



## My Exchange Evaluation

### Basic Information

<b>Host University</b>	Copenhagen Business School
<b>Semester &amp; Year of Exchange</b>	Semester 1, 2019
<b>Otago degree(s)</b>	Bachelor of Commerce
<b>Major(s)</b>	Marketing

### Academics/ course load

*Which papers did you take whilst on exchange?*

<b>Course title</b>	<b>Language of instruction</b>	<b>Otago equivalent</b>	<b>Otago credit value</b>
Introduction to Sustainable Business	English	MART3XX	18 points
Principles of International Marketing	English	MART3XX	18 points
Retail Marketing	English	MART3XX	18 points
Visual Communication	English	MART3XX	18 points

*Any comments about these papers?*

Papers can either be taught in quarters or semesters and any combination is reasonable. Classes at CBS are also not compulsory.

*How did the academic experience/ workload/ style of teaching differ from Otago?*

My papers were very manageable and similar in content to those at Otago University, however, the structure and assessment is different - each consisting of 1, 100% final exam.

## Accommodation

*What accommodation did you stay in? What were the pros and cons of your accommodation?*

In Copenhagen I stayed in exchange student accommodation which I would highly recommend to anyone doing an exchange here. It is the best way to meet people who have the same intentions for their exchange. There are pros and cons to each hall of residence. I stayed in Kathrine Kollegiet and met some amazing friends, however, there is no common area which made it difficult to socialise and branch out at times. The location was very good - most people in Copenhagen invest in a bike which makes travelling to and from class super easy.

## Money matters

*Please detail your basic costs, e.g. accommodation, flights, visa, food, insurance*

Copenhagen is an extremely expensive place to live and if travelling is a priority (I would recommend to), it is so important to save a substantial amount before coming. Firstly, return flights to Europe were approximately \$2000, this included a Flexi fare which meant I could change the date and location of the return flight which I utilised and was really helpful. As I said, living in Copenhagen is not cheap, my accommodation was approximately \$7000 for 5 months, including bills and excluding food. Eating out is also a great expense so I wouldn't recommend doing this often.

*What means did you use to access your finances? What would you recommend? (Credit card, Cash passport, foreign bank account, etc.)*

After weighing up the various options I chose to use my New Zealand debit card. While it did have a foreign currency fee of about 3%, the amount paid in fees was approximately equivalent to what is lost in conversion with alternatives, such as a cash passport, which are advertised as no fees. Additionally, I withdrew cash whenever I could.

## Visas & Insurance

*Did you have to apply for a visa? What was the process?*

Insurance and visas were costs that I originally didn't take into account but ended up being a great expense. To attend Copenhagen Business School you require a resident permit and this costs around \$1000. To obtain this you must apply online and have your biometric features taken at the embassy in Auckland.

*Did your host university have a mandatory insurance?*

Insurance is mandatory to attend CBS - I got fully covered travel insurance with no excess which costs around \$600 for 6 months. Free healthcare in Denmark is an added bonus, if anything goes wrong, there's always an easy solution.

## Extra-curricular/Social Activities

*What organised activities were available to students? What extra-curricular activities would you recommend to future exchange students?*

Copenhagen Business School are extremely well organised and inviting to their international students. In the first two weeks they run social packages and a Danish Crash Course and I would recommend purchasing and attending them all. It's the best way to meet people and become familiar with the new environment.

*What was the university/ city like?*

As a whole, Copenhagen is an amazing city with a great standard of living and not once did I feel unsafe there. The university is modern and not widely spread, making it easy to get from class to class

*Any recommendations for things to do, places to visit, places to eat etc.?*

The list of recommendations I have is extensive, there's always somewhere new to visit or a new cafe or restaurant to try but the one recommendation I have is to make the most of being in Europe. It's an amazing opportunity to travel to nearby countries and experience new cultures.

*Any tips for future students?*

Other than this the only tip I have is if you are on the fence about doing a global exchange, just do it!

## Overall Experience

*Please write one paragraph (or more) about your exchange experience. Please include some photos!*

My overall exchange experience has been the best 6 months of my life. It is the most amazing opportunity to dive into a new culture and grow as an individual. While I found the first week quite challenging, settling into a new place, knowing no one and not speaking the language, overcoming this challenge was my most rewarding to date. Since being in Copenhagen I have made lifelong friendships with people from countries all over the world and have travelled with these people to around 20 new countries. Of course, something like this doesn't come without challenges and obstacles but every one of them is worth it in the end. I couldn't recommend the global exchange programme more, especially Copenhagen Business School. There are always people on hand to help you out and make your experience the best it can possibly be.

