



IT University Travel Report

City University of Hong Kong

Host university: City University of Hong Kong

Study programme at IT University: Global Business Informatics

Exchange agreement or free mover: Exchange agreement

Courses studied abroad:

- Business Intelligence & Analytics
- Information Management
- Operations Management
- Management

Period studying abroad: Autumn semester 2025

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Your Stay Abroad

Grants

You can see the grants I applied for here. You can copy the sheet and use it as a template.

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1AMlYsmzZ2M5whGCbLEgLYXNMQWigixZs/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=108249681600550787006&rtpof=true&sd=true>

Budget

Here is the budget I used for my grant applications.

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/14vpGle_1i6oZXDak8ce5UvXa0kSOYJ17qIUsghnQw/edit?usp=sharing

What was it like to study at the university?

My experience studying at City University of Hong Kong was truly amazing.

I stayed at the MOS Compound, which are the university dormitories primarily for first-year students, including exchange students. The buildings were very new, our rooms had only been

occupied for one semester before us. The location was incredible: right next to the beach and close to the MTR, which made commuting to the university easy (around 45 minutes).

The MOS Compound housed roughly 2,000 students, creating a vibrant and social environment. There were constantly activities being organized, and the community was extremely welcoming. You could choose whether you wanted a roommate from your own country or from elsewhere. I lived with another student from Denmark, which I personally found very comforting when being far from home.

The rooms were modern and well-equipped, and the view from our shared kitchen and common area was stunning, overlooking the beach, the bay, and mountains in the distance.

Hong Kong itself is a fantastic city and quite affordable compared to Copenhagen. Public transportation is efficient and cheap, and food is very reasonably priced. Rent at the dorms was around 2,500 DKK per month, paid upfront.

I was also fortunate to receive grants totaling around **20,000 DKK**, so I strongly recommend spending time applying for grants - it is absolutely worth the effort.

Academically, the level was honestly quite low, likely because all our courses had no prerequisites and therefore included many younger students with limited English skills. That said, the experience still depended heavily on course selection. I enjoyed attending classes, and the students were very friendly and curious. There were many Mainland Chinese students, whom I found extremely polite and welcoming.

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

My main motivation was to live in a completely new environment with as little connection to home as possible. Hong Kong turned out to be the perfect choice.

The city offers everything: beaches, mountains, dense urban life, and incredible cityscapes. My expectations were exceeded in every possible way. The weather was fantastic (though quite hot in the beginning), and we spent a lot of time hiking, going to the beach, and exploring the city and surrounding nature.

What did you gain personally and academically from your stay?

Personally, I gained a much deeper understanding of East Asia, which completely changed my perspective on the region and its people.

I travelled extensively in Mainland China, which is incredibly easy due to the high-speed train network. From Hong Kong, you can take modern and affordable trains directly to almost any major Chinese city. Alternatively, you can take the metro straight to the Chinese border and cross into Shenzhen, one of China's most technologically advanced cities. Shenzhen is also popular among locals for day trips, as food and shopping are cheaper there.

Academically, the stay broadened my global outlook and gave me valuable international exposure, which I expect will be very useful in my further studies and future career.

Arranging Your Stay

How did you arrange your stay?

The process was very straightforward. Anna Elizabeth Thomsen was incredibly helpful with all practical matters, and the application process itself was simple.

CityU also made settling in easy, offering many resources and support services. They host a great **introduction week**, which I highly recommend attending.

What resources were helpful?

Again, Anna Elizabeth Thomsen was a huge help. I also contacted a student who had previously been on exchange at CityU, which was very valuable. Don't hesitate to reach out to people - it makes everything easier. You're also very welcome to contact me if you have questions.

Accommodation

I accepted student accommodation offered by the university, which I cannot recommend enough.

Expenses and Financing

Expenses during your stay

Once accommodation is sorted, Hong Kong is fairly affordable. You can get a good takeaway meal for **under 40 DKK**, or eat at a restaurant for around **60 DKK**. Public transport is also inexpensive.

Of course, expenses increase if you travel a lot - which I highly recommend. Mainland China is even cheaper than Hong Kong, and the locals are incredibly friendly.

Scholarships and grants

I applied for and received grants from:

- Stibo Fonden
- Wilhelm Pedersen
- Lemvigh Müller
- ITU Travel Pool

Recommendations for Other Students

- Ask professors you have good grades with for recommendations only if requested in grant applications.
- Travel to Mainland China while in Hong Kong.
 - Use Trip.com for trains and accommodation.
 - Taxis are very cheap.
 - Use Amap for navigation (Google Maps doesn't work; Apple Maps only works inside China).
 - Danish citizens have 30-day visa-free entry to China.
- Choose courses with 100% continuous assessment instead of final exams if possible.
- Leave space in your luggage for shopping - it's hot when you arrive and rarely gets cold.
- Use Revolut for fee-free currency exchange and easy money transfers between students.
- Live in university accommodation. I chose a roommate from Denmark, which made daily life easier.
- Chinese and Hong Kong people are very friendly, but sometimes shy - don't hesitate to start conversations.
- Sign up for as many activities as possible: hikes, bar crawls, social events.

- Go camping at Tai Wan Beach for an unforgettable sunrise (watch out for the wild boars).
- Visit Eyebar for an incredible view of Hong Kong's skyline.
- Pro tip: don't hype Hong Kong too much before application deadlines - competition is real
