

**Fatima El Assal and her Erasmus in Germany**



# **The city of Erlangen**



# My story

**Fatima El Assal**

First of all, you should know that this is not the first time I've been to Germany: the first time was for my M1 internship. So, my feelings are a bit "biased" because I'm in the same city and studying at the same institute as during my internship. So I imagine it would be interesting to talk about my internship before giving my feelings for the current year.

My feelings about my first visit here are quite mixed. When I arrived, Erlangen seemed like Limoges: the weather wasn't very nice for the first two weeks. Socially, it was very difficult to connect with Germans in general, and only the internationals were friendly (I imagine that's what happens most often). But with time and the events that the institute organized, I was finally able to make friends with a few people. But the path to get there was definitely not easy, and I often felt alone.

After my internship, I was able to travel around the country for 2-3 weeks, which allowed me to discover the big cities and the culture of each region and to better "integrate" into its landscape, so to speak.

My feelings about my current year are more positive. Since I was lucky enough to do my internship in the same faculty as the one where I am currently studying, I had less anxiety about being alone and not knowing anyone. There weren't many classes, but I still had to work a lot at home.

I was also able to spend time traveling, given that my schedule was quite light. You should know that the train connections here are excellent and allow you to travel almost everywhere in the country, and even in Europe.

Finally, being an Erasmus student means a lot of activities, which I didn't do myself (mainly activities like going to clubs or karaoke), which I'm sure would appeal to future students who come here.



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# when are you doing an erasmus?



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