



# Relazione di fine scambio

Scuola del Design

## Istruzioni

Indicare di seguito tutte le informazioni che possano essere utili ad altri studenti che parteciperanno a uno scambio. Preferibilmente in lingua inglese, lunghezza min. 2500 parole + possibili immagini, file di max. dimensione 2 MB in formato PDF. Questo documento sarà pubblicato nel sito web della Scuola.

## Informazioni generiche

Anno Accademico di Scambio: 2019-2020		Nome della Sede in scambio: KAUNO TECHNOLOGIJOS UNIVERSITETAS	
Cognome e Nome: Schinchirimini Matteo		Stato: LITHUANIA	
Matricola: 917757		Codice Sede: LT KAUNAS02	
Corso di Studio: Design & Engineering		Tipo di scambio: Semplice	
Anno di Corso: Secondo		Semestre di Scambio: Secondo	
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## Racconta la tua esperienza di scambio:

Hi, now that you are deciding where to spend your next Erasmus, I can tell you that Kaunas could be the city for you.

Kaunas is the second largest Lithuanian city, also the country's first industrial centre. One of the main characteristics of Lithuania is the fact that it is one of the most flat states in Europe, this is reflected in the urban planning, and also the absence of mountain reliefs is at the beginning a bit confusing, both to understand where you are and because the weather is very variable due to the lack of protection from the mountains, but you get used to it quickly.

VIDEO about Lithuania: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WH9mTk1mxkI>

Kaunas Wiki: <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kaunas>

I would like to open a parenthesis about Covid-19:

I spent the Erasmus semester in conjunction with the outbreak of the pandemic, this certainly has greatly influenced the experience of the exchange in Lithuania and for this I invite readers to take note of it; this does not mean that it wasn't one of the best times of my university career.

Arrival / Accommodation / General organization:

I left Malpensa and arrived at Kaunas airport on 25-01-20. The temperature was around 0 ° C, very bearable because of the dry climate. My suggestion is to download, and log in before leaving, the Bolt and Citybee apps, the

first is an app practically the same as Uber (also includes Bolt Food to order food) and the second is Car sharing and they are both cheap.

On the evening of arrival, other boys and I headed to the dormitory using a Bolt.

As for the accommodation I, like most of my Erasmus companions, recommend the dormitory and to avoid private apartment. Staying in the dormitory makes the Erasmus period live much more intensely, and I think it was the best choice also as regards having spent the quarantine period which was never boring.

The dormitory that has so far been assigned to EU students is No. 8, which is also one of the best among those assigned to international students; if you were assigned to No. 5 or No. 10 immediately try to request the transfer to No. 8.

MAPS Dorm8: <https://goo.gl/maps/ZJ2rBnYjeoFHpK2P8>

In dormitory 8 there are two types of rooms which are in any case double, never single, a smaller and cheaper one (99 € / month) with shared bathroom with another double room and a larger and slightly more expensive one (130/150 € / month) with private bathroom.

From here you can walk (about 10 mins) to the neighbourhood where most of the engineering faculties are located, those of another kind are located in the city centre.

As for transport, to be ordered absolutely before leaving, via KTU university which will offer it to you by email during the paperwork before departure, it is the ISIC card or student card that ensures you many discounts (pubs / restaurants / fast food) including that on public transport which is extremely cheap (€ 15 for 3 months).

The centre can be easily reached by bus (10 / 15mins), there are many; the only flaw is that the service stops before 24 and we usually if we returned later or called a Bolt or rented a Citybee.

University:

By attending the Design & Engineering course at Politecnico I was able to choose from some subjects of the triennial of Design of the KTU which is a faculty incorporated in that of Mechanical Engineering.

I had chosen three courses:

- Sketch
- Bionics & Design
- User experience design

Once the courses arrived, they were not available or not provided in English, therefore the Learning Agreement had to be modified, a practice which was quite simple thanks to the good internal organization of the university. The courses chosen were:

- Design Workshop
- Product Design
- New Product Development

Interesting courses which, however, being bachelor courses in some cases were repetitive compared to those held at the Politecnico.

General opinion on the university in particular compared to the Polytechnic, the workload is certainly less, the laboratories are less and less equipped, there are less infrastructures for students such as for example workstations with programs that are used typically in the design faculty. Despite this, the general experience has been satisfactory, the university is well organized and the professors I met were all well prepared, the classes were few and this favoured the development of a significant relationship with the other classmates and with the professors.

Travel / Experience:

During the Welcome Week, which I highly recommend to attend, you will get to know the ESN group, a student association spread throughout Europe. I recommend you buy their card (€ 5 during the Welcome Week) which ensures you various discounts including Ryanair baggage discounts.



The ESN also organizes many trips, the most beautiful I attended was the one in Lapland, inevitable, it was also one of the few that we managed to sue because of viruses. Impeccable organization and many activities to do, as well as the opportunity to admire the Northern Lights.

After the quarantine ended, we managed to travel to the Baltic Republics and Finland, as well as Warsaw. In Lithuania, during the hottest periods I recommend visiting Palanga and Nida which are places on the Baltic Sea.

Lithuania is well suited as a starting point for exploring Europe, (in Lithuania is the geographical centre of Europe) before the pandemic spread, we had booked several trips, for example to St. Petersburg.

The Erasmus experience must be done at least once in a lifetime, is capable of opening your mind and changing your plans and priorities, making friends, it is not uncommon to find love, in short it is a unique experience and a perfect place for it is definitely Kaunas. Good trip!!

Ps. If you can, avoid pandemics.

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Firma:

Data:

24/07/20