

travelling restrictions, SOS families went on short trips in nearby area of the country. 'Our Latvia is a beautiful country with picturesque landscapes, cultural and historical sights. But this year our family wanted to discover the beauty of the neighbouring countries. We were lucky to get tickets on a 3-day long bus tour through Estonia, Sweden and Finland. It was amazing!' shares Inese.

My summer holidays

'I liked the old town of Tallinn, the capital city of Estonia. But my brother liked Stockholm and the

Swedish Royal palace,' tells 13 years old sister. 'The Vasa historical ship and Vikings' museums, and Junibacken of Astrid Lindgren's heroes were very interesting, too. Oh, and don't forget the Moomin Land in Finland!' adds her brother.



'Travelling together with my SOS family is always very interesting,' says the girl.

'We had four short ferry rides within the trip – from Tallinn to Helsinki, from Turku to Stockholm, and back again. Our youngest kid was so impressed by the big ferry! He was afraid to step on it at first. But he adapted very soon. The boy wanted to explore every place on the ferry then. He even tried to have a chat with the seagulls,' smiles Inese.

The family has so many nice memories from this trip! They are already planning something for the next summer.

— Greetings from Annija

8 years old Annija is a smiling, active and sporty girl, as always. Her best summer memories are of the family camping time at the sea. 'I liked to splash and puddle in the water. My sister and I played in sand. We built sandcastles and baked sand cakes,' remembers the girl.

However, her favorite season is winter. This year the winter has pleased us with lots of snow. The girl is happy to enjoy it! 'I like building snowmen and snow fortresses with friends. We throw snowballs and have snow fights then. We also go sledding downhill. I like skiing and skating, too!' tells Annija.

Thank you for reading this letter and for being our friend! I wish that you will keep that kind warmth of your heart and love for the world! Happy New Year 2024!

With warmest regards and best wishes from Latvia,

Sandra Braunere

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