

WALES YFC INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMME



Report by: Richard Wilding, Radnor

Why did you apply for a trip with the Wales YFC International programme?

The international programme has established links with YFC organisations abroad. The trips have been successfully operating for years.

Where did you travel to?

Ontario province, Canada. We stayed in Huron county, Kawartha Lakes, and Wellington county, as well as some additional time in Toronto.

What did you do – include the highlights

Niagara Falls. Wine tasting. Dairy farm tours - including tie stall, herring bone and robot milking systems. Tour around a grain elevator to see crops being processed. Tour around Huron tractor dealership. Sing Sing. Lucky enough to go to a Jack and Jill party. Saw some Amish people and how they worked/lived. Saw some custom farmer operations (contractors).

In the additional days we stayed, we went up CN tower in Toronto and went to a NHL hockey game.

What personal benefits did you get from the trip?

I gained a lot of knowledge on dairy farming and how the system is operated in Canada. I also learned about the different crops especially bean production, how it's harvested and how it's processed.

I made a lot of friends and have created lasting links which I hope will benefit myself and other members on future trips. I also gained more confidence at being in an unfamiliar situation with new people.

I learned about a different way of life, and saw many differences in farming practices compared to farming in mid Wales.

Tips for other members who will be going on the trip

The trip offered just over two weeks of structured travelling, whilst still being flexible enough with the members and hosts we stayed with to allow us to fit in any extra or different activities we wanted to do or see. If you want to do something in particular, let your hosts know and they will try and accommodate you as best as they can!!

How does the experience differ from a normal holiday?

You get to live (and work if you choose) with Canadian people. Whilst you do take in some of the tourist sites (it would be silly not to go to Niagara Falls), you do get to see how the people go about their lives. You stay in a family / home environment.

You can't get a full idea of Canada in such a short space of time, but you do get a good overview (although when you plot the areas you have visited on a map, you realise you have barely scratched the surface)!!



Your most lasting memory?

Dylan Bowen dressed as Tina Turner for the air band competition at the sing swing event!!

