

## **My Erasmus Exchange to Université Dauphine Paris.**

Paris, Paris, Paris oh what a city.

My exchange at Dauphine was fantastic, and I'm sure that yours will be as well.

I hope these short tips will provide you with some basic info on your trip. I believe that the best way to experience Paris is by just walking around wherever you feel like, so that is my number one tip. Walk around a lot, as long as you are not in a hurry, because Paris is always bigger than it looks on the maps.

### **Paris.**

As far as the city goes, despite being incredibly polluted (metro being free during the last week of my stay due to pollution) it is amazingly beautiful. I went in the fall, this meant that I had a lot of free time in the good weather since all the exams are in the end of the semester. This provided me with the opportunity to explore Paris in the end of the summer, and it was gorgeous, I'll make sure to write up some tips in the end of the report for anyone who reads this.

There are a few good things to know when you are going, the metro cards are quite expensive, but necessary if you don't live close to your school since the city is very big. I had a monthly ticket (which can only be bought around the 1<sup>st</sup> every month....) only for two of the almost four months I spent there.

It is of course good to know the language, however not everyone can be expected to do so. Therefore, I recommend to get to know a few simple phrases, and sign up for the French course given by the university. It is also good to have google translate close to hand. I lived in Neuilly, just outside of Paris, and the knowledge of English was poor there.

I use Telenor for my phone since I can use that throughout all of Europe, if you want something just for your stay, I've heard that Free mobile is the best one. Search up the location of the store (it's around the Opera) and go there, they will help you, and they know English. Be aware for the cancellation time though, heard it might be a bit obnoxious (but the price is worth it).

### **Dauphine**

The school is situated close to Trocadéro, with its great views of the Eiffel tower. The school is in an old Nato building which makes it quite cool, but not always ideal. It is not really made for thousands of students, and a lot of classrooms are old conference rooms with little to none air condition. It is however fairly fresh, and the library is really good. The library has windows on both sides, so you can either look at La Défence and Foundation Louis Vuitton (great view during sunset) or you can see the top of the Eiffel Tower and watch part of the Paris skyline. For someone looking to do some sports I have good news, Dauphine has a huge variety of sports every week that you can join, and a gym which has good opening hours and everything you need during a semester. All for 70 euros for the entire period.

I only took international courses (both on master and bachelor levels) and the quality of the classes really varied. I can recommend taking at least one regular class (with the French students) since they are more demanding and rewarding. The classes I took were often very

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11/1/2017

interesting, but the workload was very small and the overall experience quite low, with a few exceptions. It is first come, first serve basis so be sure to apply early. If you want a course you don't have on your learning agreement, it can usually be fixed by going to that first class. The first three weeks were introductory and a lot of students jumped between courses to find the ones they wanted.

### **Housing**

I got mine through AirBnB, although expensive, it was very good. Some of my friends had through University, that's called Crous. They were also very happy. The housing market in Paris is hard, I recommend joining the facebook group "Svenskar I Paris" as they have a lot of apartments going around.

### **Tips**

Paris is lovely, I recommend trying to broaden your cultural perspectives with museums, concerts and art. This is definitely an amazing place to do so. Look at the site [www.parislanuit.fr](http://www.parislanuit.fr) for good information. See some concerts, the metro is always full of posters on what's to come.

Some places I really loved

**Marché des enfants rouge** – A lovely food market, the Moroccan place is amazing. Also, you need to try the truffle pasta.

**Rue Saint Dominique** – Get off the metro at invalids and then follow the maps. It provides such a lovely picturesque image by night as the Eiffel tower unfolds between the old buildings. Great places for food and drinks as well, Le Malabar has good but a bit pricy drinks.

**The Dome of Sacre Coeur** – Touristic, but my favourite tourist thing. On a sunny day it provides an overview of Paris that is unique. Cheap aswell.

**See fan** – Male clothes only, but a south Korean store located in Marais, on 11 rue Pastourelle

**L'île de puteaux** - Sports island between Neuilly & La defence. Free amazing outdoor gym.