



## **IT University Travel Report**

### **Host University:**

Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology (RMIT), Melbourne Australia

### **Study Programme at IT University:**

Global Business Informatics

### **Exchange Agreement or Study Abroad:**

Study Abroad / Freemover

### **Courses studied abroad:**

- Cross Cultural Management
- International Business
- Global Entrepreneurship
- Business IT and Supply Chain Management

**Exchange Period:** semester (autumn/spring) Spring year 2018

**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)?**

RMIT was a very welcoming university, in the sense that they provided important preparation information before my departure and during the orientation days. The university also provided plenty of opportunities to meet other exchange students and introduced us to the different communities within the university, such as surf and food clubs.

The process of choosing courses was relatively straightforward as the university has a course catalog online, which shows information, start dates and availability. The academic level of my chosen courses fell short of the level experienced at my studies at ITU, which provided me with more time for leisure.

The structure of the courses at RMIT were quite similar to ITU, in which that there are mandatory tutorials after lectures. However, the tutorials were in smaller groups or teams, at approximately 20-30 students which made it easier to interact with the tutors and classmates.

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

My initial motivation for going abroad was mostly for personal development and to have a break from my usual routines and life in Copenhagen. My motivation for going abroad was also due to the experiences and academic work, which could increase my career opportunities.

My study abroad in Melbourne exceeded my expectations, in terms of social life and academic experiences. I had a limited knowledge of Melbourne prior to my travel, and was pleasantly surprised by the amount of activities and interesting events that were taking place during my stay.

**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?**

Going abroad in a foreign country on my own was of course challenging, and at times also pushing my own limits and expectations. My experiences abroad has definitely helped me grow on a personal level, in my own social capabilities but also on my cultural horizon due to my frequent encounters with a variety of cultures. The cultural aspect was also heavily emphasized as I was taking a course in Cross Cultural Management, in

which I could recognize some of the things I was being taught in my own experiences.

I am sure that my stay abroad in Melbourne has contributed to my future studies and prospects, especially with the cultural aspect of my stay as I wish to further study and work abroad in the near future.

## **Arranging your stay**

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

Arranging my stay was relatively easy, as I was doing it through an agency called EDU, who is partnered with an array of universities including my host university. EDU were the ones in contact with RMIT and did most of the practicalities, they do however ask for a variety of documents which can turn into an iterative process. I also had to do some online applications on my host universities website, which did not take more than around 30 minutes.

ITU was also relatively easy to engage with in arranging the stay, however the approval of courses can be a lengthy process due the slow responses from SAP. This is why I recommend applying for approval of more courses than you intend to take, as you might want to change some of your courses when starting your semester.

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

RMIT provided me with weekly newsletters about my stay as I was approaching my departure, the information in these newsletters were informative and helpful, in gaining insight into my next couple of months. The RMIT website also has a lot of information about the university and city, such as expected living costs and events.

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

I did not arrange accommodation prior to my departure, as it is difficult to do that while not being there in person. I booked a couple of nights at a hostel when I first arrived, and searched for accommodation from there. Finding a room was quite straightforward, and there were different platforms to do so. Most widely used are: Flatmates.com.au and the Fairy Floss Real Estate Melbourne group on Facebook.

It took me a couple of days to find a room and I was already moving in on my fifth day in Melbourne.

## **Expenses and Financing**

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

Melbourne is an expensive city, close proximity to Copenhagen. However, food and accommodation were a bit cheaper than expected.

Most of my spending went towards leisure and travelling, which is quite expensive.

In total I would estimate my expenses to have been approximately 70.000 DKK in total, for my 7 months abroad.

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

I did not apply for any scholarships.

**Recommendations for other students:**

Do not limit or constrain yourself due to your own expectations. Melbourne is a very diverse city, and you will come across many different kinds of people, so having an open mind is important. Hanging out with other Danish people will seem appealing and as they are of course easier to engage with, but you did go abroad to spend your time with other Danish people.