

Italia - Inghilterra uguali o diverse?!

I want to start my essay by saying that every country has its own history, and this is the main reason of the different cultures: so I'm not gonna judge any strange habit, because I think that differences like those between Italy and England are curious and can let us think about some aspects of our life.

Food:

We Italians always notice at the very beginning of our staying in England that the food doesn't taste like in Italy: there are usually spicy sauces, like curry, pasta is sometimes overcooked and mixed up with chicken or in other strange combinations. At breakfast, but also in our packed-lunch there is always butter, butter, and butter: English people cook it and put it everywhere! And also the dinnertime is different: in England people usually eat earlier than in Italy, at 6:30 PM. All this habits are pretty strange for us, but in my opinion you easily get used to eat like your host, family, because you want to try it!

Manners of ways of behaviour:

The English national stereotype consists of a behaviour of politeness and patience. For example when queuing, English people stand in line; in fact queue-jumping is generally frowned upon, whereas in Italy queue-jumping is a common behaviour. Another difference between our country and England is the expression of emotions: English people are not very used to behave like that as the famous motto "keep calm and carry on" claims. This originated from the history of this country: actually, during the 19th century, showing your emotions was considered a bad manner! Another famous feature about English people is that they don't tolerate impolite behaviour: saying "sorry", "excuse me", "please" and "thank you" is really important, especially where you are on public transport. In Italy this kind of respect for each other doesn't exist, I think mainly because we are a younger country than UK; but we can learn something and try to work it out!



SPORT

But there is something in common between the Brits and the Italians: they are both sports mad. You can notice this feature especially in this period of the Olympics, where English people can't look forward to seeing the sporting spectacle! Anyway, here sport is everywhere: many of the world's most popular sports were invented in the UK, for example football, which is the most popular sport here in Italy, but also golf, tennis, baseball...

La sera...

Finalmente dopo una lunga e stancante giornata durante la quale abbiamo fatto lunghe passeggiate per il centro di Londra, lezioni di inglese nel college e un po' di shopping, arriva la sera, cioè il momento di tornare a cose delle nostre "famiglie".

Dopo cena però siamo di nuovo tutti fuori o per uscire con gli altri nostri compagni di gruppo o per partecipare alle attività offerte dal college; come ad esempio la discoteca, oppure giochi a squadre sia di sport che da rispondere a delle domande riguardanti pressocché l'Inghilterra e le abitudini inglesi.

Una sera c'è stato anche il karaoke dove alcuni ragazzi, anche del nostro gruppo, cantavano per farci passare una bella serata di musica.

Una delle serate che mi è piaciuta di più è stata quando siamo andati con il nostro gruppo sul "London Eye". È stato un'esperienza davvero bellissima vedere Londra di notte a circa 135 m di altezza.



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Italy and England are two countries with cultures totally different. Beginning from the life-style in Italy people eat better and they are no stressed like London people. For example in my case, I'm used to eat at home cooking something or it has been hard eating sandwiches all the days at lunch. Certainly England is bigger and has more possibilities than Italy. An other difference I noticed are the buildings and the works of art. In Italy all the cities have very much works of art and historic buildings so that a man would want visiting all the works of art he spent sixty-four years. In England there are British museum and the National gallery that have lot of the most famous works of art in the world like the sculptures of the ancient Greeks and Romans. And the paintings of Leonardo da Vinci and Caravaggio. Another difference that I noticed is the love of English people for the Queen Elizabeth II. In fact I've observed that English people would do everything for the Queen. This year in fact the Queen has celebrated her diamond Jubilee. Thinking that very English people have followed this. In some ways instead England and Italy are similar. I have seen a lot of shops with Italian signs like Gucci, Dolce and Gabbana, Armani, Valentino and others, thinking that makes thinking that English people have Italian-style.

LUCA



Come ti sei trovato in famiglia?!

Patricia Lewis is a Jamaican lady that has hosted me, Riccardo and Fabio. She is 50 years old and has a lot of sons and daughters. I've never seen her husband so I suppose he is dead or they've divorced. She leaves us a lot of freedom and we're happy because of it. We meet her at dinner time and in the morning but sometimes we see only our her son or her daughter. The food is quite good, in my opinion, for the English standards she is a quite good cook. We eat a lot of meat and pasta. Our room is always clean, and the bathroom too. I think that only a few families could be better.

EUGENIO

