

BEING A STUDENT IN FINLAND

A few weeks before leaving your home, besides excitement you might be afraid too - at least I was! There are many unanswered questions ahead you: what if you fail making new friends? How to deal with homesickness? Not to mention that you will have to challenge your problem solving skills. (It sounds terrifying at first...) But don't worry, these doubts will pass by after some days! And for sure, you will find helping hands in Finland!



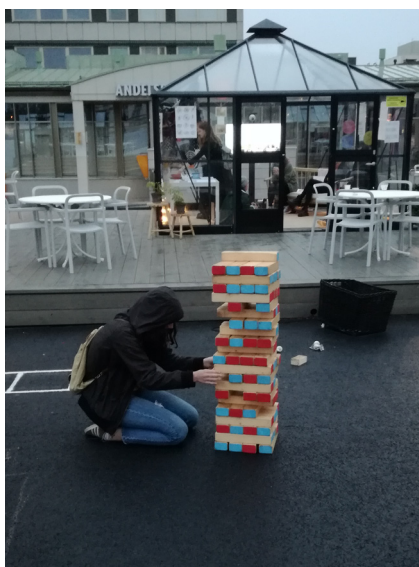
our table decoration at the party

As I have mentioned in an other writing, the first weeks were about introduction - to each other and the university. These weeks ended with a kind of welcome party, organized by us - 1st year students. Different groups were responsible for salty and sweet snacks, the table and the hall decoration, while other groups had to make presentation about sustainable studies, artworks in the university and transportation services in Jakobstad.

On an other day 1st grade students were invited to a team building night. After name games, speed dates and other funny moments; we ended up in the Black Sheep pub - where a music quiz is held every Wednesday! Furthermore Jazz Thursdays and the Karaoke Fridays also offer some fun!

In addition to other exciting events held by the students and buddies, a lot of exhibitions and concerts take place in the cafés nearby.

Back in September we were invited by the international tutor to Vaasa; to visit an archipelago with all the other international students.



exhibition by students



camping



hiking

Not to mention the programs, travelling you can plan for yourself!

Don't be surprise if someone asks if you want to buy a car during your stay! It's kinda complicated to get out of town - but it's worth it! Helsinki, Lapland and Sweden are just a stone's thrown with train, bus or ferry!

Luckily our interests with the (other 3) Erasmus students are similar - so we decided to drive up North to hunt the Northern lights, camped in the woods by the seaside and picked berries while hiking in nature - but I will write more about these adventures in an other post!

Meanwhile money can be a disturbing factor! Most of the things costs twice (or more) as much in Hungary. (eg.: 250g mushroom is almost 3€, bar of chocolate is around 2€, 0.5 liter cola is more than 2€ and the price of wine starts at 7€. If you are lucky you can find cheap apartments in Facebook groups - 320-550€/month. But I would strongly recommend to save some money before you travel to Finland - so you won't miss out a thing!

All in all even though Jakobstad is not the biggest town I know, but students really make the best out of it! They won't let boredom knock on your door! 😊