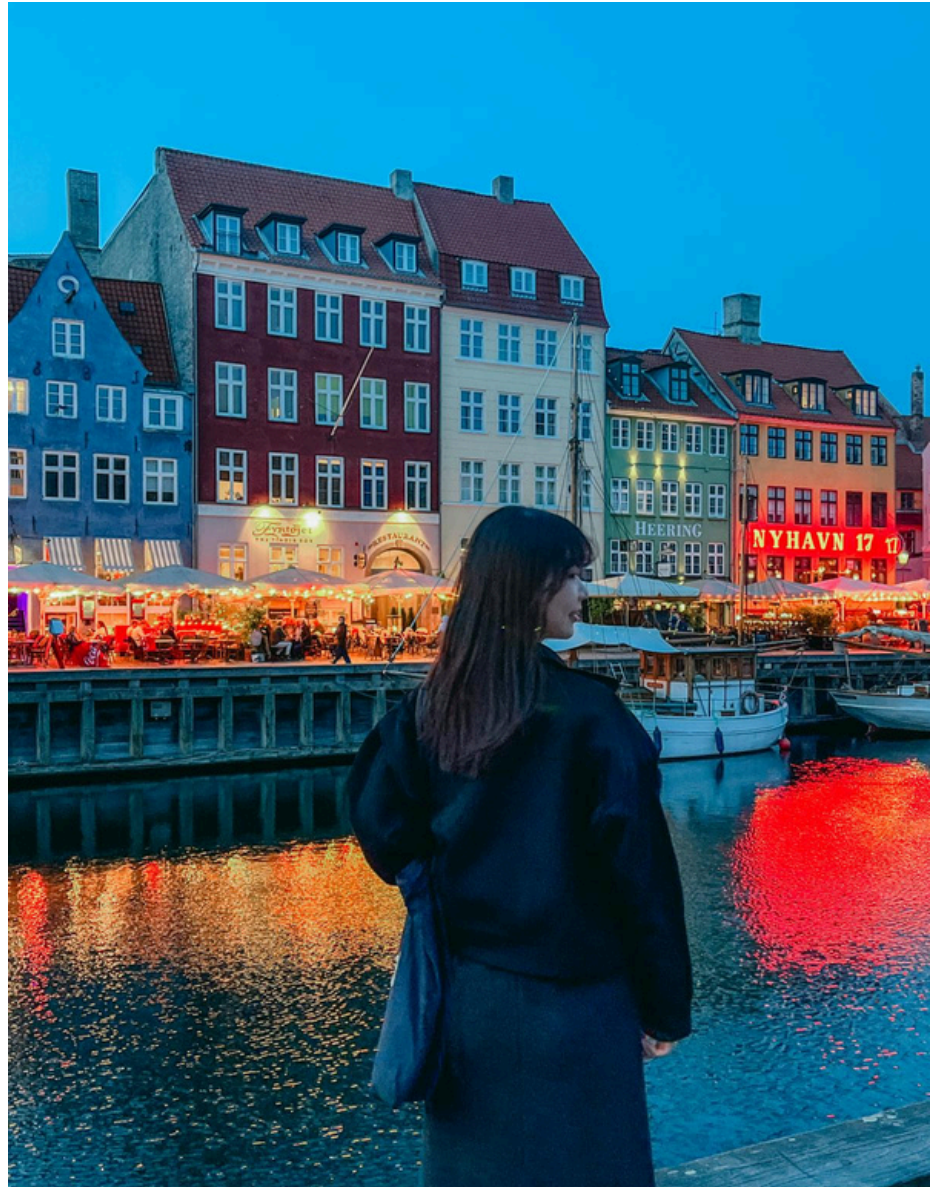


# Exchange Report

Copenhagen Business School

JULIANA SUNG  
Year 3 (GBUS+FINA)

Spring 2024/2025  
Denmark



## JANURARY

I arrived in Denmark on Jan 21<sup>st</sup>, with my buddy picking me up at the airport. A small reminder for non-local students utilizing HKUST's travel insurance, you need to have an outbound flight from Hong Kong Airport. January was a bit of light traveling and exploring, adapting to Copenhagen. The first two days I went to føtex and IKEA to buy groceries, and also went on a walk around Kastellet, the Little Mermaid, Amalienborg all the way to Nyhavn. Winter is cold in Denmark and the weather was cloudy, but it was a very nice experience to see Copenhagen not during its touristy summer. We also tried Smørrebrød and fish cakes at TorvehallerneKBH. After that, I went on a short trip to London. Coming back from London, I attended CBS's orientation package week, including Welcome session, Danish folk dance, City Hunt and Canel Tour (highly recommend!). On Chinese New Year, the HKUST exchange students also gathered together for a nice home-made dinner.



## FEBRUARY

Most of my courses are during Q3, therefore for February and March I went to school quite diligently and mostly went on weekend trips. For trips, February and March are quite cold in northern Europe but also a great time to go further up north for the northern lights. I visited Malmö for a daytrip and went to Stockholm, Tromsø, Oslo, and Berlin for short trips. Back in Copenhagen, I started to visit many museums such as the National Museum of Denmark, Glyptotek, Rosenborg and Louisiana Museum of Art in Humlebaek. Winter in Copenhagen is the rare time where you can see sunset early and pitch black. I highly recommend either Christiansborg Palace or Church of Our Savior for a nice view over the city. Back at school, I attended most classes and love the library at CBS Main Campus (Solbjerg Plads) and Dalgas Have. During my free time, I also visited some bars and restaurants/cafes at Nørreport and Kongens Nytorv with friends met on exchange. Also, if you want to experience Sauna and Cold Dip in the icy water, February is definitely the best time!



## MARCH

March was a bit of longer traveling and also the final exam season of Q3. I visited Finland, Estonia, Latvia, Poland, and Lithuania. Notably, a lot of these places are a bit colder and even snowy during this weather. However, they are quite close in proximity so definitely a good choice to group together. For instance, Tallinn is a easy short day trip from Helsinki by ferry and highly recommendable. My friend and I met up in Gdansk, Poland, and traveled by car to Krakow, flying to Vilnius and then went on a road trip to Klaipeda and Kaunas. Coming back from the long trips was the time for exams, I had three courses ending in Q3, so it was a busy time. I often study at CBS's libraries or even the Graduate House near my dorm, and also Det Kgl. Bibliotek. March is also the best month for the prettiest pink sunsets!



## APRIL

April and May were the high points of travel during the exchange; I only had two courses left so had a very light schedule. I went on three trips: (1) Munich + Salzburg + Belgium + the Netherlands (2) Prague + Budapest (3) France. Most of these trips were longer and often involved in-between travel either by train or by flight. Munich was full of day trips to Neuschwanstein, the alps, Austria, and lakes. While DB was notorious for being late, I was pleasantly surprised to have a on-time (even 3 minutes early train) when I traveled from Munich HBF to Brussels. I was mainly visiting friends and also some solo traveling on these trips, and April is the high season for spring and flowers, especially Keukenhof in the Netherlands. While people usually talk down on Belgium for tourism, I found Ghent a very charming and delicate university town. Amsterdam, Prague, Budapest and Paris are also nice during spring with more sunshine. Back at Copenhagen, I only had two courses left the workload was very light, I also visited Tivoli Gardens and some Cherry Blossom spots in Langelinje Park and Bispebjerg Kirkegård.



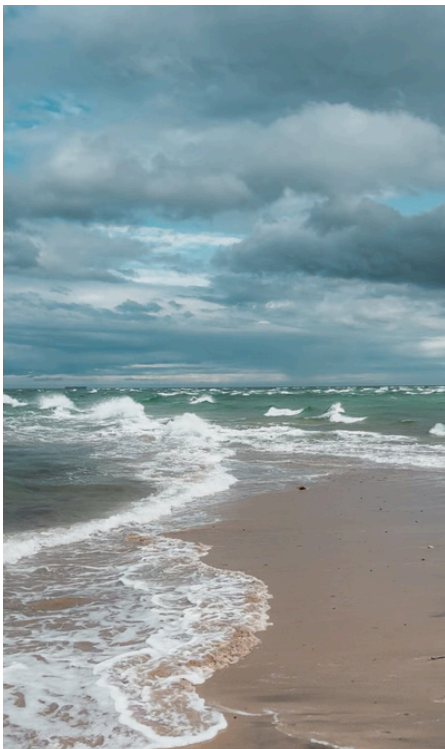
## MAY

In May, I visited Iceland, Spain, Portugal, Italy, and Greece while staying in Copenhagen for a longer time for a friend visit and also explore places that I haven't been to around Zealand. Summer in Iceland means a very long day and also the puffin season, but without Northern Lights. I went to Southern Europe during this time for the nice sunshine and weather as the Mediterranean Climate can be rainy if you visit during winter. In Copenhagen, I visited Refshaleøen, Amalienborg Museum, Dragør havn, Sydhavnstippen, Bakken, The Hermitage Palace in Klampenborg, Frederiksborg Slot, and Kronborg Slot in Helsingør. April and May are the prettiest seasons in Copenhagen, even though it can be more crowded as tourists start to flood in, but the nice weather and long day time makes it so nice to even just walk around Frederiksberg Have near where I live. Southern Europe was also a pleasant trip and a very different vibe; I really recommend Porto and Florence. (However, once you get used to Copenhagen Weather you start feeling it's too hot haha)



## JUNE

June was the last month of my exchange, I had one more to prepare for, and I was also saying goodbye to Denmark and Europe. For myself, I went on a short trip across the country to Aarhus, Billund Legoland, Aalborg, and Skagen. It was nice to see the different parts of Denmark before I leave (there's also a Denmark Tour held by CBS in April, but I had finals on the dates and therefore went on my own). Packing up, seeing flatmates leaving and visiting the best bakeries, cafes, and Nyhavn left me quite sad. I really enjoyed my cozy and quiet life in Copenhagen. Our flat had a nice poker night together for the one last time. On June 11<sup>th</sup>, I flew from CPH to Munich to visit a friend and then flew back to Taipei on June 16<sup>th</sup>. I will always miss the summer lights at 11pm and the glimpse of sunrise I saw at 3:40am after playing poker and some drinking.



# GENERAL STUDY ABROAD INFORMATION

## VISA PROCEDURE

I applied my student visa at the VFS Global Denmark in Taipei. They told me it would take about a month to process and since I only applied early January, I could use my Taiwan passport and enter Denmark before I got the visa with the Schengen 90/180 visa free period (this is also mentioned on the CBS websites). However, it actually only took them one week. So I entered with my student visa and then applied for Resident Card and CPR at the Copenhagen International House (remember to book a visit early!). Before getting the resident card, I was free to travel within the Schengen Region as long as I had my visa and passport with me. If you are visa free for Schengen Region, you can also travel outside and then come back to Denmark freely with the same visa if you're still within the 90/180 period. I went to the UK before my resident card was issued. Some of my friends also started the visa process upon arriving in Denmark but it takes a bit more time.

## ORIENTATION ACTIVITIES

CBS organizes its own orientation package, there's one for day activities like a welcome session, city hunt, folk dance, dessert, and canal tour. In addition, there is also CPH Nights, with days to parties and bars. I only signed up for the first one and it's really worth it, quite a few of my friends I met during exchange were the ones I met during the orientation week and it's a great way to explore Copenhagen. For the other one, while I didn't sign up, I also heard it's very worth the price and lively.

## INTERNATIONAL SERVICE AND ACTIVITIES

CBS pairs you up with a buddy who will get your room keys and picks you up at the airport. It really helps transitioning and mine gave me a lot of advice on transportation, restaurant and groceries options. In addition, they also have an international office down on Norde Fasanvej, though I have never been myself. In general, I do think CBS tries hard to help exchange students to have a smooth move into the city.

## ACCOMMODATION

CBS really helps exchange students when it comes to accommodation. I stayed in Nimbusparken, a very new graduate dorm. It was not one of my options since it's a graduate dorm, however this semester they had one building for exchange students and a lot of undergraduates also got allocated there. It's very nicely located, new, and comfortable dorm. I got to share a living room and a kitchen with 9 other people and had a single room with own ensuite bathroom. Many flats often had small parties or movie nights, and it was super cozy, definitely one of my highlights during the semester. Some of the exchange students didn't get a student dorm but CBS arranges housing with other third-party student dorms, it's a little bit pricier and a bit further away from campus, but usually one doesn't need to worry about finding housing themselves and the rooms are a pleasant stay as well.

# GENERAL STUDY ABROAD INFORMATION

## COURSE REGISTRATION

CBS course registration was quite easy, and very detailed just follow here: <https://www.cbs.dk/en/study/internationals/exchange-students/how-to-apply-courses>

The only note is that if you want to overload to 37.5 ECTS (5 courses) or prioritization for specific courses you want to transfer, you need to write a letter and get it signed at your program office back at HKUST. However, I believe if there's too many people who need the course they'd do a random draw. I wasn't so lucky, so I didn't get enrolled into Financial derivatives and their applications BHA AV4491 for FINA3203.

## COURSES THAT YOU HAVE TAKEN

I took 5 courses (37.5 ECTS) at CBS:

- Language of Negotiations BPSYV1035 (Take-home essay)
- Principles of International Marketing BINBO1160 (Take-home essay)
- Applied Pricing Management: Behavior, Strategy, and Customer Value BHA AV6094 (Oral exam based on written essay)
- Family Business Management: Strategy, Performance, Values BHA AV2272 (Oral exam based on written essay)
- Behavioral Finance BHA AV2389 (Take-home written exam)

CBS doesn't take attendance, and every course is 100% based on the final exam, so I wouldn't say the workload is high. Oral exams can be a bit trickier since we don't have it back in HKUST and every professor has different styles and expectations. I really enjoyed the Behavioral Finance course; it's definitely one of the most interesting finance courses I've taken so highly recommend :)

## FINANCE & BANKING

I used mainly Visa, Mastercard, and opened a Revolut account after I got my resident card. Revolut is very useful for transferring money to friends. I had some Euros in cash with me but I never used Danish Kroner in cash, Denmark is a really cashless country, but I recommend preparing some euros in advance as some small shops in other countries like Germany, France, Belgium.....etc only accept cash.

## CLIMATE

Copenhagen is cold, rainy, a bit windy but rarely snows. In January and February, the late sunrise and early sunset can kind of make you depressed (the temperature is about -5 to around 10 degrees Celsius); but once you get into April and May, the weather is super nice (around 10-20 degrees Celsius) and sunlight time is long (sun sets at around 10pm and even at 11pm it's only the blue hour). This year was a bit colder than usual so even in June we had weather at 12 degrees with rain.

# GENERAL STUDY ABROAD INFORMATION

## HEALTH & SAFETY

Denmark in general is very safe, it's one of the rare cities in Europe that me, as a female, won't find it sketchy to head back home or walk on the streets during midnight. Some neighborhoods like Nørrebro, Freetown Christiania, or around København H can be a little bit sketchier so I try to avoid them at night. Though it may sound very cliché, but it is very important to always pay attention to your surroundings and try to look "local". In Copenhagen, that means minimalistic outfits and not too showy. For healthcare, once you've done the CPR registration it's sort of free healthcare, but I never visited the doctor. There are also plenty of pharmacies around.

## FOOD

Food in Denmark is not the best in Europe if you are used to Asian food, but the Smørrebrød and Danish pastries are definitely some of the bests. I recommend going to TorvehallerneKBH (great seafood!) or the Meatpacking District (Kødbyen) for some local food. Danish hot dogs are also a must try! The Canteen in CBS is ok though the food often repeats every other day and the price is reasonable. (Somehow the cinnamon buns are cheaper than coffee though). I usually cook myself when I'm in Copenhagen, same for most of my flatmates, it's much cheaper than eating out. Netto is among the cheapest supermarkets and you can usually find everything in føtex or other supermarkets if not there. There are a lot of Asian Markets near København H and the Meatpacking District.

## TRANSPORTATION

Biking, along with metro and buses, are among the most useful forms of transportation. I had a Donkey account for shared bikes so I could bike around the city and commute to school. For transportation apps, I use DOT and Rejsekort, it's useful across the whole country.

## COMMUNICATION

I bought an esim from Orange for 30 days in Taiwan and used that for the first month. After that I got a number with CBB Mobil A/S, people also use pre-paid sims like Lyca Mobile or Lebera. I chose CBB cus it's quite cheap and you get to use a normal subscription plan with your own number, plus it's under Telenor group so the signal is quite good. However, you can only use subscription plans after the CPR registration and you got your MitID. In addition, a lot of the mobile provider's website are completely in Danish (e.g., [CBB Website](#)) so I suggest just calling them.

Language wise, Danes are usually very good at English, particularly in Copenhagen, so I never had any languages problems just speaking English.

## SPORTS & RECREATION FACILITIES

Theres a FitnessX and other gyms around where I live but I never attended, not a huge sports lover. But I do think biking in Copenhagen itself is already an activity itself :)

# GENERAL STUDY ABROAD INFORMATION

## SPORTS & RECREATION FACILITIES

There's a FitnessX and other gyms around where I live but I never attended, not a huge sports lover. But I do think biking in Copenhagen itself is already an activity itself :)

## SOCIAL CLUBS & NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES

There's a career fair in the middle of the semester (around March) and the exchange buddies also arrange a buddy dinner. I'm not aware of any particular clubs but I do have a friend who joined the student consulting network. Networking in Denmark is perhaps..... drinking I guess?

## CAUTIONARY MEASURES

Can't think of anything for now. Make sure you never lose your keys in Copenhagen though, my flatmate paid 1000DKK to get his door unlocked.

# ITEMS TO BRING

## DOCUMENTS

1. Passport and Visa
2. Require documents (according to the checklist that CBS provides)
3. A few ID photos

## CLOTHES

1. At least one waterproof jacket (rains too much in Copenhagen and the wind is too strong for umbrellas)
2. One pair of waterproof shoes
3. Winter clothes and a few summer clothes
4. Scarf

## FINANCIAL

1. A reasonable amount of cash
2. At least two credit cards just in case

## OTHERS

1. Stationary
2. Medicine (highly suggest vitamin D to get you through the winter)
3. Food and other stuff you will miss from home