



IT University Travel Report

Dear Student, this is a template – the aim is to inspire other students who may wish to follow in your footsteps. You are free to give your report the shape you want and to go beyond the questions. You are also very welcome to include pictures and contact information – but you need not.

Note that by filling in and sending the report you automatically consent to publishing it on ITU student.

Host university: ESSEC Business School

Study Programme at IT University: Global Business Informatics

Exchange agreement or Free mover: Exchange agreement

Courses studied abroad: Economics of Public Policy and Enterprises, Digital Transformation, Innovation Strategies & New Technologies, Companies and Sustainable Development, Working across Cultures, Retail Foundations, and Sociology of Consumption

Period studying abroad: semester (autumn/spring) autumn year 2024

If you wish to give advice to other students regarding your travels, please state your contact info here: _____

Your stay abroad

What was it like to study at the university (including choice of courses, academic level, social life at campus)?

The university is an hour away outside of Paris, but I recommend living in Paris. The train ride is easy and not that big of a deal.

Different from ITU, the courses have very few ECTS each, so you have many courses, but they are easy to follow along, and the exams are mostly group presentations in class. There is mandatory attendance, so there is less freedom around planning your study. The teachers are very French, but most of them are super nice and helpful. In general, the people studying for their bachelor's are quite young, as gap years are not a big thing in France.

What was your initial motivation for going abroad and did your stay meet your expectations?

I wanted to study in another big city in Europe and just in general try something new. Paris is an amazing city to live in and the culture is so relaxed and cool. There is plenty to do no matter what your interests are and there is a lot of time outside school to explore and have fun.

Please describe what you got out of your stay, both personally and academically, and how do you expect it to contribute to your further studies?

Academically, I really learned how to work together across cultures as we tend to do things very differently. I got better at listening to everyone's opinions and embracing other ways of doing things. I also learned to appreciate ITU more both in terms of the high standards in class as well as the more equal relationship between student and lecturer.

Personally, it is the best way to put yourself out there and try something completely new and outside one's comfort zone. People are much more open-minded and out there in Paris, which opened up so many fun experiences and interactions, that I will never forget.

Arranging your stay

Please give a short description of the process of arranging your stay:

After getting the spot through ITU there was a lot of forth and back to figure out how to get everything settled.

What resources did you find helpful in planning your stay and which people did you use (if any)?

Write directly to the study abroad people at ITU as the website sometimes misses a lot of information.

There are a lot of portals for renting to students, and otherwise, join the Danish group in Paris called "Padam Padam", a lot of people renting out their apartments for longer periods of time.

How did you arrange practicalities such as accommodation?

I was very lucky that I knew someone already living in Paris, who was moving home to Copenhagen, so I just took over her lease.

Expenses and Financing

Please comment on expenses connected to your stay abroad

The rent is quite expensive in Paris and the same with the public transportation, but just get a Navigo monthly card on your phone.

It is cheaper than Copenhagen to go out for dinner, drinks, and coffee.

A lot of cultural things and museums are free for people under 26 as long as they are EU citizens, I recommend using this.

Did you apply for scholarships and would you recommend any ones in particular?

I applied and got Erasmus.

And remember to apply for Travel Pool through ITU.

Recommendations for other students:

Paris is a very big city but there are so many Danish people if you want to meet up with them.

If possible, live in one of these areas in Paris (called arrondissements): 3rd, 4th, 11th, 9th.

Try to arrange your school schedule around having long weekends to enjoy Paris and other places in France as much as possible.