



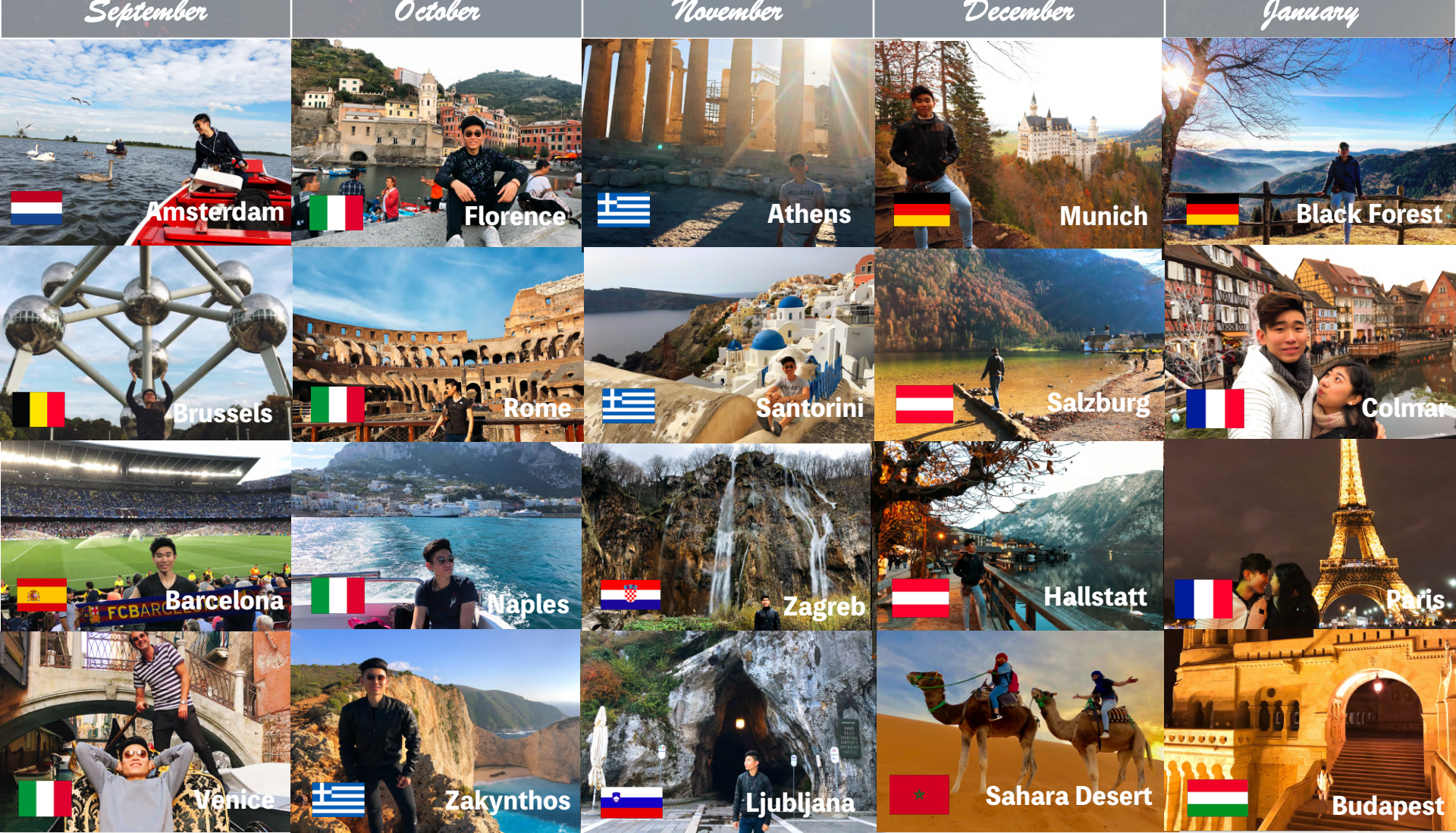
Exchange Report – Fall 2018-2019



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Year 3, BBA in Finance & IS





Monthly Activity Log

“Work Hard, Play Hard” This is what an exchange student needs to be! Just like ME!
I have attended the lectures (to some extent)! Trust me!



August

- Attend the Registration day
- Warm reminder for the To-do list on the Registration day: open your dutch bank account and register for the TOP Week
- Enjoy the most memorable moment in the TOP week which is the week right before the start of the semester!
- School starts at the late August

- Relax! The workload of TiU is not too high
- There is a Study Abroad Information Fair for you to join in the early-October. This is just an activity for exchange students to promote their own countries and home institutions
- During the mid-October, there was an one-week midterm break for you to relax. Just go to travel around!

September - October

November

- Most of the presentation, project and assignment deadline take place in November
- Since I only took 4 courses, so the workload was still acceptable

- Most of the final exams take place in December and end before the Christmas
- Work Hard! And then start your final journey after the final exams

December

January

- Most of the resit exams take place in January
- Trust me! You would definitely pass all the exams. Thus it is really not your business

General Exchange Information



Visa Procedures

- After HKUST outbound exchange program result has been announced, the immigration office of Tilburg University will notify you through email regarding the Netherlands Visa application procedures.
- Since you would stay in the Netherlands for more than 3 months, you should apply for the Dutch Visa, known as MVV. It cost around \$3000 to make the Visa.
- Once you got the information from the immigration office of TiU, just contact the Netherlands Consulate General of Hong Kong to make an appointment. Be sure to do it as early as possible since it took around a month for you to receive the Visa.
- You have to visit the Netherlands Consulate to collect your visa - Bring the letter they give you on your first visit to claim back your passport upon the second visit!



Orientation Activities

TOP Week

- Take place few days after your registration day
- Highly recommend you to join the TOP week since you could get to explore around Tilburg and get along with other exchange students from different countries
- It is really fun and there are a lot of events throughout the week, beer cantus, themed parties, pub crawls and so on



International Services & Activities

I*ESN

- The largest international student organisation organized by the Dutch students
- Organize the mentor dinner every week
- Have its own bar called Carpe Noctem and offer cheap drinks for members to go every week after the mentor dinner
- Required to pay around 50 euros to join their membership
- You could join their trip around Europe in a cheaper price if you are their member



Accommodation

Professor Verbernelaan (Verbs)

- Most of the exchange students live in there, it is 5 minutes by bike from the university
- Make sure you register on time right after the registration opened because there are only limited rooms.

Renting room by your own

- You could rent a room/an apartment through various housing agent website which would be provided by TiU in the email
- You could also find a room through Facebook (I would provide the Facebook group name later in the “Useful Links and Contacts” part)



Course Registration

- You get to register for courses via the online system, and you will receive the excel of the courses offering for exchange students via email. Make sure to check the syllabus with the HKUST course equivalent system to see if you can transfer the credit back to HKUST



Teaching & Assessment Methods

- Most of the courses have a 2-hour class once per week
- Most of the courses have exam and assignments
- Some of the courses do not have midterm exams (but depends on the professor)



Sports & Recreation Facilities

- There is a sports centre right besides verbs, and you need to pay around 22 euros per month for the membership
- You could join different classes holding in the sports centre like boxing, yoga, jumping fitness, badminton, etc, after joining the membership



Finance & Banking (including Currency/ expenses)

- TiU would require you to transfer 4375 euros to TiU before arrival
- You would need to open a Dutch bank account after arrival (non-EU students), and once you have the Dutch bank account, TiU would transfer the money back to your Dutch bank account
- The whole process takes around one month, so make sure that you bring enough cash with you before you set up your bank account
- It is very convenient to have the debit card in the Netherlands as most of the restaurants and shops accept debit card payment



Social Clubs & Networking Opportunities

- There are some sports club to join in the sports centre and you could also join the I*ESN for more networking events, such as regular themed parties and pub crawls



Health & Safety

- The Netherlands is one of the safest and cleanest cities in Europe., but you have to be careful of thieves in crowded areas and always remember to lock your bikes well as there is a small number of cases of bike stealing in town



Food

- The Netherlands is famous for many delicious local snacks. It is easy to find stroopwafels (syrup cookies), poffertjes (mini pancakes) and harling (preserved raw fish) in the supermarket.
- With a large number of Chinese migrate to the Netherlands these years, you could find many Chinese restaurants and Asian stores. Thus you could easily satisfy your wants when you feel homesick.



Transportation

- The Netherlands has one of the world' s most developed cycling lane systems. It is very convenient and safe to travel around in Tilburg by cycling.
- Get a bike! Cycling is definitely the main means of short distance transportation as buses and trains fees are very expensive and taxis are rarely seen
- You can get a decent second-hand bike for around 60-70 euros only. By the end of the semester you could even resell your bike and get back a portion of money.
- You could buy an OV chipcard (just like the Octopus card in Hong Kong) in every train station



Climate

- It rains a lot in the Netherlands, so bring a waterproof jacket if you are going to bike
- In summer, temperature could rise up to 30 ° C. But it starts to be cold in September with temperature drops to around 20 ° C in some of the days.
- In December, you might have chance to watch the snow in the Netherlands if you are lucky
- A snow jacket and normal summer and winter wear is enough to encounter the most extreme weathers in the Netherlands



Communication

- Don' t need to worry about it! Most of the Dutch are willing to speak in English and they are good at it
- The one and the only one difficulty is reading the food menu as some of the restaurants might only have Dutch menu



Checklist of Items to Bring

- Luggage
- Backpack
- Sportswear
- Sneakers
- Slippers
- Suit
- Tie
- Dress shoes
- Down puffer jacket
- Snow pants
- Cufflinks (optional)
- Tie clips (optional)
- Cash ★
- Credit cards
- Mobile phone
- Laptop
- Chargers
- Portable Chargers
- Hairdryer
- Towel
- Underwears
- Socks
- Stationaries
- Notebooks
- Trousers & Shorts
- T-shirts, sweaters, hoodies
- Snacks
- Wallet
- Flight ticket ★
- Passport ★
- A photocopy of credit cards, passport, flight ticket
- Ointment
- Hygiene Products
- Hard disk
- Adaptor
- Student ID
- Doll (which is sleeping with you every night)
- Your Dear's photo
- Yourself
- Your exciting mood

Useful Links & Contacts

- MySaS account (course registration)
<https://apply.tilburguniversity.edu/mix/>

Facebook groups (finding rooms)

- <https://www.facebook.com/groups/946867988745350/>
- <https://www.facebook.com/groups/763537060440105/>
- <https://www.facebook.com/groups/kamergezocht-aangebodentilburg/>
- <https://www.facebook.com/groups/169804780353838/>

I*ESN Facebook groups

- <https://www.facebook.com/groups/iesntilburg20182019/>
- <https://www.facebook.com/groups/193215294148222/>

Feel free to contact me if you have any other questions.
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Enjoy your exchange journey!