

In seinem 4. Semester entschied sich Laurenz Gebauer für ein Auslandsemester in der portugiesischen Stadt **Barcelos** und verbrachte ein Semester lang am [Polytechnic Institute of Cávado and Ave](#). Da im Sommersemester 2021 unser HCC-Lehrangebot im Online-Modus ablief, konnte er sich zu den Lehrveranstaltungen remote aus Portugal zuschalten. Gleichzeitig besuchte er interessante Kurse und seine Eindrücke zum Lifestyle in Barcelos hat er für uns zusammengefasst.



The town of Barcelos - portugaltravelguide.com

Wie hast du Barcelos erlebt?

Barcelos is a city in the North part of Portugal in the Minho region. It's best known for holding the symbol of Portugal - the rooster in the form of statues everywhere. Barcelos is a nice city full of history and culture. Barcelos is a small, but very charming city to live in. It has all one would need on a long trip away from home. I would say that I enjoy my stay here and the people are friendly. There are celebrations from time to time and also a weekly market in the city center that happens every Thursday. Living in Barcelos is quite nice and for sure is not like living in a big city. It has little gardens and parks everywhere for you to enjoy the quietness of this charming little city. Furthermore, everything is very close to each other, so you do not need to catch a bus or any other way of transport to get around. You can simply walk around and appreciate the serenity that has taken over Barcelos.

Gib uns einen Eindruck von der Universität und den Lehranforderungen:

The life at the university can get busy at some point, with lots of projects and course works that have to be delivered in very short periods of time. However, if you organize your time properly, you will have plenty of time for everything. The buildings and the halls of the university are new and they use the newest technologies and software when it comes to studying. The teachers are very nice and helpful, so you can expect them to assist you with anything.

At the Polytechnic Institute of Cávado and Ave, most of the teachers give assignments and group projects as part of their evaluation, so you won't have a lot of tests. They are teaching in a very creative and innovative way, so the theory is not so important there, as they want you to know how things are done and in your future job.

Wie funktionierte die Verständigung – gab es Sprachbarrieren?

I went to the Portuguese course organized by the university and I enjoyed it. The teacher was simply fantastic and very helpful, so it was very easy for all of us to learn the basics of Portuguese. We took around six or seven modules of Portuguese, which was pretty much enough for all of us to understand basic sentences, grammar and expressions that we could use in our daily lives there. Once you finish the semester and if you have successfully passed the Portuguese exam you will receive a certificate for level A1, which is quite nice. Most of the young people there speak English, so it is not that hard to understand each other. However, you might experience difficulties when speaking with elders, but if you know a couple of Portuguese words you can easily understand each other.