One thing that so many people that live in Europe seem to take for granted is the ease with which you can just leave the country. Living in America, if you want to leave, it’s more than likely to be crazy expensive, hours of travelling and takes loads of planning. With our three-week holiday coming up, it was the perfect opportunity to just go to England & France for a week or so. Lots of friends find it crazy that the exchange students all travel for so much, however I found myself explaining to someone the other day that, while we’re on this side of the world, its only logical to see as much as possible, considering how difficult it is to even get over here from America. I mean I had a whole 15-hour travel day and paid almost $900. I think that put things into perspective for them.

So we had decided on Cornwall, England as our first stop. Our flat mate lives there, and his mother wanted to make sure that we had a true home-like experience in England. She was absolutely the sweetest thing. Cornwall was somewhat of a small town, which isn’t something I’m particularly used to being from San Antonio and Houston. We absolutely loved it though, and turns out Cornwall has some of the most beautiful beaches in all of England. Also, definitely didn’t hurt to have a traditional home cooked meal for four whole days! We experienced a traditional Cornish pub, Cornish pasty, and Cornish ice cream. It was such a great experience and I’m so grateful to our flat mate for asking us to visit because that’s something we might not have ever experienced without him.
Our next stop was Paris, France and I’m not sure I can put into words just how much I loved it there. Paris was the type of city that by the end all I could think of was when the next time I would be able to vacation there would be – lol. Paris is so rich in culture, the language is absolutely mesmerizing, the food is amazing, and the architecture is captivating. Our very first day there we ended up being unable to check into our Airbnb until later than expected, so we just dropped off our luggage, walked to the Eiffel Tower, and took a nap under the sun, on the lawn in front of it, by the fountains... it was the most surreal experience. The art in every museum we visited was amazing, and every single bite of food I had was indescribably good.

We adored every second of Paris, and would incline anyone who has the means to experience it.

I’m headed to Italy and Barcelona, within the next few weeks and can’t wait to see what they have in store for me!