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Anna-Lena Holzapfel
 Consultant
 From Germany to Spain



Secondee name: Anna-Lena Holzapfel

Assignment period: Beginning of July - mid August (5 Weeks)

From: PKF WULF Stuttgart

To: PKF ATTEST Bilbao

As soon as I heard of PKF Go, I was very excited to become a part of it and take part in the programme. I did my Bachelor with PKF Wulf and had already been working for PKF for some additional years. I was very interested to learn more about the PKF network but also what it's like to work in our field abroad.

I decided to go to Spain as I've been learning Spanish for some time, and I've always been fascinated by the country, people and culture. I was able to spend two months in the tax department of PKF Attest in Bilbao. I've been to Bilbao before for some days but living and working there was obviously a totally different experience.

I was welcomed at the office at PKF Attest with open arms. I was mainly working in the field of international tax, was included in meetings with an international client, was in touch with different offices of the global PKF network and learned a lot about the daily office life in Spain. I also cherished the exchange of professional differences regarding to tax laws, handling clients and overall the office culture in Spain/the basque country and Germany.

But also besides the professional part, it was a very enriching experience.

My colleagues from PKF Attest taught me a lot about cultural differences in Spain and especially the Basque country, I received a lot of recommendations of basque foods, places to see and things to do. I was able to spend my weekends exploring the basque country and enjoying Pinxtos and Kalimotxo.

Even though my Spanish is not fluent at all, I could practice it with my colleagues at PKF Attest. With clients and in general for better understanding we mainly communicated in English. Therefore, I could practise two languages simultaneously.

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