



THE MAGIC OF HARRY POTTER 1 - 2 - 3 avril 2016

Friday first of april 2016, we are 32 persons of CJO taking on board of the ferry Baie de Seine of Brittany Ferries. We leave the harbour of Le Havreat 11 pm admiring town's lights and spend night in confortables berthes, rocked by the movements of the sea.



Saturday 'morning, we stand up early. Some of us take breakfast at the restaurant, others stay a little bit more in bed or stay on the deck watching the sunrise on the harbour. At 7 am we are all in time in the coach, driving to Watford. With great pleasure, we find again, or Someone discover, nice english countryside that we like so much. Lot of daffodils blossom here and there. We stop and enjoy a coffee break outside in the sun. Before 10 am, we arrive at the studios of Harry Potter named « The making of Harry Potter ».

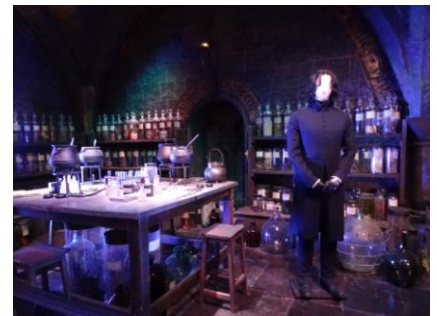
Alain relate this visit :



« The making of Harry Potter » was built on the Halifax factory (famous bombers of second world war). Sceneries are very realist, it's amazing. You first come in an huge room looking like nave's cathedral, so well made that you need to touch the walls to feel if it is real stone. No, the other side of sceneries show us that all is artificial , except pavement. Antique furnitures, luxuriant dishes of Griffondor' dining room look like real. How to fly away mounting a broom ? It's very easy with all those ciné special effects well elaborated. They explained to us on screens in a special studio, of course computers are unavoidable. Thousand of costumes and various objects are also exhibited. The Poudlard express is in the station : the red steam locomotive, carriages (scale 1) that you visit, transport us in Victorian'period. Outside, the Magicobus, a real triple decker is waiting for us. Further, a creative Workshop of « living creatures » reveal mechanical engineering which animate them. It's really well done. Then you cover the « sideroad » : it's a cobbled alley of nineteenth'century with about thirty old shops distorted by the time . An other graphic art workshop show us a replica , large model in white bristol cut and stuck with patience (scale 1/1000). Then another immense room, where we should think to move around a real town (scale 1/50).

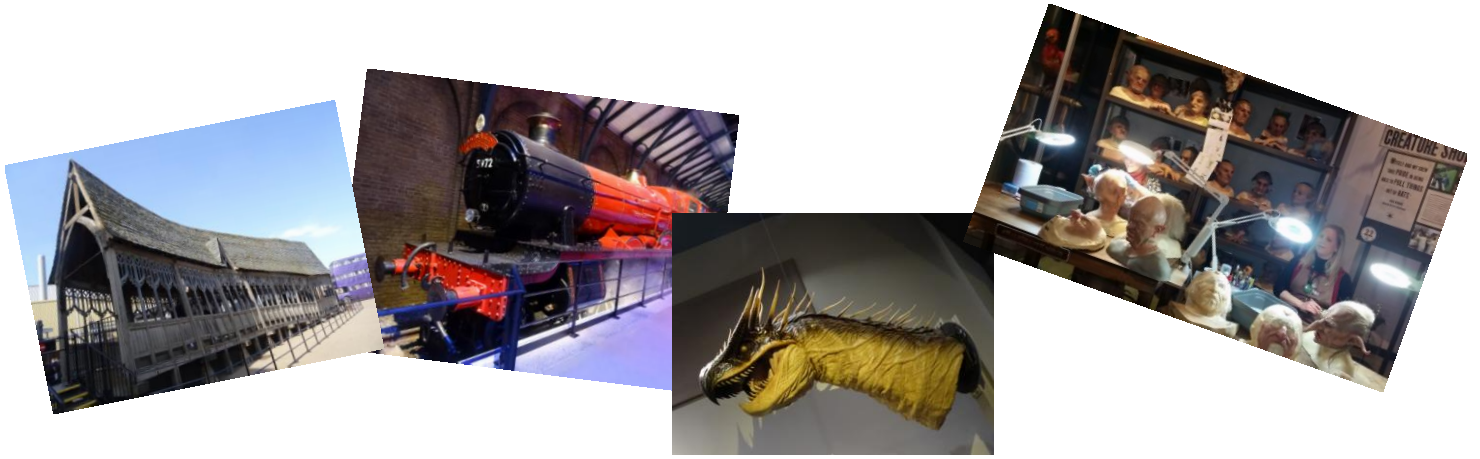


Les baguettes magiques



La chambre placard de Harry Potter





It is a real dive in Harry Potter's world. Those who know well the story, are transported in an unreal and marvellous world. We met a lot of english people so passionate that they were wearing costume of the magician. We are all under magic of this place, but with regret, we leave to be in time in the coach



On the return journey, we stop at Westfield, famous and luxurious shopping centre of 700 shops, at north of London,(we visited this one of Dubai having 1300 luxurious shops during the stopover on the return from South Africa). The inside of Westfield shopping center, with immense glass roof and nice ceiling, is fabulous. We notice specially one shop with a facade in glass of about 16,5 feet high by 26,25 feet long, with hundreds of small shelves in glass. And you know what ? On each of these shelves are exposed sawing machines,And specially one Singer, sawing machine of time between the two world wars . Hundreds of sawing machines !! EXTRAORDINARY...
Alain Richard

Everybody enjoyed english shopping and used more or less the credit card !!

We wait the coach under the rain to return to Portsmouth. On the way, we catch sight of Wimbledon, Twickenheim and the arch of Wembley. We go through nices towns, prettily flowered and situated on royal grounds.

The ferry was late , some of us decide to eat in the maritime station and others in a typical Irish pub nearby to the harbour, kitchen was closed but the owner accepted to serve us a delicious diner.

We take on board the ferry « Etretat ». Then after a quiet night, but short, we arrive in Le Havre.

Marie-France Beauvais

This newsletter was translated french into english by Janine Mielle

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le mercredi soir 18h30-19 sauf pendant les vacances scolaires