

Christmas in Milan

My favourite time of the year arrived in Milan: Christmas.

Lights and sparkling buildings everywhere. Christmas decoration above and around the entry of the fancy designer stores. A big plastic tree on the Piazza del Duomo. Christmas market around the Duomo. Christmas events. And did I mention the Swarovski tree and the international market? This is how I could typify the Holiday feeling in my Erasmus city.



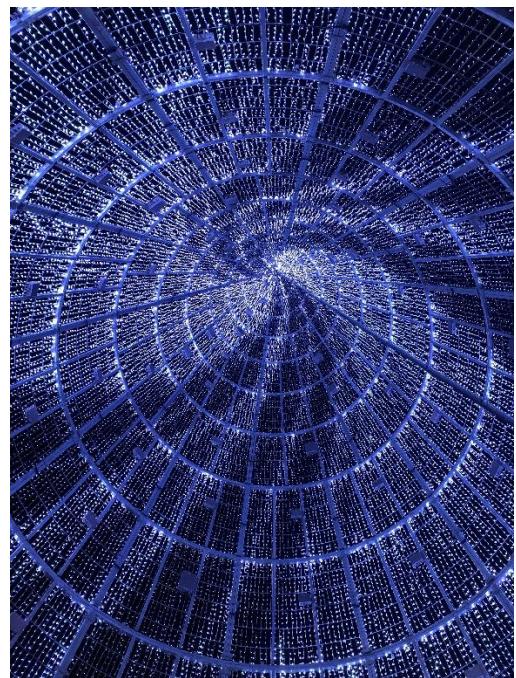


Despite of the first week of December which was a bit of a suffer for me - considering that I got sick- I still enjoyed preparing for the Holidays here.

A dozens of people come here only to visit the previously mentioned international market. The market is about vendors coming to the city for one week from all over the world to sell unique, hand-crafted, high-quality creations. In addition to all of this, you can enjoy a series of musical and

dance performances and try the best international cuisines. However, unfortunately I only know this from stories of friends who went there, since I wasn't able to participate (again, because of my sickness). I even know a Hungarian seller who happened to sell clothes there.

The big plastic tree located in front of Duomo, not only switches the lights of the colours to the rythm of the Christmas songs, but you can also go under the tree and admire it from the inside – which is actually much more beautiful and fun than from the outside.



Moving on to the other Christmas tree, the swarovski tree can be found in the middle of the Galleria Vittorio Emanuele II. (the home of GUCCI, Chanel, Prada and other famous stores next to Piazza del Duomo).



Taking into account our university, NABA made a Christmas jumper day on campus which was also a competition to win a NABA hoodie. I also competed and although I didn't win, I did get the hoodie.



Besides all this, I was lucky enough to also make a quick trip to Como in order to experience the Christmas vibe there as well. In Como, they also have a nice market with food and mulled wine, ice skate park and lights on the buildings.



Furthermore, I feel like it's important to mention in this article how I kept the Hungarian traditions during December. First of all, I lit candles on every Sunday from the 1st of December. On the 6th of December I put a Santa Claus pack (that I got from my mom) to my boots and also gave some szaloncukor (Christmas candy) to my flatmates and friends. Finally, -and now I would like to grab the chance to say thanks again to my friends and especially, to my mom for making an amazing Christmas Calendar to me. In this calendar, I got an envelope from each of my friends with a letter, picture, chocolate or something else in it. It meant a lot for me and made me look forward to come home and celebrate the Holidays with those who the most important for me.



All in all, I'm really grateful that I had a chance to see and experience all this. But to be honest, I'm still convinced Budapest is one of the most beautiful places when Santa Claus is about to come.