

## STUDENT EXPERIENCE REPORT

### Preparation (planning, organisation, and application at the host institution)

The professors of the University of Perpignan are easily contactable, and they provide all the information that you need in advance. All the paperwork is rather smooth and clear. If you have any questions, feel free to send them e-mails and you will be well-informed within no time.

### Travel and arrival

Font-Romeu can be reached by two options. Easier one is to get the so called “1€ Bus” operating between the French city Perpignan. (Please see the link below)

<http://bus1euro.cd66.fr/horaires-et-itineraires-bus-a-1-euro/>

However, flights to Perpignan are quite expensive. A cheaper option might be taking the flight to Barcelona and then taking the train to the French town Latour-de-Carol. At this train station, there is also a “1€ Bus” station. Font-Romeu is then reachable in less than 30 minutes with the bus going to the Perpignan direction. It is strongly advised that you check the schedule for the bus before you take the train because Latour de Carol is a remote location and you may have to hitchhike if there are no busses once you arrive.

### Accommodation

Accommodation is not expensive, however quite hard to find especially for foreigners. We have had the help of a French colleague for the accommodation and end up staying at a beautiful place with a stunning view for only 200€ per month cold rent. Below you can see photos from our balcony.



### Studying at the host university (courses, academic performance/credits, support, credit transfer)

For the EUREC master students everything about the structure of the courses and credits are pre-arranged. Therefore, no problems occurred as expected. The education includes lots of practical laboratory works and homework. However, the time-schedule is well coordinated, and you will find more than enough free time to work on your tasks and enjoy the nature.

### **Everyday life and leisure time**

Font-Romeu is a touristic town on 2000 meters from sea level which is attractive for skiing. If you are into skiing or snowboarding, ski-centre is easily accessible. There is a nice Irish-Pub in town where we usually enjoyed having drinks on Friday evenings. The natural beauties around the town are amazing. Whenever the weather is nice, going out hiking to explore is the best thing to do. Please see the photos below to have an idea of the natural beauty. There are many nice places to visit, even better if you have a car or if you can rent one.



### **General experience, credit transfer, conclusion (tips for other students, DOs and DONTs)**

The French culture and the life in town is amazing. I was a little bit concerned about the location being remote. However, I've had the best time of my life and never regretted my decision. The weather on top of the mountain is changing too quickly within hours. Therefore, make sure you bring proper clothes otherwise you may end up paying a lot for them in available touristic shops. Do not worry about the credit transfer and paperwork as they're all taken care of if you're a EUREC student. Do not hesitate to choose Font-Romeu because it is a remote place on top of a mountain because there're actually lots of activities you may enjoy here.