

Field report on studying abroad

Details on studying abroad

- SMK Aukštoji mokykla, Kaunas, Lithuania
- Programme title- Blended Intensive Programme
- Summer Semester, 2024
- MA International Management - SS24 at TH Rosenheim
- Naisergika Negi: naisergika.negi@stud.th-rosenheim.de

Preparation

I got the opportunity to apply for BIP programme from Dashboard of Learning Campus, and I applied immediately. Luckily, I got admitted into 2 BIP programmes which was offered by SMK, Lithuania. One was in Vilnius and the other was in Kaunas. I found the BIP in Kaunas is much related to my field of study and my interest, so I accepted the offer.

BIP in Kaunas was about Innovation and Technology Management from 10-14th of June 2024 which was the perfect time for me as my summer semester was about to end. After accepting the letter of confirmation, I contacted the International Office at my University and filled all the important documents from Erasmus+ and started preparing for the travel and accommodation.



Accommodation

Me with my 3 other friends booked the Mr. Jo's Hostel which was recommended by the SMK University for students. The hostel was at the middle of University and City centre which I found very convenient. We came to Kaunas via Flix Bus, and the hostel was very close to the bus station. It's very affordable for the students and you'll save lot of money compared to the expensive 5-star hotels or any Airbnb. The Hostel was very well maintained, furnished as well and they have maintained the cleanliness too. I personally enjoyed my stay at Mr. Jo's hostel as I didn't expect the Hostel to provide the essential amenities like Wi-Fi, kitchen, mini fridge in the rooms, microwave, hair dryer, washing machine, clean facilities and most important helpful and friendly staff. There were couches in the common area in which you can socialize with other people, students or maybe travellers.

Study at the host university

The one-week BIP programme was truly engaging with 21 other international students. We had lectures which focused on innovation and technology in day to day lives. It provided a strong theoretical as well as practical approach on latest advancements and their impact on management practices. We also had a factory visit of 'FREDA', a biggest furniture manufacturer in Lithuania in which we saw the transformation of furniture through various technological innovations. After that, we also had a lecture on innovation and technology in the fashion business which provide a valuable insight into the fashion industry. On the last day, we had to show what we have learned from all this and how we can apply innovation and technology in real-life concepts. We presented the project in front of the class and received feedback from professors and peers. I really liked the University's infrastructure, and the quality of study which they provide to the students.



Everyday life and leisure

In our itinerary, on the very first day we had a Kaunas city walking tour which was a delight to see the old town and new town of the city. The city vibe was friendly and welcoming. We had walked through 'The Laisves Aleja' which is one of the longest pedestrian street in the Eastern Europe which is about 1.6Km long. The whole street was filled with pubs, coffee shops, bars and what not. There were so many historical sites to explore as well. Kaunas transforms into a vibrant hub at night. People enjoy the local beers in the bars with the live music, food and friendly atmosphere. It was so easy to talk with locals there as they all speak English. I saw many local people wearing green jersey Tshirt- they all were coming from the Stadium to support their Football team-Žalgiris. We also enjoyed the Lithuania's cultural food fest. There we had tried the Lithuania's traditional dish- Cepelinai- which is made of potato dumpling offered with beetroot soup. It was delicious and fulfilling too. There was so much to do in the city, I went for shopping with my friends to collect souvenirs. For dinner, we enjoyed the Charlie's pizza which was so affordable and tasty.

Conclusion

Yes, I would recommend this programme to other students. The week was full of learnings and making memorable experiences. The BIP gave me an invaluable experience. It was a perfect blend of cultural mix and academic learning. It was an unforgettable journey that pushed me intellectually and personally.

Ačiū Lietuva (Thankyou Lithuania) for a wonderful experience.

