

[Finland] – [Laurea University of Applied Sciences- Leppävaara]

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¹ To update the agenda just click right on your moose

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I. Your overall feeling after your semester abroad

Help: How was your experience abroad? If you could go back I time, would you go to this university and why?

*An amazing experience before the corona arrived but I would definitively do it again!
Teachers are amazing, courses are very interesting and the eramus life is an cliché one there.. so yeah everything was great.*

II. Before the travel

A. Preparation

1. Visa

Help : Do I need a visa ? If yes, what is the process?

There is no need of a visa here even if you are not from EU.
For non-European, the only required document is your “titre de séjour” delivered in France, allowing you to travel in EU.

2. The flight

Help : what flight did you take (the company name, airport etc.) and when did you take your flight ticket

Finnair – Around 420€ with an extra luggage included (50€)

3. My luggage

Help : what to not forget in the luggage (what was useful and what you would like to have taken)

Decathlon is suitable to buy your hot cloths, like the leggings and socks.
Believe me or not... the most important thing: ETHERNET CABLE (and a router) – Here internet in HOAS (*it's their “CROUS” university residences*) the give you an internet socket that you have to connect with your laptop via an Ethernet cable. For my part I decided to buy a router because I have a MacBook Pro (no USB or Ethernet port) and then I connected the ETHERNET cable in the router to have WiFi in the room.

- Then basics:
Gloves/Scarf/Good shoes/ A big coat...

4. Bank account

Help : did you have to change bank? To respect some amount requirement on the bank account etc.

Euro zone. It will depend on your actual French bank account.

5. Insurance

Help : What insurance did you subscribe to ?

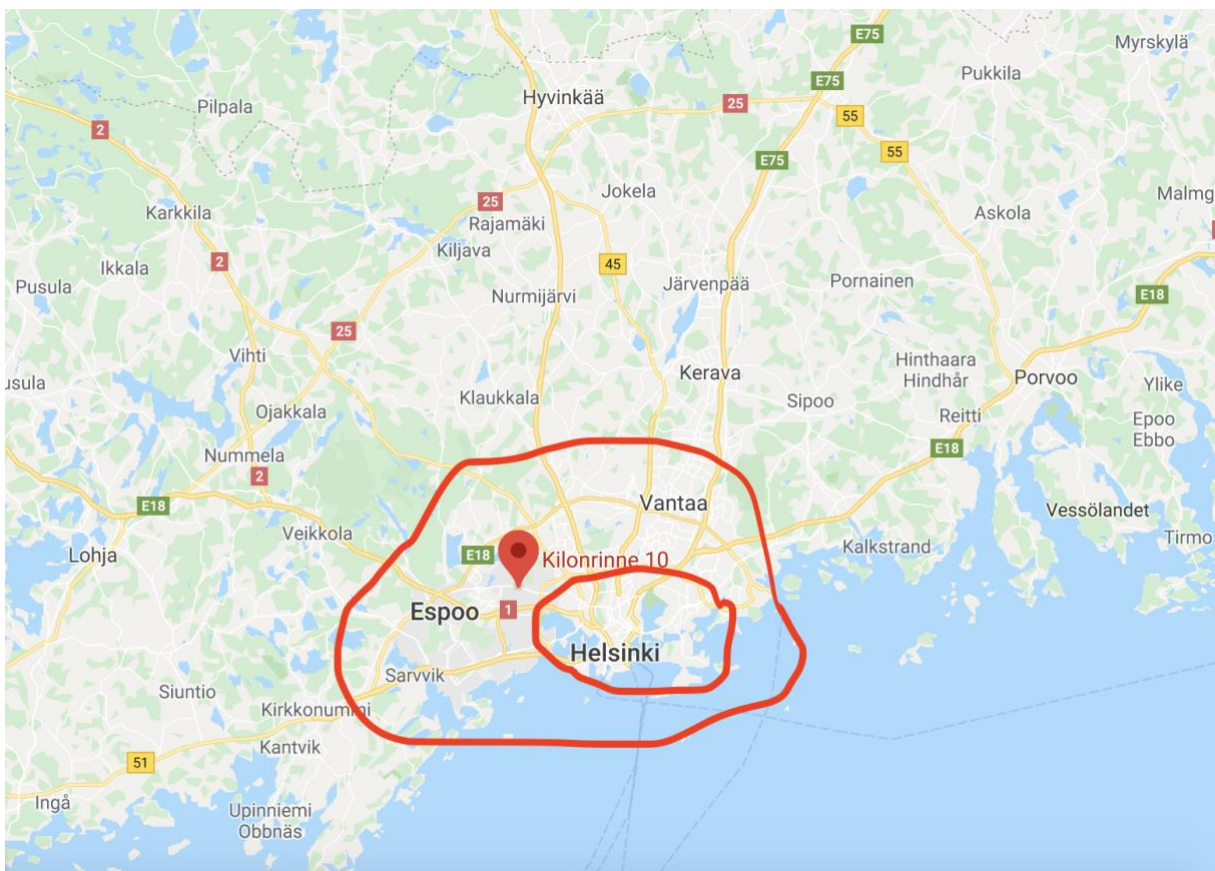
I asked my actual insurance in France (MAE) to assure me in Finland

B. Housing

1. Where to live

Help : Do a google maps capture and circle the area you recommend to live in (and the one you do not recommend)

If you are wondering and hesitating where to live, HOAS will do everything for you.
The only inconvenient is that you can't be with your opposite gender friend.



(And in case you ask yourself if students went opted for Hyvinkaa... the answer is yea! This issue is that when going back at 3 a.m... it was quite annoying). For my part, Kilorinne was not that far... like 10 mins by train. And for sure Helsinki is the best even though with HOAS you can't really choose (first come first serve rule)

2. Find a flat or a room

Help : How did you find your flat? Do you have any recommendation

- HOAS ;)

3. Cost

Help : How much should I plan for a room?

Mine – outside the city center but close to my university is 369€ (Not that expensive for Finland)

III. When I arrive at the university

A. Inscription at the university

Help : How was the process, what did you have to do?

The university helps you as much as they can. Their international relational department is very attentive and responsive. They communicate each and every step with deadlines and the procedures are easy to follow. You just have to be serious in the administration stuffs.

B. Information on the university

1. Class

Help : for each class tell us how was the class, what did you like and not like, would you recommend it for the next student?

I opted for 5 courses:

- Service design (10Ects)
- Management & Leadership (5Ects)
- Robotics & Chatbot (5Ects)
- Marketing Content (5Ects)
- Hospitality and future trends (5Ects)

All the courses are easy as compared to MOMA they don't ask you to learn things by heart. Rather than that, you are exposed to bring up nice and innovative ideas or deal with clients directly in terms of project. Expect management and leadership where you have an online exam on law.

2. Exam

Help : How was the exam?

- Service design = Presentations & a portfolio
- Management & Leadership = Assignments and online exam
- Robotics & Chatbot = A plate form (trello) where assignments are given (This course would be better without the corona virus)
- Marketing Content = Online assignments to give back
- Hospitality and future trends = Online assignments to give back

IV. When I life there

A. Safety

Help : Is it safe? Is there areas or times I should avoid

Very secure. Go visit anywhere at any time.

B. Phone and Internet

Help : How to be able to call and have internet

Wifi in the house is provided by HOAS! Internet package on your mobile is better to use a French one ... I mean that's what I done – like a 25 Go per month abroad something like that.

C. Events

Help : How to know about the events?

Events are well structured and information about them are given by the ESN and the student group there.

D. Sports

Help : What sport can I do ? and how?

I was playing football in 3 different clubs. I found one on facebook and then I've been recruited in others. For Gyms, check it out with Lucie Chauvet

E. Eating

Help : Any recommendation? Or good tips (e.g. an international house buffet)

There is a lot of open buffet over there. These are quite cheap when you'll find the good deal on the good days.

F. Go to the university: bus, car, bike

Help : How did you get access to the bus, car or bike

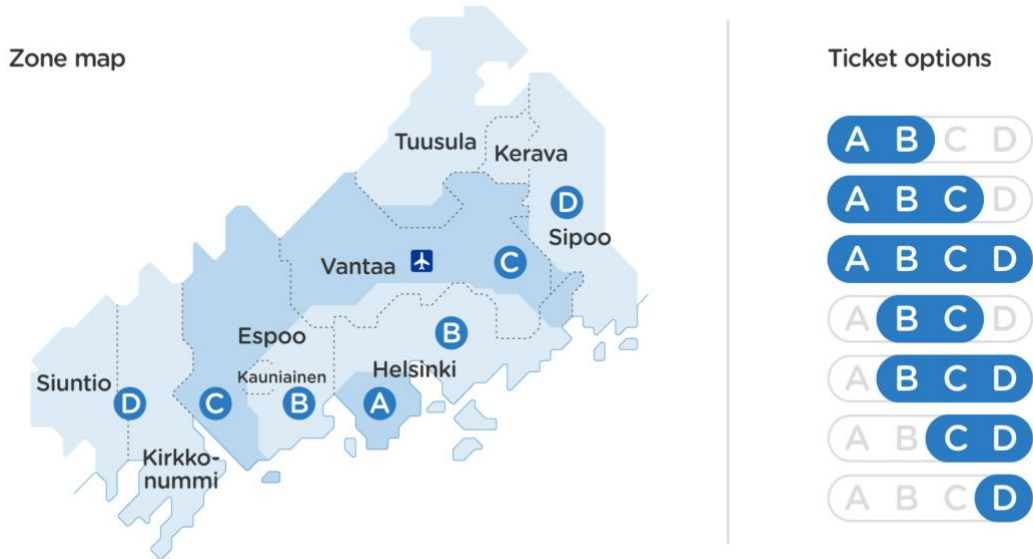
HSL card discounts is provided by the university for your stay. Trams/trains/bus/ferries are all included.

G. Travels

Help : What do you recommend and what do you not recommend

Recommendation: Go see the Aurora Borealis as soon as you get the opportunity even though they said, "Yeah this year there won't be that much". Otherwise, don't hesitate to go to Estonia ;) you'll understand why 😊 Have fun there.

Zones and tickets



H. Any other information you would have liked to know about

Help : What would I liked to know if I could have gone back in time

Nothing in particular, just to have been aware of an incoming pandemic but everything was great. A big thank you to Raluca and Marine for their amazing help all along.