

### 1. Preparation phase

The host university is rather slow and unorganized so therefore communicating with them before reaching there was rather inconvenient. I did not know if I would get accommodation nor if I got accepted in enough time to book tickets and cancel contracts. And when are already a foreign in a foreign country, such situations can be very stressful consequently I had to go through a period of time where I had no idea what will happen. When they finally answered, they provided us with all kind of guidelines, plans and maps to prepare us for arrival. The staff are nice and friendly but there is a noticeable difference in level of organization if compared to Germany.

### 2. Accommodation

Apparently, in France, even if you are European finding a place to stay can be a hassle. So, the host university is obligated to provide exchange students with accommodations. Sadly, the quality of accommodation they provided is immensely poor. The rooms are small, kitchens are not usable, the walls are paper-thin, facilities are heavily used and sometime doesn't work, hardly clean and all in all depressing. Living on campus in INSA Lyon is NOT a pleasant experience whatsoever. But it was the only option, an information that was not available to me beforehand. ALSO, it is expensive if compared to Germany. They also require 50 euros housing insurance, an expense that I also wasn't informed about.

### 3. Study

I enrolled in a program dedicated to exchange students, meaning that it is all in English and I didn't need to organize my timetable nor do anything extra to start my study immediately which was nice! However, it felt like nobody carried about this program and what we do. Some subjects were canceled, some were led by the head of the faculty because they couldn't afford to cancel further subjects. This meant that those subjects had poor to nonexistence supervision. So, I don't feel like I learnt much nor gained any practical experience.

### 4. Everyday life and free time activities

The city of Lyon is a beautiful, rich, enchanting city that offers so much to see and do. Depending on your budget! Museums, operas, concert halls, an impressive number of bars and restaurants that offers a delightful experience. The outskirts of Lyon and France in general have so many historic destinations such as castles and churches, lakes, mountains, villages and so on. Also, if you are into decent fashion Lyon has plenty to offer. The weather is nice and mild through out the year and people are generally friendly. Honestly the number of things that you can do can be distracting!