
University of Osijek, Croatia
30th April 2018 - 5th July 2018

I am a third semester student doing my master's in Computational science and engineering. I applied to IAESTE for internship opportunities abroad towards the end of my second semester and I was nominated for an internship at University of Osijek in my desired field of interest - Image processing. I was finally selected after approximately four weeks of my application and two weeks later I was already working there.

The best part about doing an internship through IAESTE is that you get all the help needed. A student coordinator was assigned to me by the hosting IAESTE. She was kind enough to help me out about any thing and everything that i needed to know before coming. My arrival information was asked beforehand and my student coordinator was there to receive me at the bus station. She then took me to the student dorm where I was given a room for my stay there. Thereby my accommodation part was taken care of. The rent for the accommodation was surprisingly very less than i anticipated. It was only 500 kunas. The room is a 2 bed shared room but I didn't have a roommate so I had the whole room for myself.

The next day my student coordinator and I went to get a tax number of their country for me and helped me in opening a bank account. She also helped me in getting me a sim card and travel card to make my stay easy. On third day I was introduced to my mentor and my work started. My work was about reconstructing scanned bone images using point cloud library. Although, i was completely new to this library, my mentor gave me enough time for me to understand it better. My work timings were from 9 am to 3 pm and my work place was only a ten minute walk from my dorm. Although there was a student canteen in the campus, I couldn't make use of it since it did not serve vegetarian food. This was a huge problem that i had to face there.

Initially, there were only two trainees(including me) but few days later many came in. There were trainees from Scotland, India, Norway, Turkey, Bosnia, Spain and Belgium. As more people came in there was hangouts and events going on almost everyday after work. We went to many local events like BBQ party, concerts, international evening, bicycling event among many others. I also went to the adventure park and a natural park called kopački rit. I did zip lining for the first time at that adventure park and it was great fun. We went on a boat ride in Kopački rit which had a lovely view with greenery all around. The city has a large river named Drava and an evening walk near it is the most blissful thing. There was also a bridge across this river called the Pedestrian which had beautiful lightings at night. During one long weekend, some trainees and I went on a three day trip to Belgrade. Belgrade was a beautiful city with so much history and we had a nice time there.

People in Croatia in general are very helpful and friendly. People always helped when needed and language wasn't really a problem since most of them spoke english well. I was very skeptical about taking this internship , but now I do not have any regrets. This turned out to be so much fun than i thought it will be. There was fun and learning too. This internship has boosted my confidence in terms of my work and I also got to meet many people from around the world. Overall , I liked everything about doing an internship through IAESTE and if time permits I would like to apply for one more internship through them.