

## **Exchange report - Idar Oberstein**

### **1. Where and when did you study abroad?**

I studied in a small German village called Idar Oberstein from 11.04.23-14.07.23.

### **2. What KEA program did you attend at the time?**

6th semester at Jewellery, Technology & Business

### **3. What classes did you take during your semester abroad? Please briefly explain what each class was about.**

Gemstone - cutting, grinding and sourcing of stones

Jewellery - goldsmithing

Art - photography, sculptures and drawing

Cultural studies - jewellery meaning in the world

Presentation - final presentation showcasing your work

Campus Credits - helping with moving into a new location and workshop work

## **Academic Experience**

### **1. How helpful was the receiving school in the process of choosing classes and settling you in?**

I didn't really get to choose classes myself. They were already chosen for me in advance since the school is small. They were very helpful at settling me in, and in general people were just very open towards me, so it was easy.

### **2. What Classes/study experiences did you find the most rewarding? Why?**

To work with stones. Idar Oberstein is one of the oldest stone villages in the world, so there was just so much to see and learn even though the village is very small (30.000 residents), and also because I don't have the same opportunity to learn how to carve stones anywhere in Denmark.

### **3. What classes/study experiences did you find least relevant or least valuable to you? Why?**

Campus credits since it didn't really have to do with anything about my project. But other than that I feel like the classes fitted very well together.

**4. What classes would you advise other KEA students going to the receiving school to choose or not to choose?**

Since you don't really get to choose, guess all of them.

## **Practical Experience**

**1. How Was The Application Process?**

Long because I constantly had to wait for different parties to respond, but it all worked out in the end.

**a. What did KEA help you with?**

Showing me how to use mobility, reaching out to my receiving school and moral support.

**b. What Help Did You Receive From Your School Abroad?**

Finding accommodation and practical info before arriving

**2. Did you have any practical difficulties settling down at your destination?**

No

**a. How Helpful Was The Receiving School In This Process?**

Fine

**3. Where Did You Live?**

Hauptstraße 5, Idar-Oberstein. Right next to the school.

**a. Was It Difficult To Find Accommodation?**

No, they have people employed to help you find accommodation.

**b. Was it Expensive?**

I don't think so. I paid 250 euro a month including everything.

**4. What Kind Of Expenses Did You Have In General?**

Rent, food, stones, school trips etc.

**a. Did You Spend More Or Less Money Than You budgeted with?**

More

**5. What kind of income did you have during your exchange?**

- **Did you receive SU and/or Erasmus**

Yes, i received both

- **Did you apply for any grants and did you receive any?**

No

## **Cultural/Personal Experience**

**1. What challenges did you experience culturally while being abroad?**

I didn't experience any cultural challenges while I was abroad. I fitted in very easily with the other people at school

**a. How helpful was the receiving school in this process?**

**2. What was the best cultural/personal experience during your studies abroad?**

I went to a jewellery symposium called Haxthausenhof with some of the other people from my school. It was three days of jewellery artists talking about their work. Really cool experience that I will remember forever.

**3. What advice would give other KEAstudent going to study abroad at the receiving school?**

You have to be okay with having a lot of freetime and being alone. The village is small, and therefore there is not a lot to do outside of school