

## ERASMUS-Erfahrungsbericht

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Aufenthalt	von:	Oktober'11	bis: Februar'12

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Bericht (mindestens 1 Seite)
<p>The shortest and easiest way to describe my stay in Krakow is just to say that I have fallen in love with this city. One of the main reasons why I chose living in Poland is that my family is from Poland and I wanted to spend more time in this country instead of just staying at my cousin's place for a week or two. It was really important for me to learn as much as possible about Poland and people's lifestyle. Therefore I picked Krakow because it is also one of the biggest and most beautiful cities in Poland.</p> <p>When I arrived in Krakow I stayed in a hostel for a few days to find an apartment. Luckily, I found a place right in the centre of the Old Town which is just five minutes away from the main market square. I shared my flat with two really nice polish girls. Unfortunately I have to say that renting a room close to the market square is not cheap. I paid 250€ for a shared room which is way more than I would pay in Chemnitz. There are also cheaper rooms to rent but these rooms are outside the Old Town which means a bus ride of at least 15-20 minutes.</p> <p>Krakow is a very beautiful city with a long history. There are hundreds of buildings which were not destroyed during the war compared to Warsaw for example. The city has many nice and old-fashioned restaurant, bars, stores, hotels etc. It is also a city which seems to be up 24/7. In the evenings the centre exists of hundreds of amazing bars, underground clubs, theatres or restaurants. There is always something to do or to explore in Krakow. Krakow has many different districts which all have their own charm. There is for example Kazimierz which is known as the Jewish district of the city. It has many nice cafés and small independent shops that even after a couple of months of living in Krakow you will always discover a new spot.</p>

However, Krakow is not all about partying, eating and going out. The City has one of the best Universities in Poland which offer some really nice and interesting courses for Erasmus students. Sometimes it can be a little bit difficult to find out information about your class schedule or where these classes take place, but after a while people will get used to it and then everything seems so easy. I was also really surprised about the amazing English skills of my professors because I heard that it might be that the English of polish professors might not be as good as the English skills of my professors.

Another really great thing was ESN (Erasmus Students Network). It is an organization by students who organize events for Erasmus students. Besides many different theme parties, there were also some trips to Budapest or Wroclaw ,day trips to Zakopane which is the mountain area close to Krakow, and some guided tours in Nowa Huta which is a district of Krakow.

All in all, I have to say that it was the best choice I could possibly make to pick Krakow for my Erasmus stay. Living and spending your free time is really cheap compared to other big cities, and you have so many opportunities to travel in and outside Poland on the cheap. I met also many wonderful and interesting people who I will never forget.

It is true that this is a onetime experience which everybody should make if they have the opportunity because it will change you into a more open-minded person and you will never forget this amazing time.