

Land: Norwegen

Ausländische Universität: Universitetet Norge

Vorlesungsbeginn und Prüfungsende im Ausland: 01/08/2016 bis 31/12/2016

Studiengang an der Viadrina: BA Kulturwissenschaften

## Erfahrungsbericht Auslandsstudium

- 1) **Darf der Bericht anonymisiert, also ohne Ihren Namen und E-Mail, auf der Webseite der Viadrina veröffentlicht werden?**

Ja  Nein

- 2) **Darf auf Anfrage eines interessierten Viadrina-Studierenden Ihr Erfahrungsbericht samt Ihrer Kontaktdaten an diese/n weitergegeben werden?**

Ja  Nein

- 3) **Bitte bestätigen Sie, dass Sie im Erfahrungsbericht nicht direkt die Namen dritter Personen (Dozierende/-r, Vermietende/-r) aufführen.**

Ja  Nein - in diesem Fall wird Ihr Bericht nicht veröffentlicht.

- 4) **Bitte bestätigen Sie, dass die im Bericht verwendeten Fotos von Ihnen selbst und nicht von Dritten sind. Mit der Zusendung geben Sie der Europa-Universität Viadrina die Nutzungsrechte an den Fotos für die evtl. Veröffentlichung des Berichtes auf unserer Webseite. Die Urheberrechte bleiben bei Ihnen.**

Ja  Nein, ich habe keine (eigenen) Fotos verwendet.

**Preparation** Bevor starting the adventure the right preparations have to be made. Be aware that there is no bad weather, only bad cloths. Be prepared for sun, rain, snow, wind and fog, sometimes in this order in less than 12 hours. Be sure to have hiking boots, warm and water proof clothes, a sleeping bag and a lot of cloths to layer.

**University** Be aware that the semester at the Universitetet i Bergen could start earlier or later than the semester at your home university. If you have papers to finish or exams to take, make sure to talk to your professors in advance and explain the situation. At the Universitetet i Bergen there is an introduction week, one week before the regular schedule starts. You will be able to participate in games, get to meet people and walk around the city. It is organized by regular students of the university and they will be glad to show you around, tell you interesting facts about the city and the Norwegians, give you some hints for good bars and recommendations for hikes and trips. You will have to deal with a lot of paperwork as well, which will consume a big part of your first two days. Nevertheless, you will be able

to manage it, there will be a lot of competent people put up to help you. You should have chosen some of your courses before arriving. There might be some changes in the schedule and you might have to rearrange. For the classes at the university you have to buy your books, so plan a budget for that. In any case, try to take the Norwegian language course, it is worth it! For German students there is a separate course, because of the great similarity of the Norwegian and German language. The university campus is not very big or difficult to find and the buildings are all nearby. The food in the cafeteria is not very tasty and expensive. Do not fall for the SiB- cup, it is not worth its money!

**Accommodation** The changes are high that you are going to stay at Fantoft. It is outside of the city Centre and you have to take the Bybanen (20 minutes). It is very easy to book a room online in advance and for Norwegian standards it is quite inexpensive. You have a lot of options. You can get a room with private bathroom but a shared kitchen, which you have to share with 7 or 8 other people, a room in a 2-person flat with a shared kitchen and bathroom or a family or couple apartment. The benefit of option one is that you don't have to buy any kitchen supply, you get to know people faster because of the shared kitchen and you can have your own bathroom. The down side of this is that the kitchen might not be clean and you have to deal with other peoples' mess. In the 2-person flat you have more privacy but you have to buy everything from scratch. When you arrive you will not even have a glass to drink water from. There will be busses from Fantoft directly to IKEA and back. For one or two semesters Fantoft is a nice place to be and I grew to love it.

**Hikes and Travel** Ulriken, Floyen, Lyderhorn, Rundemanen are only a few mountains around Bergen you can go hiking on. All of them are great but my all-time favorite is Stoltzekleiven, the mountain with the 800 steps which you can reach also from Floyen. Stavanger, Kjerag and Farsund are very popular destinations for a short trip and a beautiful hike. For destinations outside of Norway there are always inexpensive tickets to book online and with a little bit of luck the accommodations are affordable as well.

**Daily life, free time and People** Unfortunately the upkeep is quite expensive and it is better to buy in big amounts and storage and prepare food at home. Splitting the bills with a flat mate is minimizing total costs as well. Do not ever forget your bybanen ticket at home or do not try to travel without one, the fee you have to pay is too high to risk it. If you are not hiking, traveling or partying, try to volunteer for a writing or an editor job at the paper "ATRIUM" or take part in the planning of events at "Akvariet". The Norwegian people are very kind and ready to help in any situation, but they will not open up easily. In contrast, it is very easy to get to know allot of people from different parts of the world and have a bright cultural journey in this little city.

**Good to know!** Respect peoples' private space. Do eat tacos on Friday! If you want to go out and do some activities visit Ut.no or visitBERGEN.com to get directions and ideas. Visit the museums of the city, you can find so much out about Norway and the history and lifestyle of the people! Alcohol is VERY expensive, so take part in the "vorspil" and "nachspil", where you meet with others to drink before going to a bar and after leaving it. In this case bring your own liquor, which you buy at "VINMONOPOLET". If you want to buy stuff for your flat, try the Facebook group "fantoft market" and the garage sale at the beginning of the semester. Do not change your money at the money exchange shops, prefer to use your VISA card. If you are new in Bergen and you have trouble finding company don't worry, try the Facebook group "new friends Bergen". Moreover, use Facebook events to be up to date and visit the "Fantoft Klubb" for fun parties and socializing activities!