



2023

Exchange Report | 2023 Spring Copenhagen Business School

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January

I arrived in Oslo first on January 6th as my dorm in Copenhagen was not available until January 13th. I visited my friend who was on exchange in Oslo from the previous semester and did a solo trip to Bergen and Odda for snow hiking. I did the Trolltunga hike, which is one of the famous hikes in Norway. On January 17th, I travelled to Copenhagen and settled down. Just before the orientation week started, I visited Sweden with other friends from HKUST.



I joined all the daytime orientation activities. It included many talks which give you useful information on navigating your exchange life in CBS. There are also activities to help you learn the Danish culture, like the folk dance which is my favorite activity and movie night. Almost every evening, there was an event at a different bar or club exclusively for exchange students.

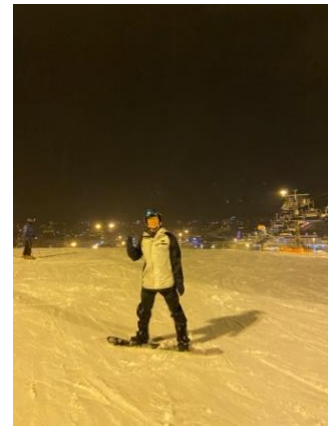


February

School started on the 1st of February. I took 4 courses in total, two of them are quarter 3 courses, 1 quarter 4 course and 1 semester course. Two of my courses require textbooks. I found an e-version textbook for Danish – Integrated Skills online and got the compendium for the Language of Negotiations from the bookstore on the CBS campus. My flatmate with my who is also from HKUST shared the compendium with me as both of us are studying that course. In early February, I went on a trip to the Balkans. I visited Sofia in Bulgaria, Skopje in North Macedonia, and Tirana in Albania. They are rich in history and offer a different experience from typical European cities. Kebabs there are fantastic!



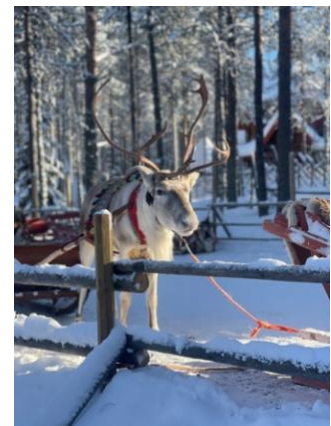
After the Balkans trip, I visited the landmarks and typical tourist spots in Copenhagen, like Nyhavn, The Little Mermaid and Christianhavn with other exchange students from HKUST. We also did a museum day. Some museums are free on specific days of the week, usually Wednesday.



In mid-February, I went to Poland to learn snowboarding. Poland is a relatively economical place to learn skiing or snowboarding. On my way travelling to the skiing resort, I stopped by to visit the



famous concentration camp, Auschwitz-Birkenau. In late February, I flew to Helsinki to visit my friend on exchange there and spent a couple of



days in Rovaniemi, famous for the Santa Claus village and aurora. Fortunately, I was able to catch the aurora.

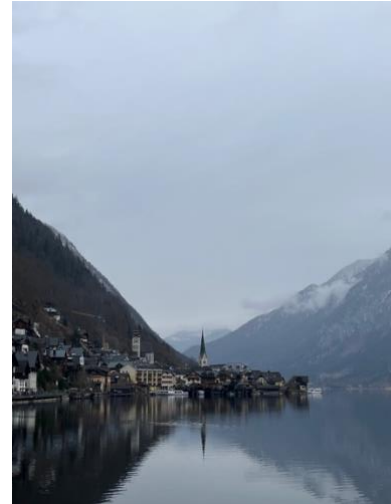
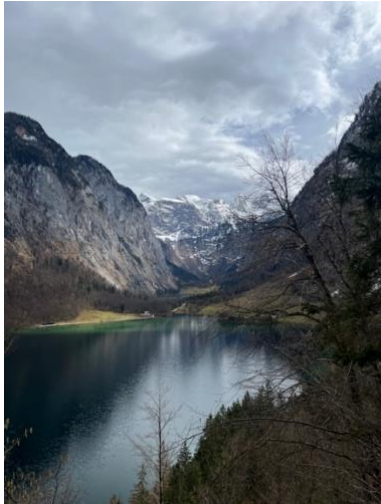
March

In early March, I started my Mid Europe adventure to Vienna in Austria, Bratislava in Slovakia and Budapest in Hungary. Joining walking tours are a typical way to explore

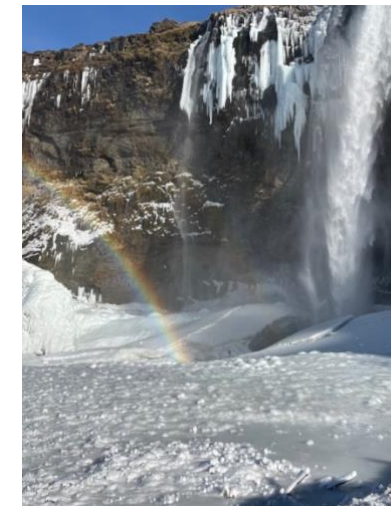


these cities as attractions are packed together and come with rich historical background. I joined at least one walking tour in each place as it is a good way to learn the culture from a local and get his or her restaurant recommendation in the area. Vienna is famous for its arts.

In mid-March, I did my second solo trip to Germany and Austria. I first took a long bus from Copenhagen to Berlin then to Munich. I spent a few days in Munich as my base as there are lots of mountains in the Bavaria region. I visited Schloss Neuschwanstein and Königssee, the two most famous attractions in the area. I added Hallstatt to this trip as Salzburg is near Munich. My trip was fulfilling with three intensive hiking.



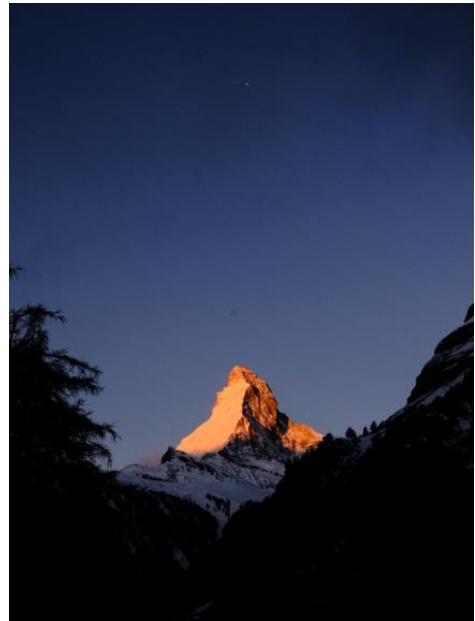
After a few days of school, I started another trip with other exchange friends from HKUST to Iceland. Iceland impressed us with its spectacular terrain and natural wonders. We did the golden circle tour and took some great pictures at the blue lagoon.



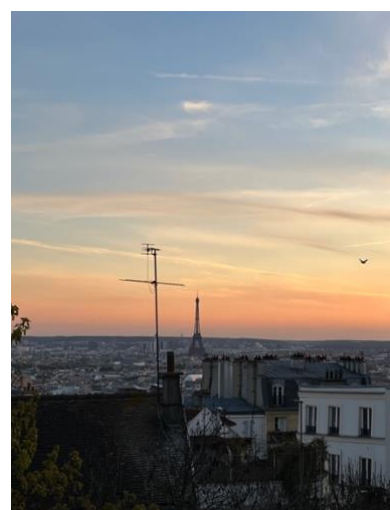
In the last week of March, I studied for Behavioral finance and did the take-home exam. During the weekend, I decided to explore other parts of Denmark. I went to the deer park in the northern part of the Copenhagen suburb. You can see herds of wild deer running around. The other day, I did a 22km hike of Stevns Cliff, in the south part of Zealand Island, the largest island in Denmark, also the island Copenhagen is in.

April

There were no classes for me in the first week of April, I went on a trip with my secondary school friends to Switzerland. The mountain views are magnificent. After that, I went south to Italy and visited several cities before I returned for classes as my quarter 4 course started. The next weekend, I travelled to Amsterdam and Paris. After that, I spent a few days studying Danish with other exchange students as my Danish exam was coming. After the Danish exam in late April, I decided to spend a few days in Copenhagen as the weather got warmer and Sakura started to bloom everywhere in the

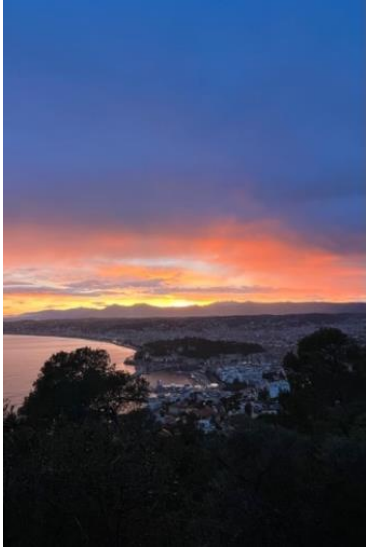


city by then. Tivoli was one of my highlights in April, it is the second-oldest amusement park in the world.

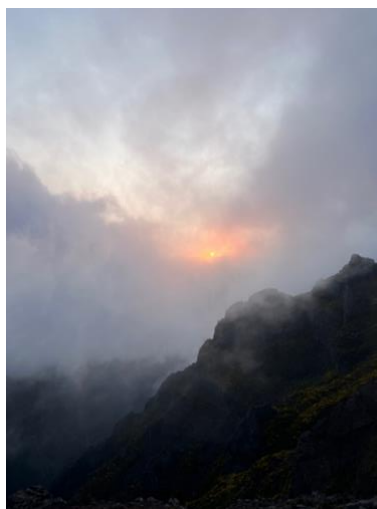


May

Towards the end of the semester, I have more time to travel as I only have classes for my quarter 4 course. In early May, I travelled to South France, South Italy and Sicily Island, then to Malta. As the daytime got longer and the weather got warmer, it is the season for the beach and sunshine. Malta is definitely an underrated island. After the Malta trip, I visited my friends in London and Bristol before I embarked on my final travel to Madeira, a small island of Portugal, located on the northeast side of Morocco.



Despite it is a small island, it has countless wonders and is a heaven for avid hikers like me. The highest point on the island is 1861m above sea level. This gives the mountains on the island microclimates. After several days of hiking in Madeira, I ended the trip with endless food adventures in Lisbon and Barcelona.



June

Before returning to Hong Kong, I went to the campus bookstore and get myself a CBS t-shirt and returned my bike. Eventually, I left Denmark on the 2nd of June. I still had two take-home exams, yet I could finish them in Hong Kong.

Part 2 General Exchange Information

Visa Procedures

In Denmark, you are required to hold a residence permit instead of a study visa to live and study. There are two ways to apply for the residence permit. One is to go to Shenzhen to submit the application and record your biometrics. The other way is to submit the documents after arriving in Denmark. The prerequisite for the second way is you can enter Denmark without the residence permit. Luckily, Hong Kong passport holders do not need a residence permit or visa to enter Denmark and the EU.

I submitted my application in early February and received my residence permit approval after one and a half months. After getting your residence permit, you can apply for a CPR number and a NEM ID for easier access to healthcare and other welfares. It is recommended to prepare all the documents before your departure. Please be reminded that the payment should be made in the same calendar year of your stay. For spring semester exchange, the payment should be in January and afterwards.

Accommodation

There are several accommodations you can choose from through CBS. Like HKUST, you can rank your choices and choose single/double rooms. If you already find a roommate in advance (maybe other exchange student in HKUST), you can inform the housing department through email you and your friend would like to share the same double room. Double room is slightly cheaper than single room. I lived in Kathrine Kollegiet, it is a dorm for undergraduate. It is nicely furnished. It is located 10 mins cycling from the campus and 3 mins walking from the metro station.

TEACHING & ASSESSMENT METHODS

All teachings were conducted face-to face. Teaching in CBS is relatively more interactive than in HKUST. There are more small group discussions and presentations. There is no attendance and only one final exam for courses in CBS. Therefore, the final exam is 100% weighted. Besides the face-to-face exam for Danish, exams for my other courses were all in the form of home assignments.

Course Registration

There are 3 types of courses in CBS, spanning across different periods, namely Q3, Q4 and semester courses. Below are the courses I took:

| | |
|---------------|---|
| BHAAV2389U | Behavioural Finance |
| BINBO1601U | Risk Management of Multinational Enterprise: Creating Global Strategic Responsiveness |
| BA-BPSYV1035U | Language of Negotiations |
| BA-BINBV1106U | Danish – Integrated Skills |

Normally, students take 30 credits for one semester, which is equivalent to 4 courses for most of the cases. You are required to not only submit 4 courses, but also a back-up course for each of them. You should crosscheck all choices (including the backups) with the course equivalent database. You could also factor in the types of course when planning your schedule. In general, the instructions are straightforward and clear.

Finance & Banking

It is difficult to exchange for Danish Kroner in Hong Kong. There are only a few exchanges in Hong Kong which provides Danish Kroner. It is better to call them in advance for an appointment. The spread is wide in Hong Kong, therefore I would not recommend exchanging a lot of Danish Kroner, around 700 DKK should be enough. Almost all stores in Copenhagen accepts contactless payment, so make sure you have stored your credit/debit card in Apple Wallet. The only place that doesn't accept card payment is Salon. You might want to compare the cash back rate and transaction fees of different credit/debit cards. Personally, I used the bluish world debit card issued by HSBC.

Climate

From January to March, the weather is quite cold and windy. Windbreaker is extremely useful if you want to do some jogging. Occasionally, there is some snow, yet they hardly accumulate. Sunset is early, at around 4~5 o'clock in the afternoon. From April to June, it becomes warmer, and daylight becomes longer.

Transportation

I mostly travelled around Copenhagen by bike. You can rent a bike from swaplift for around 180hkd a month which is economical compared to other means of transport. The transport system is bike friendly. Bike roads are wide and nicely paved. The metro and train system cover most of areas in Copenhagen, it is fairly easy to commute to different places. All you need is a travel card (rejsekort). With that travel card, you can basically travel to different places in Denmark, with bus, metro, and train. One good thing about the metro system despite its expensive fares is that it operates 24/7, so you can safely get home after an exciting night out.

Communication

I used the UK Lebara sim card as it has the best deal for travellers. For 15 pound a month, you get 30Gb data in the EU. Unfortunately, the deal is only available for UK Labara sim card, not the Denmark one.

Orientation Activities

Orientation week is the last week of January. There is campus tour, scavenger hunts and lots of club activities, it is a good opportunity to meet other exchange students. From time to time, there are different events at bar and club. You might consider following friendsofcph as they mainly promote their events on Instagram.

Food

Eating out is quite expensive in Copenhagen. Rema1000 and Netto are two supermarkets I go to for groceries. If you want to save money, yet don't want to bother cooking, Too Good To Go might be the app for you. You can collect excess food from restaurants at a low price. Every day at around late afternoon, you can start to sign up for the pick-up. The pick-up time is usually between 9:30-10:00pm later that day.

Sports

Fitness centers are easily accessible and cheap. However, I like running with fresh air. There are countless parks for jogging. There is one with a lake besides Kathrine Kollegiet.

Part 3 Checklist of items to bring

- a. Passport & ID
- b. Visa documents (hard and soft copies)
- c. Cash in Danish Kroner and Euro (1000 Danish Kroner is enough)
- d. Adaptors (at least 2)
- e. Medication
- f. Credit or Debit card
- g. Clothes
 - Down Jacket
 - Windbreaker
 - Scarf
 - Different layers for various weather while travelling

Part 4 Useful Links

CBS International Office

<https://www.cbs.dk/en/about-cbs/organisation/administrative-units/cbsinternational-office>

CBS Course Catalogue:

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

CBS Accommodation:

<https://www.cbs.dk/en/international-opportunities/internationalstudents/guestexchange-student/accommodationStudent>

Online registration for Visa

<https://www.nyidanmark.dk/en-GB/Applying/Short%20stay%20visa>