

EBS Universität für Wirtschaft & Recht, Oestrich-Winkel (Frankfurt) Germany

Viktor Fredlund, fall 2016

So is it time for me to summarize my time at EBS in Oestrich-Winkel. It was an amazing experience at one of the most prominent business schools in Germany. This experience, as it truly was, included a bunch of social, fun events, great courses given by inspiring professors, opportunities for seminars, workshops and great career services. After my time at EBS I have collected many remarkable memories and experiences and taken great courses. However, the best contribution of this exchange is the people I've had the pleasure of getting to know from all over the world.

The Area

Oestrich-Winkel is a town consisting of two smaller towns, Oestrich and Winkel in the state Hessen located roughly 50km west of Frankfurt. The closest big city is Wiesbaden, located about 19km in the same direction as Frankfurt. It is a beautiful area, surrounded by vineyards as far as the eye can see. If you are a true wine taster/lover or simply like to party on white wine, this is the area for you. I strongly recommend to visit some of the local vineyards, which usually serves food as well as wine. Most of the students live in either Oestrich-Winkel or Wiesbaden and there is always a party or social event going on. Make sure you get to know some full-time students, Germans, Aussies and Spanish people, these are the ones usually throwing together great parties. In my taste, neither Wiesbaden or Frankfurt as charming as other German cities. But, I strongly recommend to spend some time in Frankfurt where you can admire a beautiful skyline, markets, glue wine and great clubs (but stay away from the clubs close to the main station). I strongly recommend to rent a car or hook up with someone that owns a car and do some exploring in the nearby areas and taking weekends in other German cities.



The University

Simply put, EBS is a great school and you truly feel what they refer to as the EBS-spirit. As the only private business school in Germany, it suffers from some well-deserved mockery from outside students referring to the EBS student as spoiled brats. It has some truth to it, and you will notice one or another Porsche and brand-new BMW rolling up the parking lot to the school. However, I found the students very helpful and lovely and made some great friends over there. The school itself is great, one of the highest ranked master programs in the EU and you will notice on the professors and visiting companies that the school is attractive and produces great graduates. Attend all events, social and business-related and take the opportunity to get to know the future of the German business world.



Social Life

I will not even try to compare the social life in Oestrich-Winkel and at EBS with the reports from San-Diego, Sao Paulo, Prague or other larger universities located in cities more famous for their night-life. I did not choose EBS in order to spend my exchange semester at the beach or constantly partying. You will have a great social life here to, meet amazing people from all over the world and at the same time study at an eminent business school. Due to the fact that this is a business school and now a large university with everything from law to genus studies, you will have the opportunity to get to know a lot of people that, like you, study business and are stuck in a smaller town where you will develop a sort of family atmosphere. **My greatest advice is that you, like me, try to "avoid" other swedes. People tend to easily hang out with others from the same county when studying abroad. My suggestion is that you get to know as many people from other countries as possible in order to widen your international network. I have already trips booked to go back to Germany, Israel and Spain where I will have a couch to crash on.**

Living/Accommodations

Groceries, alcohol, restaurants, and nightlife is cheaper when comparing to Sweden whereas Gym and training is about the same price. I sorted accommodation via the schools flat hunt and stayed in a villa together with eight people from all over the world. This became my family during my exchange and I strongly recommend that you try to live together with other people to maximize your experience as an exchange student.