

Exchange experience University of Ljubljana, Slovenia

As per courses, I took “European Private Law”, “Roman Law”, “Diplomatic and Consular Law”, “Civil Medical Law”, and “Mergers, Acquisition and Corporate Restructuring”. Further below I am going to first describe the academic aspects of my Erasmus exchange, followed by the social ones.

A week before we actually began classes, we had an introduction day on which you receive some lovely gifts, meet the other Erasmus students, get to know the place around and best of all, you are introduced to the bonus system for students which gives you 50% discount in almost all restaurants in the city. Everybody from the faculty is always polite, friendly and willing to help you - a special mention should be given to the Erasmus coordinator who responds to your emails almost instantaneously even if you send it at 11pm. The first course that I attended and will begin with is Civil Medical Law. Signing to the course, I was a bit intimidated by the name at the beginning, but soon realised it was one of the most practical and informative courses I have taken in law. Rather than going in-depth about specific legislation or insurance policies or case-law, we were introduced to general principles, ethics and morals of medical law. Along with the fact that the professor was extremely pleasant and enthusiastic it made for a thoroughly enjoyable course with information that I can use in my everyday life -it was a written exam. Secondly, I had the course of Roman Law. I personally picked this course because on the syllables description there was a lot of resemblance to private law i.e contract law, property law and tort law. Unfortunately, this course was more based on history (which is not a bad thing) but can get repetitive and tedious at points. One thing I have to say about this course is that the professor is extremely passionate about this subject, loves teaching it, and if you have any background in roman law (i.e Legal History at University of Groningen) you can have endless conversations, but perhaps makes the written exam a bit hard. Following was the course of European Private Law. Here is where I would not recommend a course. The teacher more or less always spend 30 minutes out of the 1 hour lecture talking about the “best place to eat pizza in Ljubljana” or something irrelevant. On top of that he was absent 4 out of the 6 lectures that we had with the substitute teacher saying “he was out of the city” even though 10 minutes after lecture we would see him walking in the halls. When he was there would only provide us with a copy of a directive and read through it. Two weeks before the exam we were provided with 8 different articles concerning European Private law which we were to study for the written exam - It was based upon the readings, nothing done in class. On a more positive note, the course of Diplomatic and Consular Law was by far the most engaging on this Erasmus Exchange. It has a compulsory MUNlaws, which if you are really social, talkative and want to learn more person is an amazing thing. Not only do you get to practice the stuff that you have learn in the books, but also can enter the social even after the conference and get the know the Slovenian Students. It is more or less the any contact I had with the Slovenian students since classes are not mixed due to Slovenian law. On top of that, the exam is oral and can receive a bonus point if you did well on the MUN laws. Finally, my favourite course of Mergers, Acquisition and Corporate Restructuring. The teacher is absolutely phenomenal and impeccably passionate about his topic. Not only did we learn something that is not available in our university, but we also were indulged with three guest lectures from

people that work in the M&A sphere. When it comes to the academics I was definitely not disappointed.

Slovenia is really a place that you can explore completely during your Erasmus exchange. A small country with a population less than 2 million and an absolutely magnificent nature present a prime contender for a country that you can fall in love with in 4 months. Slovenia is a place where history and modernity go hand in hand. From the magnificent ancient architecture engulfed by tourists trying to snap a shot, to the river canals crowded with people having a beer or a cigarette and a lovely conversation, Slovenia really is an extraordinarily romantic and peaceful place, where one can truly feel free. In Ljubljana I learnt to ride a skateboard which proved extremely useful. From one side of the city you can reach by either bus or bike - both of which are discounted as a student. You may also pick a skateboard like me, and slowly push and just indulge your eyes as you pass the communist architecture in the city centre, and slightly shifting to more modernistic as you span outwards. There plenty of bars, restaurants and discos that you can go to, almost all with no entrance fee. But perhaps the best thing is the 24 hour open pastry shops for a midnight snacks. In general, the life in Slovenia is not expensive and can easily spend 25 euros shopping for food which can last a week. If you get tired of Ljubljana, there are numerous mountains, lakes natural parks and caves that are up for exploring. Renting a car for a day costs 20 euros, and Triglav Park (Slovenia's biggest national park) is just 60km away. If you share the costs with a friend or friends - a hiking trip that lasts 8-10 hours with food with cost you no more than 15 euros in total. Moreover, the housing in Ljubljana should not be a problem if you start early. I began in July, used 2 of the websites that provide housing in Ljubljana, the university dormitories and Airbnb as my starting points. Although you may find lovely places for about 200-250 euros at the dorms, I found mine on Airbnb (luckily) for 300 euros right at the city centre. But in general there is a lot of choice, and no matter where you choose will be close to everything, or there will be available transport close to you.

After four months in Ljubljana, I strongly recommend going to exchange there, exploring some of astounding places like lake bled, Triglav park ect, as I did almost every weekend. visiting a different mountain, or hiking trail or cave making every moment spent in Slovenia thoroughly enjoyable.

I hope you chose Slovenia, and have as pleasant time as I did.