



A two-year Erasmus Mundus Master's Degree Programme



NEW STUDENT'S PRACTICAL GUIDEBOOK 2023

University of Eastern Finland

AgroParisTech, France

University of Lleida, Spain

University of Freiburg, Germany

Transilvania University of Braşov, Romania

University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna, Austria



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FOREWORD

Dear MSc European Forestry student,

It is our pleasure to warmly welcome you to your two-year study programme. We are delighted to offer you this guide, the purpose of which is to offer you a general introduction to studying and living in an international atmosphere in Europe.

We encourage you to discover Europe and its myriad cultural and historical features that vary from one region to another. This guide is designed to help you throughout your studies and we hope that the coming two years will be enjoyable and rewarding.

This guidebook includes only the most important practical issues that you need to know while studying in the MSc European Forestry programme and does not replace the possible practical guidebooks of the MSc EF partner universities. Therefore, you are also strongly encouraged to get familiar with, e.g. the instructions in Kamu Student Handbook at <https://kamu.uef.fi/en/tietopankki/new-students/practical-guides/>

MSc European Forestry Secretariat

CONTACT INFORMATION

MSc European Forestry secretariat <http://www.europeanforestry.eu>

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Emergency telephone number throughout Europe 112

INTRODUCTION

Congratulations! You have been admitted to the MSc European Forestry programme. You now have two years of hard work and fun ahead of you and it is up to you to get the most out of it.

The coming two years will be a great opportunity for you to create a network of student colleagues and professionals alike. Get to know your course-mates and remember to mingle with the local people; through interaction with natives you will be able to comprehend the local way of life better than by socialising only with your course-mates.

Be active in student life. You will have plenty of opportunities to influence, for example, how courses are conducted and what you are being taught. You are an important customer to educational institutions and teachers will take your constructive feedback seriously and consider your suggestions carefully for the betterment of each study unit.

At some point in your studies, you will find out that you need to ask your teachers and professors for recommendations. When this moment comes, it is good that the one, who gives you the recommendation letter, knows you personally or at least by your reputation. How you treat your course-mates and other colleagues, how enthusiastic and helpful, how energetic and creative and, most importantly, how reliable and fair you are, will all contribute to the image that we all have of you. The “forestry world” in Europe is small and people within the profession tend to know each other throughout the continent, more or less, the same applies all over the world. When you apply for a summer job or ask for doctorate student status, do not be surprised if your future employer or supervisor contacts one of your professors for recommendations.

You will have a lot of freedom, but this brings with it the responsibility that you must take for your studies. Often the teachers will give you only a few hand outs and a list of recommended reading and sometimes you must find your study material by yourself. It will be up to you to

acquire the required competence to pass the examinations. Go to the library or search on the Internet about the topics that you will have ahead of you. You will enjoy the lectures and field trips more when you know something about the topic beforehand.

Apart from the few compulsory courses, you must think for yourself and choose the courses that you like best. No one will check to make sure that you have taken an examination after a course or that you will hand in a report on time. Instead, you will have certain deadlines and ultimately your goal is to graduate, but no one tells you which path to choose to achieve these goals. This does not mean that help would not be available. Especially, in the beginning of the study programme when everything may seem complicated and confusing, the MSc EF secretariat is there for you if you have questions or if you need advice.

During your studies, you will write numerous essays and reports. Knowing the facts gets you far, but in order to perform well you must learn to express that you have understood the topic and that you have been able to formulate your own arguments on the matter. Copy-pasting someone else's ideas is not impressive. On the contrary, you will be accused of plagiarism which is considered a serious crime in the scientific world!

During the coming two years you will not learn everything about Europe or forests or even European forestry. Most importantly you should learn where and how information can be found and to critically interpret the vast flow of information that is all around us. The amount of current sources of information is vast, but finding the most accurate source of information requires skills that you will learn during your study programme.

PRIOR TO STUDIES

Documents for admission

The information package sent to you contained the following documents:

Notification of the admission results, and

- | | |
|-------------|--|
| Appendix 1) | Welcoming letter |
| Appendix 2) | Confirmation form (sign and return or confirm your study place electronically via studyinfo portal) |
| Appendix 3) | Invoice to pay the consortium fee (Students without Erasmus Mundus scholarship: please send the receipt of the payment) |
| Appendix 4) | Letter of attorney (Students with Erasmus Mundus scholarship: please sign and return) |
| Appendix 5) | Invoice to pay the field course contribution (Concerns all students) |

Confirm your study place, fill in the requested documents, pay the Consortium fee (students without Erasmus Mundus scholarships) and send the required forms and the receipt of the Consortium fee payment to us as soon as you have decided to accept your study place and by latest by **15 April 2023 (EMJMD scholarship holders)/14 July 2023 (non-scholarship holders)**.

Finnish residence permits

Unless you are an EU citizen, you must apply for a Finnish residence permit for **two years**. For further information on applying for a residence permit see the website of the Finnish Immigration Service: <http://www.migri.fi>

You need to fill in the online residence permit application form at <http://migri.fi/en/residence-permit-application-for-studies>

In addition to documents required by the embassy/consulate, the **Notification of admission results** (document 1 mentioned above) should be submitted with your application. You need to visit the embassy **in person** as you will be fingerprinted for a biometric residence permit card. At the same time you are advised also apply for a **Finnish identity number** (see below). For more information on the Finnish Immigration Service web pages: <http://www.migri.fi>

If you are a citizen of an EU member state, Liechtenstein or Switzerland you do not need a residence permit to stay in Finland. However, as your stay lasts for more than three months, you have to register for a right of residence. Nordic (Swedish, Norwegian, Danish and Icelandic) citizens should register as temporary residents at a local Registry Office. Information on registrations is available at http://www.migri.fi/eu_registration

Finnish identity number

Student data contained in the student registers of Finnish higher education institutions is stored in the national data warehouse for higher education. In order to uniquely identify each student it is important that all students studying in Finland have a Finnish identity number (henkilötunnus). Those of you who need to apply for the Finnish residence permit **should apply for the Finnish ID number at the same time**. More information about that: <http://www.migri.fi>

If you are an EU citizen, you can apply for a personal identity code at the same time as you apply for registration of your right of residence at the local Digital and Population Data Services Agency (Digi- ja väestötietovirasto). For more information on the identity number, please see <https://dvv.fi/en/foreigner-registration>

Digital and Population Data Services Agency contact information in Joensuu:
<https://dvv.fi/en/joensuu-en>

Travelling to Finland

Financing

Each student must pay her/his own travel expenses.

Transit visa

Some students may come to Helsinki via London or another airport outside the Schengen area. If you are planning to stop or change airplanes anywhere in Europe, please check whether you need a transit visa.

Luggage

Luggage weight: Check the air line for the maximum allowable luggage weight. Usually, your checked baggage should not be more than 20 kg and the carry-on baggage should be less than 8 kg. Please keep in mind that **you will have to travel a lot during the study programme.**

Therefore, you should not take more baggage than what you absolutely need with you. Extra luggage will make your travel burdensome!

Passport and other important documents and valuables (mobile phones, cameras, laptops, etc.): You should always keep these items with you during the flight and never send them with the checked baggage. You should also carry two sets of photocopies of all your important documents (especially passport and the residence permit) and if possible, scan them and transfer to a CD/DVD/memory stick!

What to take with: Some of you may not have experiences of living in places with minus 20–30 degrees centigrade! You will need a warm jacket as well as good winter gloves, winter shoes/boots, socks, caps and long underwear, rainwear, etc. You will also need prescribed medicines, a calculator, a wind-proof light jacket, passport photos and a power converter (electrical plug adaptor).

Costs

The following is an estimate of how much money you will be spending in Europe.

Accommodation: Accommodation costs per month will vary between 200–400 EUR/month, depending on the size of the apartment and country.

Food: An estimate of what you will spend on food is about 200-300 EUR per month. In most cases you will be able to cook your own food.

Travelling costs: Travel costs will be your responsibility. Estimating travel costs is difficult. You can find good prices for flying within Europe (30–50 EUR one-way) using low-cost airlines, but for that you will have to travel light (expensive additional fees may be charged for checked baggage over 15/20 kg and the payment may have to be made with a credit card. If you have a credit card, we strongly advise you to bring your own credit card from your country, since according to the Finnish banking rules you cannot get a Finnish visa/credit card unless you have two years of working experience in Finland. For cash withdrawals, you will be able to manage with your Finnish or European visa-electron, or similar. For all non-European students, we will make arrangements and assist you to open a Finnish bank account and to order a visa-electron card upon your arrival in Joensuu, if you wish so. There are also many online European banks in which you can open your account.

If you are planning to change currency in advance in your home country, please realise that the currency in Finland is the EURO. Naturally, you will be able to change currency or withdraw money from ATMs in Europe, and therefore changing excessive amounts of money prior to arrival is not necessary. Also note that in most cases it is not possible to change currency in the banks.

See more in **Annex 1**.

STUDYING AND LIVING IN JOENSUU

Arrival and orientation

Student tutors will meet you upon your arrival at Joensuu and, therefore, it is important that you will inform your tutor about your arrival day and time. The tutors will assist you in all practicalities throughout your studies in Joensuu.

To facilitate the integration of international students in Finland, the University of Eastern Finland organises an Orientation Programme at the beginning of September. The programme includes lectures on Finnish society, Finnish language, culture and university life, and a visit to the University's Main Library. It is highly recommended that you participate in the orientation, which is also a good opportunity to meet other international students. You will also have an opportunity to participate in a Finnish language course during which you learn the basics of the language. The following three introductory courses are available to you:

- University study skills (1 ECTS)
- University computing skills (2 ECTS)
- Information skills and sources in science and forestry for international students (1 ECTS)
- Career planning and job seeking courses

You will receive more information about these courses later.

Accommodation

Accommodation in Joensuu: You should apply for accommodation in Joensuu for the first academic year, starting on 1 August **immediately** after you have decided to accept your study place.

Please check the website of the Student Housing Company "Joensuun Elli", which is the company that offers student accommodation in Joensuu.

Fill in the application form carefully according to the given instructions. Mark clearly that you are a MSc EF student and that you would like to have (a furnished, if you wish so) room in a shared flat (apartments are for families only and single flats are hard to get). There are only a limited number of furnished flats (bed with mattress, desk, chair and wardrobe) and usually the flats are rented without furniture if furniture is not mentioned in the offer.

About **one month prior to your arrival** in Joensuu, you will receive an offer from Joensuun Elli for a room by email. You will have to confirm the offered accommodation by paying a deposit. **It is very important that you accept the offer as soon as you receive it as later there might not be any rooms left. Please also accept it also in case that the offer is not according to your wishes as if you do not accept it, you will be put again in the queue and might not be able to receive anything in time.**

Since the housing company is independent from the university, we kindly ask you to direct to them any questions you may have regarding the accommodation.

When you have reserved a flat or a room at the Student Housing Company Joensuun Elli, immediately upon arrival at Joensuu you must visit them and sign your lease. You will get the key to your flat after signing the lease. If you arrive at Joensuu outside the office hours (Mon 9:00–17:00; Tue–Thu 9:00–16:00; Fri 9:00–15:00, closed Sat–Sun), you may ask your tutor to get the key for you. If your tutor agrees to pick up the key, you must send him/her a letter of authorisation where you permit him/her to collect the key.

Student Housing Company Joensuun Elli

Merimiehenkatu 30, Tel. +358 13 337 7800, Fax +358 13 337 3301

Email: kodit[at]joensuunelli.fi, <http://www.joensuunelli.fi/eng/>

See more in **Annex 1**.

Registration

All students need to register as present students.

Please see more at: <https://kamu.uef.fi/en/tietopankki/registration/> and <https://kamu.uef.fi/en/tietopankki/registration-instructions-for-new-students/registration-for-new-students/>

Peppi

Peppi is a data ecosystem that comprises education planning, facility and resource reservations, and the student and study register. In Peppi, different features are organized into virtual desktops based on user roles. Students, teachers, PSP instructors, coordinators, amanuenses, study secretaries, study coordinators, persons reserving facilities, etc., use Peppi in every-day work.

Please see more at: <https://studentuef.sharepoint.com/sites/peppihandbook>

Student identity card

Students who have paid the Student Union (ISYY) membership fee can order a student card. The student card entitles you to a discount on meals at the campus restaurants as well as to reduced train and bus fares. Moreover, students who have paid the Student Union (ISYY) membership fee are entitled to use the services provided by the Finnish Student Health Service (FSHS). You can order a physical student card or a digital student card.

For more information see:

<https://kamu.uef.fi/en/student-book/student-card-and-student-benefits/>

ELEARN

ELEARN is an online learning environment, which is used for some of the courses offered at the University of Eastern Finland. During a course, you might for example, be required to take part in online discussions and possibly hand in assignments online. You can access ELEARN with your university username and password via the university's home page. When entering ELEARN, you first have to search for the course you want to attend. You can search courses by name. Remember that you have to register for courses also in ELEARN, even if you have already registered in Peppi. To register for a course in ELEARN, you need to ask for a 'registration key' from the course leader.

Wireless network—eduroam

The University of Eastern Finland IT Services reforms the wireless local area network names. All UEF wireless LANS require user authentication (username + password). For more information see: <https://kamu.uef.fi/en/student-book/wireless-networks/>

Mailing lists

We have created mailing lists for all MSc EF courses separately and use them to distribute study-related information to you. Please keep in mind that when you use this email list, your message will be sent to all its subscribers: you, all your course mates and MSc EF secretariat. The lists for the courses 2013–2017 are formed as mscef_20xx(at)lists.uef.fi. The earlier courses are combined to one mscef_alumni(at)lists.uef.fi. The mailing lists for course 2018 and afterwards will be uef-mscef_201x@groups.uef.fi

International section of the student union

ESN Joensuu is a Student Union (ISYY) club dedicated to serving the interests of international students. The most important task of ESN Joensuu is to introduce Finnish culture and lifestyle to international students and to give Finnish students an opportunity to gain international experiences in Joensuu by organising diverse events and activities. In addition, ESN Joensuu is active in promoting intercultural understanding on campus and in Joensuu. ESN activities include: the Get to Know Each Other Party at the beginning of the semester, sports events (bowling, table tennis, cycling, Frisbee golf etc.), cultural events (international dinner and food festival, charity events, music evenings) and trips to Lapland and Sweden. All members of the Student Union (ISYY) are automatically members of ESN Joensuu. Most of the events and activities are free of charge – all you need is a valid student card.

ESN warmly invites everyone to join ESN Joensuu, regardless of your field of study or background – ESN is here to make your stay in Finland more meaningful and more fun!

Please read more about ESN Joensuu on the website and join the group “ESN Joensuu” on Facebook to keep up-to-date with our activities. Please see more at

<https://www.isyy.fi/en/international-students/for-new-international-students.html>

Association of forestry students

At the University of Eastern Finland, almost every department has its own student association, designed not only for socialising but also for providing information and broadening students' horizons in their field of study. International students are welcomed to join the activities that the association of forestry students, Joensuun Metsäylioppilaat, offers. Please see more at:

<https://jmyo.fi/en/>

Student Handbook – Kamu

Kamu (<https://kamu.uef.fi/en>) is a student handbook that contains instructions, services and news that concern all students, and it is available in Finnish and English. The student handbook is designed for mobile devices, and no login is required. Thanks to its logical structure, it is easy to find everything in the handbook. Students don't need to know the headline under which a certain matter belongs, as the keyword search will bring up content even from deep within the website. The handbook features links to matters that are important to students: the O365 environment (incl. study communities, email, Yammer, Office tools...), Yammer, ELEAR, menus of the campus restaurants, etc.

Instructions for new students, and for students who are resuming their studies, can be found on the New Students website: <https://kamu.uef.fi/en/opkirja-kategoriat/new-students/>

Study communities

Study communities are O365 sites dedicated to a specific subject or a degree programme. These study communities feature field-specific instructions and current issues relating to studies, as well as all important contact information. Study communities use their own Yammer groups for communication. All study communities can be accessed by all students; however, students will need to login to O365 with their UEFAD username and password (<https://kamu.uef.fi/student-book/opintoyhteisot>).

Yammer

Yammer is the main channel of internal communication for students and staff alike.

Information that concerns all students is shared in the UEF Opiskelijat /UEF Students Yammer

group, where students can also comment on and discuss the posts made. Study communities also have their own Yammer groups, which are intended for sharing information that is specific to a particular subject or degree programme. It is also possible to create new Yammer groups as needed. You can access Yammer by going to the O365 environment via the student handbook or the university website.

Yammer is also available as a simple and free app that can be downloaded on your phone from the app store. Having the Yammer app on your phone makes it easy to keep up with conversations from anywhere, anytime. To learn more about Yammer, please see <https://kamu.uef.fi/en/student-book/student-communications/>

Local buses, second-hand shops and bicycle rental

Local buses in Joensuu run usually twice an hour from the town centre and bus service covers the entire city of Joensuu. You must buy a ticket in the bus from the driver and the ticket allows you to change buses within a one-hour time period. To check the detailed timetables, visit the web page shown below. Also, student bus cards are available.

More information: <https://www.joensuu.fi/web/english/public-transport>

Some key words to help your navigation:

Lähtöpaikka=departure; Määränpää=destination; Asema=railway station; Keskusta=town centre; Yliopistokatu=University of Eastern Finland

Secondhand shops and bicycle rental

Kontti, Suomen Punainen Risti (Finnish Red Cross)

clothes, furniture, dishes, books

address: Voimatie 10, 80100 Joensuu, tel. +358 40 1390 725

Fida International, international mission and development co-operation organisation
clothes, books

address: Teollisuuskatu 21, 80100 Joensuu, tel. +358 50 509 9329

Valintakirppis

Clothes, furniture, dishes, books

address: Teollisuuskatu 4, 80100 Joensuu, tel. +358 13 223 880

Easy Kirppis

Clothes, furniture, dishes, books

address: Raatekankaantie 4, 80100 Joensuu, tel. +358 40 8458730

Kansalaistalo Café Soroppi,

http://www.kansalaistalo.fi/?page_id=137

Community Resource Centre Bicycle rental

address: Torikatu 30, 80100 Joensuu, tel. +358 13 123 132

Cheap bed clothes, pillows, blankets:

Jysk, Voimatie 10, 80100, Joensuu, www.jysk.fi

About studying and living in Joensuu, please see the Practical Guidebook for International students of UEF at <https://kamu.uef.fi/en/student-book/practical-guides/> and the related Student Handbook "Kamu at: <https://kamu.uef.fi/en/>

STUDYING AND LIVING IN THE SECOND-YEAR HOST UNIVERSITY

Residence permits, arrival and orientation

As soon as your second-year host university has been determined during the spring semester of the first academic year, you will be provided detailed information on how to proceed in registering at your second-year host university.

You will be provided also a notification of admission that you can use, if you need to apply for your **visa/residence permit to** your second-year host country. However, in most cases if you do have a Finnish residence permit for two years, you do not need to apply for a residence permit of your second-year host country. More information about the student visas/residence permits in each second-year host country can be found in **Annex 1**.

Each MSc EF second-year host university organises **orientation and welcoming days** at the beginning of your second academic year. The timetables and contents vary between the universities (see **Annex 1**). Also, student tutors will help you to get familiar with the student life and your second-year host university. You will be provided full information about these issues during the spring semester of the first academic year.

Accommodation

A student residence hall is an easy way to find a place to stay in a new city and provides the opportunity to meet people. See more about the student accommodation possibilities at the different partner universities in **Annex 1**.

MSc EF FINANCES

Erasmus Mundus scholarships

In 2023, we admitted 50 students and EMJMD scholarships were awarded to 19 students. In case you are among the ones to whom a scholarship is offered, information about that can be found in **Notification of Admission**.

The Erasmus Mundus scholarship for a Partner Country student is max. 48,000 euro in total and the Erasmus Mundus scholarship for a Programme Country student is max. 39,500 euro in total over the two years of study.

The Erasmus Mundus scholarships shall be paid to the scholarship holders' European bank accounts by the University of Eastern Finland. For a tentative pay schedule and further information, see **Student Agreement**. All the students who do not have a European bank account shall be instructed to open one upon their arrival in Joensuu, Finland. **Please note that opening of the bank account and the paperwork related to the payments take time so you have to be prepared that you will not receive the first scholarship payment before September/October.**

If there are any questions concerning the Erasmus Mundus scholarships, please do not hesitate to contact: Ms Marjoriitta Möttönen, marjoriitta.mottonen(at)uef.fi, tel. +358 50 442 3031

Students without Erasmus Mundus scholarships

If you are among the students to whom a scholarship has not been proposed (no information in the **Notification of Admission**), you are highly encouraged to apply for scholarships or a student loan from other sources or to be prepared to fund your studies by yourself. Working while studying is challenging due to the mobility elements of the MSc European Forestry programme.

Therefore, the best way to begin your scholarship hunt is to contact potential sponsors in your home country; forest industry or forest-related organisations and your ministry of education are good places to start. Check also <http://www.scholarshipportal.com/>

Living expenses in Europe are comparable to those in North America. The Finnish immigration office considers 6,720 euro per year a sufficient amount to live in Finland and this applies to Europe in general. Please see more about the financial requirements for obtaining a residence permit at the website of Migri.

Students, who have not ever received Erasmus+ scholarship for their exchange studies at the MSc level, are eligible to apply for an Erasmus+ scholarship for their second academic year (there may be restrictions in some MSc EF universities) and/or for their internship (applied period). The Erasmus+ scholarship is about 200 EUR/month for the second-year studies and about 350 EUR/month for the internship. The annual deadline for applications for the Erasmus+ scholarship for the second-year studies is 15 February and for the internship it is continuous for the time being. Further information about Erasmus grants can be obtained from [international\(at\)uef.fi](mailto:international(at)uef.fi)

Consortium fees

There is a consortium fee for all students. The payable amount of the consortium fee is dependent on your nationality and whether you are an Erasmus Mundus scholarship holder or not. The annual consortium fee is 4,250 EUR for all students from Programme Countries, except for the ones holding an Erasmus Mundus scholarship for a Partner Country student. The annual consortium fee is 8,500 EUR for all students from Partner Countries, except for the ones holding an Erasmus Mundus scholarship for a Programme country student. Consequently, the annual consortium fee is 8,500 EUR for all the students holding the Erasmus Mundus scholarship for a Partner country regardless their nationality and 4,250 EUR for all the students holding an Erasmus Mundus scholarship for a Programme country student regardless their nationality.

The consortium fee is to be paid on a semester basis in advance. The first instalment is due on 15 May 2023. For further instructions see **Appendix 3 Invoice to pay the consortium fee**. Send the receipt of the paid consortium fee as a scanned copy to the MSc European Forestry Secretariat immediately after you have made the payment. The consortium fee is payable to the consortium's bank account on an annual basis for both the academic years in advance by a due date set by the consortium. No visa card payments are allowed.

Erasmus Mundus scholarship holders can choose to have their consortium fees charged directly to their scholarships by sending a letter of attorney to the University of Eastern Finland along with the confirmation form. For further instructions, see **Appendix 4 Letter of Attorney**.

Paying the consortium fees in due time is a prerequisite for participating in and eventually graduating from the MSc European Forestry Programme. Neglecting to pay the consortium fees will lead to withholding your future scholarships.

If there are any questions concerning the consortium fees, please do not hesitate to contact: Ms Marjoriitta Möttönen, marjoriitta.mottonen(at)uef.fi, tel. +358 50 442 3031

Student Union fees and Kela healthcare fee

Throughout your studies, from the very first day until your graduation, you will remain a degree student at the University of Eastern Finland. According to the Universities Act (645/1667) all degree students belong to the student union and must pay the student union fee on an annual basis for their two-year study period. You may incur a similar fee also in other consortium universities.

Starting in January 2021, students are entitled to use the services of the Finnish Student Health Service (FSHS, Finnish abbreviation YTHS) must pay a healthcare fee to Kela.

See more at

<https://kamu.uef.fi/en/student-book/registration-for-new-students/#registration>

<https://kamu.uef.fi/en/?s=healthcare%20fee>

Bank issues

The non-European scholarship holders are instructed to open a European bank account upon their arrival at Joensuu (see the websites of some banks below). Any questions concerning bank issues are best asked at the bank in person. Your tutor will help you with opening the bank account.

N26 (German online bank): <https://n26.com>

Revolut (Lithuanian online bank): <https://www.revolut.com>

Danske Bank: <https://www.danskebank.fi/en-fi/Personal/Pages/Personal.aspx>

Nordea: <https://www.nordea.fi/en/>

Pohjois-Karjalan Osuuspankki: <https://uusi.op.fi/web/op-pohjois-karjala>

Paying your rent and other payments

If you are an EU citizen, there is no need to open a Finnish Bank account. However, you may have to pay substantial fees for making the payments online from your account, but none for making the payments by card.

PERSONAL SAFETY

Visitors have little need to fear for their personal safety or their belongings in Europe. Authorities, such as the police, can be trusted and corruption is almost non-existent (all the seven consortium universities are among the world's 30 least corrupt countries according to the Transparency International Annual Report 2010). Nevertheless, reasonable caution with one's personal

belongings is always recommended as a precaution.

Similarly, it is just common sense to avoid situations that may cause you trouble. Walking alone at night, especially in big cities, is not recommended. You should at least tell one of your friends where you are going and when you are expected to return. Do not mingle with drunken people and avoid being provocative, especially on weekends in bars and restaurants. If necessary, do not hesitate to contact the police. The emergency telephone number throughout Europe is 112.

Insurance

All the MSc EF students are insured from 1 August 2023 until 31 July 2025 by the insurance package arranged by the MSc EF programme. This insurance meets the minimum health and accident insurance coverage requested by the Finnish Immigration Service, thus enabling you to participate in the MSc EF programme.

Please check the terms of the insurance which you will receive within two weeks after you have confirmed your study place and signed the student agreement (and paid the Consortium fee if you start as a self-paying student)

Alcohol, drugs and medicine

The use of alcohol is usually restricted to indoors and private premises. Although law and regulations vary from one country to another, sometimes even from town to town, drinking alcohol in public parks or on the street is generally prohibited. In most European countries selling alcohol to under-aged people (less than 18, sometimes 20, years of age) is illegal.

The use and possession of narcotics are punishable acts in most of the European countries, as are selling, import and transport of narcotics. Drug dealing carries a heavy prison sentence.

Anyone in possession of illegal drugs, including hash and marijuana, runs the risk of being arrested and expelled from the EU or being imprisoned.

Imports of medicinal products are controlled. Limitations of amounts of medicinal products that can be imported by a passenger are dependent on whether a product is considered a self-medication product, a prescription drug or a narcotic drug. Most restrictions concern narcotic drugs, where only an amount equivalent to 14 days' use can be imported. For further information, see the Heads of Medicines Agencies: <http://www.hma.eu/>

TRAVELLING IN EUROPE

During your European Forestry studies, you will visit at least six European countries. Travels between the countries are usually at your own responsibility and at your own expense. In addition to the travel associated with the study programme we highly encourage you to explore Europe by yourself during your free time!

Travelling in Europe is generally easy and the majority of coach, train and flight tickets can be purchased on the Internet. Within Central Europe, trains and coaches are quick, comfortable and usually cheap in comparison to flights. When travelling to/from Finland, the easiest and often the cheapest way to travel to the continent is to fly. A more time consuming but relaxed option would be to take a ferry across the Baltic Sea. Student rate tickets are generally available, but sometimes special offers are a real bargain! Please note, that the following chapters are not to be regarded as an extensive tourist information package and the links provided are merely suggestions based on personal experiences.

Coaches

Eurolines

The Eurolines travel organisation groups 32 independent coach companies, which operate Europe's largest regular coach network. This network connects over 500 destinations, covering the whole of the continent and Morocco. <http://www.eurolines.com>

Bus pass in Europe

<http://www.busabout.com>

Coaches in Finland (e.g. from Joensuu to Helsinki)

Savonlinja: <https://www.savonlinja.fi/en>

Onnibus: <http://www.onnibus.com/en/index.htm>

Expressbus: <http://www.expressbus.fi/en/home/>

Flights

Austrian Airlines: <http://www.austrian.com>

Blue 1; Budget flights: <http://www.blue1.com>

British Airways: <http://britishairways.com>

Easy Jet; Budget flights: <http://www.easyjet.com>

Finnair: <http://www.finnair.com>

Iberia; Spanish enterprise: <http://www.iberia.com>

KLM; Royal Dutch Airlines: <http://www.klm.com>

Lufthansa; German enterprise: <http://www.lufthansa.com>

Norwegian: <http://www.norwegian.com>

Ryan Air; Budget flights: <http://www.ryanair.com>

Trains

ÖBB; Austrian rail company: <http://www.oebb.at>

VR; Finnish Rail: <http://www.vr.fi>

DB; Die Bahn – German Rail: <http://www.bahn.de>

Renfe; Spanish Rail: <http://www.renfe.es/>

France: <http://www.sncf.com/>

Train passes in Europe: <http://www.raileurope.com>

Interrail passes in Europe: <http://www.interrail.com>

General

<http://www.travelpunk.com>

<http://www.bugeurope.com>

<http://www.lonelyplanet.com>

<http://kilroytravels.com>

USEFUL LINKS

University of Eastern Finland: <http://www.uef.fi>

School of Forest Sciences: <https://www.uef.fi/en/unit/school-of-forest-sciences>

City of Joensuu: <http://www.joensuu.fi>

Study in Finland: <http://www.studyinfinland.fi>

Finnish Immigration office: <http://www.migri.fi>

Joensuun Elli: <http://www.joensuunelli.fi>

Information about Finland: <http://www.infopankki.fi>

Information for the new students: <https://kamu.uef.fi/en/new-students-orientation/>

KEY PHRASES IN FINNISH

English	Finnish
Hello	Hei
Yes	Kyllä
No	Ei
Thank you	Kiitos
Help	Apua
Good morning	Hyvää huomenta
Good evening	Hyvää iltaa
Good bye	Näkemiin
Sorry	Anteeksi
How are you?	Mitä kuuluu?
My name is...	Minun nimeni on...
One, two, three	Yksi, kaksi, kolme
Four, five, six	Neljä, viisi, kuusi
Seven, eight	Seitsemän, kahdeksan
Nine, ten	Yhdeksän, kymmenen
I do not understand	En ymmärrä
Where is...?	Missä on...?
Cheers	Kippis
Butter	Voi
Cheese	Juusto
Egg	Kananmuna
Skimmed milk, max 0.5% fat	Rasvaton maito
Semi-skimmed milk, Max 1.5%fat	Kevytmaito
Buttermilk	Piimä
Cream	Kerma
Sugar	Sokeri
Salt	Suola
Bread	Leipä
Pork	Sianliha
Chicken	Kana, broileri
Beef	Naudanliha
Fish	Kala

ANNEX 1

Table 1. Summary of practical information related to MSc EF Full Partner Universities.

Visas and residence permits	Agency	Links to the relevant sites	Comments/tips/fees
UEF	Finnish Immigration Service	http://www.migri.fi	Apply using the electronic form as it is faster and cheaper. Note that you have to visit the Embassy/Consulate in person for fingerprinting. First student residence permit for one year 350-450 EUR
AgroParisTech	The Office Français de l'Immigration et de l'Intégration	http://www.ofii.fr/ http://www.expatica.com/fr/visas-and-permits/Study-in-France-French-student-visas-and-permits_109146.html	
ALU	German Immigration Service Federal Foreign Office DAAD	https://www.bamf.de/EN/Themen/MigrationAufenthalt/ZuwandererDrittstaaten/MobilitaetEU/MobilitaetStudent/mobilitaet-student-node.html https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/einreiseundaufenthalt/visabestimmungen-node https://www.daad.de/en/study-and-research-in-germany/plan-your-studies/visas/	Depending on their country of origin applicants must submit visa applications, together with all necessary documents, in person at the German mission responsible for their place of residence. Visa fees in general 60 €

BOKU	The foreign representations (embassy, consulate, ...) and cultural institutes of your country can be found on the pages of the Austrian Foreign Ministry .	All information about residence permits and visa is compiled here: http://www.boku.ac.at/en/international/the-men/international-students-coming-to-boku/wie-plane-ich-mein-leben-in-wien/wie-plane-ich-mein-leben-in-wien-vor-der-ankunft/einreise-und-aufenthalt-visa/	
UoL	Secretaría General de Inmigración y Emigración (Ministerio de Empleo y Seguridad Social)	http://extranjeros.empleo.gob.es/es/InformacionInteres/InformacionProcedimientos/Ciudadanosnocomunitarios/Estancia_Espana.html UoL information: http://www.udl.cat/ca/serveis/ori/estudiant_at_estranger/esp/eras/procedimientos/residencia/#collapse-c82e7a00-0d85-11e7-b445-005056ac0088-1	Our International Relations Office will send an email to the students in order to help with a visa. Should you have any questions, please send an email to: incoming@int.udl.cat
UTBv	To be updated		
Monthly living costs	Accommodation	Meals	Comments/tips
UEF	170–300 EUR	At the student restaurants lunch about 2–4 EUR	500-800 EUR/month depending on personal spending habits https://www.numbeo.com/cost-of-living/country_result.jsp?country=Finland
AgroParisTech	200–350 EUR at the AgroParisTech residences	At the student restaurants lunch about 2–4 EUR	500-900 EUR/month depending on personal spending habits https://www.numbeo.com

			m/cost-of-living/in/Nancy
ALU	210–500 EUR	At the student restaurants lunch about 3 EUR	690-980 EUR/month depending on personal spending habits https://www.swfr.de/en/international/life-in-freiburg/cost-of-living-in-freiburg/
BOKU	Costs for accommodation in Vienna can be fairly high, expect to pay between 270 - 500 EUR /month for your accommodation.	At the student restaurants lunch about 3–4 EUR more information can be found here: https://boku.ac.at/en/international/themen/international-students-coming-to-boku/wie-plane-ich-mein-studium-an-der-boku/wie-plane-ich-mein-studium-an-der-boku-nach-der-ankunft/essen-an-der-boku	Food approx. 300 to 400 EUR/month (excluding luxuries and tobacco) Other Expenses approx. 200 to 300 EUR/month (books, culture, local public, transport, recreation) In total living costs (accommodation, food, ..) approx. 850 to 1,300 EUR/month
UoL	150–300 EUR	Lunch at the campus cafeteria about 7–10 EUR	500-800 EUR/month depending on personal spending habits
UTBv	To be updated		
Accommodation	Housing options	Links	Comments/tips
UEF	Elli Housing	https://www.joensuu.fi/en/	Apply for a room in a shared flat (studios are difficult to get) as soon as you have been accepted to MSc EF.
AgroParisTech	On-site residences (rooms or studios)	Contact: meriem.fournier@inra.fr http://www.agroparistech.fr/Centre-de-Nancy-1034.html	Apply as soon as your decision to come to AgroParisTech for the second year is made.
ALU	SWFR Studierendenwerk (student union) . student dormitories . private housing	https://www.swfr.de/en/residence/student-residence/information-about-online-application/	Applications for dormitories from July 15th to August 31st (winter semester).

		https://www.swfr.de/en/residence/housing-services/housing-service/	Any time
BOKU	For further information on different types of accommodation, please use the links below: Student Residences Flat Share and Youth Hostels Find us on Facebook Discussion group: Accommodation Exchange BOKU		Apply as soon as your second academic year at BOKU has been confirmed.
UoL	Hall of Residence University Campus Apartments, University Housing, Flats to rent, Rooms to rent	http://www.udl.cat/ca/serveis/seu/allotjament/erasmus/index.html	Apply during August / September for best rates
UTBv	To be updated		
Cultural aspects/free time activities	Links to the relevant sites, eg. city, university, free time activities nearby	Other comments	
UEF	https://kamu.uef.fi/en/ http://www.joensuu.fi/en/web/english http://www.visitkarelia.fi/en/Travelling	In Joensuu it is easy to get around by bike. You can rent one at: https://www.kansalaistalo.fi/polkupyorien-vuokraus/ Finnish language courses available	
AgroParisTech	http://en.nancy-tourisme.fr/home/ http://clubalpinnancy.ffcam.fr/	Possibility to rent bikes. French language courses for non-native speakers are also available. Alpine Club weekly hiking activities in the Vosges mountains.	
ALU	http://www.studium.uni-freiburg.de/en/student-services http://www.freiburg.de/pb/Len/225797.html https://www.schwarzwald-tourismus.info/	Freiburg is ranked third among Germany's bicycle-friendly big cities http://fudder.de/freiburg-ist-auf-platz-3-der-fahrradfreundlichsten-grossstaedte-deutschlands--137092777.html Sport and recreation offered at ALU: https://www.swfr.de/en/events/sport/ German language courses at SLI: http://www.sli.uni-freiburg.de/german/intensive/summer-winter http://www.sli.uni-freiburg.de/course-catalogue/coursecatalogue#deutsch-p	

BOKU	<p>Vienna is the city of music and culture – many options are available. Next to the many historical buildings, there are museums with some of the most important artworks ever created, e.g. by artists like Klimt, Schiele, Dürer, Rembrandt, etc.</p> <p>Furthermore, it is the city of classical music, hosting the world famous Musikverein (Music Lovers Hall) and an outstanding Opera House:</p> <p>http://www.boku.ac.at/en/international/theme_n/international-students-coming-to-boku/wie-plane-ich-mein-leben-in-wien/wie-plane-ich-mein-leben-wien-nach-der-ankunft/kulturelles/</p> <p>Besides that many options for sport are provided</p> <p>http://www.boku.ac.at/en/international/theme_n/international-students-coming-to-boku/wie-plane-ich-mein-leben-in-wien/wie-plane-ich-mein-leben-wien-nach-der-ankunft/sport/</p>	<p>Vienna has been rated the most liveable city worldwide (according to the 2019 Quality of Living worldwide city ranking, published by the international consulting firm Mercer). The main reasons for the high ranking are the high-quality of living combined with cultural activity and affordable tuition fees.</p> <p>Vienna is also a very safe city. Using public transport on your own at night is not a problem and students can feel safe in all areas of the city.</p>
UoL	<p>http://www.turismedel·leida.cat/?set_language=en</p> <p>http://www.etsea.udl.cat/en/mobility/Foreign_Students.html</p>	<p>Many cultural activities are organized by the city and by the UdL (dance, orchestra, choir, Jazz season, theatre, etc):</p> <p>http://www.udl.cat/ca/serveis/culturals/</p> <p>You have practical info about Catalonia here: https://erasmusincatalonia.wordpress.com/lleida</p>

	http://www.udl.cat/ca/en/services/sport/	/ Language courses available, free for Spanish and Catalan. Sports Club free subscription if specified at registration.	
UTBv	To be updated		
Student life	Orientation programme (timing)	Student union activities	Other comments/tips
UEF	https://kamu.uef.fi/en/student-book/orientation-for-international-students/	http://isyy.fi/en/	Tutors available Check the trips organised by the Student Union (e.g. to St Petersburg and Lapland) Also Forestry Student Association organizes, e.g. bike trips, parties, skiing competitions, etc.
AgroParisTech			Many activities are organised by the local student union (hiking, forest activities, nightlife).
ALU	https://www.studium.uni-freiburg.de/en/student-services/beginning-students/welcome-days	http://www.ifs.uni-freiburg.de/	Tutor available at IWW (chair of forest growth and dendroecology) Culture: https://www.swfr.de/en/events/culture/info/ Trips: https://www.swfr.de/en/events/studitours/
BOKU	Welcome days are offered from BOKU http://www.boku.ac.at/en/international/theme_n/international-students-coming-to-boku/auftakt-an-der-boku-willkommenstage-und-andere-veranstaltungen/ A nice compilation about the required steps as an international student at BOKU is available	The International Forestry Students' Association offers forestry students from all over the world the opportunity to learn more about forestry in other countries https://ifsalcbooku.wordpress.com/	Check the trips organised by ZIB (Centre for International Relationships)

	<p>here</p> <p>http://www.boku.ac.at/fileadmin/data/H05000/H12000/Baum_2012/B</p> <p>=</p> <p>_International Students coming to BOKU/A ERASMUS/C- Meine Checklisten/Checklist_Arrival_EN.pdf</p>		
UoL	<p>http://www.udl.cat/ca/serveis/ori/estudiantat/estranger/esp/eras/bienvenida/bienvenida/</p>		<p>Tutors available.</p> <p>Welcoming week in August and September.</p>
UTBv	To be updated		

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**UNIVERSITY OF
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