

Report as an Exchange Student.

Travelling abroad for an exchange is my greatest dream and aim of the year 2017. I really appreciate that I got the opportunity to study in Bialystok University of Technology (BUT) for one semester under ERASMUS+ program. I was so amazed when I received the confirmation call from my teacher who is in charge of the student mobility. I knew that in February I would be heading off towards Poland but then there were so many things to come. The Visa application, arranging for flight tickets, travel insurance, finance are the part of the experience. As time passed, excitement began to take its toll. The only thing that I waited for was “February 14”, my scheduled flight.

Eagerness of the trip started to grow but at the same time tension level also increased. The Visa appointment dates were limited. We could not fix the appointment but luckily a kind hearted woman, in charge of mobility at the receiving institution helped me in this matter. After fixing the appointment date, I have to travel to another country (India) to process my Visa. We don't have Poland embassy in my country (Bhutan). This prevented me from enjoying the last few weeks with family and friends.

Leaving Paro airport is an exciting and also an emotional moment. I was pretty much energized and looking forward with high spirit. Still then traveling abroad for the first time made me a little nervous. I started to worry as the journey began till I reached my destiny. Sometimes I am lost but now it is an experience for me.

The first week (orientation week) was fun, filled with lots of people to meet and talk to. There are many ERASMUS students from all over the world. As the days passed slowly, I could notice the different ways of life in different countries. People used to tell that Poland is not much developed but I would say that it is much developed when compared with my country. Everything in Poland is systematic. I have learnt that greetings, saying thank you and sorry are much common within the ERASMUS students. Being in different time zone made me difficult to sleep. Snow was something that did not disappoint me. Once I layered up in thick clothes, the cold weather did not affect me. As the summer started to begin, days became longer and hotter.

The exchange program is worth participating. I want to thank ERASMUS+ program for allowing me to take part in this exchange and supporting me with my allowance. I am very grateful for my receiving institution for being welcoming and supportive to every students and Poland for being good to me. I also thank my teachers for their hard work in proposing student mobility from my university. I thank my parents for accepting my decision and new friends of BUT for their friendly nature.

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