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Erfahrungsbericht Auslandsstudium

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[x] Ja [] Nein
- 2) **Darf auf Anfrage eines interessierten Viadrina-Studierenden Ihr Erfahrungsbericht samt Ihrer Kontaktdaten an diese/n weitergegeben werden?**
[x] Ja [] Nein
- 3) **Bitte bestätigen Sie, dass Sie im Erfahrungsbericht nicht direkt die Namen dritter Personen (Dozierende/-r, Vermietende/-r) aufführen.**
[x] Ja [] Nein - in diesem Fall wird Ihr Bericht nicht veröffentlicht.
- 4) **Bitte beachten Sie, dass Sie nur Fotos verwenden dürfen, die Sie selber gemacht haben und nicht aus Drittquellen stammen (aus dem Internet etc.). 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.**
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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.

Preparation

I am an EU citizen; therefore, I did not need a visa. Regarding insurance, I have the EU insurance card, and additionally, I had insurance on my ISIC student card for this specific year, which costs around 20-25 Euro. The School of Business (University of Ljubljana) offers a lot of courses in English, therefore, there was no problem with choosing classes. The coordinator of the incoming student is very nice and the communication with her is very easy. I did not participate in the welcome week. However, I think it was not necessary.

A private ESN organization (ESN YOLO) offered buddy system, but I have never met my busy, she only cared about inviting me to the parties organized by this private organization.

Accommodation

There are dormitories, where there are shared rooms (doubles) and shared bathrooms (more rooms), which are around 180-200 Euro per month. There is not enough of them. At least half of the students have to find private accommodation. There are multiple Facebook groups, where they share flats and available rooms. Because there are many scams, some of my friends paid in advance for their room 500-1000 Euro and there was no room waiting for them. I recommend living in a hostel (e.g. Tresor – student hostel) for a couple of days and finding a room or getting recommendations from your friends. Another option is contacting people from Airbnb which I did, and I got a special offer for living in a hotel. I lived there with my friend (also Viadrina student). We paid together around 560Euro a month. The room was very nice, small. It had two beds, one desk, one chair, and one small wardrobe. The place is called Royal Rooms. There is a small kitchen with a toaster, teapot, microwave oven and also fridge. When we were there was no electronic plate for cooking, so we bought one for around 20 Euro. There is a good heating and air conditioning. Normally, single rooms are around 300-400 Euro with the costs depending on the location (best: center, far: Siska, close to economic faculty: Bezigrad, close to sports center with free activities: Rozna Dolina), furnishing, ...

University

I only had one subject, because I was writing my Master's thesis at that time: Marketing on regional markets. This class was intensive (for two months). We had to do some group projects (groups 4-6 students) and some individual assignments. To compare it with classes at Viadrina, more time is necessary to invest. Also, classes are more practical, and not much theoretical knowledge is needed on the exam, however much creativity put into practice and team spirit are required. Moreover, I have taken Italian for business, which I recommend. It was a friendly class where I improved my skills. They offer German for business and French for business too.

Everyday life

As I already said, there are two ESN organizations. They both organize trips, parties, and city tours. Everything is paid. YOLO is more expensive. More trips and parties are at the beginning of the semester.

University offers free classes of Pilates, yoga, gym, badminton, volleyball, and table tennis, etc. after signing in. It is necessary to sign in every day for the activity for that day. There are also places to play beach volleyball and table tennis around Ljubljana.

There is public transport, which I did not use at all, however, the cost per month is around 20 Euro or 1.20 Euro for a ride. You need to buy an Urbana card in advance for 3 Euro. I used Ljubljana city bikes. They cost 3 Euro for a year or 1 Euro for a week (option if somebody comes to visit you). They can be used freely every day for an hour at once, which means you open the bike, your ride it and you return it before 60 minutes pass, then you can open another bike with your application. Therefore, you can ride unlimited time, but if you exceed one hour without returning the bike you pay 1 Euro more for the first hour, 2 Euro for the second hour etc. Some people also buy their bikes there, starting at 40 Euro (but it is harder to sell them at the end of Erasmus).

The places I would recommend in Ljubljana are Tivoli Park, all museums every first Sunday for free, Metelkova street with 10 clubs, a small botanical garden for free, Ljubljana castle for sunset, and Kinodvor Café.



Every student gets also Boni coupons for meals. The State pays 2.89 Euro for each student meal. The number of Boni equals the working days in a month. Every month the Boni app refills. I recommend trying as many restaurants as possible with Bonis (restaurants are in the app Studentska prehrana). The meals depend on the price, sometimes student pays 0 Euro, just uses Boni, then they get a slice of pizza or a sandwich. For 2 Euro with Boni you can get already two slices of pizza and a water bottle or doner and soup. The most expensive meals are around 4.20. They are the best ones, you can eat Chinese, Indian, Italian dishes, salads and soups. My favorite restaurants are Fresco, Da bu da, Hisa pod Gradom and Dobrote vzhoda. Opening times of the restaurants are in the app. In Menza the meal is about 3 Euro with moni, however, there are other restaurants and bar around the faculty as well. Most of them are in the center.

Conclusion

The best are the trips which can be done from Ljubljana with ESN or by flixbus with friends (renting a car is also possible). I have visited Serbia, Bosna and Herzegovina, Croatia, Switzerland, Italy, and Austria. Within Slovenia, it is amazing to go to the mountains and visit lakes Bohinj and Bled and the seaside. What I did not like about Ljubljana is it's clubs. They are all small, just one dancefloor. Parties organized by ESN Yolo were full, queues were for two hours and there was no place to dance. Metelkova is great for chilling outside. Some clubs are okay for a bit, but not for the whole night. Overall, Ljubljana is student-friendly and also English-friendly.