

The history of Cologne

Beautifully told by Katrine.

One of the main attractions in Cologne was the tour where we learnt about the history of Cologne, and how it was founded.

Cologne was founded in the 1st century as the Roman Colonia Claudia Ara Agrippinensium, and was a part of the Roman Empire to about the 4th century.

Most of the remains of the Roman period and the Frankish rule were discovered post war. (WW2)



This picture shows the city of Cologne after World War 2. The city was close to destroyed and had to be rebuilt. It was during the reconstruction of the city they found weird constructions, and parts of cellars where the Romans had their drunken parties.

We visited the Archeology museum of Cologne, where we saw remains of the old praetorium of roman Cologne. (Praetorium has no exact meaning, but often referrers to a large building of some sort.)



This is a model of the praetorium that we saw the remains of.

I thought it was very interesting, and I enjoyed the tales about the drunken Romans.

But most of all I enjoyed the history of the Cologne underground sewerage system, originally built by the Roman Empire in the 1st century. Although the city's sewer system was modernized in the late 19th century they kept some of the remains after the Romans. We were walking inside one of the tunnels for surface water.

The haunting memory of the humidity in the air down there still sends shivers down my spine.



This picture shows one of the tunnels underneath the city. It was very tight space at some places inside the tunnel, and it gave me the creeps, but I think it was a very interesting tour, and I had a lot of fun.

The tour was very interesting, and we learned a lot about Cologne and the Roman Empire, as well as we heard many tales of the old times.

I, at least, had a lot of fun, and appreciate that they bothered to take a gang of sleepy and grumpy teenagers to see this. The weather wasn't at its best, but we spent a lot of time inside museums etc. so we survived.

In the end it turned out to be a memory for life, and something I can brag about to my friends who's never been to Cologne.