INSA LYON

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

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| Is there anything that you wished that you knew about the classes before you went?  |
| I wish I studied French harder. |
| Note: masters student only complete a project. It would have been beneficial to have had a short list of projects before we arrived. For some reason this was unavailable. |

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| What type of accommodation are you staying in whilst away?  |
| student housing (by host university) |

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| What is your monthly cost for accommodation?  |
| about 400 (including meals) |
| â‚¬390 - allowance (â‚¬90 approx) |

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| Do you have any advice about how looking for accommodation? Is there anything you wished you knew before you left about accommodation?  |
| No |
| I would advise taking the accommodation provided. Private accommodation in Lyon is expensive. It would have been useful to know about the sports facilities available, and parking availability |

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| What is the town/city like where you stay? |
| It is a small town with a lot of university students. |
| Lyon is great. Its nice during the day to walk around and explore. Nightlife is not as good as Glasgow however. Most bars are expensive and there aren't streets similar to sauchiehall street. Also, often late at weekends you have to be careful for pickpockets as crime seems to be common. If you aren't silly you will be fine though. |

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| Where is your favourite place to go?  |
| I have not found it yet. |
| The British themed places are good as they are often busy. However they are expensive. Vieux Lyon is a good area to go to. |

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| How do you find the university facilities (for example, library, labs, campus)?  |
| The sport facilities are very good, the other ones are acceptable. |
| INSA is not as well equipped as Strathclyde. The library is small with few computers, and they don't run Windows operating system. The welcome from the university wasn't the best as we didn't complete the summer language school (because they wanted 700â‚¬ for it). The paperwork at the beginning was also complicated as I didn't speak French. Campus is quite nice though, everything is close, there is a canteen which most people use. However there is no shops very close for food shopping (maybe 15 mins walk) |

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| Do you spend more or less money than you expected?  |
| More |

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| Are you surprised by the high cost of anything in particular(for example, taxis, cheese, bread, wine)?  |
| Food is quite expensive in France. However I expected it. Train tikets are not cheap too. Make sure you get discount card as soon as possible |
| Food shopping is quite pricey. Wine is cheap, beer is bars is expensive, there arent many student type places with cheap prices. |

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| How much money do you estimate you spend per month (any currency is ok)? |
| 500-600 euro including the trips I make around France. |
| Average 400€¬ estimate |

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| Do you have a good social life? Does the host University offer any particular activities for international students?  |
| Yes.  |
| Social life is good, but the university isn't great at integrating international students. I don't feel there has been much on offer. You have to go and do it yourself. Especially is you don't speak much French. Its easy to meet international students though and its easy to have a good time anyway. |

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| Would you recommend this University to future Strathclyde students who are considering studying abroad? If not, please explain your response or contact the Recruitment and International Office to discuss. |
| Yes |
| Its a great opportunity to live and study there. But I would not recommend going if you will study in English. I wouldn't recommend to masters students, but for 3rd year , completing classes in french it will be great. It is ok for a masters group project but think there are better places to go. |

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| Are you glad you decided to participate in an Erasmus Exchange? Please explain your answer. |
| Yes. It gives me a great opportunity to learn new Languages, create new contacts and see new places. |
| Yes, Erasmus life is great. It really opens you up as a person and I feel more confident and outgoing because of it. It brings different challenges which you don't have at home, but I find it helps you in the long term. |

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| 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? |
| Make sure you speak at least a little french before you go. Try for level B1. A lot of the university staff does not speak English. Speaking some french will allow you to pick from a wider variety of courses. Furthermore, the beginner french courses offered by the university are not very good.  |
| Studying in lyon is great. I think you will get out of it what you put in. Explore a lot and there are cool things to see. French speaking will go a long way, although lots of people hear you aren't fluent and change to English anyway. |