

THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW BEFORE GOING ON EXCHANGE TO...

QUERETARO, MEXICO	1
LONDON, UNITED KINGDOM.....	5
SEOUL, SOUTH KOREA.....	7
AVEIRO, PORTUGAL	10
GRANADA, SPAIN	12
PADOVA, ITALY	14
ATHENS, GRECCE	19
ODENSE , DENMARK.....	22
BRNO, CZECH REPUBLIC (1)	25
BRNO, CZECH REPUBLIC (2_.....	27
PRAGUE, CZECH REPUBLIC	31
TALLIN, ESTONIA	33

QUERETARO, MEXICO

ACADEMIC PART

Differences between KTU and Tecnologico de Monterrey's educational systems

KTU	Tecnologico de Monterrey
European ECTS credits	1 mexican credit = 1,67 ECTS

Semester is not divided, the same classes are throughout the whole semester	Semester is divided into 3 cycles; in every cycle you might have different classes (it means that courses might be more concentrated but last less time)
Moodle	Canvas
There are re-takes	There are no re-takes
Passing grade is 50 %	Passing grade is 70 % (but Don't worry, it is really not that hard to get those 70 %)
Most of the classes involve individual work	Most of the classes involve group work

ACCOMMODATION

Options for living:

- Tec residences
- Expensive option (420-600 euros) super modern building
- There are floors girls/boys/mixed floors
- Free drinkable water 24/7 inside campus
- There are a lot of rules

<https://tec.mx/es/vida-en-campus/residencias-tec> <https://tec.mx/es/queretaro-residencias-i>

Living with Mexican family:

- Affordable option (300
- Euros)
- Food is included
- Opportunity to learn spanish
- Most of the time - pretty far away from campus

Renting a room:

- Cheapest option (200 - 400 euros) there are a lot of scams
- Kali homes is quite a good option (a lot of other tec students live there)
- There are some options in private facebook groups

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/487833417915346>

TRANSPORTATION

Transportation inside Queretaro

QRO BUS - Public busses of Queretaro, price - around 0,5 euros (10 pesos) per ride, for traveling with QRO busses, you need to buy bus card (in "superq" shop and put some money in it). Public transportation overall is quite chaotic in Mexico, so you always need to check if you're going to the right place.

DIDI, Moovit - Apps to find needed busses' routes

Uber - Safest, fastest, most expensive option to move in city Transportation between cities
Primera plus/ADO busses are really safe, modern, but super expensive. There are no discounts for students.

Blablacars are like taxis for longer distances, most of the time almost twice cheaper than primera plus/ado busses. With this option random people book a trip through website and then you travel with them from a to b. Only cash!!! However, its not always reliable because drivers often do not show up/answer to messages/cancel your trip.

Flying to different cities in Mexico can be cheaper and faster than taking busses. Trains are not an option in Mexico.

Consider that Mexico is super big country, it is not that easy to travel from a to b as in Europe.

TRIP FROM LITHUANIA TO MEXICO

You don't need visa to go for exchange to Mexico.

You will have FMM form/stamp into passport with 180 days of legal stay in Mexico.

Think 3 times if you need all the stuff that you think you will need for exchange because at least I didn't use 1/3 of my warm clothes here in Mexico.

Investigate a lot if you're traveling through the USA. In case of buying tickets from different airlines there might be difficulties entering the USA (ESTA visa lets to be in USA only for 90 days + you have to have your return ticket!)

Better come with some free space in your luggage because after your exchange there definitely will be more stuff to bring back home.

Its mostly likely that you will fly to Benito Juarez airport in Mexico city. If it's the case, you can take directly Primera plus bus from airport to Queretaro or go with metro to the main bus station and then do the same (it will be maybe 10 euros cheaper).

SHOPS AND STREET FOOD

- Groceries in Mexico overall are not that cheap
- Prices are not always shown in supermarkets and you may be scammed. That is why it is useful to know how to ask cashier for the prices.
- Soriana is least expensive but also least quality/options of things to buy. Walmart and Chedraui are better options.
- Shopping centers that have "Selecto" in its name are the best quality ones
- Be prepared that most of shopping centres are really huge
- Oxxo is the most popular shop in Mexico. It is very similar to gas station shop - kind of small, full of fast food and sometimes some normal groceries.
- Mexico is famous for its street food and from my experience its quite safe to eat most of the street food. I hadn't had any problems with my stomach.
- Always ask if its spicy or not. And even though Mexicans say its not spicy, it probably is :))
- Besides everything, it is really worth trying it because it taste awesome and its really cheap (1 taco is around 0,7 euro).

CULTURAL SHOCKS

- It is common for people to greet each other with a kiss on a cheek
- Mexicans are super friendly and welcoming people! Don't be scared to interact with them and you will be invited to a house party in 5 minutes!
- Queretaro weather is super dry, so don't forget to bring lip balm and sun screen
- Also, don't forget to drink a lot of electrolites to recover your minerals in body
- Cockroaches that live in Mexico - can fly!!!!
- It is common to leave 10 % tip

WHERE TO TRAVEL

- There is student/tourism group called “Life Queretaro” which organises a lot of trips, parties and socialising evenings
- Pueblos Mágicos De México - are magical towns in Mexico that have something unique and special. The list has over 130 places that are worth visiting!
<https://www.gob.mx/sectur/articulos/pueblos-magicos-206528>
- “AMI” student group = “ESN” version of student group that organises events for international people
- Chichen itza and some more very famous objects in Mexico are free for students with TEC student card
- Places to visit near Queretaro: San Miguel De allende, Pena De Bernal, Guanajuato, Reserva De la Biosfera Sierra Gorda
- Yucatan, Quintana Roo, Baja California states’ nature and beaches are just incredible!
- Oaxaca’s culture was the inspiration for the “coco” movie!

LONDON, UNITED KINGDOM

ACCOMMODATION

Q: Is it expensive to live in London?

A: London is one of the most expensive cities in the world, and life in this city may seem expensive for all visitors. However, for those who go there for a long term, there's always a way to find affordable accommodation.

Q: Where would you recommend me to stay?

A: There are several options, if you are going on to Erasmus+ studies (exchange), then first find out if the university provides students with residence halls (dormitories), a room in one of those will likely cost you more than if you find something yourself. In that case, I would highly recommend using such websites as Airbnb.com (provides both short-term and long-term accommodation). Spareroom.co.uk (long-term contracts, perfect for those who go for a traineeship) Accommodationforstudents.com/London

Q: Are bills included in the total cost of accommodation?

A: Not every time. Normally, it is written next to the title of a room if bills are included, please pay attention to this, as in the UK bills include electricity, water, gas and internet (wi-fi).

Q: If I go for one of those ads, and I'm asked to transfer money for a deposit, what should I do?

A: No, never transfer money, if you're asked to do so straightaway after your application. Make sure there are good reviews for the owner/land- lord, ask them first to show you a room on a video call, and ask them all questions you have in your mind. When finalising details, make sure you asked for the real form of ID (passport or driving license) of the owner and a copy of a tenancy agreement. Before hanging over money, read the tips from spareroom.co.uk, and never transfer money if you feel pressure from the owner or any type of uncertainty.

<https://www.spareroom.co.uk/content/info-tenants/safety-tips-for-room-seekers/>

TRANSPORT

Q: Should I drive to London from my country?

A: I wouldn't recommend you to do so, because in the UK the traffic is different, and don't forget that it is left-hand driving, speed in miles, etc. Apart from these, there are taxes for driving in London called congestion charges, if your car is subject to that, you may be charged a lot for it (even if your car is non-UK registered).

Q: Is public transport available everywhere?

A: Yes, public transport is available everywhere across London. It is convenient, low emission, and comfortable.

Q: How do I pay whilst being on the public transport?

A: There are three options to pay: contactless (touch in and out whilst on a train or just touch in when on a bus/tram), buy a single ticket from the ticket machine (will cost you much more). Or get an Oyster card that will allow you to top up and use public transport.

Q: Is an Oyster card cheaper than a contactless one?

A: No, wherever you decide to pay with contactless or oyster, the fare will be the same. However, the physical Oyster card will cost you £7.

Q: Are there any discounts for using public transport if I am a student?

A: Yes, if you're a student aged 16-25, you can get a Railcard. Railcard costs £30, but it will save you 1/3 off your train fare (tube, DLR, national rail) when using during off-peak times. It is not valid on buses though. Using your railcard, you will save a lot even if you're staying just for one semester. Once you get it, you will need to link your railcard to your Oyster card to get discounts on the tube straightaway. For assistance, ask a member of staff at any tube station. Full information about Railcards is below.

<https://www.thetrainline.com/trains/great-britain/railcards>

Q: A Peak time, what is it?

A: Monday to Friday 6.30 AM to 9.30 AM and 4 PM to 7 PM (except Bank holidays). During the peak time, the fares will be higher and you won't be able to use your Railcard.

SUPERMARKETS

Q: What supermarkets are there in the UK?

A: 7 different stores that can be found across the UK: Tesco, Asda, Sainsbury's, Lidl, Aldi, Waitrose, and M&S.

Q: What supermarket is the cheapest?

A: Aldi and Lidl would be the cheapest supermarkets to shop in. However, other supermarkets would not be that expensive, and they offer a wide variety of stuff.

Q: Are there any offers in the supermarket?

A: In most supermarkets, apart from Lidl and Aldi ones, there is a MEAL DEAL offer which includes a main (could be a sandwich, pasta or a salad), snack (crisps, fruits, and sweets) and a drink (any type of non-alcoholic drink). Meal deal prices vary from £3 to £6. This saves you money and time.

Q: Should I get a discount card for supermarkets?

A: Yes, where possible. In most supermarkets, you just need to download an app, sign up for free and use your mobile card to get a discount. I would recommend getting a Clubcard at Tesco, as it will save you money including for the meal deal. If you shop at Lidl, get a Lidl Plus, which will allow you to get and redeem coupons and get a free bakery item or £2 off your receipt when you spend £50 and £100 a month respectively.

SEOUL, SOUTH KOREA

University & Courses

Why Study in Seoul Over Suburbs:

- Seoul is the capital of Korea and almost 50% of the population lives there.
- Connection: it's easy and fast to go around using convenient metros, buses or trains. Plus, major airports for student trips.

• Entertainment: active nightlife, variety of historical palaces, restaurants, cafes, concerts, stadiums and amazing parks around the city.

All-in-One Campus:

- Hanyang University has a vibrant campus with everything in one place. From each faculty building to a stadium, courts, a park, and even its own hospital!
- Explore sports clubs, music groups, art societies, and even maker space. However, registration deadlines can be strict, so participate in introduction days and secure your spot within 2 weeks!

High-Level Studies:

- Korean high schools and gymnasiums provide a strong foundation, so expect a higher level of difficulty, faster pace and more knowledge.
- Hanyang uses a letter grading system (A-F) that heavily factors in attendance. Make sure to show up for class on time!

Korean and English:

- Check if the course is in English. If you know Korean- you have an advantage.

Class Structure:

- Lectures last for 1.5 hours and typically occur twice a week. Daily lectures run from 9 am to 6 pm. Keep in mind that 1 Korean credit translates to 2 ECTS credits. FYI: 1 Korean credit = 2 ECTS credits (in class for 3 hours a week).
- Busy schedules: professors are highly qualified but might be busy with research. Don't expect extensive support or available teaching assistants.

Semester Dates:

- Autumn: semester starts on September 1, but exams are finished by December 25. Then 2 months later...
- Spring: semester starts on March 1, but exams are finished by June 30. So you have 2 months in between each semester - use it wisely!

Landing in Seoul

Documents:

- Visa: you need to get a Korea Visa before you go, and it's easy to get it!
- SIM card: when you're in the country, you must get a phone number for various registrations, mobile internet and apps.
- ARC: in the country I recommend getting your Alien Registration Number with other students together, otherwise you'll spend a lot of time researching yourself.

Finding Your Home:

- Dormitory: be sure, if your university provides dormitories. Hanyang doesn't! They give only suggestions to look for rooms, houses or Airbnbs.
- If you're lucky: book a dorm! Keep in mind, sometimes there's no kitchen. So you'll have to eat out most of the time or make ramen which is very good.

- Goshiwons: are a really good option to stay with friends in the house, so you have a kitchen and more space.

- Be early: every person is struggling to find a room in Seoul. Start looking for housing 6 months before you come, otherwise you'll end up paying ~800 Eur for a room or you'll live far far away from the city center or campus!

Flying In:

- To go to Korea by plane takes about 10 hours and because of that I suggest comfortable planes like Turkish Airlines (discount for students).

- Flights from Vilnius to Istanbul and directly to Seoul. (1 hour transfer is enough)

Getting Around:

- Seoul: for daily transportation by metro, bus or train you need to get a T-money public transportation card. You can charge it at most convenience stores or subway stations. Casual ticket is ~1 200 Won (~1 Eur).

- Country: to visit other cities you choose mostly by train or bus but tickets are sold online. Plane is also an option, especially to Jeju Island or further destinations. (Korea is a small country)

Living Like a Local in Seoul

Groceries & Eating Out:

- Emart: main supermarket for everything you need. Vegetables and fruits in Korea are very expensive.

- GS25, 7-Eleven, CU: small stores for main groceries which usually work 24/7 and are located literally everywhere!

- Food districts: usually you'll find areas full of different restaurants or franchise companies. Take-out "Hansot" is very popular for its variety and price!

- No tip: in Korea it is disrespectful to leave a tip and a waiter is a high quality, respectful job (not a student job)!

Campus Life:

- GYM: there's free indoor gym for everyone, also a big stadium in the center of the campus.

- Library: check out the huge library with studying rooms. I liked Hanyang Plaza more for its cozy atmosphere.

- Cafeterias: Hanyang Plaza 3F and one with a very good view in the Student Union Building. Prices are good, portions are big and a good way to try traditional food!

- International Lounge: good place to study in late hours or meet friends.

- Events: you'll find some events going on on random days, so always come in and participate, try new food, win a lottery or just walk around.

Keep Fit:

- Han river: explore basket, tennis, soccer and other opportunities around Han river parks.

- Volleyball: you can join open gym at SUS volley, Astro High and others.

- Bouldering: spend some free time while bouldering! I find it very fun to chill and do sports with friends.

- Running or cycling: all the best paths are by the Han river. Just go out and enjoy fascinating views for hours.

Nightlife:

- Best Places: if you see a long line or a lot of people just join them. Big crowds mark good places.

- Hongdae: more clubbing vibe. Koreans go out late in the night (around midnight)

- Itaewon: more bars and pubs. You can warm up here and spend the rest of the night

in Hongdae.

Exploring Seoul:

- NAVER Map: always use this app for mapping instead of Google Maps. This is more accurate and mostly used in Korea.
- Palaces: Gyeongbokgung palace, Deoksugung Palace, Hanok Village, Jongmyo Shrine.
- Towers: Seoul Tower, Lotte world tower.
- Parks: Banpo Hangang Park, Bukhansan Mt., Ahasan Mt.

Traveling in Korea:

- HYU International: this organization organizes some events for exchange students. Join the KakaoTalk group and book your place quickly, there's a very limited number of places.
- Jeju Island: must visit when it's still warm, climb the highest peak in Korea. TIP: recommended to have an international drivers license and rent a car! It's much cheaper with a group of friends and convenient to reach the destinations!
- Busan: one of the most famous places to visit. Just go during a free week.
- Incheon: a very beautiful city, worth spending some days here.

Seoul Insider Tips

- Street culture: no food on the streets! If you're about to eat, just stop, eat somewhere and then walk again. It's very common to make ramen, heat a sausage in the shop and eat it there.
- Spicy food: most of the Korean cuisine is spicy, so start with not spicy food.
- Behavior: Koreans are not very touchy and outgoing. Public hand holding, kissing is very rare.
- Soju: the most popular traditional drink. 1 bottle of any flavor ~ 1 Eur.
- English skills: mostly people who have been on exchange or lived abroad can easily communicate in English.
- Foreigners: you'll see a lot of exchange students from all over the world. It's a great place to find friends and see a variety of cultures.
- Weather: Autumn semester is T-shirt season until November. Winter season is not very cold, rarely with snow.
- Golden spot: save some money and travel around as the plane tickets and countries are very cheap. Think about Japan, Vietnam, Thailand...
- Studying: be prepared to study alone! Koreans rarely have group work and they don't study together. Each person is working individually.
- Korean time: you might hear this sometimes, it means late by a few minutes. Koreans are not very punctual with friends.
- Courses: if you're struggling to find 30 ECTS in Korea, you can ask your professors for an opportunity to take 1 or 2 courses from KTU online. You'll need to study on our own, do all assignments online, finish physical labs and pass the exams when you'll be back.

My Monthly Budget Breakdown

- Food (~€500): only breakfast and night meals at home (we had a kitchen), everything else was bought at HYU cafeteria, Hansot or other places.
- Housing (~€450): I shared a room with another Lithuanian, but we lived in an apartment close to the university with 3 other exchange students.
- Party (~€20): there are many shops around each area so we could save on drinks.
- Travel (~€150): I wish I could have traveled more and had more time to explore neighboring countries. Don't miss this opportunity!
- Other (~€50): including occasional transportation, sports, cosmetics, clothing, toiletries and small treats.

AVEIRO, PORTUGAL

ACCOMMODATION

Q: How to find accommodation in Aveiro?

A: Since Aveiro is not a big city, the demand for rooms is high. You can only get a university dorm if your university has a special agreement, otherwise start looking for a room independently. You will be added to a WhatsApp group by the local ESN team, they are able to recommend trusted landlords. There is an option to look in Facebook groups but be aware there are a lot of scammers!

Q: Where to stay?

A: Most students stay in shared flats, renting an individual room. If the accommodation is in the city center or around the university, you would be able to reach your department in 15-30 minutes by foot. There are more and cheaper options by the beach a bit further away from the city and you would have to take a bus everyday. The bus pass for students is provided by the university.

Q: Price of the accommodation?

A: You can expect to pay anywhere from 250 to 500 euros. The bills are not always included in the rent price, it depends on the landlord. Usually an occasional cleaning service is included, anywhere in between once a week and once a month.

Q: Is there central heating installed in the apartments?

A: Central heating is installed in the university dorms, but is a rare thing in rented out apartments. As the temperature doesn't usually drop below 5°C, most landlords don't see a need for it. Most rooms will have a small electrical heater or you can buy one for not too much. At the end of semester many students sell theirs.

UNIVERSITY

Q: How is the university in Aveiro?

A: The university is quite big and well equipped. Classes are divided into three categories: theoretical (T), theoretical-practical (TP) and practical (P). Depending on the class, the size can vary from 10 to 40 people. Each Erasmus student is not only assigned to a coordinator who is there to help with any problems that might occur academic wise, but each get an Erasmus buddy: a local student who can help finding accommodation, communicating in Portuguese etc.

Q: Do they speak English in classes?

A: Most professors are friendly and try to speak English in classes. If other students don't agree to have the lecture in English, the professors will try to do it in both languages or most likely assign an extra individual consultation.

TRANSPORTATION AND TRAVELS

Q: How do I get to Aveiro?

A: The nearest airport to Aveiro is in Porto. The airport and the train station in Porto is conveniently connected by a metro, and the train from Porto to Aveiro takes an hour and costs 3,80 euros. Another option is a direct FlixBus from the airport to Aveiro bus station. I would recommend using the direct FlixBus if you're traveling from Lisbon, as the trains take longer and there is no direct line.

Q: How is public transport in Portugal?

A: Public transportation service is very good in Portugal. It is possible to go to most places by trains which are not too expensive. In the bigger cities like Porto and Lisbon there is an easy to navigate metro service. To pay for trains or metro, you get a rechargeable card in each city and can

buy tickets on the machine with it.

Q: Is it possible to travel while studying?

A: Yes, the ESN organizes shorter trips around Portugal during weekends or national holidays. If you want to travel on your own or for a longer time, there are quite a few holiday weeks. The most recommended destinations from Portugal are the islands; Madeira and Azores.

SHOPPING AND RESTAURANTS

Q: What are the best local supermarkets in Aveiro?

A: There are many shops around the city called Pingo Doce, as well as mini markets such as Minipreço or Mini Mercado. Away from the center you can find bigger supermarkets such as Auchan and Mercadona.

Q: What are some shopping centers where to get all the essentials?

A: In the city center there is a shop complex called the Forum, a little bit away from the center you can find a Glicínias Plaza.

Q: What kind of clothes should I bring?

A: One might think that going to Portugal you only need clothes for hot weather, but during winter there is a long rainy season. Additionally, the wind in Aveiro is strong because of the ocean nearby. My recommendation is some waterproof shoes and raincoat.

Q: What are the opportunities to eat out?

A: The university cafeteria offers cheap and good food all day. Many students eat lunch and dinner there. The food in restaurants around the city is actually cheaper compared to Lithuania. Students' most loved restaurants include Ramona, GreenCity (vegetarian), Taberna do Arco. There are also great bars all around, many students choose Sunset Aveiro, Iron Duke or my personal favorite Taberna do Rockabilio.

GRANADA, SPAIN

Q: Is it expensive to live in Granada?

A: Granada is a city of students with a lot of accommodation options, usually in shared flats. It's a city with approximately 250.000 inhabitants, so it's not very big comparing to other cities in Andalusia. I would recommend searching a flat in Facebook groups or on Instagram page @cotilleos_ugr. The price can vary from 250 to 500 euros, depending on how luxury you want to live.

Q: Where would you recommend me to stay?

A: If you will be a student of Universidad de Granada, I would recommend staying in Camino de Ronda, Gonzalo Gallas, near Plaza Albert Einstein, near Plaza de Trinidad, neighborhood of Pajaritos or Realejo – San Matias, Recogidas. These are the safest neighborhoods and, they are closest to all bars, restaurants, discos, and university. It is not very common to stay in residencies as they are more expensive. But you can always check the website of the university and see what options they provide.

Q: Are bills included in the total cost of accommodation?

A: It depends on the contract and the landlord. Sometimes it is included but it's more common that the rent and bills will go separate as electricity prices are not very stable in Spain.

Q: My landlord wants to know the salary of my parents, what is this?

A: It's very common that the landlord will ask the salary of your parents of 3 last months. It's just a way to make sure you will be able to pay for the rent because you are a student and usually students do not have monthly incomes.

Q: If I want to rent a flat, and I'm asked to transfer money for a deposit, what should I do?

A: Don't transfer anything if you haven't seen the flat in person. The contract that you sign is a way of confirming that you are interested in the flat and that you really will live there. The landlord doesn't have a right to ask any money from you before you come to the country.

Q: I already live in Spain, but I have incredibly high electricity bills, I don't consume so much!

A: In Spain is common to connect the electricity to other flat and in that way, you are paying for another flat too. Usually, it happens when the landlord has various flats that he is renting or the landlord himself lives nearby. If you have a suspicion that you are paying too much for your electricity bills ask you neighbors how much they pay, and if results that they are paying 3 times less than you, let your roommates know and inform the landlord. If landlord is the one robbing you, ask help from your Spanish friends.

FOOD AND RESTAURANTS

Q: Is it expensive to eat in the restaurants?

A: Your expenses will depend on how much you will go out and eat in the bars. In general life in Granada is not so expensive because if you want to go out with your friends and grab a drink, usually, 'tapas' will be included in the cost of the drink. Some restaurants let customers to choose their own tapas from the menu and some bring what they have from the kitchen.

The drink you can choose is not only alcohol but also 7UP, Nestea, and other.

Q: What bars and restaurants are the best?

A: Granada has so many bars and restaurants that probably even a local person did not have a chance to visit them all.

Here is the list of the best bars in Granada:

La Maestranza BAR La Sitarilla

Grifos y Tapas El Peruano Tango Bar

100 Montaditos La Riviera

Monasterio Chill-Out Copas

TRANSPORT

Q: Is public transport available everywhere?

A: Granada has metro that is very easy to use and buses. If you will live in the neighborhoods that were mentioned in the previous question you will not need to take a bus because you will be able to reach

everything by foot. As Granada has very narrow streets busses go only in the big streets, so if you will want to take a walk near the Cathedral, you will need to get off the bus in the main street and go to the Cathedral by feet.

Q: How do I pay whilst being on the public transport?

A: If you study at the Universidad de Granada, you will receive student's card. Once you receive it you can activate bus ticket in your students' card. Once it is activated you will be able to top-up, you're the card in the bus. Just give the amount of money you want to put in your card and give it to the bus driver. Also, if you don't want to have activated card, you can pay in the bus. To get on the metro, you need to buy a ticket in the machine that is at every stop and mark it in the metro.

SUPERMARKETS

Q: What supermarkets are there in the Granada?

A: El Dia, Mercadona, Lidl, Carrefour and local markets.

Q: I want to buy new clothes, where should I go?

A: You can reach Nevada shopping center with a metro. It is full of restaurants and shops. Also in the center, near the faculty of translation you will find a street with shops like Zara, Pull&Bear, etc.

TOURISM

Q: Where I can find cheap trips?

A: In Granada you will find 3 student organizations: *ESN*, *Best Life Experience* and *Emycet*. *Best Life Experience* and *Emycet* are also kind of travel agencies but for students. They organize a lot of fun activities, city tours, trips around Spain. Moreover, they have offers for discos and bars. *ESN* is more related with university as it's student network organization that exists in every university in Europe. Connection between cities in Spain is pretty good so you can easily visit other cities. You can search for cheap buses on *alsa.com* or travel with other people in their cars with *blablacar* app.

Q: I want to explore Granada, what should I see there?

A: Granada is the most beautiful city full of culture, art, music, dances, and happiness. You should visit Sacromonte, which is the neighborhood of art, music, flamenco, and culture.

Paseo de los Tristes, Plaza Nueva, Albaicín, Monasterio de San Jerónimo de Cartuja, Basílica de San Juan de Dios, Catedral de Granada, Mirador de San Nicolas, Mirador de San Miguel Alto, Mirador Ojo de Granada, Jardines del Triunfo, Alhambra, Llano de la Perdiz, Carmen de los Mártires. I could make this list 3 pages long, but Granada has so many beautiful places that once you live there you will discover them by yourself.

Q: How to get to Alhambra?

A: Those who stay in Granada for longer can get a free ticket to enter Granada. More information can be found here: <https://www.alhambra-patronato.es/descubrir/aprende/programas/granadinos-y-residentes>

PADOVA, ITALY

History

University of Padova is one of the oldest and most prestigious universities in Europe, founded in 1222 in the city of Padova, Italy. Renowned for its rich academic tradition and commitment to innovation, the university has played a pivotal role in shaping the intellectual landscape of Europe. It was a haven for academic freedom, attracting scholars such as Galileo Galilei, who conducted groundbreaking research there. The University of Padova offers a wide range of programs across disciplines, including sciences, medicine, engineering, humanities, and social sciences. Its historic yet dynamic environment continues to foster cutting-edge research and a vibrant student community, making it a hub of global education and cultural exchange.

Faculties and buildings

The university consists of 8 faculties all in different parts of the city (most of which are around the Portello area) of which I studied in the **Economics and Political Science** faculty which is not that special in itself (it is modern and easy to navigate as it is quite a small building) but it is in a very convenient location, close to the main canteen, bus stops and Portello part of the city. Although if you get to study in the **Beato Pellegrino University Complex** you are in luck as that is one of the most recent buildings of the university which boasts a huge library, modern and big classrooms, study rooms, big inner courtyard and overall beautiful architecture.

When choosing courses be careful and look up for the location of the classes as some can be in a different part of the city or even in a different city like Vicenza, which is 40kms away.

Academic part of studies

Courses and semesters

The course list is [here](#), it is quite extensive but be noted that like 90% of bachelor's courses are in Italian and it's the opposite for master degree courses – most of them are in English. All of my 5 courses were master's courses even though I study bachelor's in Lithuania. Don't be scared to choose them as they are not much different and a lot of foreign undergrads do the same thing.

You can select courses that take place during the:

- Semester, classes September – January, exams in February
- Trimester, classes September – December, exams in December

The trimester courses are shorter and a little bit more intensive but most of my courses were like that and all of them were all right.

Grades, attendance and exams

A new and strange way of studying in this university is that on the first day of lectures you can choose to either be an **attending student** or a **non-attending student**. What that means is that you either go to classes, complete the required coursework AND write the final exam at the end of the semester OR you don't go to class, don't do any of the work and ONLY write the final exam for which you prepare and study on your own using the material uploaded to moodle (The exam is different from the attending students one but not that much more difficult).

We chose to be non-attending students for one of the courses that we had and it all went smoothly so there's really no hidden catch in that given selection.

The absolute most work that you would be required to do during the semester is a group project and sometimes a presentation of the said project and then at the end the semester – final exam. That's it. And if you're a non-attending student then you only have the exam. All of the assessments are graded in a 0–30 point system with 18/30 being a passing grade (that translates to 6/10).

None of the professors take attendance. It is your responsibility and your choice to either go to them or study on your own.

On the schedule classes take 2hrs but in reality, they are 1.5hours with 30minute break in between although there are some professors that do a break in the middle of the class and then you finish the lecture later.

How to get to Padova?

Me and my friends drove to Padova with a car. It's around 1700kms which is like 16hs of driving. You could do it in two days with a stayover in Brno but it's possible to just drive there in a day.

Other options include train, bus and plane. I do not really recommend taking the train or a bus even though that is more eco-friendly and all but that trip would be dreadful and easily take around 30hours and be more expensive than a plane. There is a flight that goes from Vilnius to Treviso (a city 60kms away) with Ryanair, the tickets can go as low as 20eur plus baggage costs, then you take the 101 or the direct Padova bus to the city with a low cost of 8eur and be there in an hour. If you are not driving there, I sincerely recommend saving the trouble and just taking a plane there.

Accommodation

The housing situation here is really difficult, as the city is not that big but has an enormous amount of students, the demand for apartments is through the roof.

The university does offer dormitories but they are prioritized for non-EU students and only in mid-September - October will the university let regular students move into the dorms if there are any rooms left. I wouldn't count on this being your only option and I personally don't know a single person who lives in the dorms. Everyone has an apartment or a room that they found themselves.

I advise you start searching for a room as soon as possible, and if you are coming with a buddy or two you can look into getting a whole apartment for yourself.

The websites that you can find the apartments are:

- www.Housinganywhere.com
- www.Dovevivo.it
- www.immobiliare.it
- www.idealista.it
- www.airbnb.com

and Facebook groups like:

- <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1840281336012527/>
- <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1499627486921983/>
- <https://www.facebook.com/groups/esnpadova24.25/>

Also you will be invited into some Whatsapp groups through e-mail and one of them will be dedicated for finding housing so you can also ask there.

Room prices normally hover around 400-700eur while whole 2-3 bedroom apartments are around 1200- 1500eur. The utility bills are normally fixed but not added to the rent price so when you see an apartment listing for 1000eur just know that total it's going to be 1100 or something like that.

If possible I would recommend finding an apartment closer to the center.

Padova itself

Padova is a beautiful city with a rich history and culture, there are a bunch of events, concerts and stuff happening around all the time with green parks, cinemas, basketball courts and football fields with friendly people that are always up for a game.

Notable places

- Portello – an area around the Portello bridge where a lot of university buildings, cafes, restaurants and bars reside.
- Prato della Valle – a large square with an elliptical park in the middle full of statues. A lot of events take place here such as food truck festivals, ice skating rinks, skateboarding competitions, markets and others.
- Parco d'Europa – big park with music and other festivals taking place here.
- Piazza delle Erbe and dei Frutti – two almost identical squares on the sides of a medieval museum full of food markets, restaurants and bars.
- Giardi dell'Arena – beautiful park with fountains, dog parks and flower gardens.

Transport in the city

Buses and trams

Getting around the city is not difficult, there are plenty of buses and trams (currently they are expanding the tram system and are adding more lines to the city), the only problem being that they run 5am to midnight, so no night buses sadly.

The ticket price is 1.7eur and you can buy it from “Busitalia Veneto” app, never have I ever seen myself or heard from anyone that they check the tickets so like 70% of all people and I’m sure that it’s close to 99% of students ride without purchasing a ticket.

The buses and trams themselves are pretty new, spacious and comfortable the only issue is as it common in all Italy – they are often late or don’t come at all so be careful and plan accordingly.

On the other hand there is a service which works through the “Quibus” app, it’s basically a private bus that you can order for 2.2eur that can drop you off at the regular bus stops. They do run until 1am so it’s an option during the night.

Bicycles

Bicycles here are very very popular, with hundreds of kilometers of bike paths and plenty of parking spaces for bicycles no wonder many people choose them for their convenience. A lot of students come here and buy a cheap bicycle from either Facebook marketplace or www.subito.it and use them for the duration of their stay. Make sure you get a lock as well because bikes here often get stolen if not locked. If you don’t have a bike you can always rent one for a short duration, there is an app called “Ridemovi” through which you can rent bikes and e-bikes which are all around the city, similar to what you can do through the “Bolt” app.

There are also e-scooters which you can rent through “Bit mobility” and “Dott” apps.

Taxi

There are taxis and also Uber but the prices are completely insane, forget 4-5eur trips those here cost upwards of 20eur

Cars

If you do come here with a car it can be very convenient to travel around for some situations like getting groceries or at night but the limited parking spaces, fraction of which are free, and the aggressive and sometimes irrational driving culture in Italy are some of the downsides. Roads are pretty nice though. Be noted that freeways in Italy have tolls and some sections are quite expensive, for example, trip to Milan is around 15eur one way.

If you want to rent a car there are a handful of options including Enterprise, Locauto and Alamo just to name a few.

Food

Italy is famous for having one of the best cuisines of all world and that is true. Pizzas, pastas and risottos are out of this world and they are not that expensive.

Restaurants

Padova is full of restaurants of different cultures, from Chinese to American to Indian to traditional Italian restaurants. The prices are not crazy, usually being around 15eur per person including a drink. Some of my most favorite restaurants being:

- Pizzeria Al Duomo – Great pizzas with the best Tiramisu in all of Padova.
- Hamerica's – amazing American style food with juicy burgers, chicken wings and tacos.
- Miscusi – make-your-own pasta restaurant where you can customize everything.
- TreQuarti – amazing pizzas and soups with great Aperols.
- Otivm – one of the best all-rounders with great food and drinks.
- Shanghai Naturalmente – Asian cuisine with low prices.
- Flybar – deserves a spot here only because they have okay pizza but it's very cheap.

Quick Bites

Of course there's McDonald's, KFC and such but there is one that is pretty good and Italian – **Porta Portello**, they offer Panzerotti's which are similar to Calzone but are smaller and just as good. They have a bunch of fillings and work as a grab and go snack.

Canteens

There are a bunch of university canteens around the city with the biggest being close to Portello (reminds of the ones you've seen in American movies as it is really massive). They are called ESU canteens and there are 15 of them total. Normally a meal costs around 8eur but you can get a discount if you register at their [website](#) and then download their app "ESUPd.EAT" which brings down the price to 5eur.

Supermarkets

Padova has a lot of different grocery stores ranging from budget ones to more premium ones.

Budget

- Aldi
- Lidl
- Prix
- Eurospin

Regular

- Coop
- Ali
- Conad
- Mega

Premium

- Interspar
- Inter Coop

Convenience

- Pam Local
- Despar
- Bunch of small no-name stores

Note – all of the supermarkets close at around 9pm with most of them closing doors at 8pm with the only exception being Pam Local which is open until 10pm. There are no gas stations that function 24/7 and McDonald's only works until 2am so similarly as with buses – not a lot of options for food or snacks at night.

Travelling around

One of the best things being in Padova is the ability to see surrounding Italy and neighboring countries. Venice – the one and only city that is on water is just 30mins away with a train which costs 5eur.

There is Verona, Bologna, Milan, Pisa, Rimini and Rome all of which are easy to reach with trains straight from Padova and often have cheap tickets (except Rome, those are quite expensive).

There are the beautiful Dolomites with Lake Braies and Sorapis, Lake Garda and the Euganean Hills all

close to Padova. But to reach these I would suggest renting a car.

If you want to go further away there are two airports close to Padova, one in Treviso and one in Venice. Both offer cheap flights with tickets to Sicily, Sardinia, Albania, Spain, France costing around 50eur both ways if you catch a good deal and they are not uncommon.

Nightlife

Nightlife in Padova sure is lively, the biggest days for going out are Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays. During Wednesdays everyone gathers around Portello. Some people sit on the stairs by the river, some dance on the bridge because there's a DJ there and then the rest just hang out around sitting at bars or benches. The amount of people that come here is astounding. After midnight when the music stops and bars start to close people move out to the clubs and party there until those ones close as well.

Budget

I would say it really depends on your housing situation, if you eat out a lot and like going out for drinks or whatever but generally, I would say:

- 400-500eur housing
- 100-150eur groceries
- 150eur for activities and going out Which brings it to around 800eur.

ESN

ESN – Erasmus Student Network is an organization run by students for incoming exchange students. We have it at KTU as well. They organize a bunch of events that you can participate in ranging from trips, parties, museum visits, night runs, dinners and lots more. They also organize the welcome week. You can also get an ESN card which offers you discounts on Flixbus, Ryanair, restaurants, bars and ESN events. It is totally worth the 10eur price.

Useful apps

- Busitalia Veneto – you can look up city buses and buy tickets
- Trenitalia – you can look up and buy train tickets
- OrariUniPD – class schedules
- MyUniPD – university app
- Dott – e-scooters
- Ridemovi – short term bike rentals
- ESUPd.EAT – canteens
- Glovo – like Bolt Food
- Quibus – those buses you can order

ATHENS, GRECCE

ACCOMMODATION

Q: Is it expensive to live in Athens?

A: Athens is surprisingly not that expensive to live in compared to other European capital cities. Depending upon which part of the city you choose to live in, rent can be very affordable. Food and other expenses are also very affordable if you know the right places to purchase them.

Q: Where would you recommend me to stay? A:

- In Athens the university doesn't really provide accommodation for students, but I would double check with them just in case. But in any case, it is recommended that you get your own place outside.
- Attending classes in Athens can really depend on the university and the professor of that subject as most of the classes are taught in Greek, which was the case during my exchange. Hence, I benefitted from getting accommodation close to the city center and close to the metro lines as it made the city accessible, which would have not been the case if I lived near the university campus 40min away from the city center.
- To find accommodations you can check websites like uniplaces.com for property listings but the best way to connect with landlords are through Facebook groups like "Renting in Athens", they respond to you promptly and are very helpful with your questions.

Q: Are bills included in the total cost of accommodation?

A: Most of the times rental ads in Athens will have the rent (including water, internet etc.) and electricity bills mentioned separately. But it is advised to clarify these details with the landlord before finalizing the place.

Q: If I go for one of those ads, and I'm asked to transfer money for a deposit, what should I do?

A: Never transfer any kind of money before looking at the place once and signing some kind of agreement with the homeowner. Be vigilant about people Subletting apartments they don't own without a contract it can lead you in legal trouble with the actual homeowner as it is illegal to do so without his knowledge. You can identify such things if the landlord only accepts cash and doesn't give you any contract to sign.

TRANSPORT

Q: Should I drive to Athens from my country?

A: Personally, I feel it's up to you if you are a confident driver and don't mind the long Journey, I say go for it. Greece is a huge country and very accessible by roads and ferries, having a personal vehicle would be very beneficial for you if you like exploring. Also, in Greece public transport is unreliable in cases of buses which is the primary form of public transport around the country. But here are some things you should know before you make your decision.

- Driving in Athens can be a bit challenging compared to other cities as there are a lot of small narrow streets with very poor visibility so you have to be extra vigilant while driving.
- People drive fast and furiously on the roads of Athens especially outside the city center.
- Athens has a lot of two wheelers mainly used by food delivery companies and with that come irresponsible and rash delivery agents who are trying to reach their customers on time.
- Parking shouldn't be a problem as I've seen people park cars in the middle of the road and go about with their business, I would check with my landlord about reserved parking for people living in the apartment complex.
- If you decide to live anywhere near Omonia Square I would take some extra precautions in leaving my car out as this place of the city is known for its crime rate and drug abusers.

Q: Is public transport available everywhere?

A: Public Transport is available to you in three forms in Athens, Busses, Metros and Trams. Although you will most likely be using just buses and the metro to get around places as they are more accessible and connected. However, buses are unreliable in terms of the schedule, the schedule on Google maps isn't always accurate or hasn't been updated so always have a back up in case your

planned bus doesn't show up.

Q: How do I pay whilst on public transport?

A: You can buy tickets from any metro station and use the same tickets for the buss and tram Aswell. You get your usual student discount of 50% on the fare but it is highly recommended to apply for the Athena Card which is 13 euros a month if you buy it with your Greek university student card.

Q: Do I have to get the Greek university card, or can I just use ISIC?

A: It is very important that you apply for the Greek University Card as soon as you get to Athens, your university will send you guidelines on the step-by-step process of applying for it. Even though ISIC works in a lot of places the main identification recognized for discounts are the Greek student id cards. To apply for the Athena Travel card you will definitely need to have the Greek student id to avail the student discount otherwise the monthly travel card will cost you 26 euros.

Q: What is the best time to travel on the metro?

A: usually the morning trains from 7-10am are really crowded but then start to slowly get free and comfortable to travel in.

SUPERMARKETS

Q: What supermarkets are there in Athens?

A: Athens has a variety of supermarkets, to name a few LIDL, Sklavenitis, Mini Market, BAZAAR and many more small non chain supermarkets are also present which sometimes are more expensive than the big ones but have some stuff you may not find easily. But I would recommend buying your meat and vegetables from the Farmers markets around the city also known as Agoras. The products there are fresh, cheap and way healthier than the store-bought items.

Q: Which Supermarket is the best bang for your buck?

A: I would say supermarkets altogether can be avoided if you plan meals ahead by surveying some neighboring shops and delis before you purchase your items. In my experience I resorted to buying food from delis they were fresh and affordable for me and when I wanted to cook something by myself, I would buy the ingredients from the farmers market this reduced my supermarket visits a lot. Also depending on the university, you have a possibility of having meals in the university campus cafeteria. If you decide to stay near the university campus this would be your best option but the food is sometimes questionable in terms of taste so it might not be for everyone but it is free so why not.

TRAVEL OUTSIDE ATHENS:

Q: Which is the best method of transport to visit places outside Athens?

A: To Explore beyond Athens you have plenty of options for the mode of transport, if you are exploring the Greek mainland, Trains and Busses are available. You can buy the bus ticket online here

<https://online.ktelileias.gr/gr/?view=search>,

To go by train you'd have to check the connectivity at the train station called Larissa station.

To explore the Greek Islands, you have many options in Ferries you can buy tickets on the ferryhopper website. You can also travel to some islands by plane, but they can be expensive sometimes.

Q: Which Places can be avoided outside Athens?

A: I would suggest you skip the famous tourist destinations like Mykonos, Santorini etc for a few reasons:

- They are very expensive, in recent times a lot of tourists have been boycotting these destinations due to the exorbitant prices, you have a lot of other smaller islands with the same kind of views and atmosphere which are a lot less expensive.
- These places are really crowded and noisy, don't let Instagram and other social media influencers fool you with their heavily edited and misleading pictures of these places. Santorini is one of the most popular tourist destinations in the world and Europe so expect it to be filled with tourists and street vendors.
- You can have a much better experience in the rather smaller and closer islands to the Greek mainland like Agistri and Aegina which wont burn down your wallet while letting you enjoy the lush blue waters of Greece in Silence and peace.

Although I won't discourage you from going to these places if the all the arguments above don't really pertain to you.

ODENSE , DENMARK

University & Courses

Student city: Odense vs Copenhagen?

- | Living Costs Alert! Monthly expenses Odense (~€850/month) while Copenhagen (~€1300/month). Keep in mind long distances!
- | Job Scene! Both cities offer similar student job pay (110 - 160 DKK/hour). If you want to have more fun or travel - part-time hustle.
- | Must mention that Copenhagen has a wider variety of events but Odense keeps things lively as well.

Courses:

- | Course variety: University of Southern Denmark (SDU) offers a wide range of courses in various fields like Engineering, Science, etc.
- | Language: all courses are taught in English if an exchange student is enrolled.
- | Course levels: Available to choose some Master's level courses for students in their 4th semester or higher.
- | Course load: Be mindful! Most courses are 5 ECTS, with some being 7.5 or 10. Keep in mind, having 6 courses is hard as the education level is higher.

Class Schedule & Professors:

- | Schedule: Classes typically run from 8:15 am to 4 pm with theory and practical sessions. Short breaks are included, usually 15 min every hour.
- | Professors: they're approachable and happy to help during or after class.

Grading & Exams:

- | Grading System: Denmark uses a unique 7-point grading system. You can find details online.
- | Exams are offered at the end of each semester. Re-exams happen in January (Autumn semester) and August (Spring semester).
- | Exam Types: Prepare for oral exams (10-20 minutes) and open-book exams (testing comprehension, not memorization).

Tips for Success:

- | Course Schedule: Check your class schedule (Skemaplan SDU) to avoid conflicts. Attendance isn't mandatory, but all materials are uploaded online. I really recommend participating in classes.
- | Workload: 5 ECTS = 4 hours per week at the university.
- | Food: Campus canteens can be expensive. 50% discount from 2-2:30 pm! Consider bringing your own lunch (best part- you can eat it in class!).

Landing in Denmark

Flying In:

- | Catching a plane from Kaunas or Klaipeda is an option.
- | Ryanair offers the cheapest flights to Copenhagen.
- | Billund Airport might be an option as well.

Getting Around:

- | Trains (DSB) are a great way to travel to Odense, Esbjerg, and other cities from Copenhagen.
- | Pro Tip: Book tickets early for cheaper fares!
- | Student Savings: Look for discounted youth tickets.
- | Sample Train Prices: Copenhagen to Odense: ~100 DKK, Copenhagen to Esbjerg: ~180 DKK (Remember, Danish trains can be pricey!)

Finding Your Home:

- Dorms are a fantastic choice for affordable student living.
- Odense Students: I highly recommend H.C. Ørstedskollegiet. This dorm offers events, historical charm, birthday celebrations, sports courts, a gym, a music room, a fireplace, and even a bar! Thank me later! (Check the SDU website for info).

	H.C.Ø.	Rasmus Rask	Campus House	Private Landlords
Distance to SDU	~2 km	~7 km	~0.2 km	~4 km
Distance to City	~4 km	~4 km	~5 km	~1 km
Facilities	5/5	2/5	2/5	1/5
Events	5/5	1/5	1/5	1/5
Price (DKK)	~2 200	~2 600	~3 600	~3 000

Living Like a Local in Odense

Groceries & Shopping:

- Budget-Friendly Groceries: Stock up on essentials at Lidl, Netto, 365, and Bilka supermarkets.
- Furnishing Your Place: Find everything you need for your dorm at IKEA, conveniently located near campus.

Free Activities:

- Odense Havnebad: Relax and unwind at this free public sauna and pool.
- Munke Mose: Explore the beauty of this famous park.

Campus Perks:

- Friday Bar: Don't miss this campus hotspot! Make friends, play games, and enjoy student-friendly drinks.
- 24/7 Access: Your student card grants you 24/7 access to the campus, library, and SDU GYM.
- Free Facilities: Enjoy the free swimming pool (open from 8 am to 2 pm), outdoor fields, and even a golf course outside campus.

Nightlife:

- Studenterhus: The go-to place for students in Odense.
- Papas Papbar: Grab some friends and challenge yourselves to board games.
- Den Brølende And: Belt out your favorite tunes at this karaoke bar.
- Kick Off - Sportspub: Catch the latest games with fellow sports fans.
- Storms Pakhus: Enjoy a vibrant mix of street food and drinks.

Exploring Denmark:

- ESN Odense Card: Join the fun and explore Denmark with discounted trips!
- Trips with ESN: Iceland, Lapland, Northern Denmark - the choice is yours!
- Local Events: Catch an ice hockey or soccer game, participate in a pub crawl, and more.

Odense Insider Tips

- Welcome to TECH! Odense is a major robotics hub. Tons of internships and student jobs for robotics, mechatronics, and drone engineers – keep an eye out!
- Making Danish Friends: Danes are friendly, but stick with their close circles. Don't be shy, say hi! They're actually great at English, so chat it up.
- Beer Break? Denmark has a big beer culture. Try some local brews, and hey, a "shower beer" (beer in the shower) is a thing here!
- Study Abroad Hotspot: Denmark's education system is awesome, so expect a mix of international exchange students, making campus life vibrant!
- Sports: Odense has a ton of sports options. Join DSIO (volleyball, soccer, etc.), take swimming lessons, or try something new like boxing or yoga!
- Bicycles: Renting a bike for around €35/month with Swapfiets is a great way to explore the city. Most Danes cycle, so join them!
- Weather FYI: It's not always sunshine and rainbows. Similar to Lithuania, you'll get 4 months of sun and the rest can be cloudy. It rains a lot in winter, but summers are amazing – think 25°C.
- Spring > Autumn: Consider Spring semester! More daylight, warmer weather before exams means more time for summer adventures and travel!
- Introduction Days are Key: Don't miss the introduction days for exchange students. It's a fantastic way to meet people, get settled, and learn all about being a student in Odense.

My Monthly Budget Breakdown

- Food (~€400): Cooking at home and bringing lunch to the university helps keep food costs down. Groceries are generally cheaper than eating out.
- Housing (~€300): This price includes all utilities (water, electricity, etc.) and laundry. It's a good deal!
- Party (~€30): This covers typical expenses like going to the Friday Bar, Huset events, and occasional social gatherings in the kitchen.
- Travel (~€100): This is an average monthly estimate, including occasional trips with ESN. There are many places to explore in Denmark!
- Other (~€120): This covers toiletries, everyday necessities, and the occasional treat for yourself.

BRNO, CZECH REPUBLIC

EXPENSES AND BUDGET

Q: Is Brno cheaper than Prague?

A: Cost of living in Brno (Czech Republic) is 23% cheaper than in Prague (Czech Republic).

Q: How much money will you need during your studies in Brno? **A:** This mainly depends on your spending habits. However, approximate costs that may help you budget for your life here are given below:

BASIC COSTS OF LIVING

- University residence with roommates: approximately 120-215 EUR/bed/month
- Private apartment with roommates: 200-400 EUR/bedroom/month
- Meal in a student canteen: 3-5 EUR

Q: How much budget should a student have per month to live in Brno?

A: A student can live in Brno with a budget of around € 600 per month. This amount can vary depending on the type of accommodation you choose. If you like the idea of living in an individual room in a shared apartment, in a good area and without the restrictions you would have on a student dormitory, your rental price could be around € 400 per month. However, deciding the type of accommodation you want depends on your preferences.

ACCOMMODATION

Q: Is it expensive to live in Brno?

A: Brno offers a high quality of life for quite an affordable price. The cost of living is slightly lower in the Czech Republic compared to other EU countries, and you will be able to live comfortably without spending large sums of money.

Q: Where would you recommend me to stay?

A: There are several options, if you are going on to Erasmus+ studies (exchange), then first find out if the university provides students with residence halls (dormitories), a room in one of those will likely cost you less than if you find something yourself.

Q: Which currency is used in the Czech Republic?

A: The Czech currency is the koruna (crown, abbreviated as Kč in Czech and CZK in English), which is made up of 100 haléřů (hellers, abbreviated hal.). Although hellers are still present on price labels, they are no longer in circulation. Coins in the following denominations are in circulation: 1 crown, 2 crowns, 5 crowns, 10 crowns, 20 crowns and 50 crowns. In addition, there are the following notes: 100 crowns, 200 crowns, 500 crowns, 1,000 crowns, 2,000 crowns and 5,000 crowns.

TRANSPORT

Q: How can I go to Brno from Lithuania?

A: I would recommend to use green travel options as car, train or bus because they will be cheaper and you can get some funding from Erasmus+ program for it. However, there is a drawback of this travel method as well, which is loss of time. Buying a plane ticket would save your time and efforts if you prefer a comfortable way of transfer.

Q: Is public transport available everywhere?

A: Yes, public transport is available everywhere across Brno. It is convenient, low emission, and comfortable.

Q: How do I pay whilst being on the public transport?

A: You can buy your ticket from vending machines at bus and tram stops, in newsagents or directly in the carriages. Each time you board the vehicle, just tap your contactless bank card against the validator and the system will charge you an hourly ticket for 25 CZK. This is the easiest and most used option.

Q: Are there any discounts for using public transport if I am a student?

A: Yes, you can get student pass with applied discounts through registering and applying this website <https://www.brnoid.cz/en/eoc>.

DPMB student transportation pass:

- for students < 26 y/o: 11 EUR/month or 27 EUR/3 months
- for students > 26 y/o: 22 EUR/month or 54 EUR/3 months

SUPERMARKETS

Q: What supermarkets are there in Brno?

A: There are different stores as local Czech and international ones as: Tesco, LD, Albert, Lidl, Billa. With a turnover of €2.9 billion (as of 2021) and currently boasting 267 outlets, discounter Lidl holds the title of the biggest supermarket retail chain in the Czech Republic.

Q: What supermarket are used commonly by international students? **A:** The most popular ones around international students are:

- 1) Lidl: Lidl is known for offering competitive prices on a wide range of products, including groceries and household items.
- 2) Albert: While Albert might not be the absolute cheapest option, it's a popular supermarket chain in the Czech Republic with a good balance between quality and price.
- 3) Tesco: Tesco is a well-known supermarket chain that offers a range of products at various price points, including budget-friendly options.

Q: Are there any offers in the supermarket?

A: Yes, Lidl has an app which can be downloaded to Android or IOS which is named as Lidl plus, where you can see special offers and discounts. Others as Billa and Albert and Tesco are also offering useful discounts, which would save your money.

Q: Should I get a discount card for supermarkets?

A: Yes, where possible. In most supermarkets, you just need to download an app, sign up for free and use your mobile card to get a discount. I would recommend getting a Clubcard at Tesco, as it will save you money including for the meal deal. If you shop at Lidl, get a Lidl Plus, which will allow you to get and redeem coupons.

BRNO, CZECH REPUBLIC

University History

Brno University of Technology (BUT), located in Brno, Czech Republic, is one of the country's leading institutions for higher education in technology and engineering. Established in 1899, it holds the distinction of being the oldest technical university in Moravia and one of the largest technical universities in Central Europe.

The university is home to over 20,000 students, including a growing number of international students, thanks to its English-taught programs and strong emphasis on research and innovation. BUT collaborates with numerous universities and research institutions worldwide, making it a hub for cutting-edge technology and knowledge transfer.

Faculties and buildings

Today, Brno University of Technology boasts **eight faculties and two university institutes**, covering a wide range of disciplines such as engineering, architecture, information technology, business, chemistry, and fine arts. The faculties include:

- Faculty of Civil Engineering
- Faculty of Mechanical Engineering
- Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Communication
- Faculty of Architecture
- Faculty of Fine Arts
- Faculty of Business and Management
- Faculty of Information Technology
- Faculty of Chemistry

Some of them (Business and Management, Mechanical Engineering, Electrical Engineering and Communication, Chemistry) are all around the north-west part of the city in Kralovo-Pole. That's where the BUT main „campus“ is, they have dorms, faculties, canteens and stadiums and gyms. These faculties are all modern and new with libraries, study rooms and cafes. All of the other faculties are spread around the city and they are more historic and architectural but definitely not worse!

ACADEMIC PART OF STUDIES

Courses and semester

The course list is [here](#). You can filter out the courses by faculty, semester and language of instruction. You can select all courses from all faculties and both bachelor and master courses no matter if you're only doing bachelors. Just be careful to check if the course you are interested in is available for exchange students.

Also don't be scared to take master courses if they fit your program as they are not much different and more difficult than the ones for bachelor's. A lot of foreign undergrads do the same thing.

I really recommend taking the Czech language course as it was really fun and useful as well.

A big proportion of the classes are going to be just with other Erasmus students and only some with local Czech students.

The schoolyear is divided into two semesters:

- Winter – classes late September to early December, exams December to February
- Summer – classes early February to early May, exams May to June

Grades, attendance and exams

In most of the courses (it depends on the faculty) the most amount of work that you would be required to do during the semester is a group project and sometimes a presentation of the said project and then at the end the semester – final exam. That's it. In some cases, there is no exam and only the group project.

All of the assessments are graded in a percentage system (for example 32pts out of 45pts – 71%) and then the percentage amount is converted into a letter grade.

ECTS classification	Orientation percentage
A	90 - 100
B	80 - 89
C	70 - 79
D	60 - 69
E	50 - 59
F	0 - 49

The professors don't take attendance, although that can depend on the faculty, but I haven't heard anyone having to be in every class. It is your responsibility and your choice to either go to them or study on your own.

Even though exams are supposed to mainly be in January (during the winter semester), a lot of professors organize the exam to be taken before Christmas so there is a possibility to come back home for holidays and not come back to Brno if you don't want to.

HOW TO GET TO BRNO?

There are three main ways to get to Brno.

If you have a car you can use that and it's going to take around 10hrs. Be wary that you need to buy an e-vignette for the highways in Czech Republic. It's around 8euros for 1day.

You can also take a Flixbus and go straight to Brno in around 18hrs. You can take a full-size bag for free. The price is around 50euros.

The last option is to take a plane to Prague or Vienna and then a Flixbus or Regiojet to Brno. There used to be a very convenient Kaunas – Bratislava flight but sadly it got removed.

ACCOMMODATION

Accommodation in Brno is not as bad of a problem as it is in other cities so looking for an apartment wouldn't be that big of a challenge. But I strongly recommend the dormitories that are offered by the university as you wouldn't experience the real Erasmus without staying there.

BUT has a bunch of dormitories, some around the city center or other parts but the best ones in my opinion are on Kolejní street (called Pod Palackého vrchem). This is the same part of the city which you could call as BUT campus. There are four big 9 floor dormitories in the same spot, around which there are some of the main faculties, stadiums, convenience store, canteens and bars.

The dorms are usually for two students, have two beds, separate toilet and shower and a kitchenette with a stovetop and a fridge. The price for a month is around 200eur. And you can reserve them [here](#).

If you decide to search for a separate apartment you can search for them on these websites:

- <https://www.bravis.cz/en/flats-for-rent>
- <https://www.sreality.cz/en/search/to-rent/apartments/brno>
- <https://www.bezrealitky.com/listings/offer-rent/flat/brno#lat=49.86&lng=14.8&zoom=7>
- https://www.expats.cz/praguerealestate/apartments/for-rent?specific_location=city:582786

and these Facebook groups:

- <https://www.facebook.com/groups/Brnoflatsforrent/>
- <https://www.facebook.com/groups/304274520529971/>
- <https://www.facebook.com/groups/BrnoExpatsGroup/>
- <https://www.facebook.com/groups/271595216265053/>

The price usually is around 400eur.

BRNO ITSELF

Money

Firstly, Czech Republic is using their own currency and not the Euro. Their currency is called Czech Koruna and abbreviated as CZK or Kč and usually has an exchange rate of 1EUR = 25CZK.

You can apply for a scholarship from BUT (there's really no requirements) and get around 23eur a

month with the only thing being that you must live in BUT dormitory. You can find more information about it [here](#).

Also related, if you want to get the scholarship you must have a bank in CZK, you could probably use Wise but we opened up an account in Raiffeisen because it had (and still has, as of 2025 January) a promotion to get another 20eur a month for 6months.

I strongly recommend using Wise or another Czech bank like Raiffeisen for your expenses as paying with a Lithuanian bank card, even in local currency, still loses you money and over time it will amount to a sum.

The city

Brno is a lively city with a population of around 400k people with about a quarter of them being students. It boasts three main universities – Masaryk (Muni), Mendel and BUT. There are a bunch of events, concerts and stuff happening around all the time with green parks, cinemas, basketball courts and football fields with friendly people that are always up for a game.

One of the events that I would recommend to not miss is the ice hockey derby between BUT and Muni. You can find more information on their [Instagram page](#) but it usually starts with a parade in the city, a game in the arena and a huge afterparty.

NOTABLE PLACES

- Brno Observatory and Planetarium – a planetarium hosting a bunch of interesting shows and events
- Rozhledna Holedná – an observatory tower that you have to hike up to and then climb. Opens up to a very nice view of the city and hills
- Náměstí Svobody – main square of the city
- Zelný trh – square which has fruit and vegetable markets, concerts and Christmas markets
- Špilberk Castle – old and impressive castle on a hill in the middle of the city
- Brno Reservoir – a reservoir that is nice for swimming, boating or just chilling on the grass
- Lužánky Park – big and green park in the center
- Cathedral of St. Peter and Paul – impressive gothic cathedral in the center

TRANSPORT IN THE CITY

Buses and trams

In my opinion there is really no need for a car in this city because the public transport system with buses and trams is amazing. You can get from any part of the city to the other in 20-25mins. The buses also run in the night which is a great way to get back home later.

You can buy one time use tickets by tapping your card or phone on the ticket machine inside of the bus or tram. You can also buy a quarterly pass which costs: 27eur for three months.

Bicycles and scooters

You can rent e-scooters and bicycles on Bolt.

Taxi

There is Uber and Bolt and the prices are similar as in Lithuania.

Food

Czech cuisine is mostly similar to the one we have at home but they also have their own national dishes which I recommend trying.

Restaurants

- Buddha – a great restaurant for indian food
- Restaurace Jakoby – nice and cozy restaurant with great food
- Burger Inn – some of the best burgers in the whole world
- Lokál U Caipila – amazing Czech foods

Quick bites

- Roj Kebab
- Big food point – the best kebabs in Brno
- McDonald's, KFC, Burger King

Canteens

If you are staying in the Pod Palackeho dormitories there are a couple of options for eating not even five minutes away. Right by the A03 and A02 dorms there is a canteen and a pizzeria which serve decent food for a good price. You get a discount if you use your BUT student card.

Supermarkets

- Lidl – the one and only
- Albert – a more premium supermarket with nicer items
- Tesco
- Billa
- Kaufland

Malls

- Galerie Vaňkovka – a shopping mall in the center with restaurants, cinema
- OC Olympia Brno – big shopping mall with everything you could imagine

Travelling around

Brno is situated in a place where it is very convenient to travel around Czech Republic and even abroad. Brno has an airport from which you can find flights to Milan or London for 30-40eur round trip.

You can go to Prague with Regiojet or Flixbus for 4eur

Vienna and Bratislava are roughly two hours away and cost around 10eur by bus.

Budget

It really depends if you eat out a lot or make your food at home and if you travel and go to events but in my opinion every month you should expect to spend:

- 200eur for dormitory
- 100-150eur on food
- 100-150eur going out Which amounts to 600eur a month

ESN

ESN – Erasmus Student Network is an organization run by students for incoming exchange students. We have it at KTU as well. They organize a bunch of events that you can participate in ranging from trips, parties, museum visits, night runs, dinners and lots more. They also organize the welcome week.

You can also get an ESN card which offers you discounts on Flixbus, Ryanair, restaurants, bars and ESN events. It is totally worth the 10eur price.

Every Wednesday they organize a Presentation of Nations, where each country can present their homeland with national foods, dances and activities

Useful apps

- My BUT – university's app
- Uber - rides
- Bolt - rides
- Foodora – like Wolt or Bolt Food

PRAGUE, CZECH REPUBLIC

ACCOMMODATION

Q: Is it expensive to live in Prague?

A: Compared to most of the European capitals, Prague is one of the cheaper cities to live in.

Q: Where would you recommend me to stay?

A: Most of the universities in Prague offer university residences (dormitories) for incoming students. University residence with roommates costs approximately 150 EUR/bed/month. You can apply for the dormitory on the university website. Dormitories are usually the centre of students' life, so it is easier to get involved in social life and become closer with other students if you stay in the dormitory, too. The dormitory may be located a bit far from the university, but do not be afraid of that, because there's always a convenient public transportation option to reach the university. Renting an apartment is a much more expensive option, possibly costing up to 300-500 EUR/room/month.

EXPENSES AND BUDGET

Q: How much money will you need during your studies in Prague?

A: BASIC COSTS OF LIVING

- University residence with roommates: approximately 150 EUR/bed/month
- Private apartment with roommates: 200-400 EUR/bedroom/month
- Meal in a student canteen: 3-5 EUR
- Meal in the city: ~8-12 EUR
- Student party in the club: 0-8 EUR
- Public transportation: ~5 EUR/month
- Train/bus tickets inside Czech Republic: ~2-5 EUR

Q: How much budget should a student have per month to live in Prague?

A: It mainly depends on your spending habits, but with 800-900 EUR/month a student can have a decent lifestyle in Prague, with going to eat out at least once a week and having some weekends travelling around the country several times a month.

Q: Is it recommended to get ISIC from Czech University?

A: Yes. It is mandatory to have it to get access to your university facilities and get discounted public transportation. ISIC costs around 11EUR.

Q: Which currency is used in the Czech Republic?

A: The Czech currency is the koruna (crown, abbreviated as Kč in Czech and CZK in English).

Q: Cash or card?

A: In most of the places in Prague you can pay by card. It is convenient to get a *Revolut card*, because it offers really good exchange rates for different currencies. However, some cheaper bars in the city may only take cash, ESN organized activities are paid by cash, too, so it is convenient to exchange some money as well. When exchanging money be aware of the scam possibility. Ask locals for the best exchange places in the city.

TRANSPORT

Q: How can I go to Prague from Lithuania?

A: Using green travel options as car, train or bus because it is a cheaper way of travelling and you can get ~50eur refund from the Erasmus+ program to cover it. However, if you prefer the faster way of travelling, you can choose to fly to Václav Havel Airport Prague. It costs ~1,5 EUR to come to the city centre from there. You can find cheaper and direct flights to Prague from Riga International Airport instead of Kaunas or Vilnius.

Q: Is public transport available everywhere?

A: Yes, public transport is available everywhere across Prague.

Q: Are there any discounts for using public transport if I am a student?

A: Yes, you can get a student pass (monthly or quarterly) with applied discounts by registering and applying on this website <https://pidlitacka.cz/en>. For having an online pass, you need to download the app from the website.

Quarterly pass costs ~15EUR for a student. Discounts do not apply for single-ride tickets.

WHAT TO VISIT:**Q: What to do in Prague?**

A: It's a big city, well adjusted not only for living, but also for tourists. There are many things to do here:

- Get to know the city with free tours:

https://freewalkingtourprague.eu/?gad=1&gclid=Cj0KCQjw_5unBhCMARIsACZyzS2hHDTm7tYN6Gla_3VqTPXkJKPvu6nlYZGsCyMHq_tem9mITFkgVooMaAt3_EALw_wcB

- National Museum Prague
- NaFiLM - National film museum
- Petrin Tower
- Přírodní park Šárka
- Prague Castle
- Saints Peter and Paul Basilica

Q: Single day trips:

A:

- Český Krumlov. Roundtrip 3-4EUR (FlixBus).
- Teplice nad Metují. Roundtrip ~8-10EUR (Train).
- Karlovy Vary. Roundtrip ~10-15EUR (Train/bus).
- Pilsen. Roundtrip 3-4EUR (FlixBus).
- Dresden (Germany). Roundtrip 30-40EUR (RegioJet).
- Brno. Round trip ~10-15EUR (Train/bus).
- Bratislava (Slovakia). Round trip ~10-15EUR (Train/bus).

Q: Where to find more tips for travelling?

A: Follow your local ESN group activities and join their events. They should as well guide you through any difficulties that you may face when being abroad. Join a WhatsApp group created for incoming international students.

Additional useful links where to find travelling information: [youtube.com/@HONESTGUIDE](https://www.youtube.com/@HONESTGUIDE)
<https://www.instagram.com/ohmyprg/>

TALLIN, ESTONIA

LIFESTYLE

Q: How can I adjust to the local culture?

A: It is not necessary to learn the local language to know the culture, although Estonian language (eesti) is taught free for international students in almost all the universities which will make one confident to understand and respond with basic words. By observing the etiquette in daily interactions, understanding the customs, greetings and gestures, one can easily embrace the culture.

Q: Cost of living, Is it expensive?

A: Estonia is relatively cheaper than other European countries, costs does not vary much here as it is also a Baltic country, prices of commodities and services are quite like Lithuania. As in any other country, regions other than the capital can be less expensive to live in.

Q: How can I ensure safety in Estonia?

A: It is highly safe to spend the exchange semester/year in Estonia, as most of the country's population live in the capital city Tallinn, it is the most populous city and a home to many working professionals, international students and migrants. It is a small city where there are less chances of getting lost, it has decreasing crime rates. Local people and young students always help in guiding with directions and in case of any emergencies.

Q: How can I make friends and build my social network?

A: Some can make good friends on the day of arrival, and for some it can take few weeks also, the curriculum is designed in such a way that there are lots of group activities in the course itself, one gets to meet and work with local students and other international students. Attending language classes, volunteering and participating in local and university events, as many activities are promoted by the university for exchange students throughout the semester.

It is easy to make friends with other exchange students as the university arranges separate accommodation for Erasmus students and allows students to make plans and arrange parties to create fun-filled Erasmus memories and build friendships for life.

Q: What are the activities and interests' students are mainly exposed to during the semester?

A: When one enters an Estonian university as an exchange student, obtaining an ESN card from the international student office is highly promoted highlighting its benefits throughout the semester and beyond. ESN hosts many activities such as Picture hunt, city games, cooking, painting, singing and so on. Pub and Bar crawls are a must at least once a month, they also arrange various tours and trips to make the experience more memorable. With other posters and pamphlets from the university, one can take part in marathons, cycling, wall climbing and walking contests as well.

Q: Which payment application do you recommend for easy payments for groceries and other daily expenses?

A: As Estonia also uses euros, any European bank which operates with their official currency as euros can be used for any transaction without additional fee. I would recommend **Revolut**, as you can create an account within a few steps online on your mobile device and provide required details for verification, you can add the virtual card to your wallet and start using it for any transaction. This card can directly be used in any other countries whose currency is not in euros as well. It can also be used for making official payments and money transfers. It has referral bonuses, investing options etc.

ACCOMMODATION

Q: Where would you recommend me to stay?

A: There are mainly two options for Erasmus+ studies (exchange), one is closer to the university (Academic Hostel) which has 24h reception, few minutes' walk to the university campus. The other is located near the city center (Endla 4), students more likely prefer this place as the old town city center is just 7 minutes away, all the main attractions are nearby, they get to see the town more often and engage in cultural activities happening in the main square.

Other than these two options provided by the university, students also rent studio apartments, Airbnb and private student stays according to their personal preferences.

Q: What will be the cost of accommodation places?

A: Both the accommodation places provided by the university (Tallinn university of technology, Taltech), the monthly rent ranges between 250 – 300 euros for a two-shared room and it is possible to rent a twin room for single use which ranges between 450 – 500 euros per month. Other options can be a little expensive.

Q: How about the utility bills, is it included in the rent or should be paid separately?

A: Most of the Erasmus+ students stay in the accommodation provided by the university; the utility bills are included in the rent and there are no separate charges taken from the students. If the students wish to rent an apartment outside of their preferences, utility charges might be a separate payment.

Q: What should I bring when I plan for exchange to Estonia?

A: The university accommodation provides all the necessary cooking utensils for every student's use, most of the student houses and apartments also provide utensils except a few. They have washing machines and dryers free of charge for the students staying in Endla 4 and the daily cleaning of the common area, kitchen and the hallway is done by the cleaning people, the dishwashers, scrubs and even the toiletries are refilled daily. I would suggest only bringing the essentials and personal belongings.

TRANSPORT

Q: How can I travel to Estonia from Lithuania?

A: Since Estonia is also a Baltic country, the easiest and convenient transportation is travelling by Bus. I would recommend Flixbus, ecolines and Lux bus as I have travelled several times by these buses. It is cost effective and comfortable, extra luggage can be added without much hassle. KTU encourages green travel, and aids travel support from the place of origin to the place of destination travelled by bus.

Q: How about the availability of public transport?

A: Public transport is available everywhere across Estonia. Especially in the capital city Tallinn, the nearest bus stop can be found in a maximum of 10 mins walk.

Students don't travel more than 10 minutes by public transportation for any groceries or necessities. The buses are usually on time and connect to every corner of the city. Frequent trains (<https://elron.ee>) are also available for travelling to other cities.

Q: Is public transport FREE in Estonia?

A: For all the European citizens, public transport (bus) is **free of cost**, it must be registered with a valid European resident card as soon as the student arrives here and register the place of residence in the municipality and with a few verifications, the "green card" is issued, which is used to scan in every bus. It can be used any number of times until its validity. For the non-European citizens, the green card can be purchased in (R-kiosk) – a store found in every corner of the city and buy a travel card for 2 euros and top it up for 30 euros which will be valid for a month and can be topped up monthly and for a single day as well.

Q: What if I lost my green card or forgot it somewhere?

A: If the travel card is lost, you should only buy a new one in any R-kiosk. For digital validation, one can quickly install (pilet.ee) – a mobile app, which is a digital platform for purchasing tickets, it allows you to add money from a card (Revolut is very convenient for this), and hourly, weekly and monthly tickets can be purchased, and the ticket can be scanned in the scanners installed in every bus.

Q: What is the frequency of public transport?

A: Buses are very frequent in the capital city Tallinn, since the buses are very frequent, it is not crowded, and every one can travel without rush and chaos. The buses start operating at 5:20 am every morning and it is less frequent after 11 pm. Some buses operate a few hours after 12 pm as well. The buses operate at the same frequency even in the weekends.

SUPERMARKETS AND MEDICINES

Q: What are the supermarkets in Estonia?

A: Rimi, Selver, prisma, maxima and lidl are the supermarkets operating in and around Estonia for almost everything from groceries to even home appliances and winter accessories. Depending on the size of the supermarket, certain sections of products will be limited.

Q: Are there any supermarkets offering discounts?

A: Some products can be on offer, and they are placed in large quantities either in the entrance of the supermarket or in the center. Many supermarkets have their own discount cards which apply for specific products at discounted prices. Discount cards can be purchased for as little as 1 euro from the info section in the supermarket.

Q: What are the payment methods?

A: Supermarkets accept cash and card payments, but most of the supermarkets are enabled with self-billing counters, so contactless payments (virtual cards added to mobile phone wallets) are easiest and commonly used among students living here.

Q: Are there any 24/7 grocery shops?

A: The shops and supermarkets in the old town, in the main areas of the city are available 24/7, if there are any need for buying a quick grocery item, prisma and maxima XXX will be available to serve round-the-clock demands.

Q: What are the typical prices for groceries?

A: Since Estonia is also a Baltic country, there are not much price differences in the prices of groceries and other necessities, pretty much the same brands and items will be available in supermarkets here as well, prices can vary on certain items for not more than 2 euros.

Q: Are there any nearby pharmacies and clinics which are easily accessible for students?

A: I would suggest Apotheka and BENU Apteek are the two popular pharmacy which can be reached in 15 minutes maximum, BENU Apteek operates 24/7 and has all the required medicines for immediate illness and sudden aches. Most of the pharmacies have at least one employee who can speak and understand English well.

Q: Does one require a prescription for buying medicines from pharmacies?

A: Basic medications and gels (e.g. Toothache) and vitamins can be bought without a prescription, but medications for a specific illness which are already medically diagnosed by doctors will not be available without a confirmation from the doctor or a valid recent prescription.

Q: Are there any clinics and hospitals which has English speaking doctors for medical treatments and emergencies?

A: Condifo and Ida-Tallinna has English speaking doctors, where students can consult and get treated, only with an appointment by calling or visiting. Other clinics also treat based on the availability of the appointments, Emergency Room (ER) has facilities which immediate care and treatment can be availed, but sometimes it can be crowded, and one can even wait for 4+ hours to get treated.