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Erfahrungsbericht Auslandsstudium

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 Ja Nein
- 2) **Darf auf Anfrage eines interessierten Viadrina-Studierenden Ihr Erfahrungsbericht samt Ihrer Kontaktdaten an diese/n weitergeben werden?**
 Ja Nein
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Es würde uns freuen, wenn Sie auf folgende Punkte eingehen (der Bericht sollte mindestens 2 Seiten haben, für die maximale Anzahl an Seiten gibt es keine Begrenzung):

- **Vorbereitung** (Empfehlungen zur Planung, was ist zu beachten z.B. ggf. für Visa, Versicherung, Anreisemöglichkeiten? Wie sah die Bewerbung an der Gasthochschule aus? Gab es Einführungsveranstaltungen an der Gastuni? Waren diese verpflichtend und zu welchem Datum fanden Sie statt? Gab es ein Tutoren/Buddy-Angebot?)
- **Unterkunft** (Wie haben Sie eine Unterkunft gefunden? Haben Sie Tipps dazu, z.B. was vermieden werden sollte? Gab es Studierendenwohnheime? Mietkosten? Welche Wohngegend würden Sie empfehlen?)
- **Studium an der Gasthochschule** (Wie sah der Uni-Alltag aus? Anwesenheitspflicht? Welche Kurse haben Sie belegt? Durften Sie Kurse verschiedener Fakultäten wählen? Link zu den Kurslisten der Partneruni. Wie laufen die Prüfungen ab? Wurden Sprachkurse angeboten? Wie fanden Sie die Uni allgemein und das Betreuungsangebot für Austauschstudierende?)
- **Alltag und Freizeit** (Wie hoch sind die Lebenshaltungskosten insgesamt, bzw. wie viel Geld sollte monatlich zur Verfügung stehen? Kosten und Tipps bzgl. der öffentlichen Verkehrsmittel? Freizeit- Sportangebote?)
- **Fazit** (schlechteste und beste Erfahrung)
- **Verbesserungsvorschläge/Feedback** (Wie können wir, Ihrer Meinung nach, unsere Austauschprogramme verbessern, z.B. bezgl. der Beratung, gewährter Informationen, des Bewerbungsverfahrens an der Viadrina?) – Dieser Abschnitt soll der Abteilung für Internationale Angelegenheiten der Viadrina als Feedback dienen und wird nicht veröffentlicht.

Before you go to Italy you should remember about health insurance card (make it valid in Italy and also other countries around, because you are going to probably travel around Italy). Packing all your stuff you need is obvious. You need also to be able to pay out your money in Italy as well, so going to the bank would be good, because I was paying 5€ fee for every time I was withdrawing my money. It happened only a few times, but you can probably avoid it. And you should also withdraw your money in case you don't want to pay online for accommodation. You should check how to get there as well, I used Flixbus because it was the best way for me to travel there from Nuremberg. In Trento there is no airport, so you can fly only to cities around, like Milano, Bergamo, Venice or Treviso and then take a train to Trento, which is also cheap (it depends, because Regionale are cheap and Frecciarossa are faster and also more expensive). Food in Italy is delicious and I always considered it this way and I don't know any person who didn't liked it, so you don't need to worry about it. You should also take something regional from your hometown/country because when you meet people you can show them something typical for your place. In my case it was vodka and sweets, I'm from Poland. Moving to a new environment, away from everything familiar is not easy and suddenly, you start missing the most ridiculous things.

A few weeks before going to Italy I've got an e-mail from ESN Trento saying I can get a buddy/tutor which will show me Trento at my arrival, so I got a buddy before I went there. So you can contact ESN before you go there, in case they will not send you e-mail like this. As I arrived in Trento my buddy was waiting for me, she showed me the city, where the University and my Department is, accompanied to the accommodation and helped me to get to my room. I was living in San Bartolameo (which I will call SanBa). It was a nice single room (310€) with a toilet and balcony only for me. I had also a blanket, two towels, and pillow and sheets waiting for me (you could change sheets and towels every 10 days). There were about 25 people on my floor and we shared the kitchen. We had also common room on our floor, where you have Wi-Fi (there was Wi-Fi in the whole accommodation actually). You can also do laundry in SanBa, it costs about 2€. SanBa is owned by Opera Universitaria and they own a few student apartments in the city, I visited them, but I have to say - for me SanBa was a better option. You could arrive to SanBa with bus (number 8 and 3) and go up to the hill, or take a train from main railway station and after get off on a 2 station. Opera Universitaria also offers you a free bike rental, so you can take bike lock with you and apply for the bike right after arrival, to get it really quickly and just use the bike not the buses. I went to Trento in spring term so I preferred taking my bike than a bus, which was crowded and it was hot in there. From SanBa to the centre there is a nice bike way.

The very next day after my arrival there was a welcome meeting at the university and I was informed about every university thing and enrolled myself to Italian course. ESN Trento organized for Erasmus student's integration week, it was a nice opportunity to meet some people. They organized a lot of small one-day trips during the whole semester, and a lot of parties so you could meet and know some people. Finding a sense of belonging in a group of people that actually listens and makes you feel like your voice is being heard is a rare thing. Upon moving to Trento I was not really worried, but I was leaving a place where I had found a community of people, like you all do probably by going to Erasmus. But don't worry, Erasmus people won't disappoint you, and you will get to know awesome, smart people.

Attending the classes at the university was not compulsory, so you didn't had to go there. I went to classes because I liked them, I took "Effective managerial decision making", "Financial markets and economic activity" and "Strategy and innovation management" classes, I was also attending the language course. I received an Excel file with all the courses I can attend. You could take master courses in English or bachelor courses in Italian if you know the language enough – I didn't.

When it comes to living costs, I think for food I was paying about 300€/month. There are several places you can buy food, starting with Eurospin – cheapest one, Poli – I was buying there and would recommend doing a DupliCard for more discounts, Coop – would recommend as well and Eurospar/Despar/Eurospesa – also would recommend. Alcohol costs - it depends on you how much you buy it, a nice aperitivo was 2.50 € and we were usually drinking it with friends, but also a bottle of good wine was 3-10€. Aperitivo is tradition which involves a social pre-dinner snack with alcohol (usually Aperol, Spritz, etc.). Dinner is also something I should describe, because it looks probably different than you are used to, it's a cultural thing in Italy. It is the beauty of sharing a meal with other people. For them, dinner is not something to be scarfed down 20 minutes before rushing off to another place. It is meant to be enjoyed, tasted and sampled from the seat of a table between friends and families who share a mutual love for pasta and laughs, along with an appreciation for hearing about the mundane happenings of each other's day etc. In other words, meal time allows people to experience the kind of community most of us crave, a place we look forward to going each and every day as it provides a sense of belonging. Eating a decent gelato was also possible in Trento, I would recommend "La Gelateria" with about 20 tastes and also some without lactose for people with this intolerance.

Traveling across the continent, eating all the fine things Italy has to offer was one of the best experiences for me. It is a beautiful country with so much history and impossible to replace climate. You could visit a lake nearby for only 8€ and the views – water, mountains and sky – were just breathtaking. Especially in February is time of the carnival in Venice, so you can go to Venice for 12€ and experience by yourself. Travel possibilities are everywhere and it only depends on you if you are going to use them. In Italy you can visit a lot of worldwide known places like Milan, Venice, Roma, and Napoli, Sicily. My Erasmus friends even started writing blogs and described all of traveling experiences, because they had so many things to say about it. I used blogs of people who previously travelled through Italy to find some travelling or living tips, there are many of them.

I didn't really had bad experiences in Italy, so I don't really have dramatic stories, only the good ones, and only those are waiting for you in Trentino.