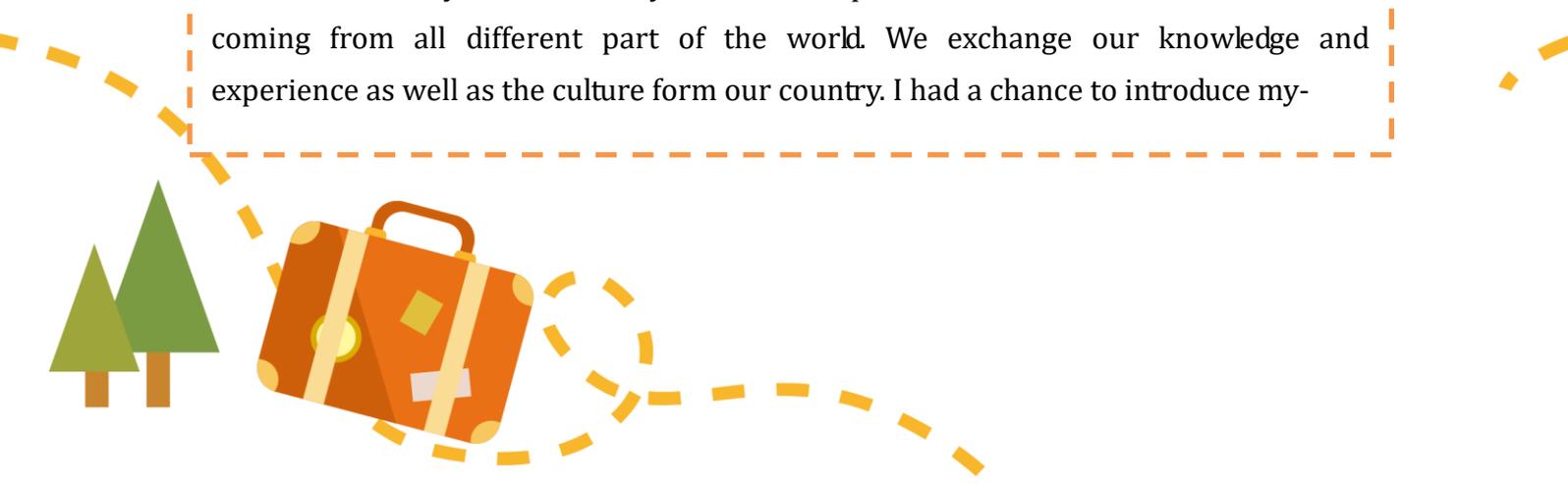
## Report:

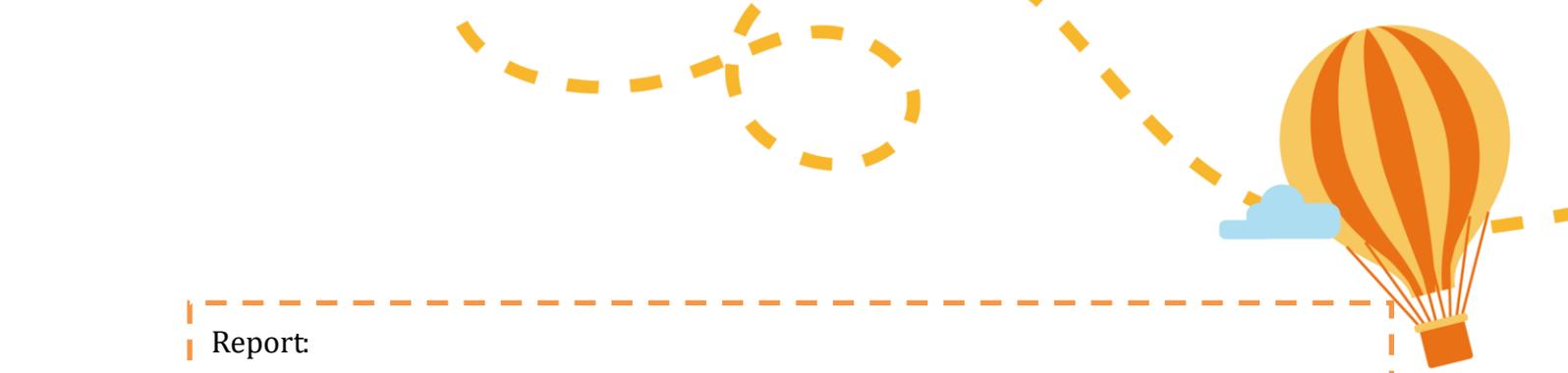
Check in to the dormitory I needed to perform another PCR test within three days of arrival, but no quarantine required. Most people know Czech Republic by Prague as its capital city, but I find out the country is so much more than just Prague. I stayed in Brno, which is the second largest city in Czech Republic with approximately 400,000 population. Brno is the city for students, the city itself not too small but not too big as well. Very calm and tranquil compare to Prague which in my opinion very fast paced. I surprisingly liked the city a lot, and my campus also very big and nice.

For the first two weeks after my arrival everything seems okay, I even went to class to have face to face learning. But after that, the coronavirus cases went up really high and forced the government and school to shut down everything including all school activities. It was very shocking for me because I never experienced that in Taiwan. I have a big anxiety because I need to do everything online and that means it limits my possibility to socialize with other exchange students.

I took three classes in total when I was in exchange program. I took Czech Language, Czech history and economy, and management information system. All of the courses I took were actually really fun if we done it face to face, especially the Czech language and the Czech history. It was really fun to learn the Czech language. In the class we only have about ten students and mostly they are from Spain and France and I am the only one from Taiwan. Czech language is coming from the same group language of Russian, so if you heard Czech it slightly almost like Russian. But not going to lie that it was very difficult to learn. I actually had prepare to learn some basic words like the greetings and stuff before I went there. So when I took the course a little bit me already familiar. I also found out the teacher was very nice, she explained very well with all the limitations that online class ever had. I feel like the learning process will be more effective if we do it offline, so we can practice with other students.

The Czech history class also very fun, we had presentations from all students whose coming from all different part of the world. We exchange our knowledge and experience as well as the culture form our country. I had a chance to introduce my-



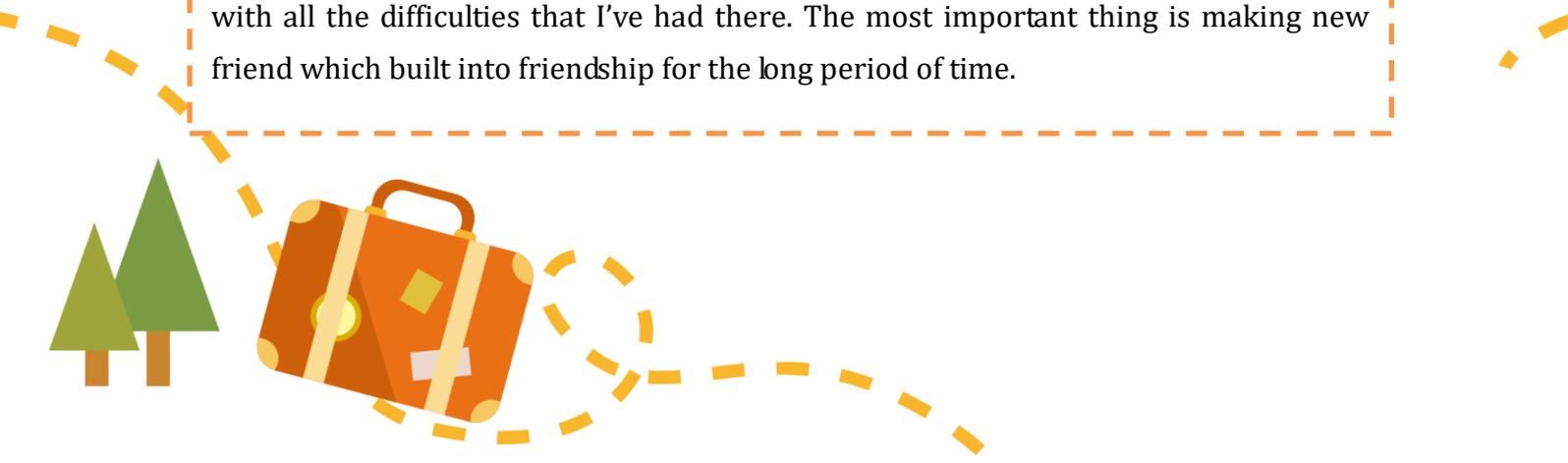


## Report:

Country to other students which not surprised when most of them not really know about Indonesia. The professor said that the actual class supposed to be really fun because we can visit the theater to see some music concert, dance, or other art performances. We can also go to the museums and visit historical places in Brno, and we could try traditional cuisine from Czech as well. But because of the pandemic everything shifted to online and there be nothing much we can do.

It is actually very frustrating to experience a lockdown. The only activity we can do is in the nature with several people in a group are allowed. So I decided to join the hiking group which turned out really nice. We hiked every weekend just to explore the nature nearby Brno. Other than that, I have my own difficulties which I overcome really well. Culture shock for me is really a big deal. I never been to any other countries outside Asia, so when I first come there I'm so scared. I have no idea how the people going to think about me and how can I be friend with them especially in the middle of the lockdown when I can't go out that much. So I think joining the hiking group is really helping me to overcome my insecurities. I turned out to meet so many amazing people from different part of the world, and become a close friend until today.

It is really amazing to meet other people and keep the friendship long lasting. In the middle of the lockdown, we decided to make the best out of it. We had movie nights, dinner, and lunch together. I introduced them to Asian food and they do the same. Exchanging the food and the culture far away from home with a good people make me feel not lonely anymore. We even have a small Christmas and New Year's Eve party in our dorm room. After the semester finished we also went to other city together such as Prague, Olomouc, and Ostrava. So far, even though the exchange program is far by my expectation because of the pandemic, it really is the best decision I have made. It making me seeing the world from the wider version and the chance to explore another culture, people, places, enrich my experiences. I'm trying my best to make things great with all the difficulties that I've had there. The most important thing is making new friend which built into friendship for the long period of time.



Part B (200~500 Words)

Experiences, Suggestions and Picture \* 12

Your feedback may be posted on OIA Facebook page in order to share your fruitful experience.



你，在想些什麼？

Feedback : the experienced I gained through this exchange program is a lot. I can learn a new language for sure, and then experiencing other country' s education system and also it is very interesting to discover how the locals live their life in there. Other than that, meeting other exchange students from other countries, exchanging the foods, culture, even language are also the best thing. It teaches me as well how to respect other culture when we visiting new places. I need to learn how to react to other people in order to fit in and get a new friend especially when I grew up in Asian culture which is very different like Western culture. Because I do like food a lot, this exchange also giving me chance to explore different taste of foods. Also Czech Republic is very famous of their beer, I think that every region there brewed their own beer. Funny thing that I really find out that the water is literally more expensive than a beer. I read somewhere on the internet the people who drinks beer in Czech can be up to 160 liters per year per person, which is very shocking in a good way :D



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你，在想些什麼？

Feedback : my suggestions to the future exchange student; learn a little bit the language, the very basic one will help you to do simple stuff. It is also very beneficial to have ISIC card before the departure, you will found a lot of benefits from the card. The transportation to other cities will be so much cheaper (more than 50% cheaper) using the ISIC card, and also so many food stall will give you 10% discount! Other thing is don' t be afraid to make new friends, I, personally avoiding to have friends with people from the same country as me. It is very nice and comforting for sure to have friend who speak the language the same like you, but the point to do the exchange program is EXCHANGING new things. So when you come back to the home university, you will have so much more to tell and experience that you will not find or experienced in any other places. If you just want to hanging out with the student from the same country as you, just don' t waste any of your time to do the whole exchange process. You can just stay at the home university and you will hang out with the same person anyway. Having friend from different part of the globe will open your insight so much wider. I personally, thankful for NTUST and my host university for giving me thins precious lifetime experience. <3



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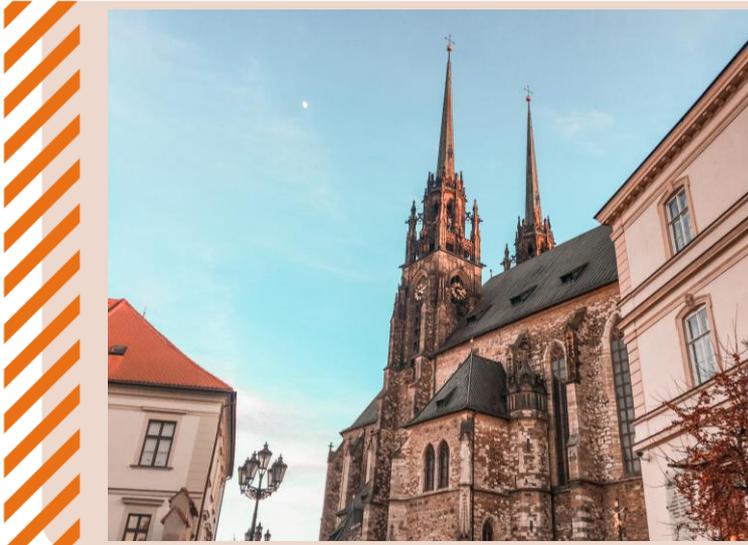
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照片說明：

Cathedral of St. Peter &  
Paul, Brno



照片說明：

Faculty of Business, Brno  
University of Technology



照片說明：

Erasmus Student Network  
hiking trip





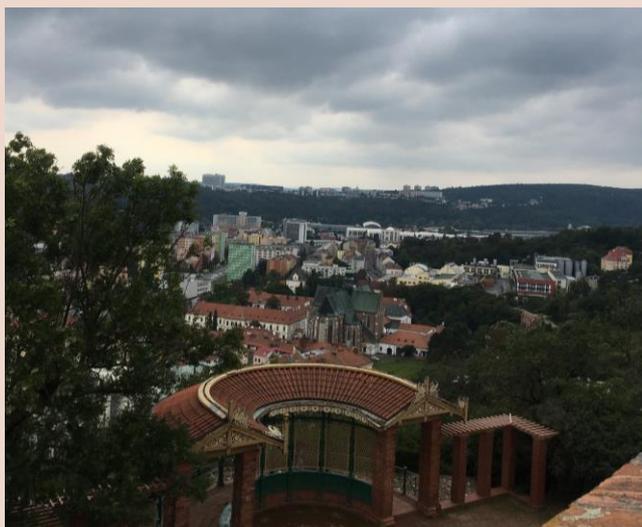
**照片說明：**

Hiking trip with local hikers group



**照片說明：**

Czech cuisine; bread dumpling, gulas, pickle cabbage, and meat



**照片說明：**

Spilberk Castle, Brno – Czech Republic





照片說明：

Brno Christmas Market



照片說明：

Petrin Tower, Prague – Czech Republic



照片說明：

New Year's Eve celebration



照片說明：

Travel to Olomouc, 1, 5 hours from Brno