30 April:

Since I saw ‘Harry Potter’ film for the first time I have wanted to join that magical world. Nothing has changed since that day and despite the fact I’m twenty now the magical world of witchcraft is still deep in my heart. But now my dreams are about to come true and I’m going to visit the Warner Bros Studio Tour London.

I have planned this travel with my friends Tom and Mary for several months. We booked our airline tickets and the hotel room, made a detailed plan for every day of our visit in London. Everything was planned but what if something went wrong? Like before every trip I felt that I forgot about something and that thought pestered me all the time. We checked everything a million times so I must have forgotten something in my baggage. I have inspected it once more and I found out that my camera was missing! Silly me! Without it I wouldn’t be able to capture in pictures this journey. Fortunately, I found my SLR camera and I managed to go to sleep in peace and quiet and tomorrow… Yes, tomorrow... ☺☺☺ I am flying to London to become a student of Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry and not only that... because tomorrow is Ed Sheeran’s concert in the O2 Arena.

1 May:

Hey! Wake up! It's early but there is no good reason to sleep, not today ;)

I am so excited. Firstly, because for the first time I will be flying by plane. Secondly, I will visit London and finally I will see Ed Sheeran’s concert and what excites me most is that tomorrow I will experience the magical world of Harry Potter!

On the way to the airport I took my friends and their luggage. They looked as excited as I did. Huge beams on their faces. Everybody on cloud nine! I did not even notice when we checked in and boarded the plane. I was a bit nervous, but when the plane took off, all the stress went off. The flight passed very fast and all the way through we were chatting excitedly and laughing so loud that the flight attendant had to calm us down. After spending almost three hours in the air, the plane with us on board has landed at the airport in Heathrow.

My impressions from the first flight? So ...

It’s like in a coach but there were better views :P But seriously, it was a peaceful flight, without any turbulence, exploding engines or falling oxygen mask ;) and now really seriously, I think that I will like flying, these breathtaking views, flying by and above clouds and the awareness how quickly we can move from one place to another one but I must admit that I came to the steady ground with a real joy and relief. After landing we checked in the hotel and left our baggage in the hotel room to be able to see London without unnecessary ballast. In the underground station we bought “Day Travel Cards”. It’s a card which allows you to move around the city quickly. Firstly, we had to arrive at the station “Westminster” which is near the British Parliament building and famous St. Stephen’s Tower with Big Ben. Unfortunately, we couldn’t visit it because the Palace of Westminster was opened for foreigners only on Sundays :( but anyway this building and tower were impressive also from the outside. I thought that this place was overrated and I would see it and say “Oh, cool” and go to next attraction but I was wrong. This Neo-Gothic construction was immense and the clock was absolutely gorgeous. As the midday was coming it was getting more and more crowded because everyone wanted to hear this giant bell. (Seriously? Just turn on the BBC radio station. Yet live sound must be much better).

OK. The first ‘must’ on my list in London can be ticked off! Let’s see the next one – London Eye. This giant, more than 130 meter ferris wheel which is part of London’s panorama at close range is even more impressive. When we stood under it, knowing that in a moment we would be getting on, we were a bit anxious. No, we were petrified or to be precise panic-stricken. Marry resigned immediately, but Tom and I had to pretend that everything was OK. When we stood in the queue I was getting more and more nervous and Mary of course was playing jokes on us but when I got on the passenger capsule I was getting just happier and happier and I didn’t regret taking this risky step. My reward was the breathtaking panorama of London. It’s hard to describe this view; everybody simply must see it with their own eyes. From London Eye almost all the biggest tourist attractions of the city can be seen, among which the Buckingham Palace, British Museum, Royal Opera House and of course the Houses of Parliament and Big Ben. After about half an hour we were back down. Mary, despite the fact she had missed this experience, didn’t seem to be disappointed; perhaps because we were going to Coventry Street to M&M’s World and as we all know she loves these chocolate candies. It is a shop where on four floors besides sweets there are hundreds of gadgets of course with the M&M’s logo and interactive appliances which allow for example to check what colour M&M you are. We checked it: Marry was green, Tom was orange and I was blue ;) There is a room where there are tubes full of candies in miscellaneous colours. That was definitely the sweetest attraction of London and if we didn’t have to come back to the hotel to prepare to Ed Sheeran’s concert, we wouldn’t leave this shop.

The concert took place in The O2 Arena’s impressive construction in the heart of the city. Thousands of people were waiting for the moment when the vocalist would walk on the scene. When he finally showed up on the scene everyone was screaming. I thought that Merry was the loudest. :D Ed started from his latest singles: “Shape of you” and “Castle on the hill” and then he sang such hits as “Photograph” or “Thinking out loud”. Ed Sheeran gave a perfect show, maintained a great contact with the audience and of course amazingly performed all the songs. He has unusual talent and on the stage he is second to none. It was definitely worth coming to London even only for this concert to feel this amazing atmosphere. By the way, I suppose that Ed Sheeran is really a member of the Weasley family “red hair (..) It must be a Weasley” :P

2 May:

It’s today! Today we will see this magic studio where Harry Potter movies were shot. I will enter the Great Hall of Hogwarts, I will see how special effects were made and how the work of make-up artists looked like on the set. This is truly amazing, I can’t wait to see all of these. In the morning we set out to the old aircraft factory where Warner Bros. Studio Tour London is situated now. Everybody knew where we were going because we were dressed in full Hogwarts student’s outfits in the colours of our houses: so Mery wore the yellow Hufflepuff’s robe, Tom the red Gryffindor’s robe and I the blue robe of Ravenclaw. Maybe that was a bit strange that adult people dressed up as we did at that moment but we had a great fun and only that was important for us. The Outside of the building of Warner Bros. Studio Tour London wasn’t very impressive but when we saw what was inside… WOW! WOW! WOW!

Thousands of original props, costumes and accessories from the film series.

We could walk across the Diagon Alley between Ollivanders wand shop, Madam Malkin's Robes for All Occasions clothes shop, Flourish and Blotts bookshop, Weasleys' Wizard Wheezes joke shop or Gringotts Wizarding Bank and they were not the only places which we could see but there were too many of them to list: the headmaster's office, Gryffindor Common Room, Great Hall, Hagrid’s hut, Harry's cupboard under the stairs or even King’s Cross station platform 9 ¾ with Hogwarts Express train. We saw a huge model of Hogwarts castle, a full-sized model of Dobby and Aragog, the silhouettes of characters in their outfits from the film. I was a bit disappointed because these figures were without their faces but still they were impressive.

I my opinion, the best part was the section with the green background where we could see how they made special effects. We could sit on the broomsticks and feel like it is to fly in the clouds. Everything was recorded. We were also able to have a photo taken in Arthur Weaslay’s flying Ford Anglia and it looked like this scene in “Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secret” when Harry and Ron were flying above the Hogwarts Express on the way to school. When we finished touring, we went of course to try some butterbeer and to buy souvenirs in the Studio Shop. I bought a Ravenclaw’s necktie, a scarf and a few pendants.

I could stay forever among attraction hidden in this magic place but we had to come back to the real word. :(