**Chimie Paris Tech <https://www.chimie-paristech.fr/>**

|  |
| --- |
| How does the workload in your classes compare to Strathclyde.  |
| the same |
| the same |

|  |
| --- |
| Is there anything that you wished that you knew about the classes before you went?  |
| Speaking any French whatsoever would help a lot! |
| More background reading/an introduction on the subject before ERASMUS would have helped. Improving my French beforehand would have also helped! |

|  |
| --- |
| What type of accommodation are you staying in whilst away?  |
|  Private accommodation |

|  |
| --- |
| What is your monthly cost for accommodation?  |
| 1100 Euros |
| 1450€ for the 2-bed appartment (725€¬ each) |

|  |
| --- |
| Do you have any advice about how looking for accommodation? Is there anything you wished you knew before you left about accommodation?  |
| Chimie ParisTech does student accomodation, so ask your supervisor about it. |
| I would definitely recommend looking for student accommodation beforehand as that will be cheaper and closer to the university. However, this is very difficult to find in Paris as there are many universities and few independent student halls available to cope with the large demand. For the best chance of getting accommodation, book early (half a year in advance maybe?), but bear in mind that accommodation is given preferentially to students staying for an entire year. Besides this, airbnb.com is very good for reasonably-priced apartments for rent. Although these are typically for rent for a few nights or a week, most landlords will offer a cheaper rate if you take it for months (still more expensive than halls!). Accommodation in general is very expensive in Paris, and taking a flat out via a letting agency requires a French bank account and permit of residence in Paris/France, so my recommendation would be to look privately. Also, the further you are from the centre, the cheaper it will be (most often). There are many metro stations/bikes/buses that are cheap to use, so it is no problem for convenience...although walking is much more rewarding! |

|  |
| --- |
| Where is your favourite place to go?  |
| Canal St Martin! |

|  |
| --- |
| **How do you find the university facilities (for example, library, labs, campus)?** |
| **Very good, much better than Strathclyde.** |
| **Very accessible and easy to find your way around. People are also very helpful (most speak english!).** |

|  |
| --- |
| Do you spend more or less money than you expected?  |
| Less |

|  |
| --- |
| Are you surprised by the high cost of anything in particular(for example, taxis, cheese, bread, wine)?  |
| Vegetables are expensive, but just gives a reason not to have any. |
| Apart from the high price of accommodation, certain meats are typically expensive in supermarkets. Beer is also very pricey (typically 4-12â‚¬ for a pint from a bar), although you can buy a bottle of wine in a store for under 2â‚¬...and public drinking is not frowned upon! |

|  |
| --- |
| How much money do you estimate you spend per month (any currency is ok)? |
| Outside of rent, I spend about £150-200. |
| Roughly 400-500, depending on whether trips to the bar are frequent... |

|  |
| --- |
| Do you have a good social life? Does the host University offer any particular activities for international students?  |
| Yes, good social life within the department, and ERASMUS have loads of stuff on.  |
| Yes, it is very easy to find other people on ERASMUS or internships using facebook. The University does organise events, but I typically socialised more with students in my department outwith the events. |

|  |
| --- |
| Are you glad you decided to participate in an Erasmus Exchange? Please explain your answer. |
| Yes, it's been a lot of fun and an adventure. Much better than staying in Strathclyde! |
| Absolutely - it has been a great opportunity to experience (and adapt to) the way of life in a different country. I've met many people here, gained a lot of knowledge from the work I completed and somehow managed to improve my French (even though everyone willingly speaks English, unlike how the rumour tells it!). I feel as though this experience was much more rewarding than a departmental intership in Scotland would have been. |

|  |
| --- |
| Is there any additional information/advice you would like to pass on to future students who are considering study abroad at the same institution as you? |
| Try to learn a bit of French beforehand - make an effort to speak the language, but bear in mind most students' English is very good so you won't struggle for long! |