Before departure to Denmark

There are several pre-arrival preparations for recommendations to make life in Denmark better. First, clothes. At the end of August, Copenhagen is still very hot, hotter than Vancouver. Brings several, maybe five pieces, summer clothes are essential. But only several are enough since, during the mid-Sep, the weather would drop that wearing a t-shirt is not adequate. After September, the weather would be a little bit colder compared to Vancouver. Thus, the overall recommendation is to bring all season’s clothes, winter in particular. I had only brought two t-shirts to Denmark, which I suffered a lot. The reason that kept me away from purchasing summer clothes is because I don’t know when the weather will drop, maybe only a few days, or maybe one month later. Luckily, hot weather is not too long. Furthermore, the policy allowed people to swim in the canal because the water is very clear, which would not damage people’s skin. If you love swimming, Copenhagen would be a great choice.

The visa application is very simple compare to the study visa application for Canada.
Each step and the required documents are stated clearly with any confusion. There are not many documents you need to get. When I was doing my application, I even doubt myself because of the simpleness. However, the overall cost for me was expensive; I spent $800. Just make sure to apply for the visa as soon as possible since the processing time for me was long.

If you successfully reserve a dorm, then you do not need to bring the bed linens and kitchen supplies such as fork, spoon, plate, cup, etc. since the dorm will prepare those for you. Also, please, don’t forget to bring the plug adaptors, and I recommend to bring at least two for your convenience.

**Information about Denmark**

In Denmark or most European countries, the bike is a transportation that is used very commonly. You can rent a bike, or buy a second-hand bike and resale it before leaving. The bike is high that my feet merely touched the ground if I were on the bike. The reason is because the height would reduce the damage to the knee while riding the bike.

Most people might worry about the language problem since their native language is Danish. For the first few days, I struggled with this problem as well. Most restaurants do not provide the English menu. Danish word is totally different compared to English which is impossible to guess what the word means. Most of the time, I use google translate, which I think is very useful. However, most Danish people are very good at English, at least in Copenhagen, so feel free to communicate with local people.

**Life in Denmark**

I lived in the dorm, Holger Dansker, which I personally do not recommend. The dorm is very old. The building structure provides a perfect place for people to party. For the party people, this is definitely a great place. However, inside my room, I can clearly hear almost every word they said due to the bad soundproofing. However, the one point I like this dorm is it is close to the school, and the metro is nearby.

The restaurants in Denmark are not as diverse as in Vancouver since Denmark does not have a diverse culture. There are several restaurants from different countries, but don’t compare them to restaurants in Vancouver. However, Denmark’s bakery is fantastic. Their croissant is very crispy and buttery. I wouldn’t say I liked to eat the croissant, but the croissant in Denmark is fantastic that I can’t control myself not to eat them. Other than the croissant, there are other Danish bakeries that are as good as the croissant. I do strongly recommend to try those bakeries.
I do recommend to participate in the welcome week and social night package. These events provide the opportunity to make new friends. I had made three friends during these events, and they had accompanied me throughout the whole term. We went to France, Iceland, Spain, Germany, etc.; We have tried lots of new things and saw plenty of strange behavior and lifestyle. Living in a new environment, having friends with you will make your life earlier. You don’t need to feel shy to speak with other students during the welcome week because they all desire to make friends.

Copenhagen Business School (CBS) has a different grading system compare to SFU. Most courses’ final exam is 100% of the overall grade, which means there is no major assignment or group work you need to take. There are three types of exams: written-in exam, which is the typical exam, take-home exam, which you are required to write a paper (usually approximately 3000 words), and an oral exam, which students are required to answer professor’s question orally.

I had three take-home exams and one written-in exam. The take-home exam allowed me to have lots of time to travel since I do not need to speed time to memorize textbooks. The flight tickets and bus tickets are cheap, which allowed me to travel every weekend to different countries. This term is the most relaxed term during my post-secondary study, even though I am like dying while writing the paper.
One suggestion for traveling is to watch out for the theft, especially in Southern Europe. I had experienced stealing three times, one in myself and two in my friend. Airport and metro are the two most popular places for the pickpocket to steal. Nevertheless, there are not lots of safety issues, especially in Denmark. I would not feel scared when I walk alone on the street at 2 am. The metro is operating 24 hours, and there are always staff inside the station to direct the passengers.

I really enjoyed my exchange time. I had experienced something that I had only read from the book but never get the chance to experience them. For example, I knew that the concentration camp is very inhuman. But when I actually visit the site, I could feel how despaired people are inside the camp. Something you know is totally different compared to something you actually see and get hands-on it. Denmark is a safe, friendly, and high-welfare country that you would not regret.