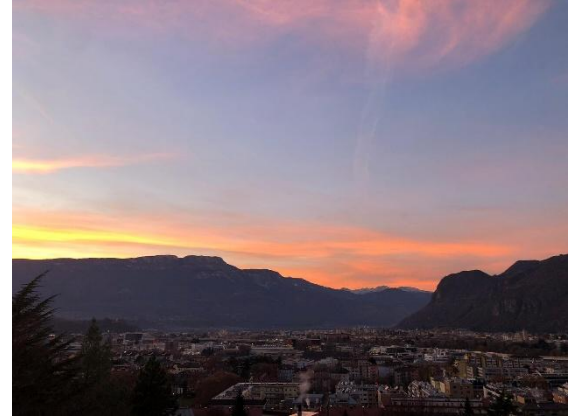


Host university: Free University of Bozen-Bolzano

Location: Bolzano, Italy

Semester: winter semester 2025

Study program: master in wood technology

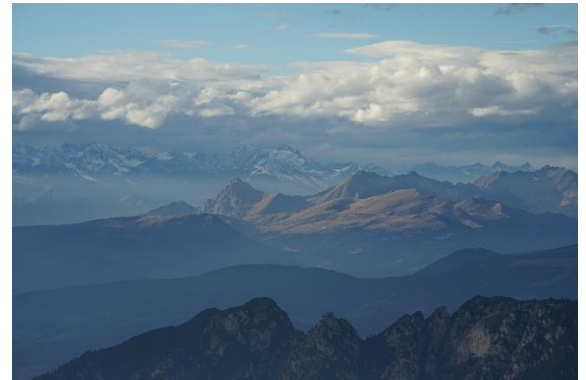


Preparation

I decided to spend my Erasmus semester in Bolzano because the university offers an interesting international environment and the location in the Alps immediately appealed to me. Since I enjoy nature and mountain landscapes, the region was a perfect fit for me personally

and academically.

The application process was well-structured but required careful preparation of all necessary documents, especially the Learning Agreement. Communication with the host university was reliable and helpful throughout the process.



Accommodation

During my stay, I lived in a private flat. Although this option offered more independence and privacy. Finding accommodation on the private market, however, was quite challenging. Housing in Bolzano is limited and in high demand, so it is very important to start searching as early as possible. Students should begin looking several months in advance and use multiple platforms. The university offers cheaper rooms in dorms, but spaces are limited and are allocated according first come first serve.

Overall, living in a private apartment was a good experience, but future students should be aware of the stressful housing search and plan early.

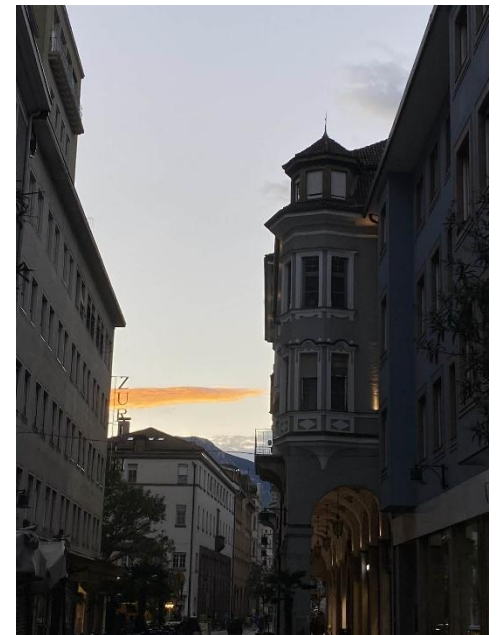
Daily Life and Leisure Time

Bolzano is a cozy and charming city with a unique mix of Italian and Austrian culture. One of the most impressive aspects of daily life was the breathtaking mountain scenery surrounding the city.

Although the party scene is relatively small and events are not as frequent as in larger cities, Bolzano offers excellent opportunities for outdoor activities. Students can spend their free time hiking, skiing, or doing via ferrata tours in the Alps. These activities make the city especially attractive for people who enjoy sports and nature.

Public transportation is reliable and allows easy access to surrounding villages and ski areas. Additionally, the location is ideal for traveling within Northern Italy and neighboring countries.

The cost of living is slightly higher than in many German student cities, especially for rent and groceries, but still manageable with proper budgeting.

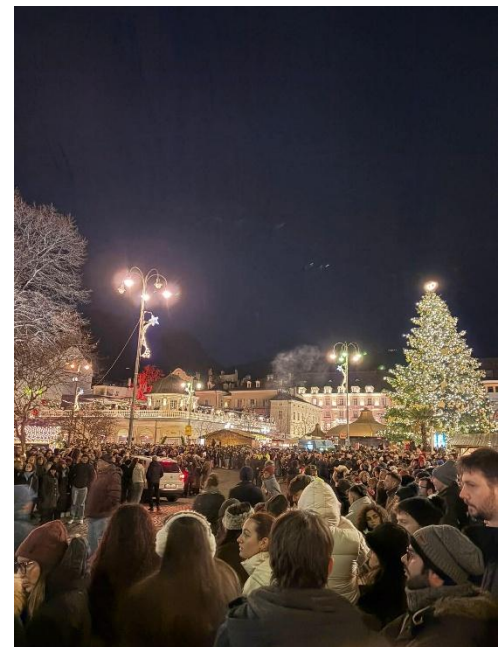


Social Experience

The international environment at the university makes it easy to connect with students from all over the world. Erasmus students in particular form a close community and regularly organize group activities and trips.

It was interesting to experience the cultural diversity in South Tyrol, where both Italian and German influences shape everyday life. This cultural mix creates a unique atmosphere and makes integration easier for German-speaking students.

Through university courses and leisure activities, I was able to meet many new people and build lasting friendships.



Conclusion

My Erasmus semester in Bolzano was a very enriching academic and personal experience. I especially appreciated the combination of high-quality education, international exchange, and outstanding natural surroundings.

The biggest challenge was finding accommodation, but once settled, the quality of life was excellent.

I would strongly recommend Bolzano to students who enjoy nature, winter sports, and a quieter but very high-quality student life. It is an ideal destination for those who prefer mountains and cultural diversity over big city nightlife.

This experience helped me grow personally, become more independent, and gain valuable international experience for my future career.