

ALEMAARI

Pilgrims voyage across the World

Sachin

Suma

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Suresh

S Labs Solutions

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ISBN-13: 9798395493224

*To the explorers
Who discover culture in every place*

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ಪ್ರಯಾಣ ಸಾರಾಂಶ

" ಆದದ್ದೆಲ್ಲ ಒಳ್ಳೆಯದಕ್ಕೇ ಆಗಿದೆ

ಆಗುವುದೆಲ್ಲ ಒಳ್ಳೆಯದೇ ಆಗುತ್ತಿದೆ

ಆಗಲಿರುವುದು, ಅದೂ ಒಳ್ಳೆಯದೇ ಆಗಲಿದೆ.

ರೋದಿಸಲು ನೀನೇನು ಕಳೆದುಕೊಂಡಿರುವೆ ?

ಕಳೆದುಕೊಳ್ಳಲು ನೀನು ತಂದಿರುವುದಾದರೂ ಏನು?

ನಾಶವಾಗಲು ನೀನು ಮಾಡಿರುವುದಾದರೂ ಏನು ?

ನೀನೇನು ಪಡೆದಿದ್ದರು ಅದನ್ನು ಅದನ್ನು ಇಲ್ಲಿಂದಲೇ ಪಡೆದಿರುವೆ

ಏನನ್ನು ನೀಡಿದ್ದರು ಅದನ್ನು ಇಲ್ಲಿಗೆ ನೀಡಿರುವೆ

ನಿನ್ನೆ ಬೇರಾರದ್ದೂ ಆಗಿದ್ದು

ಇಂದು ನಿನ್ನದಾಗಿದೆ ಮತ್ತು ನಾಳೆ ಇನ್ನಾರದ್ದೋ ಆಗಲಿದೆ

" ಪರಿವರ್ತನೆ ಜಗದ ನಿಯಮ "

ನಮ್ಮ ಮೊದಲ ವಿದೇಶಯಾನದ ಅನುಭವದ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಬರೆಯಲು ಕುಳಿತಾಗ ಮೊದಲು ನೆನಪಾದ ನುಡಿಗಳಿವು.

೨೦೧೮ರ ಮೊದಲ ಭಾಗದಲ್ಲಿ ನನ್ನ ಮಗ ಸಚಿನ್ ಮ್ಯಾ ಡಿಗ್ರಿ ಮಾಡಲು ಜರ್ಮನಿಗೆ ತೆರಳಲು ನಿರ್ಧರಿಸಿ ಕೆಲವು ಕಾಲೇಜುಗಳಿಗೆ ಅರ್ಜಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಿ ಫಲಿತಾಂಶದ ನಿರೀಕ್ಷೆಯಲ್ಲಿದ್ದೆ. ನಾವು ಕುಟುಂಬ ಸಮೇತರಾಗಿ ತಿರುಪತಿ ವೆಂಕಟೇಶ್ವರನ ದರ್ಶನ ಗರ್ಭಗುಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿ (ಕೃಪೆ : ಡಾ. ಸುಧಾ ಮೂರ್ತಿ , ಛೇರ್ಮನ್ , ಇನ್ಸ್ಪೀಸಿಸ್ ಫೌಂಡೇಶನ್) ಜೂನ್ ೨೦೧೮ರಲ್ಲಿ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಂಡು ಬಂದೆವು. ಒಂದು ವಾರದ ನಂತರ

ಮಗನಿಗೆ ಬಾನ್ ಯೂನಿವರ್ಸಿಟಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ರೊಬೊಟಿಕ್ಸ್ ವಿಭಾಗದಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರವೇಶ ಸಿಕ್ಕ ವಿಷಯ ಮಿಂಚೋಲಿಯ ಮೂಲಕ ತಿಳಿಯಿತು.

ನಾವು ಅಲ್ಲಿಯತನಕ ಉಳಿತಾಯದ ಮಾಡಿದ ಹಣವನ್ನು ಕೊಟ್ಟು ಮಗನನ್ನು ಜರ್ಮನಿಗೆ ಕಳುಹಿಸಿದೆವು ಕೋವಿಡ್ ಸಾಂಕ್ರಾಮಿಕ ರೋಗ ೨೦೨೦ರಲ್ಲಿ ಹರಡಿದ್ದರಿಂದ M S ಮುಗಿಸುವುದು ಒಂದು ವರುಷ ತಡವಾಯಿತು.

ಆ ದಿನಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ನಮ್ಮ ನಿತ್ಯ ದಿನಚರಿಯಾದ ಕಚೇರಿ ಮತ್ತು ಮನೆಕೆಲಸದಲ್ಲಿ ವ್ಯಸ್ಥವಾಗಿದ್ದ ನಮಗೆ ವಿದೇಶಕ್ಕೆ ಹೋಗುವ ಕನಸಾಗಲಿ ಅಥವಾ ಹೋಗುವ ಇಚ್ಛೆಯಾಗಲಿ ಇರಲಿಲ್ಲ.

ಜನವರಿ ೨೦೨೨, ೭ರ ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ ೮.೧೫ರ ಸುಮಾರಿಗೆ ಮನೆಯ ಕರೆಘಂಟೆಯ ಶಬ್ದವಾಯಿತು. ಶನಿವಾರವಾದ್ದರಿಂದ ಕಚೇರಿಗೆ ಬಿಡುವಿತ್ತು. ಸಮಾಚಾರ ಪತ್ರಿಕೆ ಓದುತ್ತಿದ್ದ ನನ್ನ ಪತಿ ಬಾಗಿಲು ತೆರೆದರು, ಆದರೆ ಯಾರು ಮಾತನಾಡಿದ ದನಿ ಕೇಳಲಿಲ್ಲ. ಮುಖ ತೊಳೆಯಲು ಹೋಗಿದ್ದ ನಾನು ಯಾರು ಬೆಲ್ ಮಾಡಿದ್ದೂ ಎಂದು ಕೇಳಿದರೆ ಯಾರು ಇಲ್ಲ ಎಂದರು. ನಾನು ಅಡುಗೆಮನೆಯ ಕಡೆ ತೆರಳಲುಹೊರಟೆ, ನಮ್ಮ ಟಿವಿ ಸ್ವಾಂತಿನ ಹಿಂದೆ ನನ್ನ ಮಗ ಅವಿತು ಕುಳಿತ್ತಿದ್ದ. ಜೊತೆಗೆ ನನ್ನ ಪ್ರತಿಕ್ರಿಯೆಯನ್ನು ಮೊಬೈಲಿನಲ್ಲಿ ವಿಡಿಯೋ ರೆಕಾರ್ಡಿಂಗ್ ಮಾಡುತ್ತ ಕುಳಿತ್ತಿದ್ದ.

ಹಿಂದಿನ ದಿನ ಫೋನಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಮಾತನಾಡಿದವನು ಇಂದು ಎದುರಿಗೆ ಪ್ರತ್ಯಕ್ಷನಾಗಿದ್ದ. ಒಂದು ಕ್ಷಣ ನನಗೆ ನಂಬಲಾಗಲಿಲ್ಲ, ಆದರೆ ಅವನನ್ನು ಒಂದೂವರೆ ವರ್ಷದ ನಂತರ ನೋಡಿದ್ದು ಬಹಳ ಸಂತೋಷವಾಯಿತು. ನಂತರದ ಆಶ್ಚರ್ಯ ಪಡುವ ಸರದಿ ನನ್ನ ಮಗಳದಾಯಿತು, ನಾವೆಲ್ಲ ಸೇರಿ ಅವಳ ಕೋಣೆಯ ಬಾಗಿಲು ಬಡಿದೆವು. ಬಾಗಿಲು ತೆರೆದಾಗ ಅಣ್ಣನನ್ನು ನೋಡಿ ಮಮ್ಮಿ ಎಂದು ಜೋರಾಗಿ ಚೀರಿದಳು. ಎಲ್ಲರೂ ಸೇರಿ ಅವಳ ಪ್ರತಿಕ್ರಿಯೆ ನೋಡಿ ನಗುವ ಸರದಿ ನಮ್ಮದಾಯಿತು. ಆಕಸ್ಮಿಕವಾಗಿ ಹೇಳದೆ ಬಂದಿದ್ದು ಖುಷಿಯಾದರು, ಜರ್ಮನಿಯಿಂದ ಬರುವ ಮುನ್ನ ತಿಳಿಸಿ ಬಾ ಎಂದು ನಾನು ಮತ್ತು ನನ್ನ ಪತಿ ಬುದ್ಧಿವಾದ ಹೇಳಿದೆವು.

ನಾನು ಪ್ರತಿದಿನ ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ ೬.೩೦ಗೆ ಬಾಗಿಲು ಮುಂದೆ ಸಾರಿಸಿ ರಂಗೋಲಿ ಹಾಕುತ್ತೇನೆ. ಒಂದು ವಾರದಿಂದ ಆ ಹೊತ್ತಿಗೆ ಲಿಫ್ಟ್ ಲಿ ಯಾರಾದರೂ ಬಂದರೆ , ಮಗ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರಿನಲ್ಲಿದ್ದಾಗ ಈ ಹೊತ್ತಿಗೆ ಬರುತ್ತಿದ್ದ ಎಂದು ನೆನಪಾಗುತ್ತಿತ್ತು. ಆದರೆ ಈಗ ಜರ್ಮನಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಇದ್ದುದರಿಂದ ಹೀಗೆ ನೋಡಬೇಕೆನಿಸಿದಾಗ ಬರುವಂತಿರಲಿಲ್ಲ. ಆದರೆ ಅವನ ಸರ್ಪೈಸ್ ಆಗಿ ಬಂದದ್ದು ನಮ್ಮೆಲ್ಲರಿಗೂ ಖುಷಿಯಾಯಿತು.

ಒಂದು ತಿಂಗಳ ಅವಧಿಗೆ ವರ್ಕ್ ಫ್ರಮ್ ಹೋಂ ಮಾಡಲು ಕಂಪನಿಯಿಂದ ಅನುಮೋದನೆ ತೆಗೆದುಕೊಂಡು ಬಂದಿದ್ದ. ಈ ಸಮಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಬರ್ಲಿನ್ ಕಾನ್ಸರ್ಟೆನ್ಸ್ ಗೆ ಕಳುಹಿಸಿದ್ದ ರಿಸರ್ಚ್ ಪೇಪರ್ ಆಯ್ಕೆಯಾದ ವಿಷಯ ತಿಳಿಯಿತು. ನಮ್ಮ ಕಂಪನಿಯ

ಹೆಸರಿನಲ್ಲಿ ರಿಸರ್ಚ್ ಪೇಪರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಿದ್ದರಿಂದ ನಾವು ನಾಲ್ಕು ಜನ ಅದರಲ್ಲಿ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸಬಹುದಿತ್ತು.

ಈ ಅವಕಾಶವು ನಮ್ಮ ಯುರೋಪ್ ಪ್ರವಾಸಕ್ಕೆ ಮುನ್ನುಡಿ ಬರೆಯಿತು. ನಂತರ ಅಲ್ಲಿ ಎಷ್ಟು ದಿವಸ ಉಳಿಯಬಹುದು ಹಾಗೂ ಅಲ್ಲಿ ನೋಡಬಹುದಾದ ಸ್ಥಳಗಳ ಅನ್ವೇಷಣೆ ಶುರುವಾಯಿತು. ಇದಕ್ಕಿಂತ ಮುಖ್ಯವಾಗಿ ನಾವು ಮೂರು ಜನರ ವೀಸಾಗೆ ಅರ್ಜಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಬೇಕಿತ್ತು ಹಾಗೂ ಅದಕ್ಕೆ ಬೇಕಾದ ದಾಖಲೆಗಳನ್ನು ಸಂಗ್ರಹಿಸಬೇಕಿತ್ತು. ಈ ಜವಾಬ್ದಾರಿ ನನ್ನ ಮಗಳ ಪಾಲಿಗೆ ಬಂದು, ಎಲ್ಲ ದಾಖಲೆಗಳನ್ನು ಕಲೆ ಹಾಕಲು ತೊಡಗಿಕೊಂಡಳು. ಇವೆಲ್ಲದರ ನಡುವೆ ಒಂದು ವಾರ ಕೇರಳ ಪ್ರವಾಸ ಮುಗಿಸಿದೆವು. ಈ ಪ್ರವಾಸದಲ್ಲಿ ಮೊದಲ ವಿಮಾನಯಾನದ ಅನುಭವ ನಮಗಾಯಿತು.

ಕೇರಳದಲ್ಲಿ ಮುನ್ನಾರ್, ಅಲೆಪ್ಪಿ, ಗುರುವಾಯೂರು ಮತ್ತು ತಿರುವನಂತಪುರ ನೋಡಿ ಬಂದೆವು. ಬಹಳ ವರ್ಷಗಳಿಂದ ತಿರುವನಂತಪುರದಲ್ಲಿ ಅನಂತ ಪದ್ಮನಾಭನ ದರ್ಶನ ಮಾಡುವ ಆಸೆಯಿತ್ತು, ಅದು ಈಗ ೨೦೨೩ರಲ್ಲಿ ನೆರವೇರಿತ್ತು.

ಮಾರ್ಚ್ ೩ಕ್ಕೆ ನಮ್ಮ ವೀಸಾ ಸಂದರ್ಶನ ನಿಗದಿಯಾಗಿತ್ತು ಹಾಗೂ ನಮ್ಮ ಫ್ಲೈಟ್ ಟಿಕೆಟ್ ಮೇ ಒಂದನೇ ದಿನಾಂಕಕ್ಕೆ ಬುಕ್ ಆಗಿತ್ತು. ನಮ್ಮೆಲ್ಲರ ವೀಸಾ ಬರುವವರೆಗೆ ಪ್ರವಾಸದ ತಯಾರಿ ಪ್ರಾರಂಭವಾಯಿತು.

ಜರ್ಮನಿಗೆ ನಮ್ಮ ಪ್ರಯಾಣ ದುಬೈ ಮೂಲಕ ಮೇ ಒಂದನೇ ತಾರೀಖು ಹೊರಟು ಫ್ರಾಂಕ್ ಫರ್ಟ್ ಮೇ ಎರಡನೇ ತಾರೀಖು ಮಧ್ಯಾಹ್ನ ತಲುಪಿದೆವು. ಅಲ್ಲಿಯ ಅನುಭವ ಕಥನವನ್ನು ಈ ಮುನ್ನುಡಿಯ ಮೂಲಕ ಓದುಗರ ಮುಂದಿಡುತ್ತಿದ್ದೇನೆ.

EUROPE 2023

Itinerary across the Oceans

SUMA

DDLJ 2023 - Experience Europe

DAY 1 - HUBBALI -> BENGALURU -> DUBAI

1st May 2023

Finally, our first International trip started. The Journey from Hubballi, India to Bad Honnef, Germany.

On 01/05/2023, we got up at 4:30 am, boarded the flight at 7:40 am from Hubballi to Bengaluru. The long layover wait continued from 10.00am to 4.00pm till the security check in gate opened. The layover period spent, waiting at the luggage gates to check in at 4:50 pm.

While writing this piece, was watching the people moving with their baggage's arriving from different flights. Some in groups, family, alone with kids.

Young, middle age, old age people with wheelchair assistance. Most of them busy with their mobile phones.

Another four hours to go. Had bread jam, chips. Yet to have some food. Another 24 hours to reach Cologne.

After 6 hours long wait near luggage pick up gate, had coffee(refreshing) at Cafe Coffee Day. Had some snacks and started moving towards security check in at Emirates.

We were the first to avail boarding pass, then security check and immigration was completed in half an hour.

Reached gate no. 39 to wait for departure to Dubai-> Frankfurt. It was raining outside, watching planes at Bay, drenching in rain.

Many flights took off looking outside the window.

It was raining outside. The flight to Dubai took off at 8:50 pm from Bangalore.



flashback

Our visa was delivered on 16/03/2023. While collecting visa, Sahana had a fall from 8 ft and got injured. Because the dog chased her although others were present to hold the dog.

She had an ankle injury, arm and knee were bruised badly. Everything was planned systematically but this fall upset everyone at home.

How to start the trip which was scheduled on 01/05/2023. Sahana's visa finally arrived on 08/04/2023. On confirmation, we booked the tickets to Bangalore from Huballi.

DAY 2 - DUBAI -> FRANKFURT ->BAD HONNEF

2/05/2023

Reached Dubai at 12:30 am. There were no seats to sit as Sahana was in pain because of her ankle injury.

When i searched for gate as most of the passengers said they are going to Manchester, later our departure to Frankfurt was gate no 17.

When i searched for gate number they said it is no.17, and sat there for a while. Most of the passengers said they are going to Manchester, there was confusion as,there were no announcement, searched for connecting flights to Frankfurt. One of the information desk person guided us to go to gate no 14 for boarding connecting flight to Frankfurt.

Waiting for the next flight continued...

Brushed teeth and washed face at 2:40 pm, because we were supposed to reach Frankfurt at 9 am GMT.

The flight landed at 8:30 am. Collected our luggage at counter no 56 and went outside where my son Sachin was waiting with video recording on as we were searching for him.

To reach the destination it took 36 hours...

From airport took shuttle bus to reach tube station(U bahn). The Frankfurt train station was huge and clean with fibre cover outside(arch).

It was 10 degrees outside chilling weather. The transition from 40 degrees to 10 degree Celsius, shivering at the train station.

We took train to Cologne ICE(Inter-City Express) with 270-280 km speed. One-hour journey to Cologne.

Then took a train to Bonn, 45 minutes journey.

From their bus ride to Bad Honnef and 10 minutes walk to reach house no 65.

Adventure trip with backpack and trolley, finally concluded after reaching home at 1:15 pm GMT.

While in Frankfurt train station had some burger hence after taking bath slept for two hours.

Called anna and spoke with amma and Sunil.

First step in abroad, away from motherland. Night had rajma(red beans) chawal.

Sachin and Sahana prepared chicken, with spices to marinate for Biryani for next days lunch.

DAY 3 - PARK REITERDORF , BAD HONNEF

03/05/2023

Akki rotti with egg curry - breakfast. Biryani - lunch. Evening took a stroll in nearby park maintained so neatly.

From 5 am to night 9:50 pm sunlight -throughout the day. Along the way there were 100 year old houses.

An old mansion converted to a University Physics Department.

The area is surrounded by hills. Felt like residing in a hill station nice structure like view from window. All houses look alike from outside when observed - the interior is different.

The street is filled with many shops, cloth, shoes, hotel and bars. Shops are closed at 6 pm.

Did window shopping while walking to reach the park.

Spent 1 hour in park with small pond surrounded by trees and pathway, swans were swimming and strolling freely inside the park, with many types of birds around.

DAY 4 - INSEL GRAFENWERTH, BAD HONNEF

04/05/2023

Place - Insel Grafenwerth, Bad honnef

Breakfast - Maggi. Lunch - Tomato rice.

Planning to visit Rhein river this evening. Started from home at 6 pm.

Took a bus 51B to Rhine river park.

A small island, park surrounded by river. Ferries, cargo ships transport coal and other goods on the river from Switzerland to the Netherlands rotterdam port.

"Insel grafenwerth" meaning Grafenwerth island, a big park with lawn tennis courts , swimming pool, kids playing area.

The walking path is around two kms long with old trees. It is spring season, a lot of greenery and flowers have bloomed.

Bus is available for every half an hour to reach the park.

Had crispy french fries at the park. Enjoyed nature walk after a very long time.

DAY 5 - UNIVERSITY OF BONN

05/05/2023

Place - University of Bonn

Visited University of Bonn. Campus is wonderful. Rhein river flows near the campus. There are parks, marketplace, library and old administration block.

A perfect atmosphere for a knowledge seeker. The university is into pure research and focused on deep learning of the domain you choose.

The main building is an old palace converted into a University. They have not altered the outer look which makes it ethnic.

Had chicken doner at Turkish hotel euphrates imbiss. Tasty spicy grilled chicken with rotis ordered.

But remaining rotis brought back to home.

Had dinner. Our one-day trip to switzerland was to begin on the same night.

Uniflucht bus departure to zurich, Switzerland was at 12 am.

Left home from Bad Honnef at 10 am. Reached Koln airport, terminal 2 the Bus pickup point at 11:30 pm.

Bus departed to Zurich at 12.00am.

DAY 6 - RHINEFALLS -> LUCERNE -> ZURICH, SWITZERLAND

06/05/2023

Morning reached Rhine falls at 8 am. 45 minutes spent near the falls. Left to Lucerne lake, spent one hour at the lake.

It is big lake surrounded by many buildings old and new.

Mountains covered with snow were visible from far away distance. Walked on old chapel bridge made from wooden, part of it was damaged due to fire accident. The wooden panels are painted with artists of that era and are maintained.

The view of the old buildings around the lake is beautiful.

Reached Zurich at 2 pm. Visited ETH, the top university in the world. On one of the buildings

there were sketches of famous scientists, mathematicians and nobel award winners like Albert Einstein.

The main building of the campus is very big with large dome.

From the campus hopped on to polybahn-the train travels in slope up and down.

From ETH reached the lake,walked around the small lake at city central.

There was an Old church nearby which was closed. But looked from outside the

architecture is different for each church, there was a small model of the church made of stone.

Ate Swiss cheese fondue the popular dish of Zurich. "Burger, finger chips" common food available where ever you go in Europe.

Left Zurich at 11:30 pm and reached Cologne at 6:30 am. Took train back to Bad Honnef. Reached home at 8 am.

DAY 8 - COLOGNE -> BERLIN

8/05/2023

Left home at 10 am. The train from Cologne was at 11:30 am. As it was Sankashti, prepared chapati and cabbage palya.

Boarded the train to Berlin, but the seats were not reserved. Somehow got seats.

Got down at Carrefield, had some food(burger) and took one more train. Reached Berlin at 6:33 pm.

Hotel was reserved, slept and took rest. Tomorrow planning to visit few places.

Preparation for poster presentation is going on. Registration by person tomorrow morning need to be done.

DAY 9 - BUNDESSTAG, BERLIN

9/05/2023

Morning had breakfast at nearby bakery. Took underground train U-5 to Bundesstag (Parliament building of Germany).

After security check, the guide or information provider regarding the building addresses the people in group at visitors gallery inside the Parliament.

From gallery, we can view the dome inside- a huge steel structure with mirrors reflecting the sunlight.

Later with help of audio guide we reached the top of the dome.

The view from the top of dome is very good. All the old buildings, whole city can be viewed from the top.

Such as Victory statue, TV tower and hotel in the middle of tower can be viewed.

Later visited the Brandenburg Tor. It is structure similar to our India Gate at Delhi and Gateway of India at Mumbai.

DAY 10 - SSEO CONFERENCE, BERLIN

10/05/2023

Morning - preparation for poster was still on. Left hotel at 12 pm. Reached 14th IAA Symposium SSEO. Poster session was at 4:40 pm.

Completed at 6:30 pm. Many companies involved in space technology exhibited their products like small satellites, sensors for radiations in space

in the symposium. Presenting a poster among established players was a proud moment.

A baby step towards a long way to reach the space from our end. Interacted with the people and learnt that

space technology has advanced so much in all these years. Next symposium will be in another two years.

We need to put a lot of effort to materialise our idea which we presented.

The flight from Berlin to Rome was at 6:15 am.

DAY 11 - BERLIN -> INNSBRUCK -> BOLOGNA -> ROME

11/05/2023

Woke up at 3 am, took bath, left hotel at 4 am. Train from hotel to Berlin airport 4:24 delayed by 15 min.

Because of delay in train reached at 5.25am. The check in for one baggage completed.

By the time we were denied for security check in and missed the flight. Initially had arguments, but were supposed to reach ROME at any cost. Further checked the availability of trains to reach Rome.

Boarded then train ICE 505 from Berlin to Munich at 8.30 pm. Arrived at 1.10pm to Munich. From Munich to Bologna caught the ECE train immediately scheduled at 1.40pm. As we moved towards Bologna the view from the window was beautiful, old towns, river and mountains.

The landscape, the valley and wine yard along with processing units were visible. The train arrived at Innsbruck,

border city between Germany and Italy and our journey continued to Bologna. As the city passed, that is when we saw slowly snow covered mountains visible from the window, long tunnels, bridges so high.

When we saw snow covered mountains after realising we are crossing Alps forgot about the flight missed.

Our purpose to see snow was fulfilled. Nature at its level best. Franzenfeste.

Reached Bologna at 8:30 pm. Took train from 9:10 pm immediately to reach Rome.

The dream destination for everyone(all) around the world.

Europe was at its greatness in art,culture and building the nation during the Renaissance period.

The art and culture at its epitome because of Raffael and Michelangelo.

DAY 12 - VATICAN MUSEUM

12/05/2023

Part 1

When we left in the morning to reach Sistine Chapel at museum it was 9 am.

On the way we saw so many buildings built with such a finesse and designs. The architecture, sculptures, monuments, castles, kings palace.

The circles were decorated with marble fountains. In order to go through in detail we may need 15 days just to see the buildings and art.

The scheduled entry to Sistine Chapel museum was at 8.15am. By the time we reached the museum it was almost 9.00am because of the traffic.

The guided tour which for which we have already paid was almost cancelled as we were behind the schedule.

When we showed our tickets to the security and then to information desk they said guided tour cancelled because the group has already left.

Asked us to see the museum with the floor plan and audio guide. With that we that started our journey inside the wonder world of art, culture and great display of renaissance period.

Egyptian Mummy's and the articles of that period is displayed in section. The utensils of mud, metal of those period are arranged neatly.

The collection from all over the world from various parts are displayed in different section and floors.

The paintings of Raphael are in three to four sections. It mesmerizes and take us to the world of colours. The life of the common people, the struggle are painted in such way that there is no words to express it. It is like moving to another world and analysing each painting needs some prerequisites which we do not have.

He came to Rome when he was 28 years and commissioned to paint the Sistine Chapel and other main churches during that period.

As an art lover this was the dream come true moment of my life.

It was worth seeing these places to understand that sky is the limit for human

imagination and creation. His father was also an artist, hence his childhood spent in playing with colours.

Raphael died when he was 37 years old because of a mysterious disease. The greatest works he painted and art craft in these short period of nine years.

DAY 12 - SISTINE CHAPEL

Part 2

We entered the chamber of Sistine chapel at the last floor. When you enter the holy central room, you will never believe whether you are on earth or a divine world.

The central ceiling is painted by Micheal Angelo and other paintings on side walls are by Raphael. They were the peers of art of that period and together created magical world of paintings, articles and sculptors.

The central ceiling is decorated with nine scenes from the book of Genesis which tells us how the world is created by God.

The hands of God and man, creation of Adam are the best known paintings. Earlier i have seen these images in post cards and computer.

The experience, the heart melts with feeling that i am fortunate to be present their to view them physically by bear eyes and is out of the world.

The security asks us to move to centre of the chamber to look up and see all the paintings slowly.

The neck starts aching if you watch for a while and imagine the hard work, commitment to paint the ceiling by laying on their back for so long for many years to complete this.

DAY 12 - ST. PETER'S BASILICA, ROME

Part 3

Later in the afternoon had pizza in the hotel inside the museum. The next important place to visit was St. Peter's Basilica next to the Chapel. Walked around the wall adjacent for about one kilometer entered the open space from where people watch the address of the Pope. The entire open space is in half circle shape with columns and at the centre the Basilica situated on a high platform.

There was long queue, waited for one hour to enter the Basilica. When you step in you stop blinking, because you are entering inside a marvelous world of art, sculptors made in marble, bronze and other materials.

The large paintings decorated with designed frames. This world of art is created by best known artists of that time. Not to forget the hard work and effort by the labours to build this gigantic monument.

St.Peter's tomb is placed at the centre of the basilica. The prayer chamber is closed chamber, you can sit and pray also watch the artistry in gold coated metal.

Inside, the central dome is such a huge structure decorated with painted glass work, which are so magnificent and beautiful.

After seeing the St. Peter's Basilica, you will not have the interest of seeing any other basilica. This is what i felt, spent three hours inside the basilica, did not feel like going out.

The knee was paining too much because we walked around the museum and basilica.

While leaving looked back again and again to fill the mind with the images to remember for life and left heavy heart.

It took so many years of hard work and pain to reach here for us. Imagine the pain, hardwork, perseverance and commitment of the artists and workers to build these monuments for so many years.

All the great works of art, architecture we do not have time to see and understand the design pattern which are scientifically perfect till date.

Managing and preserving these for so many years requires great effort.

DAY 13 - PANTHEON -> COLOSSEUM -> SOTTOMARINA, ITALY

13/05/2023

We booked the train tickets to Venice from Rome at 2.30 pm. Two most important places we were supposed to cover before reaching the train station.

Morning had breakfast and started our journey to Pantheon. The entry inside the Pantheon was only if we had registered before. It started raining, the security

asked us to scan the QR code to register our entry. The huge columns when you see, you will never believe these were built by human beings.

When you enter inside, the large dome inside with circular opening inside, you can see with our mouth open in astonishment which is unbelievable it is built back in 300 BC.

Builder-Trajan, Hadrian. The diameter and height oculus of the dome is same 43 metres(142 ft). It is built 2000 years back. Earlier temple commission by

Marcus Agrippa during the reign of Augustus(27 BC to 14 BC).

Former Roman temple since 609 AD a church where Raphael the great artist's tomb is laid after his death as per his will who came to Rome when

he was 28 and died at the age of 37. Completing his greatest paintings during these 9 years in Sistine Chapel. Pantheon and St Peter's Basilica and other monuments in Rome.

Next visit was to Colosseum the gigantic stadium built in Rome era. Because of the shortage of the time, were unable to visit inside. The half of the Colosseum is damaged, but the gigantic structure have enabled thousands of people inside to watch fight between gladiators. The entertainment for the people by making the slaves to fight with animals like lion and tiger, or the great warriors of that time till death of the opponent.

The train to Venice from Rome was at 2.30 pm. Reached Venice at 8.30 pm. The hotel reserved at Chioggia was one-hour journey from central station of Venice.

Boarded the bus and reached hotel at 9.30 pm. Had Italian pizza (margherita and one with tuna) at a nearby pizzeria. The hotel where we stayed had ambience, fountain, swimming pool and relaxing area. Spent some time till late night and slept.

DAY 14 - SOTTO MARINA -> VENICE, ITALY

14/05/2023

Next day the check-out time was 12 pm. Had breakfast, packed the bags, left the luggage in the hotel and went to beach. As from late night till morning it was

raining, the temperature was around 10 degree Celsius. We ventured out in severe cold with umbrellas open. Reached the beach as it was raining slowly stayed for a while.

Came back and had Italian special ice cream gelato with pista, chocolate and other flavor scoop. The taste was totally different. We enjoyed pizza and gelato in rome also.

They make it purely veg, do not mix with non veg ingredients.

The food you have to survive in Europe is burger,pizza, veg roll, chicken roll and other bakery items.

At home, you can prepare Indian food, but while travelling, visiting places there is no choice other than the above.

The flight back to Cologne from Venice was at 10.30. Need to reach airport by 8 pm.

From Chiaggio to reach central venice boarded the bus at 3:30 pm. Reached the central station at 4:30 pm. The bus to airport from bus station scheduled at 6:25 pm.

Moved to a nearby park, on the way there were canals, boats, motorboats sailing over the backwater.

There were two places, i.e. St Maria Church and a museum. I and Sahana followed the Google map directions went to see the church and the museum

by walking through the small galleries over the bridge. Saw the museum in 600m. Shortage of time did not allow to go inside.

There was portrait of Monalisa hanging in opposite wall. Took a selfie with it and walked towards the church.

The church was very old and built in bricks and the tower was very high. Went inside, there were many sculptures, paintings maintained and managed so neatly.

We rushed back to catch the bus to airport. Reached the airport and flew back to Cologne. Arrived at 12 am to Cologne, the train to BadHonnef was at 3:30 am.

Hence sometime in terminal and reached the train station at 2:45. The one hour we spent in severe cold at station was unbearable with gloves, caps and jackets on.

This is the situation in summer, will not be able to imagine when the temperature reaches -4 degree celsius and less in Germany.

Reached home at 5 am. Took bath and slept whole day we spent in between taking break for lunch(food).

DAY 16

16/5/2023

Place - Bad honnef

Earlier we planned to visit France, from 17th to 20th of May 2023. The protests were going on against the Government as it has increased the retirement age of the Government employee from 62 to 64. Unfortunately the protests turned violent when our journey begun on 1st May 2023. The flights were cancelled and availability of trains was not also not sure. So we were in dilemma whether to travel to France or not based on the current situation. After discussing not to face any inconvenience or difficult situation after reaching there, as we will be in different country, cancelled the trip. Instead, started searching for other places nearby in Germany to visit. The next day planned to visit the old cathedral(church) at Cologne.

DAY 17 - COLOGNE, GERMANY

17/5/2023

Bread and omelette breakfast and left home at 10.00am to Cologne. Took one hour to reach Cologne by train from Bad Honnef.

The Cathedral is very near to train station. A very big old church, it took 600 years to build this. You have to look skywards to see the top of the church. The huge wooden door is carved with many idols and designs at the entrance. All the churches we visited in Europe are unique on their own although the architecture looks similar.

Big arches welcome you when you enter inside, with paintings on wall and windows are covered with stained painted glasses. Inside dome is also very big decorated with paintings and carvings. The interior is decorated with so many elegant carved models in various materials such as wood, metal and marble stones. While in church, the clock struck 12.00pm and church organ started playing. It was so soulful, harmonious felt the holiness of the place.

The holiplaces either temple or church gives you the strength to believe in yourself. You feel there is someone up there to take care of you, if you are in right path and humble.

The church was built in 632 years i.e six centuries. Do we have such perseverance in our work now ? The church was damaged during second world war.

It was restored again and the master plan was never modified and built for many centuries(6).

ROME WAS BUILT IN DAY.

Next day planned to visit Benz and Porsche museums at Stuttgart.

DAY 18 - STUTTGART, GERMANY

18/05/2023

Today got up at 4 am. The train from Rhondorf at 6:35 am. As the taxi booked did not turn up, walked till the train station almost 1.2 km in cold weather.

Were able to catch the train from Bad Honnef to Bonn at 7:30 am. The maggi we ate as breakfast almost digested by the time we boarded the train.

Reached Bonn at 7 am and took train to Cologne. From there boarded ICE513 to Stuttgart and arrived at 10:30 am. From station to Benz museum were supposed to take bus no 45.

The specially designed building when we saw after reaching there was amazing. It is circular inside. The history from basic engine design they developed to the latest model of car, truck, bus, luxury cars were in display.

The building itself is of 7 floors. Start from the top floor, how the locomotives were evolved from horses to chariots driven by them were arranged in such a way you will be amazed to learn so much hardwork, effort and perseverance has put in to reach today's transport we are enjoying.

It also showcases during the World War 1 and 2 how the company suffered losses and

again stood back with grit and courage. Initially the cars were designed only to the people of upper class i.e, Dukes and Princes.

Later they developed wagons for public transport or more people may be accommodated.

The stages from single cylinder engine to the latest racing car engine, how the technology has evolved for so many years are exhibited in museum.

Most of the models from 20th century to 21st century are exhibited in various floors. You feel like taking the photos of all models. Because each is so distinct from one another. We spent almost three hours in the museum.

They started manufacturing of vehicle on rails to car, wagons, trucks and busses. Even during the World War they produced arms to support German country.

But they continued to produce automobiles to underground factories to avoid from bombing during the war. The units were bombed by the American troops.

Later they stopped production of arms and continued with automobile. Mercedes-Benz museum will educate origin of automobiles to customer requirements demands.

We appreciate the precision engineering and the aesthetic features the Germans put into design of automobiles. The architecture, buildings, roads, bridges and all the infrastructure are worth seeing and if possible to inculcate in our life. The most important is discipline and value the time of ours as well as others.

The next destination was Porsche museum in Stuttgart. Took a train to Porscheplatz. It is in front of the local train stop. The Benz museum was circular, but the Porsche museum is almost rectangle and innovative shape. With the audio guide assistance started our journey into the world of race and luxury cars.

The company founder Ferdinand Porsche worked earlier in Mercedes-Benz. Later founded the company which was only into luxury and race cars. Both the companies are into production of superfast Formula1 cars.

As we entered the museum unveils the world of superfast cars which we used to watch in television during Formula 1 grand prix. Spent two hours in the museum to have a look at the different models displayed.

Here we can sit in the Porsche car specifically for visitors and take a photograph. The staff of the museum asks us to look into the fixed camera and gives printed photograph with chosen background. They also send photograph by mail if we give our mail id instantly.

Our train to Cologne was scheduled at 5:45 pm and 6:30pm. So we hurried to reach the train station by bus as early as possible.

Near the train station some construction, hence we have to take a long route to reach the platform no 10 to catch 5:45 pm train. Our legs were paining but still tried to walk as fast as possible.

Sachin ran tried see whether the train is still in platform or already departed. The train was still in platform which were to see from far. Sachin saw TC waiting as the train was delayed by 3 minutes. He requested him. We started running towards train as TC was encouraging to come on fast. Somehow we all boarded the train, and it started moving.

This scene made us to remember the scene from the movie DDLJ Dilwale Dulhania Le Jayenge. Coincidentally, our group name to visit Germany was also named the same.

Once we reached our coach no 6 after going through so many coaches we caught our breath and started laughing looking at each other.

We never travelled so much in our lifetime in buses and trains which we did in Germany to visit so many places in hardly 15 minutes. The adventure trip almost came to conclude in another 5 days.

DAY 20 - RHONDORF, GERMANY

20/05/2023

Visited the home of first chancellor of West Germany which has been now converted into museum. It is near to the house in the sense three stops in bus.

The house he built so many years back is well maintained with garden around. The audio guide helps us to understand his early struggling years before he became the chancellor after second world war. His childhood to his death all the stages well displayed with old photographs, cutlery, cloth intact. The best part is his library. The wooden structure with all the furniture and books and the sight from window is very beautiful. Everyone may aspire to have one library like that. While coming back visited the park again.

DAY 24 - FRANKFURT , GERMANY

24/05/2023

Got up early at 4:30 am. Everyone got ready by 6 am. The last breakfast at Bad Honnef was Maggi. Sachin had booked the taxi. He did not turn up. Walked to nearby bus stop to reach Rhondof railway station. Reached Bonn at 9:30 am. The ICE train to Frankfurt was at 10:15 am. Purchased some snack got in to the train. Reached Frankfurt at 12:30 am. From main station took two more city trains and reached hotel. Had burger and bucket chicken from KFC. Slept in the afternoon. Night had noodles and slept early. The last day of Germany DDLJ 2023 expedition.

DAY 25 - FRANKFURT -> DUBAI

25/05/2023

The 25 days long trip coming to conclude. The heart was overwhelmed with joy and sorrow as I have to leave son for time being. Got up at 4:30 am and everyone reached the ground floor at 6:10 am.

The taxi came at 6:15 am. Checked the bags for passport, tickets and luggage. Reached airport at 7 am. It was the last day at Germany for the first time the taxi turned up. After reaching airport

Sachin checked the train availability to reach Geisen are dropping us. All the trains were cancelled, reason unknown. Imagined in what situation we would have been

if the taxi did not turned up today. Everything went smoothly. The drop in baggage started at 7: 30 am. Drooped the baggage and went up to have breakfast. Had croissant, pizza and coffee.

By the time it was 8:15 am. Took some photographs before moving to security check in. Said goodbye to Sachin with heavy heart. Moved to check in for security. Completed the immigration and moved to wait for boarding the flight.

The flight took off at 11:30 am. Arrived to Dubai at 8:15 am pm. Swiftly moved towards gate number A3 to board connecting flight to Bangalore.

Boarding

formalities completed by 8:45 pm. The flight back to Bangalore, India took off at 9:45 pm local time. Arrived to Bangalore at 2:45 am early morning.

By the time we collected baggage it was 4:30 am. The pick up taxi has

already reached airport.Reached home at 5:45 am Malleshwaram. Finally our DDLJ 2023

2023 concluded without any hiccups by God's grace. A big namaskara for his blessings on us in all the way. Because of we have strength to pass all ups and downs of life.

ITINERARY

Timeline's

Day 1 : Flight from Hubballi to Bengaluru to Dubai.

Day 2 : Flight from Dubai to Frankfurt.

Day 3 : Visit to Park Reitersdorf, Bad honnef

Day 4 : Insel Grafenwerth, Bad honnef

Day 5 : Temple Visit - Bonn - 6pm

Day 6 : Nurburgring - Race Car - 668€ -

Day 7 :

Day 8 : Berlin Travel - SSEO Conference - Start

Day 9 : Bundesstag Visit - 11 am

Day 10 : SSEO Poster Presentation(16:40 to 17:40)

Day 11 : Berlin to Rome Flight - 6:15 to 8:20 ryanair.

Day 12 :

Day 13 :

Day 14 :

Day 15-20 :

Day 17: Cologne to Paris

Day 18 :

Day 25 : Fly Emirates flight - Frankfurt to Bengaluru

Documents

- * Flight Tickets
- * Biometric Photos
- * SSEO Introduction Letter
- * NOC - No Objection Certificate
- * Health Insurance
- * ITR, Form 16, Salary slip

Destinations

- * Germany
 - * Bad Honnef
 - * Sight Seeing
 - * Bonn, Rhine Promenade, Night time
 - * Koln cathedral
 - * Beethoven House
 - * Ludwig museum, koln - Picasso Paintings
 - * Chocolate Museum, Cologne
 - * Green Hell - Nurburgring
 - * Food -
 - * Royal India, Marktplatz - Weekday buffet
 - * Euphrates Imbiss, Bus Bahnhof - Schawarma - Spicy Doner
 - * Leisure
 - * Walk - Insel Grafenwerth

- * Shopping
 - * Chocolate - Lindt Factory near Aachen
- * Berlin
 - * Food
 - * Grill Chicken - Near Jugendherberge
- * Italy
 - * Rome
 - * Colosseum
 - * Pantheon
 - * Trevi Fountain
 - * Castel Sant'Angelo
 - * Vatican City
 - * St. Peter's Basilica
 - * Sistine Chapel
 - * Vatican Museums
 - *
 - * Venice
- * Switzerland
 - * Zurich
 - * Rheinfall
 - * ETH zurich
 - *

Schengen Visa - Germany from India

- * Apply 3 months before date of travel
- * 3 years ITR for proof of Income
- * Medical Insurance covering emergency transport
- * Travel Insurance (Along with Flight)
- * Bank Account Balance/ Sponsorship Letter - Cover daily expenses for duration on travel
- * Itinerary + Proof of accommodation (Hotel bookings/Friends address with letter)

Bookings

- * Flight
 - * Fly Emirates - Direct BLR - FRA : Bengaluru - Frankfurt
 - * Ryanair
 - * Bad Honnef - Rome
- * Accommodation Locations
 - * Rome
 - * Best Western Ars Hotel. 11-13 May 2023
 - * Venice
 - * Berlin
 - * B&B HOTEL - Berlin City-Ost. 8-11 May 2023
 - * Paris
 - * Paris Italie Porte de Choisy. 17-20 May 2023
- * Food
 - * Forno Campo de Fiori Roma - Pizza by weight - Rome
 - * Ai Marmi - Pizza - Rome
 - * Antico Forno Roscioli - Cacio e pepe (pasta) - Rome
 - * Frigidarium Gelateria - Gelato - Rome
 - * Come il Latte Gelateria - Rome
 - * Dolci di Nonna Vincenza - Canoli - Rome
 - * Pompei Tiramisu - Rome
 - * Suppli
 - * Vegetarian Lasagna - La Zucca - Venice
 - * Arancini - Venice
 - * Bagel,pretzel
- * Experiences
 - * Race Track - Nurburgring
- * Museums
 - * Ludwig, Koln
 - * Chocolate Factory, Koln
- * Shopping
 - * Chocolates - Lindt Factory, Aachen

- * Trains

- * ICE - Frankfurt to Bonn : 19.90 Euro
- * NRW Regional Card - 1 Month : 69 Euro
- * DB Bahn - 1 Month : 99 Euro
- * Next Bike - 1 Month : 9.90 Euro
- * Berlin to Interlaken

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Sachin Suma Sahana Suresh

Shetty's exploration