

IST – Lisbon Experience Report
EUREC Master's Ocean Energy
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Preparation

The EUREC Master's program coordinated with Oldenburg, so minimal planning and organization was required before departure. In order to receive the Erasmus Grant, documentations were needed from the coordinator at IST, which took several weeks to receive. Be sure to send the required Erasmus forms to him early, and be persistent if necessary.

Travel and Arrival

Travelling to Portugal from Germany was an easy, quick and relatively inexpensive flight I quickly learned that Uber is the best method when travelling from the airport to your accommodation. In general, Uber and Bolt are extremely inexpensive and safe methods of travelling around the city. I arrived a week before classes began in order to get acquainted with the city and meet fellow EUREC students. Although this is not necessary, because no time-consuming administrative tasks are required upon arrival.

Accommodation

Finding accommodation in Lisbon is easy, but finding nice accommodation in Lisbon is another story. Uniplaces offers a variety of accommodation options, but not all are the most favorable options. Many flats are shared with several people, so I suggest booking early to avoid this. I shared a flat with 6 people and walked up 8 sets of stairs to get to my flat, which got to be very tiring. My accommodation was a 10 minute walk from IST, which was very nice. I highly recommend searching for a flat either in walking distance to IST (Near Alameda), or near Baixa Chiado – which is where all of the fun night life happens.

Studying

The courses were intensive and organization very poor. The schedule was not always accurate and the content sharing platform was not utilized well. Each class someone was asking the professor to upload or email the class slides for studying. It became very frustrating, but in the end everyone passed.

Everyday life and leisure time

Lisbon is a beautiful city with wonderful and welcoming people. Many students enjoy a nice sunset at a miradoura, socializing at the Erasmus corner, and staying out dancing until the sunrises. During what free time I did have, Lisbon was and incredible place to be.

Conclusion and Tips

- I recommend buying the ticket months in advance to reduce the costs
- Use facebook groups to find a flat in walking distance to IST.
- Every day ask the professors to email you the course content
- Take advantage of the beginning days with the free time, because in the end you will be working and studying every day.... Relax while you can, and enjoy!