



ERASMUS-EXPERIENCE REPORT

Name: Anonymous

Field of study: Environmental Sciences

Host University: University of Copenhagen

Year of study: 2021/22

Duration of stay: from 30.08.2021 to 15.08.2022

Publication of the report

I consent to the publication of this experience report including the above data (field of study, host university, year of study, duration of stay) on the website of BOKU-International Relations for the purpose of sharing information related to the study visit, so that future interested outgoings can inform themselves about your experience at the host institution.

yes **no**

The consent is voluntary and can be withdrawn at any time without giving reasons with immediate future effect. Any withdrawal can be declared at any time by e-mail to erasmus@boku.ac.at.

THE FOLLOWING ASPECTS WOULD BE INTERESTING FOR FUTURE OUTGOINGS:

City, country and people

Copenhagen is a very lively city with lots of cultural and event offers, nice cafés and bars (beer bars especially), but it is probably most famous for its excellent cycling infrastructure, so be sure to be fond of cycling when coming here. If not, you will become a fan after having experienced the cycling culture there. The Danish are very polite and considerate people, however I have more so made connection with international students and expats living in Copenhagen. The city is very international, which makes it easy to find your way. It is no problem getting by with conversational English, however it does not harm to learn a bit of Danish as well – a language I found very fun to learn.

Accommodation

The housing market is very competitive in Copenhagen and therefore quite expensive as well. I have experienced the minimum rent for a small room in a student dorm or shared flat to be €550/month (and it goes way up from there, especially for central locations). There are cheaper places for students but only when applying for them a year or even years in advance. However, when finding accommodation, the standard of living is usually very high, so you at least get good quality for your money.

Costs and expenses

Apart from rent, costs for food and drinks are significantly higher than in Austria, especially when going out to bars and restaurants, however I have found ways to get by with an Erasmus student budget through cooking a lot (supermarket prices are quite okay) and I have found dumpster-diving to be a great way to save money as well as reducing food waste. Also, there are quite a few student bars and events organized by the university that are very affordable. Also, cash is pretty much alien to Danes: I recommend getting a debit card (Wise, Revolut) where you can switch between currencies, since getting a Danish bank account is not worth the effort when staying only a short time.

There are household and legal cost insurance offers in Denmark for students that are free (e.g. IDA), which do make a lot of sense to sign up for, especially when cycling a lot and living in shared flats.

Arrival and departure

I have traveled several times between Vienna and Copenhagen by mostly train and sometimes taking partly the Flixbus. Even though it takes about 15 hours, there are very good connections (via Hamburg) with only two transfers. I recommend an Interrail ticket for only €185, with which you can cover a two-way trip with the flexibility to get on any train that works timewise.

Description of host university

The University of Copenhagen, short KU, is quite large with quite a few different campi scattered throughout the city and all the studying space you would ever need and more. I loved switching from one location to the other for some change of space and mind, especially when struggling with writing my master thesis. The space and modern, new buildings that the university offers are one of the highlights I experienced when studying



there. Also, the Danish like to have parties, so you won't be bored. One of the highlights is the KU festival taking place every spring.

Course offer and attended courses, study workload and grading

I really enjoyed the courses at KU since they were mostly very well-organized and due to most courses accounting for 7.5 ECTS or even 15 ECTS and the study semester subdivided into two 'blocks' you'll be able to concentrate on only one or two courses at the same time, which makes the workload very manageable and learning a lot more effective than what I was used to at BOKU. Also, the professors I had were very helpful and interested in teaching and very fair in grading (of course there's always exceptions too, so it makes sense to ask other students about their experience before enrolling to specific courses).

To sum up, I can really recommend studying in Copenhagen, it is a great experience in the academic sense as well as the lifestyle there.