

King's Student Perspectives

Law year abroad

Alice, Rebecca and
Rachel

As three law finalists, we wanted to share our experiences of living and studying in Europe last year as part of the Erasmus scheme.

Having come to King's with an existing interest in language and culture and an adventurous spirit, we decided to take the opportunity to study for an additional year abroad between our second and third years at Cambridge.

Between us, we studied at universities in Madrid in Spain (Rachel), Regensburg in Germany (Alice) and Utrecht in the Netherlands (Rebecca).

Law is one of the only Cambridge faculties to offer this option. We feel so lucky to have had this opportunity and wanted to explain to future King's lawyers what we think the main advantages of the year abroad are.

Five advantages of the year abroad

Cultural experiences

We all found our universities to be really welcoming and international students quickly become immersed in the culture of the year abroad. Our experiences range from acting in German theatre, celebrating Queen's Day in traditional Dutch style (get ready to wear a lot of orange!), and learning to cook Paella with new Spanish friends. All of this in between studying, of course!

Expanding your legal horizons

As law students we enjoyed the chance to learn more about international and European legal systems.

- 👉 Rebecca visited the International Criminal Court at The Hague and saw a war crimes prosecution - a definite must if you're interested in international justice.*
- 👉 Alice attended a comparative moot court and watched what could only be described as a legal showdown between French, German and English lawyers.*
- 👉 Rachel assisted with the organisation of the UN Conference on Trade and Development hosted in Madrid.*

Becoming fluent in a foreign language

In Regensburg and Madrid you study in the native language. Further classes and the opportunity to practice with local students really helped us to quickly build up proficiency. For those who don't have a foreign language or who do not necessarily want to pick another one up, fear not! Utrecht teaches its classes in English.

Making friends

The Erasmus experience is great fun and something that you will never forget. The friends

you share it with will be friends for life. Keep in touch and you might also get some awesome holiday invites in the future!

Enhancing your career prospects

Employers love students with international experience. Why? We can speak a language, adapt to new cultures and have demonstrated our resourcefulness and independence.

Favourite activities

Our favourite year abroad activities:

↳ Rebecca: Cycling to towns near Utrecht and having picnics surrounded by castles and stately homes.

↳ Alice: Climbing a mountain in the black forest with other international students.

↳ Rachel: Watching dolphins from a beach in Malaga.

