

2026 여름계절학기 단기파견 귀국보고서

1. Accommodation & Cooking

During the program, I stayed at a student residence called Basecamp, which was recommended by VIA University. A lot of students attending the VIA summer school stayed here, as well as students from Aarhus University.

I stayed in a single room that had its own private bathroom and a small kitchen. Denmark is well known for its high cost of living. Because eating out every day is way too expensive for a student, having my own private kitchen in the room was a huge advantage. It allowed me to cook most of my meals by myself. Additionally, the dormitory lent out basic kitchenware, such as knives, pots, frying pans, and forks, which made cooking in the room very convenient without having to buy new utensils. Even though it was a fully private room with personal kitchen facilities and no roommates, the monthly rent was 4,495 DKK, which was very reasonable compared to hotels or Airbnbs in Denmark.

Fortunately, there are three large supermarkets within a 10-minute walk from Basecamp: Netto, føtex, and REMA 1000. Among them, I mostly visited føtex because it offered a much wider variety of ingredients, including a dedicated Asian food section. On weekdays, you can also have lunch at the school cafeteria (the Canteen). At the Canteen, you choose whatever food you like, and the price is calculated based on the total weight of your plate.



<Basecamp Room>

2. Commuting and Transportation

It takes about 30 minutes on foot to get from Basecamp to VIA University College. Although most other students rode bicycles or took the bus to school, I personally chose to just walk every day.

However, there were times when we had field trips to places located far from campus. On those occasions, I used a public transit app called Rejsekort. Unlike standard transit passes where you have to buy a single ticket each time, this app allows you to just "check in" when you board and "check out" when you get off. It works just like tapping a transportation card on and off on a bus or subway in Korea, which made getting around the city very easy and convenient.



<Field trip: Høj skole>

3. UN's 17 Sustainable Development Goals (Course Curriculum)

The course ran intensively for 4 weeks. In this short period, we completed daily group discussions, one mini-project, one main project, a group paper, an oral exam, and a final group presentation.

(1) Mini-Project

For our mini-project, our team conducted fieldwork by visiting a local public park in Aarhus. Our main task was to investigate how open, inclusive, and accessible the park actually is for all citizens, and to find realistic solutions to improve the space. After gathering our findings through on-site observations, we prepared and delivered a 10-minute presentation about our solutions to the class.

(2) Main Project

For the main project, each group collaborated with a partner organization assigned by the school. In our case, our team worked together with the Municipality of Aarhus. They provided us with the core idea of tree planting, and based on this, our group developed a project centered around "planting trees together with local children."

(3) Oral Exam

The oral exam was conducted with four group members and two evaluating professors. Each of the four students had 5 minutes for an individual presentation. During these 5 minutes, you can freely talk about your personal contribution to the project, the connection between your academic major and the project, or how the SDGs relate to your major. It is completely fine to check your notes or script from time to time while speaking.

After all individual presentations, there is a 20-minute Q&A session where the professors ask questions about the project. How actively and confidently you participate and answer their questions during this 20-minute discussion plays a crucial role in deciding your final grade.

(4) Group Presentation

On the very last day of the course, each group gives a 20-minute presentation about their main project in front of the entire class. Because your final grade has already been decided right after the oral exam, there is no grading pressure at all. You can present comfortably and enjoy sharing your team's hard work with your classmates.

4. Social Program

The social program was provided entirely for free by the university. Through this program, the school covered the costs so that we could visit various famous tourist attractions in Aarhus—such as the ARoS Museum and the Old Town—free of charge.

Among the various events, three activities were the most memorable for me:

(1) Aarhus Street Food

One evening, we visited Aarhus Street Food, located right next to the central bus terminal. It is an indoor food market set inside a converted bus garage, filled with various street food stalls serving cuisines from around the world.



<Aarhus Street Food>

(2) Den Gamle By (The Old Town)

We also visited Den Gamle By, which means "The Old Town." It is a famous open-air museum that looks like a real historic Danish town. Historic houses, workshops, and shops from different regions of Denmark were carefully moved and reconstructed here. Walking along the old cobblestone paths, seeing historic bakeries, and exploring how Danish people lived in the 1800s, 1920s, and 1970s was a fun and meaningful way to experience Danish history and culture.



<Den Gamle By (The Old Town)>

(3) ARoS Aarhus Kunstmuseum

Another major highlight was visiting ARoS, the prominent art museum located in central Aarhus. While the museum features many impressive modern art exhibits, the

highlight is definitely "Rainbow Panorama" on the rooftop. It is a circular glass walkway designed in full rainbow spectrum colors. Walking inside it gives you a complete 360-degree view of Aarhus filtered through vivid shades of red, yellow, green, and blue.



<ARoS Art Museum: Rainbow Panorama>

5. Weather and Clothing Tips

I stayed in Aarhus for about a month during August. Probably because it is a coastal city, the weather was not hot at all, even in early August. The lowest temperatures were around 10°C, and the highest rarely exceeded 22°C.

Although I had packed many short-sleeved shirts, it was too cold to wear them on their own, so I always layered them with long sleeves. By late August, the weather felt almost like mid-autumn, so I frequently wore a fleece hoodie and a safari utility jacket that I had brought from Korea.