

Exchange Report

Fall 2023

Copenhagen Business School

Denmark

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Monthly Activity Log

Write a log of one paragraph for each month highlighting some of your interesting exchange experiences, activities, impressions & places of interest. Please describe your study, learning and life experience. This section should be at least 600 words long.

August

I arrived in Copenhagen on August 25. My buddy picked me up from Copenhagen Airport to my student dorm. My friends who arrived earlier gave me a tour around the city with a Copenhagen Card. We covered famous tourist attractions such as Christiansborg Palace, SMK, Nyhavn, Little Mermaid, Christiania, Round Tower, etc. The orientation organized by CBS started on August 28. We have a campus tour and some other fun activities such as folk dancing to meet other international students.

September

The orientation lasted until early September. We won a sports competition and were rewarded with a free 2-hour boat trip. I went to my first lesson with my bicycle from Swapfiets on Sep 4. I soon went on my first trip out of Copenhagen to visit Gothenburg and Malmo in Sweden. The theme park in Gothenburg, Liseberg, is an unforgettable experience that one should try. After the trip, I took the opportunity of the Denmark Museum Week, where most museums are free for the week and there is a huge discount for musicals. I visited several museums and attended an opera in 2-3 days. After that, I began my second trip to Oslo, Bergen, Berlin, Brussels, and Amsterdam. I returned to Copenhagen by late September, with an overnight Flixbus.

October

My courses do not contain group projects, but rather home assignments and face-to-face exams by the end of the semester, and some also encourage blended learning, giving me more flexibility to use my time. I took the opportunity to travel with my friends to different countries. I first visited Budapest and Vienna for the spectacular night lights. During the mid-term break, I visited Tromsø and saw the Northern Lights for the first time. It was also my first time playing with snow and dog sledding and I had a lot of fun. In late Oct, I went on a hectic trip that included Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, Finland, and Sweden (Stockholm) in 7 days. It was a refreshing experience from West and North Europe. I visited the House of Terror in Budapest and the KGB Museum in Riga, and it left me with a strong impression of the life of the innocents during the Cold War, ruled by the Soviet Union.

November

I went to Scotland to visit the highlands and the Isle of Skye for the magnificent views, and Iceland was the final spark of my journey where I stopped traveling until after the final exams. Iceland was truly a wonderful place where I enjoyed some more northern lights and beautiful views that can hardly be expressed in words. After that, I spent the remaining half of the month in Copenhagen studying and preparing home assignments. I toured around Copenhagen with my friends and visited places such as Frederik's Church, Superkilen Park, the Christmas Markets, and my favorite Genetically Modified Little Mermaid. As an avid chess lover, I also went to a chess salon for the first time. By late November I joined a hiking trip by the Hygge-hiking Society and went to Roskilde.

December

I explored some places outside of the city center of Copenhagen, such as the Frederiksberg Castle, Louisiana Museum, Kronborg Castle, and Bakken. I spent some time playing mahjong and went to Tivoli right before the finals. I had 2 home assignments, where I prepared a 15-page paper and 2 face-to-face exams, whereas in CBS we used the computer to access it at the specific examination center. After my exam, I went on my first solo trip to Germany. I visited some UNESCO Heritage Sites such as Lubeck, Schwerin, Hamburg, Wernigerode, Goslar, Quedlinburg, and Bremen. The solo trip gave me much more freedom, so I could attend a musical performance by top violinist Maxim Vengerov when I encountered it by luck. I also went to the Harz Mountain area and really enjoyed the buildings and streets, which greatly resembled the medieval ages. I returned to Copenhagen during Christmas to celebrate with my friends, and I started packing my luggage for my last one-month-long trip before returning to Hong Kong. On Dec 27, I traveled to Poland and visited the Auschwitz Concentration Camp, talking about the dark times for Jews during World War II. We then traveled to Prague and had our countdown there along with the crowds!

January

We continued our travel by train after the countdown at Prague. We went to Cesky Krumlov, Salzburg, Hallstatt, Innsbruck, and Ljubljana. I highly recommend the Skojcan Cave in Slovenia and Cesky Krumlov in the Czech Republic. After that, I joined another friend to travel around Paris and Italy. I was truly amazed by the arts and architecture in Paris, and it also offered free tickets to Versailles and the Louvre Museum for students. I then went to Italy, where I visited Rome, Orvieto, Florence, Pisa, Venice, and Milan. I highly recommend the "Castle in the Sky" Civita Di Bagnoregio near Orvieto, as the spectacular views are spectacular. I also had a lot of fun in Italy with good food and the many tourist attractions and art exhibitions that mesmerized me into the European world. However, time flies and I finally ended my journey and returned to Hong Kong in late Jan.

Please briefly describe the visa application procedures, including

- 1) Type of passport/travel document you are holding
- 2) Type of visa you are required
- 3) Required documents
- 4) Visa fees

Hong Kong people can enter Denmark without a visa for three months. In my case, I could enter Denmark and apply for a residence permit. The downside is that you can only access the rights of citizenship much later than those who applied early in the Mainland. I

chose to apply for my residence permit only after I had arrived in Denmark, as I

thought it would be easier. Overall, the application was pretty simple, and I have all the documents ready for it.

What are the course(s) that you have enrolled at the host institution?

Big Data Analytics for Managers

Risk Management

Undergraduate International Finance

Forecasting in Business and Economics

Please briefly describe the course registration procedures, such as

- 1) When did you receive the course registration details
- 2) What is the course registration procedures

3) Where can you access information related to course registration (e.g. websites)

CBS announces its available courses for the upcoming semester early, there is enough time for updating the credit transfer database and match the courses one wants to take in the HKUST credit transfer system. One can only take 4 courses and additional requires more procedures. There were quite a lot of HKUST students who

exchanged at CBS and did a course mapping application, so it was quite easy for me to find some courses to map with.

Please be reminded that courses at CBS will have different quarters. For example, some courses end in Quarter 1, so you only need to study from September to mid-October, while some courses end in a semester, so you need to study for a whole semester. The courses also have irregular timetables at time, for which you can check rather early.

Where did you live during the program?

On-campus student dormitory offered by the host institution

Please briefly describe the accommodation at the host destination, including

1) What type of accommodation

2) What is the application procedures (If you are staying at accommodation offered by the host institution)

3) How did you search for the accommodation and where did you book your accommodation (If you need to arrange your own accommodation)

4) Facilities in the accommodation

There are several student residences for selection. I live in a single room in Kathrine Kollegiet with an en-suite bathroom and kitchen. The dorm is considered to be very near to the campuses. The walking distance is around 15-20 minutes, and biking can take between 5-10 minutes. The allocation system is automatic, and you will just need to indicate your preferences on a website (which will be announced when you have done the exchange student registration). If you would like to live with your friend, both of you can email the housing department to it before the application. The dorm allowed me to live from mid-August to the end of December and the overall rent is around DKK 33,992. There is a common kitchen which also has a oven, a basement with laundry machines but they charge money, and basketball courts outside the dorm.

Please briefly describe the health and safety support provided at the host institution, including

1) Whether there is health centers or clinics available on campus

2) Any safety matters that you are concerned about

It is crucial to apply for the CPR and get a yellow card so that it will be free of charge for medical consultations. In Copenhagen you need to book from a centralized place for any medical appointment, as you cannot just walk in and seek services. In my case, I did not get my yellow card until much later, so when I am sick before it I take my own medicine. Therefore, I advise you to bring some of your own medicine as well.

Finances

How much did you spend (in HKD) on the following items? (Please input "0" if not applicable to you)

Air ticket between the place of departure and destination (round trip)

HKD 10,000

Accommodation (for the entire study abroad period)

HKD 39,000

Program fee (if applicable)

N/A

Personal expenses

HKD 93,800

Others, please specify

N/A

My Top 3s

Please share with students some of your top 3s. If it is best to provide the information in the language of the host destination, please do so, but provide an explanation in English.

Courses at the host institution

be more interactive during class sessions

study before and after class

look at the studying period carefully for time allocation

Favourite Food

pasta in italy

seafood in norway

open sandwich in denmark

Hang-outs places on campus

the mark

library

canteen

Must-dos in the city

visit most if not all famous tourist attractions

cycling into the city centre

go to different supermarkets and compare the price

Not-to-dos in the city

don't forget to check out with rejsekort

don't throw trash all into one trash bag

don't stay in your comfort zone

Useful local apps or websites

DOT Tickets

DSB

Too Good to Go

Words to describe my study abroad experience

most memorable days of my life

a good experience for growth

meeting many more people