Before my two buddies arrived in Taiwan, I contacted them multiple times via email to check if they needed any assistance. After they arrived, we created a Line group for us. Initially, we planned a hot pot dinner, but it had to be postponed due to a typhoon that caused a suspension of work and classes for safety reasons.

On November 21, 2024, I invited my two buddies and a Taiwanese friend, who had exchanged in Eastern Europe for a year, for dinner. Despite confirming and reminding them in advance, only Tangi showed up that day, which was unfortunate. Nevertheless, we had a delightful time.

We dined at a sports restaurant during the Chinese Taipei baseball team's games in Japan. Through our casual conversation, we discovered that Europeans are passionate about soccer and are often unfamiliar with baseball rules. We briefly introduced the rules and the current situation of the game, mentioning that baseball is considered Taiwan's national sport, even though my friend and I prefer basketball.

We also discussed Tangi's travels during his few months here, including trips to China and his upcoming visits to Tokyo and Kyoto for classes, as he wanted to experience various Asian cultures during his exchange. Since I plan to exchange in Europe next year, Tangi enthusiastically recommended Italy or Spain for travel.

We exchanged recommendations for European and Taiwanese cuisine. He mentioned that 生煎包 (pan-fried dumplings) had amazed him, and we suggested he try duck blood, one of my personal favorites, when he has the chance.

Overall, it was a fascinating and enjoyable experience. I'm truly grateful for the Buddy Group program, which facilitates cultural exchange!



