

Erasmus Free Report, Luke Schafer

Preparation (planning, organization, and application with the host university)

I worked hard in the preparation period. This included reviewing the course programs for the host universities and getting in touch with other students who had followed the same mobility path to gain an insight into their experiences. This included everything from; which courses are good, which are bad, best ways to find housing, best places to visit, cheap places to eat and anything else that might make my transition easier.

Lodging

I was living in private accommodation. This was the hardest part of the transition. Copenhagen housing is difficult. I was reasonably lucky and found a place within 4 weeks of moving to Copenhagen. I have moved once since I arrived to a nice flat which I share with other students.

Studies at the host university

My studies at the home university went very well. I enjoyed all of my courses and the teaching standard at my host university was very high. I feel my education was more diverse for the experience, especially being exposed to new ways of thinking and different teaching styles.

Daily life and free time

My daily life routines have changed greatly since my arrival. At first I spent a large amount of time within the international community doing things like big dinner parties, beach days, study days in cafes and discovering the cities night life. I have since found work in the city in a restaurant with only Danish people and I find myself feeling a little more integrated into the city and country.

Summary (best and worst experience)

My worst experience of my Erasmus would be the period of moving from my home to my host university without accommodation. Of course I managed and tried to remain calm in this phase, but it was very competitive and stressful.

My best experience of my Erasmus stay – there is no one thing, I have so many new friends, new opportunities, new languages and a nicely rounded education. It is a combination of all my good experiences that have made my Erasmus stay fantastic.