

Exchange in Aarhus University, Denmark

WAN Kit Yi, Yuki
BENG4-INFE, Yr 4



My Blog

Denmark was elected the happiest country in the world. From this half year, I could fully understand why people there are so happy and love their life.

When you go to Aarhus, you should not miss the biggest student event in Northern Europe – the Boat Race in Aarhus University. Also, the color run will let you experience how crazy people love beers there.

My Pre-departure Checklist

Unlike the other students, I got my enrollment letter rather late which was already in December, one month before the start of semester. Once I had received the letter, I immediately went to apply for student VISA, as it might take you 3 months for getting it. The next was to start checking for flight tickets and apply for student dormitory of my host university. Luckily, I could get my student visa before departure.

Just Arrived When I arrived at Aarhus, my mentor went to pick me up, took me to my dormitory and introduced to me this city and the University. The city is really beautiful covered with snow. I felt so excited and very much looked forward to the following half year.

Orientation

There was an orientation week in my University. It provided us with living tips in Aarhus like transportation and shopping locations. We were also toured around to have a better understanding about the University.

My Place

The dormitory there is very beautiful. Every student will have their own room with private bathroom and 15 students share one big kitchen with dining room. However, students need to be careful if living on ground floor as it is easy to make access to the rooms through windows.



My First Class

I was very nervous with my first class in Aarhus. Luckily the classmates and the professors were very nice and helpful. When I had difficulty in accessing school database in the beginning, two of my classmates took the initiation to guide me to the IT help desk during class break.

People I Met

The people in Denmark are really nice and love to interact with people of different cultures. They are very helpful and will take initiation to help out when one encounter difficulty.

Out of Classroom

8 February 2016

It was the first time we celebrated Chinese New Year Festival in a foreign country. Having hotpot with friends in the cold weather gave us a good time.

6 May 2016

The Kapsejladsen Boat Race is the biggest student event in Northern Europe. Students gathered at 3am at main campus to compete in the Boat Race while emptying beer bottles was part of the game.

Money

Before I went to Denmark, every one told me that the living expenses there could be very expensive. However, it is out of my expectation. I could always find some cheap food and drinks there. My living cost was around 1,500 HKD per month which is even lower than in Hong Kong. However, transportation cost is quite high there. Each single ride costed 22 HKD.

Goodbye

14 June 2016

It was sad to say goodbye to friends as we shared all happy and sad moments together for half a year. But I believe this is just the beginning of our friendship.

Home Sweet Home

When I was in Denmark, I missed Hong Kong so much – I missed my family, friends, food, etc.. During the 6 months' time, I learned to become more independent. I did my own cooking and tried to have better management for my leisure time.

Sharing

It is a really unforgettable experience and it changed me a lot. In these 6 months, I have studied and lived with people from different cultures. There are too many things that we could learn – how people could manage their time in more efficient way for achieving work-life balance, how to cook, and how to bike, etc.. I am glad that I have a chance to experience all these in my University life.

Overall Rating

I would say, this is a really great experience and I am happy that I have chosen Denmark as my exchange place.