

# Magic Moment: Krista Setera

For this month's magic moment, I interviewed Salisbury University student Krista Setera. She studied for three weeks at Chonbuk National University which is located in Jeonju, South Korea.

Being in a new place is terrifying on its own. Now triple that fear as you imagine going to a foreign country where you don't know the language at all and being the only student from the university to go that term. That is what Krista took on this past summer. Lucky for her she had a magic moment that sort of set the course for how the rest of her trip would be.

While wandering around the city, trying to get familiar with her home for the next three weeks, Krista met a local student named Eva. Luckily, Eva spoke enough English to communicate with Krista and once she realized Krista did not know any Korean she offered to give her a tour of the city.

As she explored, Eva told her about the "kicks" native to Korea like wearing lots of makeup and heels all the time. In fact she took her to a place in town that was just a strip of make up stores to show Krista just how important it is to girls in Korea.



After adventuring about for a bit, they got food and talked about all the different stereotypes each culture had for the other. Krista told Eva how it is assumed over here that all Asians are smart and work extremely hard at school. Eva laughed and assured her that they are students too, some of them work hard and do well others do not. Eva talked about the stereotype they have for Americans was that they were all fat. However, now she has met a few Americans and none of them have met that stereotype.

One stereotype that Krista discovered was true is that when it is sunny, they walk around with umbrellas. In their culture, pale is beautiful, so they shield themselves from the sun rays. This is quite different than the American culture.

After this, they went and shared a special Korean desert called Bing Su. It is an ice treat in a bowl, filled with fruit and flavors. It is essentially a massive snowball filled with fruit! It was one of the most delicious treats Krista had while she was there and greatly misses it now that she is home.

Eva's kindness and generosity to play tour guide for the day is a great example of a magic moment. It's something Krista will never forget and certainly helped set the tone for how the rest of her experience might play out.

From travelling you can gain so much. From lifelong friends to memories it is such a worthwhile experience. So what are you waiting for? Go find your magic moment!



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