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, as long as you cover the information asked for below. You are also very welcome to include pictures and contact information – but you need not. Remember that the report will be made available on the intranet.

Host University: Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya

Study Programme at IT University : Software Development

Activity Abroad: HackUPC hackathon 2016

Exchange Period: semester (autumn/spring) Autumn year 2016

Your stay abroad

Please describe your stay abroad:

It was a weekend long event where 500 student participants and established companies came together to develop and compete for 36 hours.

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

To develop applications in connection with some of the most renowned companies within IT on cutting edge software and hardware provided by the sponsoring companies and organizers. Also to meet other like minded people in a creative environment focused around programming.

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 had a chance to explore my own abilities in the context of some of the brightest talent in my own field and to sense that I too had a place to contribute to future technologies. This was a highly motivating experience in terms of continuing to pursue my passion within the field of software development.

It also gave me a practical perspective into how the theory and knowledge from my studies can be combined with collaboration and common goals to create truly astonishing results even with very limited time.

**Arranging your stay**

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

We traveled as a group of 3 students from ITU and arranged for common accommodation during our stay in Barcelona. It was a combination of sleeping at the premises where the hackathon was held, staying at hostels and other accommodations, depending on what was cheapest on the day.

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

Google flight planner for flights

reddit.com/r/barcelona for the best student budget tapas

Also different phonenetwork subscriptions have free or no extra charged network coverage in Barcelona, e.g. 3 LikeHome.

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

Through online resources such as airbnb and hostelworld.com.

**Expenses and Financing**

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

Flights and accommodations. Mostly food was provided at the event, however some meals I had to pay myself.

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

The ITU travel pool is a great place to start for events related to ones studies.

**Recommendations for other students:**

Just do it.