

MY STUDENT EXCHANGE EXPERIENCE

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During my Erasmus+ program, I have met many interesting people, built friendships, traveled, and overall experienced interesting things.

Before Erasmus, I wasn't very social. I didn't go out much, I didn't have many friends. I wasn't very good at socializing. I'm still not very good at it, but at least I've had a start. I have friends from Ghana, Portugal, Spain, Germany, etc. Actually, now I have more international friends than Estonian friends.

I had many opportunities to meet new people, with groups such as AfroUHK. There were many parties where I could talk to students from all over the world and sometimes even relate to them.

The Czech Republic is cheaper than Estonia, in terms of living costs. I found many similarities between the Czech Republic and Estonia, the temperament of the people being one of them. Some people have talked about having a culture shock when you are in a new place but since people and customs are so similar, I can't claim I had much of a culture shock. The only challenging thing for me, and I think many can relate, is the difficulty of the Czech language. By now, I know enough to get by. But for someone who has learned Russian, a Slavic language, Czech is easier. Unlike some Erasmus students, I actively talked to the Czech people.



The ESN organized interesting events such as the picnic, the Welcome Party, and Scavenger Hunt. I am happy with their performance.

During my time here I traveled to Hungary, Germany, and to Austria. In Hungary, I only visited Budapest, but I would gladly visit it again. In Germany, I visited Berlin, Potsdam and Dresden. I learned how beautiful and relatively affordable Berlin was and I would love to revisit it. I also visited the Punkva caves. It was interesting to see the karst at the caves. I also climbed the Sneška mountain. Honestly, I had never seen a mountain before, let alone climbed one. It was very impressive.



I have visited Kutná Hora, Karlovy Vary and Brno as well. I also found Prague to be a beautiful place to revisit. In Hradec I visited Hrádek u Nechanic Castle.

I studied at the UHK for two semesters and in terms of studies, it didn't disappoint me. The teachers at the UHK are very good at sharing their areas of expertise. I studied Czech, Arabic, and French languages. I also learned more about the past of the Czech lands and once again saw similar patterns with the history of the Baltic region. I also took the course "Introduction to Post-Colonial Theory" for the first time. I'm hoping to continue all those fields in my upcoming studies, it has been a very productive experience.

