

My Uchideshi Experience

Elis Geymonat



My name is Elis, I am Uruguayan, I have been practicing aikido for less than two years. About 7 months ago, they told me that I had the possibility of traveling to Japan. I remember that moment very vividly, I was so happy I couldn't speak.

As the months went by, I got used to the idea, and the feeling that it was a dream continued to accompany me even in Japan. From an early age I was a big fan of mangas and animes, then Japanese movies and music came to me. Therefore, one of my greatest aspirations was to get to know Japan. I never thought it would be at such a young age.

I doubt there are more privileged ways to get to know Japan than being an uchideshi. Getting to know a culture from everyday life, day to day, is undoubtedly a privilege.

After having lived more than two months in Tokorozawa dojo, after having met so many people and places, after having practiced so much aikido, I can say that I want to know more. My interest in Japan does not stop growing, I want to know more, learn more and practice more Aikido. Because Japan dazzles and exceeds all expectations.

The word happiness is really too small for me right now, and the word thank you too. I can't find the right words to express my feelings.

I can only thank Aikido Kobayashi Dojo for this opportunity. To Soshihan, Hiroaki sensei, Barbara sensei, Masuda sensei and other sensei, thank you very much for your teachings.

I thank my fellow interns for everything I experienced. I hope that the paths of life bring me to this place once again.

