

PARIS THROUGH OUR EYES

French students travel to Paris over the summer to take in unforgettable experiences.

Story By: Olivia Valadez



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Around We Go! SAMANTHA MACA [12] and **MADISON STEINGESSER [12]** pose for a selfie on a carousel during the trip to Paris. They had walked around Honfleur, a port town, while documenting their day-by-day adventures in their travel journals. "I filled mine out with all the things we did that day," Maca said. Photo By: Samantha Maca.

Nothing tests your language skills quite like a nosebleed in France. With her French skills failing her fast, **KENNEDY STIVERSON [12]** pleaded, "As-tu de la glace?" — trying to capture the attention of the receptionist for ice.

Months earlier and thousands of miles away back in Papillion, Stiverson and other French students prepared in the classroom for this once in a lifetime trip. They finally traveled to Paris in early June and explored all it had to offer.

"I liked the dinner crepes," Stiverson said. "I stayed with a vegetarian family, so we had zucchini lasagna, which was really great."

Students stayed with multiple host families and shared meals with them. They also tried to speak some French with the locals.

"They'll know you're English speaking somehow and speak to you in English, but everyone tried to speak a little bit," **SAMANTHA MACA [12]** said.

Students went to the Eiffel Tower and then saw the Mona Lisa at the Louvre. They then came to their own conclusions about the city.

"Paris has been talked up so much compared to the rest of the little cities, beautiful landscapes and castles," Maca said. "It was kind of underwhelming."

For most students, this was their first time being out of the country and without their parents.

"If I were to have gone with my family, I wouldn't have tried as many new things," Stiverson said.

Being without their parents caused some of the students to get homesick.

"It was a bit difficult," **AUBREE HOFFMAN [12]** said. "My parents were happy for me, but it was still hard."

Additionally, this trip sparked some life choices, both educationally and personally.

"I definitely want to travel the world and study abroad," Hoffman said.

Students expanded their language and explored landscapes; and in the end, Stiverson got the ice that she needed, even if it took a few stutters along the way.



Bag it Up. JADA PELSTER [11] restocks bags at Walmart. She dedicated eight months to working there five days a week. "I like working at Walmart because I get a Walmart discount card," Pelster said. Photo By: Aysela Ulkerman.

Major Achievement. JULIA RASMUSSEN [10] walks up to achieve her academic letter. Students who maintained a 4.0 GPA were eligible to receive their academic letter and were treated to Chick-fil-A sandwiches. "When I got my academic letter, I was pretty excited," Rasmussen said. Photo By: Bennett Carrico.

"I used to get 8 hours; unfortunately junior year has made it about 5." - Lailend Duncan [11]

"I get about 6 hours. I usually get off work at 10:00, then I do my homework at 11:00." - Eva Valadez [12]