



## **IT University Travel Report**

**Host university:** Victoria University of Wellington – New Zealand

**Study Programme at IT University:** Global Business Informatics

**Exchange agreement or Free mover:** Bilateral exchange agreement - meaning there was a 10% discount for tuition, however the student needs to fund the tuition themselves – this was no issue due to the SU udlandsstipendium.

**Courses studied abroad:** Anthropology in Oceania(elective), Grand Challenges, Organisational Analytics and Supply Chain & Logistics Mgmt

**Period studying abroad:** Autumn semester 2025

## **Your stay abroad**

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

**Choice of courses:** There were plenty of courses to choose from within the subject area of business. However, not too many courses had an IT-focus. VUW (Victoria University of Wellington) is more prominent within social sciences and business than IT. There were also problems in terms of pre-approval from Victoria University of Wellington since they have a very standardized qualification system. You for instance need to have passed a management level 100 course to be able to attend management 200. Since ITU do not have that system they had difficulty figuring out what courses I could attend. I was originally rejected from a management 300 course in supply chain. However, I just mailed them back and I was eventually allowed to take the course.

**Academic level:** Generally, the academic level was below ITU. My grand challenges course, which was a 100-level course, was almost equivalent to a below a high school level subject. However, the anthropology course I took was amazing and more challenging academically as well. I would generally recommend going for level 200 and 300 courses since the level 100 courses seem VERY basic.

**Social life:** The social life was good they have a bunch of clubs, and the introduction week for intentional was done very well in terms of bringing international students together. They also have a buddy program which I originally did register for but ended up not attending because I did not feel the need anyways. I highly recommend the yoga club at VUW since you also get to talk to some locals there and it includes a cheap dinner which was very nice.

**IMPORTANT – HOUSING:** I lived at Everton Hall – accommodation offered by the university and had a very challenging experience. It was one of the cheapest options you could choose - which was why I picked it. My flat had huge issues with mold and was poorly isolated. One of my flat mates got serious mold poisoning so she had to move and the rest of us got rehomed (still within Everton Hall). I also got fatigued in my first flat due to the poor indoor climate. Generally, if you have issues with weak immune system or asthma I would reconsider choosing Everton hall and Kelburn flats - or ask to be placed in an apartment two or three stories above ground level. My last flat was three stories above ground level and did not have any mold issues.

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

I tried not to have too big expectations going abroad and more just go with the flow. And I think that strategy worked well. Going abroad there will of course be some challenges but acknowledging that not everything will be a 100% perfect is important to be able to cope with these challenges. I was very happy with my exchange and will very much consider doing it on my master's as well.

### **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?**

It is interesting to put yourself in a different environment than your normal comfort zone. I think those types of experiences will naturally be followed by becoming more independent and mature. I had a lot of fun during my exchange and made some really good memories - which is always a personal gain. Academically it was interesting when the subjects had a focus on New Zealand. For instance, how New Zealand being geographically isolated from the world impacts their supply chain.

## **Arranging your stay**

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

It went pretty smooth Victoria University of Wellington was generally very well coordinated. The biggest hurdle was that you had to cover tuition yourself, however the SU udlandsstipendium covers most of the tuition so that was not too much of a problem.

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

Reading travel reports is always a good idea.

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

I booked my accommodation through the Victoria University of Wellington and that went very smoothly.

## **Expenses and Financing**

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

I traveled quite a lot during my exchange, which of course costs a bit. I recommend bringing a good chunk of pocket money because New Zealand is not that much cheaper than Denmark to travel in.

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

Lemvig Müller, SU udlandstipendium and ITU travel pool.

## **Recommendations for other students:**

If you consider exchange I would definitely recommend to do it! But don't lose yourself in the process. And priorities coming to the introduction things since they really made the foundations for developing friendships later on.

