

Erfahrungsbericht über einen Auslandsaufenthalt im Rahmen eines Austauschprogramms (Studium)

Gastland: Frankreich

Gastinstitution: Université Paris Est Créteil – Val de Marne (UPEC)

1. Für welches Austausch- oder Förderprogramm fertigen Sie diesen

Erfahrungsbericht an?

Erasmus (Europa oder Übersee)

2. Vorbereitung (Planung, Organisation und Bewerbung bei der Gasteinrichtung)

I had some struggles with the organization in the beginning, because i didn't get any enrollment letter from the university in Créteil. But that's really important when you need to apply for a visa like i had to do! But after some struggles they finally sent it to me. So i would say the organization via Mail etc. was not really good but after arriving at the university there, the international office was more helpful with any organizational questions i had.

3. An- und Einreise (Visum, Flug/Bahn/Bus)

I went to Paris with the FlixBus from the ZOB in Nürnberg which took about 9 to 10 hours. For me that was the best option regarding the amount of luggage i had and i just took the bus around midnight so i arrived in the morning which i would recommend.

For the Visa you will need the acceptance letter from the Uni in Créteil as i already mentioned and you can just look up online which other documents you need to apply for it. You will have to go to Frankfurt though to apply for it, i booked the appointment online (do that as soon as possible!). You will also need to go there to pick it up again. I had to pay 50 euros for it and the visa allows you to stay in France for up to 6 months.

4. Unterkunft (Wohnheim/Privat)

Finding an apartment in Paris is the biggest struggle that you will probably face. I sadly did not get a student accommodation so i had to search by myself. Most sites require a service fee of (in my case) 300 euros, then you will have to pay a deposit which is up to 2 times the monthly rent. If you want to live inside of Paris, i highly recommend looking for a roommate, because thats what most people did. Still you can expect to pay anything from 900 to 1300 euros in monthly rent usually. Also beware of scammers when you book an appartment privately!!! If you're okay with living a bit outside of Paris the rent is of course a little cheaper at about 600-900 euros i would say. And i wish i knew this before but as a student you will need a guarantor who lives in France to get an apartment! So if you don't have that you will need to pay for Garantme which cost me about 250 euros extra. There is also a free one called Visale but not every landlord accepts that.

5. Fachlicher Aufenthalt an der Gasteinrichtung (Lehrveranstaltungen, Praktikumsinhalte und -aufgaben, Sprachkurse, Stundenplan, Prüfungen, Abschlussarbeit)

I would say the lectures there are very different from what I'm used to. We were about 20 to 40 students maximum in a class. What i liked was that we usually had one project or presentation and then also an exam in each class, so you have a minimum of 2 grades that make up your final grade. There were some days where we had one class for 7 hours straight, but that also means we had only 2 or 3 full days of classes in a week and more free time to explore. The school offered free french classes that you can take. Attendance is also very important in general and professors will notice when you never show up to classes.

6. Betreuung an der Gasteinrichtung (International Office, Fachbereich, Praktikumsbetreuung)

As i said before, after my arrival the international Office was helpful with any questions that i had.

7. Ausstattung der Gasteinrichtung (Bibliothek, Computerräume, Laboratorien, Unterrichts- und Arbeitsräume etc.)

They have a Library with study areas and printers etc. They also have multiple cafeterias where the food is cheap and quite good.

8. Alltag und Freizeit (Sehenswertes, Kulinarisches, Geld abheben, Handy, Jobs)

Well it's Paris! The city is always alive and i feel like even after 4 months i did not see everything. There is always somewhere to be, it doesn't matter what day of the week it is. There are a lot of bars, clubs, parcs and of course sights like the beautiful Eiffel Tower, l'Arc de Triomphe and so manyyyy museums. In my opinion the best place to go out is Le Marais and my favorite part of Paris was Montmartre! At first Paris might seem very expensive but i think it also depends on your way of living (except for the rent). You can find a lot of cheaper places in Le Marais. Here are some of my tips: for food, drinks and dessert you can go to Le Viaduc or Bouillon; for cheap (but delicious) Burgers and fries you can go to Mangez et Cassez-vous or just buy some baguette, wine and fruits and sit at a parc, the Eiffel Tower or at the Seine! I would also recommend doing a cruise on the Seine (they also have party boats at night!)

The best advice i can give is to really just walk around the city and explore! That way you will find beautiful streets, cute cafés and your favorite spots.

9. Finanzielles (Lebenshaltungskosten, Stipendien, finanzielle Unterstützung der Gaststeinrichtung)

The most expensive thing will be the rent as i already mentioned. If you buy the monthly metro/train pass in Paris it will cost you about 90 euros a month. I did not buy it the first month and i paid way more than 90 euros so i would recommend that if you don't live very central or take the metro a lot. It does allow you to travel to small towns near Paris so that is nice if you want to do a day trip. I would say going out for drinks and food is more expensive than Nürnberg in general, but just look for cheaper spots like the ones i mentioned! If you are under 26 you can enter a lot of museums for free! You can also go up the Arc de Triomphe for free if you don't want to pay for the Eiffel Tower, the view is almost better i would say!

10. Fazit (beste und schlechteste Erfahrung)

The best thing was really just the vibe of Paris, it's such a fun city with beautiful architecture and so many places to visit and see! The worst experience i had was with the landlords and finding an apartment there! You can get scammed very easily and it's just very hard finding something, so start as early as possible with that and be careful. Still I would 100% choose Paris again it was a great experience and you can only love the city.

11. Wichtige Ansprechpartner und Links

Important contacts: eric.hertzler@u-pec.fr who is the Erasmus Coordinator or the International Office: incoming-iae@u-pec.fr

12. Nur Erasmus-Aufenthalte: Für diejenigen Studierenden, die eine Sonderförderung erhalten haben: Bitte stellen Sie kurz dar, wie Sie Ihren Aufenthalt in dieser Hinsicht erlebt haben.

