



IT University Travel Report

Host University: University of Melbourne, Australia

Study Programme at IT University : Software Development (Design Track)

Exchange Agreement or Study Abroad: Freemover (study abroad)

Courses studied abroad: Master's Software Engineering project, Internet Technologies, Knowledge Technologies, Software Modelling and Design

Exchange Period: semester (autumn/spring) Autumn year 2017

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

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Your stay abroad

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

The University of Melbourne is one of the best in Australia, and that is noticeable in the workload. Compared to my earlier experience with Queensland University of Technology (Brisbane), a lot more was asked of the students here, and the time spent studying was higher. However, I really enjoyed the classes I took, and I feel like I learned a lot – so the extra time spent studying was definitely worth it!

The Orientation program was sadly not that good, and it takes a bit more effort to get to know people. I would recommend joining the welcome week program, that way you already know someone once the O-week starts.

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

Last time I was in Australia, I really loved it, and when visiting Melbourne I knew I had to come back. I wanted to apply for a university in Melbourne, and with help from EDU Danmark, I decided on UniMelb based on their good credentials. Still I was pleasantly surprised by the content of the classes, but put a bit more effort into socializing than I thought would be needed.

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?

I gained a lot from my stay. I now have good contacts all over the world, I attended classes that were not available to me in Denmark, and I furthered my English even more. I believe all of these factors will be beneficial to me in my further studies and career, since I have experience with meeting a new culture and adapting to a new environment.

Arranging your stay

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

First I had a look of all of ITU's exchange and study abroad agreements, but none of them fitted my wish to go to Melbourne. So I contacted EDU Danmark, because I have heard a lot of good things about them, and then they helped me through the processes of applying as a Freemover.

What resources did you find helpful in planning your stay and which people did you use (if any)?
EDU Danmark was a great help, as well as the university's pages for incoming study abroad students.

How did you arrange practicalities such as accommodation?

Finding accommodation is pretty easy in Australia, so what most people do is book a hostel for the first week and then find a place, once there. I found my place through the website flatmates.com.au.

Expenses and Financing

Please comment on expenses connected to your stay abroad

Since I was not on Exchange I had to pay full tuition which is quite high for international students. Luckily I got to bring the SU Udlandsstipendium, and put a lot of effort into applying for scholarships. Living expenses are approximately the same as in Copenhagen, perhaps a bit more expensive, depending on how you spend your money. I would recommend buying a used bike of Gumtree.com.au (the Australian equivalent to DBA) as they are really cheap, and Masters student don't get concession on public transport.

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

I applied for a lot of scholarships and even attended a workshop before beginning, which helped me a lot! I also recommend the booklet "legat håndbogen" which gives you all the ins and outs on how and where to apply. I recommend especially Knud Højgaards Fond, Dansk Tennis Fond and Oticon. Many people also got funding from Nordea.

Recommendations for other students:

Studying abroad is ALWAYS a good idea, and you will regret not doing it! A lot of people I know have done it twice like me, because once you try it – you want to do again.

If you're going to Melbourne, try to find a Sharehouse in Carlton, Fitzroy or Brunswick. These areas are the coolest and most central. Good luck!