

Travel Report

GENERAL INFORMATION

What was your semester abroad like?

I agree to the publication of the report and attached photos
(there are no third parties rights to these photos) Yes

New outgoing students sometimes ask us for a way to
contact former outgoings. Are we allowed to pass on your
contact details in case of inquiries? Yes

Academic year 2024/2025

Start semester Herbst/Fall 2024/25

Duration in semesters 1

Study program at EUF B.A. European Cultures and Society

Subject 1 (only applicable to teacher training students)

Subject 2 (only applicable to teacher training students)

Subject 3 (only applicable to teacher training students)

Host country Portugal

Host university Universidade de Lisboa

YOUR PERSONAL EXPERIENCE

How did you prepare for the semester abroad? What should
be organized in advance?

If you're a non-EU student, make sure your German residence permit is not
expiring during your semester abroad. Make sure to email the embassy of your
host country to double check if you need a visa or not. And do some research
into the NIF (portuguese tax number).

Do you have any recommendations for environmentally
friendly travel (if applicable)?

You can take the train. You can use the semester ticket to go to the South-West
of Germany and continue with train down. The Portuguese intercity bus systems
are good (RNE or Flixbus).

Where did you live and how did you find your
accommodation (self-organized/provided by host
university, dormitory/private etc.)?

I found my own apartment. Go to the Erasmus Network Lisboa website and
already join the house searching groupchats from the website. I found my
apartment from the Erasmus groupchats.

Did you participate in events for exchange students? How did you establish social contacts in other ways?	Yes, use mostly ESN (Erasmus Network Lisboa) events and followed them. Also, Lisbon literally has many student bar areas where you can just talk to people on the street. And there are literally "erasmus corners/offices" you can go to.
How satisfied were you with the host university (facilities, staff etc.) and the course offer (workload etc.)?	The host university was very autonomous, more authority. Class attendance is mandatory and it is part of your grade. The workload is more than what we are used to. And the class is very hands-on, not so much individual studying. And you go through midterms and final exams so 2 exam periods. Not many english courses but the professors are flexible to include you in portuguese examinations.
Did you learn the local language? How important was the language for your stay?	Yes, I took a Portuguese course, would highly recommend it. Also speaking to the locals in Portuguese or even trying to speak will help you a lot. You can still survive with just English but it is recommended to take the basic language class.
What intercultural experiences/skills have marked your stay?	The city itself is very diverse and has a lot of colonial history. You can blend in with any kind of people, and the locals are used to foreigners. It's a very big mix, so do not forget to interact with people outside of your culture. And people were very friendly and open-minded.
Which perspectives on your host country/home country have changed - and why?	Portugal is still recovering from their recent history, you can see the generational gap on perspectives. Also, the religion plays a big part on their culture. But a lot of the traditions are nice to participate in. The food was also very different from what I expected. It's very tasty but heavy food that fills you up well.
How was your everyday life (leisure, shopping, transportation, inclusion etc.)?	Was a lot of classes, was hard to skip classes. Depending on where you live, you will use the metro a lot. The canteen at the campus is cheap, so you can fuel up easily on campus. And the canteen is open even in the evenings. The libraries are nice and you can find other libraries around Lisbon to study.
Do you have any recommendations for a sustainable stay abroad (projects, initiatives, everyday life)?	Join the ESN, Erasmus Life Lisboa, beach clean up, donation, animal shelter events. Make sure you are throwing away the trash correctly. Eating at the canteen for 3 euros per full meal felt also less wasteful than cooking for 1 person.
How did you manage financially? How much did you spend on visa (if applicable), travel, accommodation (per month), living expenses, leisure activities, other expenses (books etc.)?	Rent in Lisbon on average is 500 euros per month, it's hard to find anything cheaper if you want to be closer commute to your university. Visa is 100-150euros. Book your transportation early. But it was around 200euros one way to get to Lisbon from Flensburg, especially with luggage. Leisure activities are cheap for students, the beach is free but if you want to surf the lessons are 20euros. Make sure to always mention that you are an erasmus student and many services will give you discounts. A lot of the museums also give you free entry if you prove that you have a portuguese address.
What was your best/worst experience? Is there anything else you would like to share?	Getting the NIF (portuguese tax number) is difficult, you need to get free transportation if you are under 24 years old. And to get it you have to stand in line from 2AM to 12PM. But the overall pace of life is late and slower. Dinners and evening parties start very late. Like people have dinner at 9pm and take the evening slow.
Would you recommend a semester abroad at your host university? For what reasons?	I would recommend the study abroad to Lisbon. However, it is hard to find relevant English courses to EUCS at ULisboa. But you will still learn a lot, you just need to know how to relate it to and use it for EUCS. The quality of professors and content of courses are high, and arguably even harder to consume than in EUCS. But the university is used to internationals so they can handle your issues well.

PHOTOS

In this section, you may upload some photos that represent your stay abroad. When selecting the photos, please bear in mind that the pictures will be visible online if you have given us the permission to publish your report.

Photo (1) file_67a36f6f9bf3f-img_9401.jpg

Photo (2) file_67a36f741d52d-img_7872.jpg

Photo (3)	file_67a36f7a9cccd-img_9900.jpg
Photo (4)	file_67a36f80de671-img_7974.jpg
Photo (5)	file_67a36f869f236-img_7978.jpg
Photo (6)	file_67a36f90ced58-img_7615.jpg

Here you have the possibility to enter descriptions/explanations for the photos

You can have a beach lifestyle in Lisbon and still be connected with campus life. Endless museums, galleries, and beautiful sights to visit





















