
Home Sweet Home

After my return, I know more about the importance of independent learning. I feel more confident to solve unexpected difficulties since I have already learned to be more independent.

Sharing and Overall Rating

Apart from cultural difference, there are also other things requiring my adaptation — different food, different transportation regulations, and even different hair style. After experiencing it, one will complain life less and appreciate it more.

If 5 is the top rating, I would give 4.



My Exchange Experience in Tampere University of Technology

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Just Arrived...

I joined the summer school hosted in UTA (University of Tampere). I had to arrive there on 1st August 2011. Because of the earlier arrival, Tutor helped me collect the key for my room. But I had to go there on my own. This was the first time to take a bus with the heavy luggage in Finland. I was worried but the Finns were very helpful. They told me which stop I should get off. When you go to Finland, You may feel that they are not friendly. In fact, they are shy. Don't be afraid to ask them. They are really helpful.

Orientation

I joined the orientation offered by my host institution. It was like a show and the atmosphere was relaxing. We all enjoyed the orientation. After that, we met our schoolmates from different countries. Also, the orientation had a school tour that introduced the facilities of TUT which helped familiarize us with the environment of the university.

My Place

In Finland, no universities will provide you with dormitory. TOAS can provide accommodation. I lived in Paawala. And this is my room and my flat. There are 2 rooms, one kitchen and washroom in one flat. I lived in a shared room.

My First Class

The course in TUT are conducted in Finnish and English. Not too many local students take the English course. I cannot meet many local students during the course. Most of my classmates are international students who take the master course.

The course here is different from the CityU. The class usually starts at every 20 minutes of each hour sharply. The classes in TUT start every 15 minutes of each hour although the time shown on timetable start each hour sharply.

People I Met

I met many friends in Summer school. They are from Korean,

Japan, US, Brazil, Russia etc. I also met a number of summer school staff. They are local and they told us much about Finland.

Out of Classroom

Before the beginning of the study in TUT. I joined the summer school in UTA. I had a great 2-week time there. I learnt the Finnish and some Finnish Culture which let me know more about this country. I met many classmates from different countries such as Korea, Japan and USA. They are lovely and we also went travelling together. This course also provided some activities for students and let us walk around Tampere. The best thing is I had a better preparation before the start of my study in TUT. The staff helped me a lot in solving the problem in the daily life in Tampere for example opening a bank account.

Apart from joining the summer school, I also travelled Around Europe. London, Copenhagen, Tallinn, Stockholm, Brussels, Rome and Paris.

Money

Exchange needs a lot of money. CityU has a scholarship for each participant. For me, I had been granted HKD20,000 because I went to European country.

For the dormitory, I spent about HKD1,500 per month because I lived in a shared room which was of the lowest price.

For the expenditure in Finland, it's about HKD 1000 per month.

Goodbye

Time flies. The 5 months' European life ended very soon. This trip has broadened my horizon. I learnt a lot and met many new friends from different countries. I realized soon my English is not good enough to chat with them. It made me try hard to improve my poor English. Also, I hope I can meet them again somewhere and sometime in the future.

I have to say thank you to my friends that I met in Finland and also in travelling. Because of them, I know more about the world, different cultures and know more about myself.

Home Sweet Home

I know I have to cherish my living in Hong Kong. After leaving

home for 5 months, I really miss them. Also Hong Kong is a great place. Everything is convenient and has lots of fun. The life in Finland is slow-paced and people there are relaxed. This slow speed makes me know that I had missed many things when I was very fast in Hong Kong. I enjoy the environment in Finland. Many trees and everywhere is green.

Sharing

Exchange Programme is a really good chance for you to know about yourself, your family, Hong Kong and the world. You have to cherish each opportunity. Through this programme, you can learn about your weaknesses. Because of this slightly changes in your life, you can know what you have missed in your daily life in Hong Kong. When you are back, you will know how to make your life different and correct your bad habits that you got used to.

Don't let yourself regret! Do what you want! Enjoy the 6 months' exchange! You cannot have the same chance again after you graduated.

Overall Rating

(1 = the least satisfied and 5 = the most satisfied)

My rating of the exchange experience: FIVE

