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SKUPINOVÁ MOBILITA: Escola Básica dos 2o e 3o Ciclos Dr. Horácio Bento de Gouveia,
Funchal, Madeira, Portugal

TERMÍN: 15. 3. 2025 – 22. 3. 2025

PROJEKT: Our Planet, Our Responsibility: Learning from the Earth's Ecosystems for a Sustainable Future

REPORT: GROUP MOBILITY OF PUPILS FUNCHAL, MADEIRA,
PORTUGAL, SATURDAY 15th MARCH 2025 AND SUNDAY 16th
MARCH 2025
Hynek Karas 6.C

My First Day in Madeira - Saturday 15th 2025

On Saturday, I woke up at my home in Brno soon after the midnight. After 1:00 am in the morning, we went to the bus station in Brno. At 1:40 am, the bus left for the airport. We arrived at the Prague's Václav Havel airport at 4:10 am. Our flight to Funchal was at 6:30 am. I arrived at Madeira at 10: 20 local time. There is one-hour time difference due to the time zones.



My Madeiran friend Gonsalo Camacho and his family picked me up at the airport. We went to a café to had a small snack with special Madeira cakes. Then we went home by car.

Gonsalo has his father and mother. He doesn't have any sisters or brothers. Family has a big dog called Sky (when it stands on its rear feet it can reach up to 2.5 meters). Gonsalo's dad has an accounting company with approx. 11 employees and the business seems to be very successful. His mom is a music teacher.

Family lives in a big three-floor house on a hill above the city. From the road, you go into a yard with a garage and the house entrance, that gets you to the highest floor. All other floors are located down the hill. They have three cars: a Tesla, a Porsche 911, and a big SUV.

The house has a big terrace with a swimming pool and an outdoor cinema. The view of



Funchal and the sea is beautiful. Below the terrace is a garden. I didn't go there because of a big dog, a Great Dane named Sky, that lives there.

Inside the house, they also have a home cinema, a gym, and a billiard table. Gonsalo is very good at music. He plays piano and



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drums. He has a big music room with many instruments. There is also a grand piano in a glass room with a sea view.

My room was very nice. I had my own bathroom with a shower that had massage programs and cool ambient lights.

At home, they only eat breakfast. We had croissants with ham, eggs, and juice. We had lunch at school canteen or with family in restaurants, and we ate dinners with family in local restaurants too, not at their home.



When we came home from the Funchal airport I unpacked my things from the suitcase. Gonsalo played for me music – he played different instruments.

After a little rest at home, we went to a restaurant for lunch – we had meat on a skewer (we had it multiple times during the week). After the meal, we went to visit **Cabo Girão** where we met our schoolmates and Portuguese kids. Cabo Girão is the rock that is 598 meters above the sea and it's the second highest cliff in Europe. There is a glass skywalk – it was really amazing!



After that we went with Erasmus friends to the sea. It was a place called **Câmara de Lobos**. But it started to rain, so we returned back home. At home, we played billiard with Gonsalo. In the evening, we had dinner at an Italian restaurant. I had pasta. After dinner, we went home to sleep.

My second day in Madeira – Sunday 16th March 2025

On Sunday, we woke up at 9:45 and had breakfast at home. It was a nice morning. After that, three families went together on a trip to nature.

We wanted to meet with others for lunch in place called **Ponta do Pargo**. It is the westernmost point of Madeira. There is a beautiful lighthouse on a **big cliff with amazing views of the Atlantic Ocean**. But all the restaurants there were full, so we decided to drive back.

We went to a town called **Calheta**. It is one of the oldest towns in Madeira and it has a nice harbour. There we had a good lunch together.

After lunch, we visited a small village called **Jardim do Mar**, situated on wider flat piece of land just under the high hills. I believe the place was created by the fall of the mountain





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into the sea before thousands of years. The name means “**Gar den of the Sea**” in Portuguese. The village is very quiet and has many flowers, small streets, and ocean views. I saw a beautiful flower there and took a photo of it.

Later, we went to **Praia de Calheta**. I found on the internet that golden sand on the beach is not original from Madeira, but it was brought from Morocco, Africa. **Most beaches in Madeira are rocky**, so this one is special. Kids swam and played in the water, but I forgot the swimming things so I did not join my friends in the water. Even I was not swimming, it was fun and relaxing there.

On the way back, we stopped at a waterfall called **Cascata dos Anjos**. The name means “**Waterfall of the Angels.**” It is near the village **Anjos**, close to the old road between **Ponta do Sol and Madalena do Mar**. The water comes from the mountains and falls right onto the road. Cars can drive under the waterfall, and many people stop there to take photos. Some locals even use it to wash their cars for free! The water is clean and fresh, and it looks very pretty with the green plants around it. It was very cool to see. We were lucky, that we were on Madeira in low season, so the place was not overcrowded by tourists.



After that, it was already late. We went to dinner and then back home.

It was a really nice day. I saw many beautiful places in Madeira and I learned something new. I really enjoyed the day with the other families.

My fourth day in Madeira – Tuesday 18th March 2025

On Tuesday, I woke up at 7:26. For breakfast, I had fried bread with egg. It was tasty! The whole family had breakfast together, and at 8:00 we went to school. School started at 8:15. **We had two English lessons at HBG school** with other students. It was interesting to learn with students from different countries.



After school, we walked to the **3D Fun Art Museum in Funchal**. It is a museum of illusions where you can take funny photos. There are paintings and rooms that look 3D. I liked it a lot – it was fun and creative.

Then we had a walk through the old town of Funchal. The streets are narrow and colourful, with many painted doors and



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flowers. It felt like walking in a small art gallery. We saw traditional houses and shops, and the atmosphere was very nice, but it started to rain so we put up the umbrellas and went back to the meeting spot.

Later, we had lunch at the school. After lunch, we went by bus to the nearby **Santuário de Nossa Senhora do Monte, a beautiful church on a hill.** It is white with



black stone and has steps leading up to it. It is the most important church in Madeira. Many

people go there to pray or enjoy the view.



Monte palace tropical garden. This garden is very big and full of exotic plants, trees, and flowers. There are also animals like flamingos and ducks. We saw beautiful statues and a collection of modern art. The garden also has small waterfalls and Japanese-style bridges. We took many photos – everything was so green and peaceful.

After the visit, we took the bus back home. My host brother Gonçalo had a swimming training, so we went to the swimming pool. In the evening, we had dinner in a shopping centre. After that, we went home and went to sleep.

It was a long but amazing day. I saw many new places and learned more about Madeira and its culture.