

Travel Report



My exchange experience in TU Delft
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Studying

The study life at TU Delft is quite occupied, tense and fulfilling. The Bouwkunde architecture school offers a variety of studio courses to choose from. I chose public building studio, in which we studied the public realm of the city and what kind of architectural interventions might change the fragmented urban fabric. We took architecture design course and building technology course at the same time, which I found very practical and useful. During my exchange period I took 2 courses a week, the other one is architecture history and theory, in which I learnt a lot of searching, collecting and sorting resources, as well as improved my academic writing.

Besides school courses, Bouwkunde also offers lectures given by famous architects like Herman Hertzberger and Shigeru Ban. In these speeches, they all gave very insightful and innovative thoughts and suggestions to architecture students, which has been quite beneficial to me.



Housing

TU Delft offers accommodation for exchange student, if only you accept the exchange offer and pay the security deposit early. You will receive an email of how to register on the housing websites and when to choose the house. I live in Professor Schermerhornstraat because it's the closest student housing to the architecture school for only about a five-minute walk, which I find quite convenient. However, the apartments in Professor Schermerhornstraat are all corridor room, with a shared kitchen. The rent was 528 euros a month, but luckily my Erasmus scholarship can cover part of it, so it wasn't too unaffordable for my financial condition.



Life& Cost

Since exchange students can apply for Erasmus scholarships and the overall living price level in the Netherlands is somewhat lower than in Sweden, my living expenses at Delft during the exchange period were not very high. My rent in DUWO was 528 euros per month and the cost on food and groceries were about 600 euros per month. Including transportation, travel and all the other costs, in total, I usually spend about 1400 euros per month. Besides, there are open markets in Delft every Thursday and Saturday, where you can buy fresh flowers, vegetables and sundries on a very cheap price.



Travel

Life in Delft is also interesting and quite different from Stockholm. Delft is more like a small town, with rivers going all through the city. The railway systems are really convenient, and it takes only 15 minutes to visit Den Hague and Rotterdam to travel or shop, and only 40 minutes to visit Amsterdam for the museums and views. Although the studying pace in TU Delft, during my exchange period, I visited lots of cities inside or outside Netherlands by train, such as Amsterdam, Rotterdam, Den Hague, Eindhoven, Arnhem, Dusseldorf and Heidelberg.

Conclusion

I will really recommend having an exchange experience to TU Delft, although the studying pace is little challenging compared with in KTH. It is so interesting to explore different urban contexts, languages, lifestyles and cultures while living in a difference city. And it is also exciting to meet more friends and learn from their brilliant understanding of architecture and the cultural environment. I will always treasure my exchange time in Netherlands.