

The Art of Man and the Art of Nature

This weekend I got to experience two different types of art; the art made by man and the art of nature. On Friday, the school took us to El Museo de Bellas Artes, the fine arts museum in Sevilla. Our art teacher came along to tell us some history of the paintings and sculptures we were going to be seeing. Something neat about the museum is that it used to be a convent for nuns and so it was structured more as a house than as a museum and the building itself was a work of art with gorgeous courtyards. Most of the artwork inside the museum are religious which reflect the strong religious beliefs of the time in Spain. We had some fun trying to recreate some of the pictures.



Also, this year celebrates 400 years of Murillo, one of Spain's most famous painters, and the museum was having a special exhibition of his work because of this. Our teacher told us how many of the pieces that we saw were actually privately owned and it had taken many years for them to bring all of the pieces together for this special event. Almost all of the pictures were huge, and it was crazy to think that one artist could have painted all of them. Overall, it was a really cool museum because of its focus on Spanish art and how it has changed with time.



Here at ICS, we have a great program called Intercambio where we are paired with Spaniards trying to learn English, so we can both practice conversing in the other language. This past weekend, my roommate's Intercambio asked her to go hiking with her and asked her to invite a friend so my roommate invited me. We ended up going hiking on this trail about an hour and a half away from Sevilla that went from one town called, El Bosque, to a little village called, Benamahoma. The trail followed a small river and was quite

scenic with a few small waterfalls. The best part of the afternoon was getting to talk to our new Spanish friends and getting to practice our Spanish!



I loved getting a chance to see the Spanish countryside and get out of the city for a while. While I love the city of Sevilla, it's nice to be able to go out and experience the beautiful nature of a new place. I love the green, rolling hills filled with olive orchards. It was also awesome to see this smaller towns and villages in Spain and see how they were different from Sevilla. Overall, it was a great weekend getting to see beautiful things!

