

Exchange Report | Fall 2018  
Copenhagen Business School



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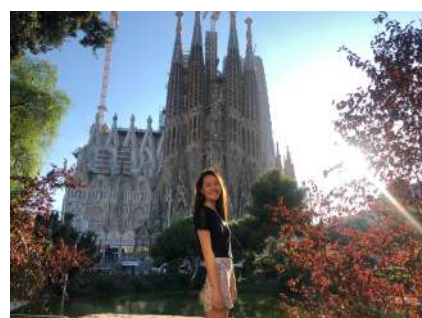
## Part 1. Monthly Activity Log

### August

I arrived in Copenhagen on the 25th of August to settle down and attend the compulsory orientation week before the semester started. My exchange buddy was so friendly and helpful to pick me up at the airport and bring me to my dormitory. I participated in the orientation week and it was so fun to get to know many other exchange students.

### September

The semester started on the 3rd of September and I have studied 4 courses, which are Asian Economics Organization and Competitiveness, Economic Growth and Decline of Firms, Industries and Nations, Quantitative Methods and Danish. I didn't do much traveling in September because I would like to settle down and explore the mesmerizing city first. But I started to plan my trips ahead after I know my timetable and exam details. I do recommend to plan trips ahead and buy air tickets as soon as possible because they can be raised within just a few days. I traveled to Barcelona, Spain in late September to enjoy the summer in Europe, because Copenhagen was getting cooler in September already.



### October

I had many trips in October, especially because there was a one-week public holiday during that month. I first went to Munich, Germany at the beginning of October because there was Oktoberfest which was the largest beer festival and traveling funfair. It was like a carnival which you can enjoy a wide variety of traditional food, amusement rides, games and of course Oktoberfest Beer!

After that, I traveled to Budapest, Hungary and Vienna, Austria. I did enjoy the thermal bath and flamboyant architecture in Budapest. And it is a must-do thing to attend the opera in Vienna.

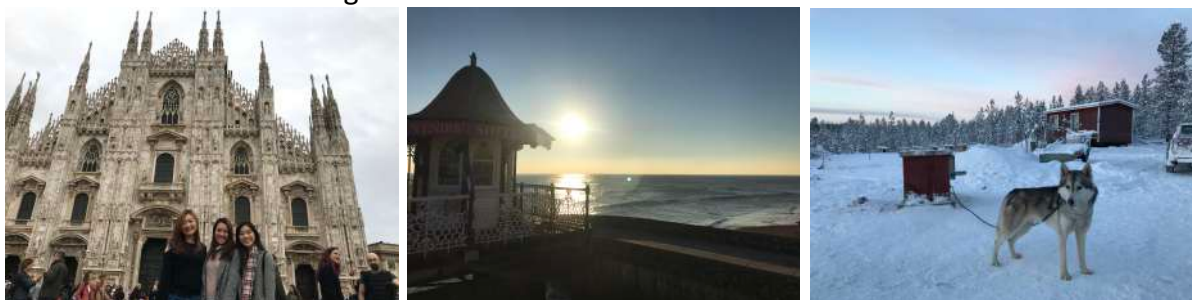
Then, I traveled to Switzerland to enjoy the breath-taking natural sceneries. I had kayaking at the Luzern Lake, riding alpine slide near Kandersteg and got to the "Top of Europe" Jungfrauoch. Though it was quite pricey for this trip, I would say it was all worth it because the beauty of nature will never disappoint you.

At the end of October, I also had a short trip to Oslo, Norway and luckily I witnessed the first snow there. There were not many things to do in Oslo, so I would recommend traveling to other cities in Norway if you are looking for some unique attractions.



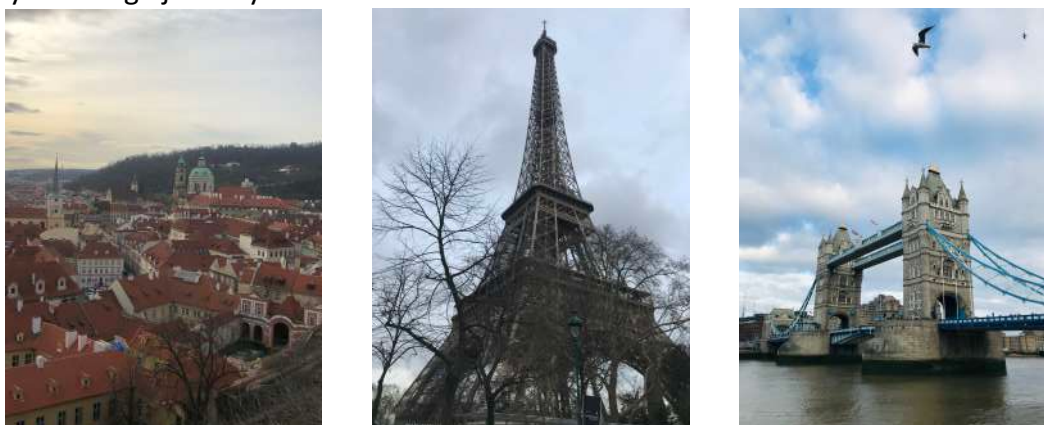
## November

Depending on the class choice, some students had final exams during this month. I also had my Danish exam in November so I took some time for studying. I participated in yoga class and dance class organized by CBS Yoga Club and Dance Club too. And I realized I should join these classes right from the start of the semester as they are really fun. I also traveled to Italy, the United Kingdom, and Finland this month. Highlight of my Finland trip is that I went to Santa Claus Village to meet the “real” Santa and taking Husky ride in Ivalo. Yet, I was not able to see the northern light.



## December

This was the month of final examination so I was busy with revising. I would recommend studying in some café in Copenhagen because they are all so work-friendly with comfortable environment. Most importantly, it was the best time of the year! European really took a lot of significance in celebrating Christmas. It was really festive everywhere. Christmas decorations, lights and trees were all around the city. There were also a lot of Christmas markets around the town. I would recommend you to travel to other countries and experience different Christmas vibes because each country has its own culture. I went to Tivoli, the most famous amusement park in Copenhagen, to experience the Christmas vibes there too. After I finished all the exams, I spent one month traveling across Europe. I went to Prague, Paris, London, Spain and Portugal till mid January and that marked the end of my exchange journey.





## Part 2. General Exchange Information

### Visa Procedures

I am holding both Hong Kong and British Passport. It is much more convenient to use British passport as I only made my visa application once I arrived in Copenhagen. I first applied for a residence permit which is free of charge. You may refer to CBS email for the special opening days and hours for CBS exchange students. After getting the residence permit, I then go to the municipality office for my CPR registration.

### Orientation Activities

There is a week of compulsory orientation activities held by the International Office, Housing office, Library and IT Office, showing you the basic facilities in CBS and the famous spots in Copenhagen. On top of that, there is an optional social package that international students can purchase. This social package is specially dedicated to us including learning Danish traditional folk dancing, movie night, boat trip and party. Basically, the orientation week will full of activities and it serves as a valuable chance for exchange students to get to know with each other. So, I highly recommend you to participate both so as to meet more friends.

### Accommodation

CBS provides a list of student dorms for exchange students to choose from. They vary in price, locations and comfortability. CBS will send you a link regarding the application process. Just to be aware that housing in CBS is really competitive so please be ready beforehand when the application process comes.

I live in Kathrine Kollegiet. It is close to CBS campus, which it only takes me 10-15 minutes to bike to school. It is located near Flintholm Station which is around 6 mins walking-distance from the dormitory. And I think the neighbourhood is very clean, comfortable and safe to live. I share the room with another exchange student and we have our own kitchen, bathroom inside our room.

### Course registration

There are 2 round of course registration. Students can take up to 30 ECTS (7.5 ECTS for one course) in one semester. The process of course registration is rather simple, you just have to use the online system and select the courses you are interested in and then you will be informed whether you have been successfully enrolled in or not. Yet, the schedule of courses are released much later after class enrolment confirmation and you have to check whether

your classes got clashed. You might have to email the International Office for that and they might help you to enrol to another class or your back-up course. Another thing is that CBS does not take attendance for most of the courses.

### **Teaching and Learning**

The teaching in CBS is more or less the same as UST. Yet, the class size in CBS tends to be smaller so there are more opportunities for students to have active participation. There are a few different types of exams depending on which course you take. The majority type of exam is digital exam where you sit in an examination hall and everyone type their answers out using the computers provided by CBS. The digital exam usually takes 4 hours so I would recommend you to bring along some snack as you are allowed to eat during the exam. Another type of exam is to submit a written report and hand in online. As I took Danish course there, I also had oral exam.

### **Sports and Recreation Facilities**

I didn't go to gym so I am not sure about the gym in CBS. As far as I know, there is no gym inside CBS campus but most of the students would sign up membership for nearby gyms and they usually have discount for CBS students.

I have tried yoga class and dance class held by Yoga Club and Dance Club in CBS. Both of them require participants to sign up before the class held. You just have to follow their Facebook Page and see if there is any update of the upcoming class schedules. The yoga class costs 20 DKK per class while the dance class is free of charge!

### **Finance and Banking**

I didn't open any bank account in Copenhagen as it required some fee to set up the account. Instead, I brought cash and used credit card to settle all the living expenses. Indeed Denmark is a cashless society which you can almost pay everything using credit or debit cards. You should also activate overseas ATM withdrawal limit prior to your exchange. There are ATM in Copenhagen that accept debit card with Union Pay so that you can withdraw cash.

### **Health and Safety**

Once you arrive at Copenhagen, you will apply for a citizenship card which entitles to health benefits. I have never had the experience of going to a doctor so I am not clear about the procedures. But in general, there is no need to worry about getting medical care in Copenhagen.

Copenhagen is a safe city with low crime rate, but still, I won't recommend staying out late alone. Regardless of where you are, you should always be sensible and taking good care of your personal belongings, especially when you are travelling to other countries which have relatively high pick-pocket rate.

### **Food**



Dining out in Copenhagen could be quite pricey. So, I always cook when I am in Copenhagen. You can always buy fresh ingredients in supermarkets as there are quite a lot of them located around the city. Also, I would recommend you to go to more café in Copenhagen because they are really comfortable and work-friendly with great food and service.

### **Transportation**

Copenhagen is a bike-friendly city. You can always see bikes parking everywhere. I would recommend you to rent a bike as well to experience the Danish well of living. I rented by bike through Swapfiets with student discount. It is really convenience to bike around the city especially it is quite costly to travel by public transportation. Just to be aware of the safety because local people bike really fast and you may need some time to adapt it. You should also observe the rules in order to bike properly. For example, you have to raise your right hand if you need to turn right.

For public transport, I would recommend you to get a travel card, Rejsekortet because you can enjoy half price for using the card.

### **Climate**

The weather in Copenhagen is rather cold especially it is windy and rainy in the winter. So, please bring enough clothes to there. Besides, the daylight is quite short in winter, which sun could set at 3:30 pm in December. Remember to bring gloves with you when you are biking as it can be quite painful if you expose your fingers out in this windy weather.

### **Communication**

Almost all locals know how to speak English so communication in Copenhagen should be fine. They are also friendly so no need to afraid to seek for help if you get lost or cannot find the place.

## **Part 3. Items to bring**

- Personal ID and photos for making residence permit or CPR
- Cash (I brought Danish Krone, Euro and a little Pound)
- Adaptors
- Medicine
- Warm clothes with gloves and knitted hats
- Cabin-size luggage for travelling on budget airlines
- USB for open book digital exams
- Electronic devices

## **Part 4. Useful Links**

CBS International Office: [receipt.inoff@cbs.dk](mailto:receipt.inoff@cbs.dk)

CBS Course Catalogue

<https://www.cbs.dk/en/international-opportunities/international-students/guestexchange-student/undergraduate-courses>

CBS accommodation

<https://www.cbs.dk/en/international-opportunities/international-students/guestexchange-student/accommodation>

If you would like to have more information, feel free to reach out to me by contacting SBM Exchange Team at [bmugexch@ust.hk](mailto:bmugexch@ust.hk).