



MELANIE

(FROM BREST/ FRANCE)

**– EVS VOLUNTER
IN MUNICIPAL KINDERGARTEN
IN MICHALOWO/ POLAND**

I spent 9 months between October 2015 and June 2016 in Michalowo, a small village in Poland, near Belarus. It was the most interesting experience I had so far. I worked in the kindergarden, mostly with the three-year-old children, and I also spent a few hours per week with the five-year-old. My work was truly great as I think working with children is amazing. Mine were really cute, funny, loving and wonderful. After some time, I managed to understand and speak with them, which was one of my biggest achievements this year. I could not dream of a better adventure with them, as they gave me so much love wonderful memories.

Apart from my work, I was also really busy with my flatmate, who is one of the best person I had met. She was my biggest support and the EVS would not at all have been the same without her. We had a lot of funny and strange adventures together, weather it be at work, at home, with the fire, with the snow, the food or traveling. Traveling was also a big part of my life this year. I visited the main cities of Poland, but I also had time to visit nine countries and thus meeting all kind of people, traditions, cultures and food.



Living in a small village allowed me to discover deeply the Polish culture, traditions, food, language, and most importantly the Polish people. I met great people, especially my owners, who really looked after my flatmate and me and became our « Polish parents ».

I also met amazing people and volunteers and made great friends, with whom I am glad I shared my EVS, who made me think differently, put things in perspective and become more open-minded.

I realized that I used a lot of times the word « amazing » here, but I think it is the best word to summarize my year in Poland : amazing country, amazing people, amazing coordinator, amazing friends, amazing experiences, amazing travels, amazing children, and really amazing flatmate !

Mélanie, August 2016