

Tennessee, and it really did change my perspective on the United States. When you go as a tourist, you never get to see what people do in their daily lives. One day, we went to Panera, and I had never gone there. I ate a salad, and it was, like, literally the best salad I've ever eaten.

Haley: I'd never really met anyone from outside of the country. I love Spanish, and hearing her speak it was really interesting.

Daniella: I speak so fast in Spanish, because it's my first language. I understand English perfectly, but then I wanted to speak as fast as she did, and I got stuck.

Haley: I am planning, once I get to college, on going overseas. I'm thinking of going to a Spanish-speaking country like El Salvador. So, if I go there, it helps that I know people.

MATTHEW ARCHER-NIETO (New York) and JAMES HICKS-BEACH (London) met at an exchange program in 2016 and reconnected this summer.

Matthew, 14: In London, I loved crossing Abbey Road in that famous crosswalk where the Beatles once stood. I also had never tried fish and chips because I don't really like fish, but I loved it. Now when I eat fish and chips, it brings great memories.

James, 14: I learned that people play baseball in Central Park! I liked experiencing life in his shoes — seeing how he lives and what his day-to-day life looked like outside of school. I would love to go back.

Matthew: Traveling without my family, in the beginning, was a little bit overwhelming. But if kids are able to go alone, then when they grow up they will have less of that feeling and will be O.K. with traveling on their own. I will admit, it did take some time getting used to people driving on the wrong side of the road. ♦

June 2016: A Surprising Vote Most people in Britain (and around the world) expected the country to stay,

some close trade ties to the European Union but bringing other powers back to London, like control of

that not enough lawmakers agree on anything. So a is on to avoid chaos at the end of March. ♦

THE LONGEST SLEDDING RUN IN THE WORLD

BY LORRAINE ALLEN

GETTING TO THE Big Pintenfritz, at 9.3 miles the world's longest sledding run, is slow going: It's a three-hour hike from the nearest gondola station to the trail's start above the cloud line, at the top of the Faulhorn mountain in the Swiss Alps. But once you strap on your helmet and hop on your wooden sled, things get a lot faster. How fast? The most ambitious sledders can fly down the Big Pintenfritz in 30 thrilling minutes, zooming around hairpin turns as they descend 5,000 vertical feet past mountain goats and frozen creeks. Most of the thousands of people who visit the trail each year take a break along the way to drink some hot cocoa or take in the incredible mountain peaks. Others multitask: "Look at those views!" one sledder shouted as he flew down the mountain earlier this month. "That's going to be my new screen saver." ♦



TINY STORY



120

The number of people, in millions, expected to attend the Hindu festival Kumbh Mela. It's the largest spiritual gathering in the world, taking place in Prayagraj, India, a city where the sacred Ganges and Yamuna Rivers meet.