



## 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:** Université Montpellier 2, IAE

**Study Programme at IT University:** Digital Innovation and Management

**Exchange agreement or Free mover:** Exchange agreement

**Courses studied abroad:** Big Data, Technologies Management, Innovation Management, Business Process Management, International Strategy, IT for Human Resources, Business Game, Cyber Security, Digital Transformation Journey.

**Period studying abroad: semester (autumn/spring)** Autumn year 2025

**If you wish to give advice to other students regarding your travels, please state your contact info here:** [aseilersen@gmail.com](mailto:aseilersen@gmail.com) or +4553557670

## Your stay abroad

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

I pretty much chose all courses from their MBA, which was completely fine. The levels varied a bit but doesn't compare to Denmark at all. The exams are short formed and happens within the same month of your first class on that specific course, so you don't have like 9-10 exams at the end, which is nice. Some courses were an exception though, additionally most of the courses were planned in October and December, which left November quite sparse.

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

My decision was quite biased, as my dad grew up in the south of France, and I therefore wanted to learn more about the culture and the language and see what all the fuss was about. I had never been to Montpellier before, so I took a leap of faith and hoped for the best. As I have strong ties to France, I was aware that the academic level would not be as high as back home in Denmark, and my expectations on the academic front were therefore quite low – which also proved to be true.

Montpellier, as a city, exceeded my expectations completely. I would compare it to Nice, but more modern and younger. It's very lively, full of students, and quite compact, which I think is a great combination for an Erasmus stay – although keeping in mind that French people are younger when they attend university, so they were very young compared to me. Therefore, I found it a bit challenging to meet people my own age.

One thing to note is that not many students live in the city center, as I chose to do. However, I still

consider this the best choice for me personally, as I wanted to be close to city life and preferred living alone.

**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?**

The thing I will take home with me, is the French way of living which is just very relaxed and not at all efficient. This is not said in a sarcastic tone as this has been great life lesson. Academically, I will most of all think back on the collaboration between different nationalities. As I took 8 out of 9 courses on a MBA I had classmates from all over the world, which broaden my curiosity on other nationalities and international collaborations. Academically it doesn't match Denmark, although they're more practical, therefore you get to use the methods and theories in practice, which help with learning. These things I believe will all help me in my further studies and work life, bringing different qualities to the table.

## **Arranging your stay**

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

Best advise ever, start early. I booked my apartment in February, so I got a very good one in the center! I know that might not be the case for everybody as it is more expensive, but for me it was a priority. The dorms is a whole other story as it is much later in the process. I just tried to book everything in advance, including flight tickets. I feel that our exchange counselor at ITU make the process so much more manageable, so follow her instructions - and look up and book everything you can in the meantime.

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

ITU's exchange counselor, my friend who had studied abroad, and the counselor at Montpellier (although not as helpful as our own at ITU, everything was very last minute in Montpellier's communication)

**How did you arrange practicalities such as accommodation?**

I booked my apartment through Airbnb, as I liked the idea of Airbnb having my back and not some relator that I don't know. It was very easy to book and everything.

## **Expenses and Financing**

**Please comment on expenses connected to your stay abroad**

I got together with one of my friends that has studied abroad, and she gave me her entire budget. Budget planning has really helped get a visual of what I would need to save up, also as grants don't typically give you the answers till later in the process - it's nice to know how much you need.

Expenses connected:

- Accommodation
- Plane tickets
- Travel and personal insurance
- Groceries
- Small necessities that you don't think you need beforehand; make sure you have a little gap in your budget for expenses like that. I ended up buying some things for my kitchen and bed, as they were not included in my stay.

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

I applied to many scholarships and received some. I would recommend treating applying for these as a part time job as I did, it paid off in the end.

- Knud Højgaard Fond (I know we were a couple of students who got this one)
- Richter Fonden
- William Demant

But just do your research on grants, use databases online like legatbogen.dk or perhaps AI services etc.

**Recommendations for other students:**

Apply for grants as if it were your part-time job from the moment, you know you are going abroad. They require a lot of information and the process takes time, but it is worth it. Make sure to stay on top of everything and start early, as it will make your life much easier, especially since you will also have your studies to manage alongside it. Good time management really makes a difference