

# Exchange Report

Spring 2024

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.

### January

I arrived in Copenhagen at the end of the month, just in time for orientation week. As it was my first visit to Europe, I was grateful to have an exchange buddy who helped me settle in on my first day. During orientation week, I made friends with other exchange students through various activities such as folk dancing, a welcome party, a city hunt, and a canal tour. Although I hesitated initially due to the cost, I highly recommend purchasing the Exchange Social Package rather than just attending the compulsory briefing sessions. It was instrumental in kickstarting my exchange experience and making friends. However, you can still make connections during the compulsory briefing sessions and on other occasions, especially with those living in the same dormitory.

### February

School officially started this month. At Copenhagen Business School (CBS), there are both quarterly and semester courses. Quarterly courses are completed in half a semester. I enrolled in three quarter courses and one semester course. Initially, I found the class durations challenging, as each session lasted over two hours, sometimes extending up to three hours, which was quite different from my experience at UST. Fortunately, the campus was within walking distance from my dormitory, which saved me from having to travel extensively. On my days off, I enjoyed exploring Copenhagen and spending time with friends. I particularly loved visiting bakeries, exploring museums, and cooking with my dormmates. One of my favorite places was the Danish Architecture Centre, where I learned more about architecture and began to appreciate the city's architectural beauty. The highlight of this museum is the slide that spans three levels, offering a fun and unique way to exit the building. In addition to my local adventures, I traveled to London during the Lunar New Year, adding another layer of cultural experience to my time abroad.

### March

March was a busy month academically, with one presentation, a midterm, and a final report due. My presentation focused on Emerging Markets, particularly India. Preparing for it involved group discussions and creating slides. Subsequently, we had to write a detailed report on the presentation topic, which was a fascinating exercise in analyzing a country's development. The midterm exam for Accounting and Financial Reporting was manageable since I already had some basics in Accounting. Due to my academic commitments, I mainly stayed in Copenhagen this month. However, I took the opportunity to explore other cities in Denmark. I visited Odense, the childhood home of Hans Christian Andersen, where I enjoyed learning about his life and works at the Hans Christian Andersen Museum. In Aarhus, Denmark's second-largest city, I visited the Street Food Hall, where I had the chance to try home-cooked Danish cuisine. I also managed a short trip to Stockholm to visit friends who were also on exchange. In Stockholm, we explored the historic Gamla Stan, visited the Nobel Prize Museum, and enjoyed delicious Swedish meatballs. In the same month, a friend from the US visited me in Copenhagen. Acting as her tour guide, I took her to some of my favorite spots, including Nyhavn, Str-get, and Christiansborg Palace. We also enjoyed the local cuisine at Torvehallerne market and experienced the cozy Danish concept of 'hygge' at a few charming cafes. It was rewarding to share my new home with her and see the city through her eyes.

### April

The first two weeks of April were primarily dedicated to preparing for two of my final exams. The intense study sessions and group discussions were challenging, but they also deepened my understanding of the subjects. Once I completed my finals, I rewarded myself with a trip to France to celebrate my birthday. Seeing the Eiffel Tower in person was a dream come true, and experiencing the charm of Paris made my birthday unforgettable.

With only one course scheduled for Quarter 4, I found myself with even more time to travel. I seized this opportunity to explore several amazing cities. In Amsterdam, I marveled at the intricate canal system, visited the Van Gogh Museum, and enjoyed a leisurely boat tour. Brussels delighted me with its rich history, stunning architecture, and delicious Belgian waffles and chocolates. Luxembourg, with its picturesque landscapes and fortifications, offered a peaceful yet enriching experience.

These travels not only allowed me to unwind after my finals but also provided a broader cultural perspective, enriching my exchange experience even further.

### May

In May, I had the chance to explore a few more countries, including Portugal, Spain, and Poland. Each destination offered unique cultural experiences and memorable adventures. In Portugal, I wandered through the charming streets of Lisbon and enjoyed the breathtaking views from the city's many viewpoints. Spain captivated me with its vibrant culture, delicious tapas, and historic sites in cities like Barcelona and Madrid. In Poland, I was profoundly moved by my visit to Auschwitz, where the solemn history and significance of the site left a lasting impact on me. Back in Copenhagen, the weather was finally getting warmer, and it was quite an adjustment to experience the sun setting as late as 9:30 PM. I took advantage of the long days by enjoying walks, exercise sessions, and picnics in the beautiful parks. My favorite park to visit was Frederiksberg Park, conveniently located just behind my student dorm. One of my favorite places I visited was Tivoli Gardens, one of the oldest amusement parks in the world, which offered a delightful blend of nostalgia and excitement. A major highlight of the month was witnessing the aurora borealis in Copenhagen. Seeing the northern lights in the city is incredibly rare, and it was a magical experience that I will never forget. The vivid colors dancing across the sky were mesmerizing and added an extraordinary touch to my time abroad. By the end of the month, I was finally done with all my courses, marking the completion of a significant and rewarding chapter of my exchange program.

### June

I only had two more weeks in Europe, so I made the most of my remaining time by traveling to three more cities: Budapest, Vienna, and Rome. Each city offered its own unique charm and historical significance. In Budapest, I marveled at the stunning architecture and soaked in the famous thermal baths. Vienna captivated me with its imperial palaces and classical music heritage. Rome was a dream come true, with its ancient ruins, vibrant culture, and delicious cuisine. In addition to my travels, I made a point to meet up with all the friends I had made during my exchange. We reminisced about our shared experiences and celebrated the friendships that had enriched my time abroad. Reflecting on my exchange, I can confidently say that it has been incredibly rewarding for me. The academic challenges, cultural explorations, and personal connections have all contributed to a transformative and unforgettable experience.

**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**

I am holding Malaysian passport, I can enter Denmark without visa. So I just need to do a residence permit, which can be done after I enter Denmark since like I mentioned, I do not need Visa. Required documents include offer letter, bank statement to prove that you can fund yourself for the whole program, copy of passport. Fee is DKK 2,490. More information can be found here: <https://www.nyidanmark.dk/en-GB/You-want-to-apply/Study/Higher-education?anchor=howtoapply>

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

Financial Derivatives

Financial Accounting and Reporting

Behavioral Finance

Emerging Markets

**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)**

1. Around November

2. Fill in a form and submit online

3. <https://www.cbs.dk/en/study/internationals/exchange-students/undergraduate-courses-exchange-students>

**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**

1. Single room equipped with kitchen, toilet shared with another room

2. Apply online through a link sent by CBS via email

4. basically like a studio room, in the room there is a private kitchen, bed, study table, closets and in the building there is laundry room, vacuum cleaner and a common area that needs to be booked in advance.

**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**

1. no

2. no, after you have residence permit, you get a hospital card

**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 7,500

**Accommodation (for the entire study abroad period)**

HKD 30,000

**Program fee (if applicable)**

N/A

**Personal expenses**

HKD 50,000

**Others, please specify**

Orientation week: HKD 700

**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**

Behavioral Finance

Emerging Markets

Financial Derivatives

**Favourite Food**

Pastry (can try BUKA or Juno)

Hotdog (with fried scallions and pickles)

Smorrebrod ( a danish specialty, I think the one with chicken salad is the best)

**Hang-outs places on campus**

Nexus Cafe

Dagens Have Campus Seating Area

Library

**Must-dos in the city**

Cycle

Stroll around stroget (shopping street)

Visit Nyhavn

**Not-to-dos in the city**

Forget to buy train/bus tickets (will get fine 750-1000dkk)

Buy mineral water from 7-11 (~DKK25-30), it is cheaper to buy in grocery shops (only DKK4)

Throw away recyclable bottles, you can bring the bottles back to the grocery stores and recycle them to get some money back

**Useful local apps or websites**

DOT tickets app (buy tickets for metro and bus)

Too good to go (buy leftover food at discounted price)

Apps of grocery stores like Netto, Fotex, Rema 1000 (to see what is on offer)

**Words to describe my study abroad experience**

Hygge

Fulfilling

Unforgettable