

## **Erfahrungsbericht Auslandstudienaufenthalt: 2016 / 2017**

### **Experience Report Semester Abroad 2016 / 2017**

#### **Preparation**

My semester abroad took place in Slovenia, between the University of Nova Gorica and Ljubljana, the capital. My Master program takes place in English. I prepared my study abroad by learning about the program offer which was in line with my academic interests and thesis preparation. I furthermore researched Slovenia and its history to be aware of sensitivities and be able to have some prior knowledge. I applied for the Erasmus+ to support especially transportation and other costs involved in settling in a new place. I prepared to register at the host institution and also at the foreigner's office as I was planning to stay longer than three months in Slovenia.

#### **Arrival**

I arrived to Ljubljana by bus. It is also possible to fly there or take a train from neighboring countries. However, many people recommend flying into one of the near-by airports which offer better connections such as in Venice or Trieste. Slovenia's airport is quite small and flights are costly compared to other nearby airports and their respective routes. I was not living in student accommodation but there are many offers for student housing. Ljubljana is a popular destination and friendly city towards Erasmus students. You will have no problems at all and never feel like the only foreign student.

#### **Housing**

To secure good housing, I recommend searching early. The university offers some help and information in securing accommodation but also Facebook and other private websites are useful. There are several student organizations with very friendly staff. You can contact them directly via this mail for any questions regarding housing and arrival: [fdv.tutor@gmail.com](mailto:fdv.tutor@gmail.com)

If you live outside the city center, I would recommend getting a bicycle at one of the Sunday markets or through the Facebook (Erasmus in Slovenia) pages.

Short Glossary for the basics:

Room = soba

X-bedroom apartment = X-sobno stanovanje

Rent = najmenina

Costs = stroški

District = predel (Šiška, Bežigrad, Center ...)

#### **Studies**

My studies were very excellent as I selected the course of my interest. Teachers are approachable, qualified and interested. There was no problem in communication as my teachers speak perfect English too.

#### **Every Day Life**

Likewise in every day life, you will get along with English and get to know the city quickly. There are intensive Slovenian courses on offer, usually in September and February which last one month.

Ljubljana itself is small and can be easily navigated for everything, by bus, bike (very bike-friendly city) and so forth. The library and many cafes are student friendly and offer space for studying and meeting friends. Overall prices are fair and students received a discount on meals in restaurants. Slovenia is beautiful, welcoming and a place to discover in central Europe at the crossroad of European diversity. Highly recommend!