

hello @eur

magazine

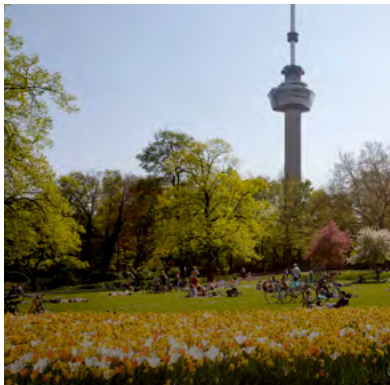
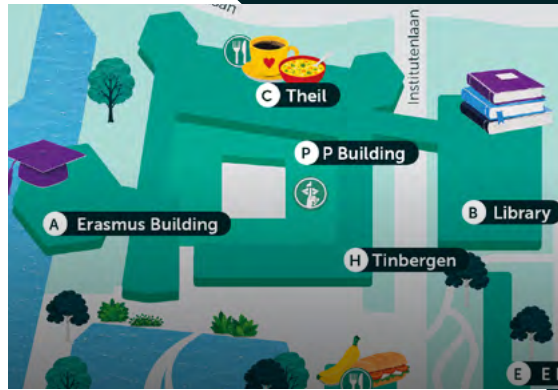
2026

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Hello, Erasmians!

Whether you have travelled across the city or across the globe to start your studies here, we are delighted that you are joining our community.

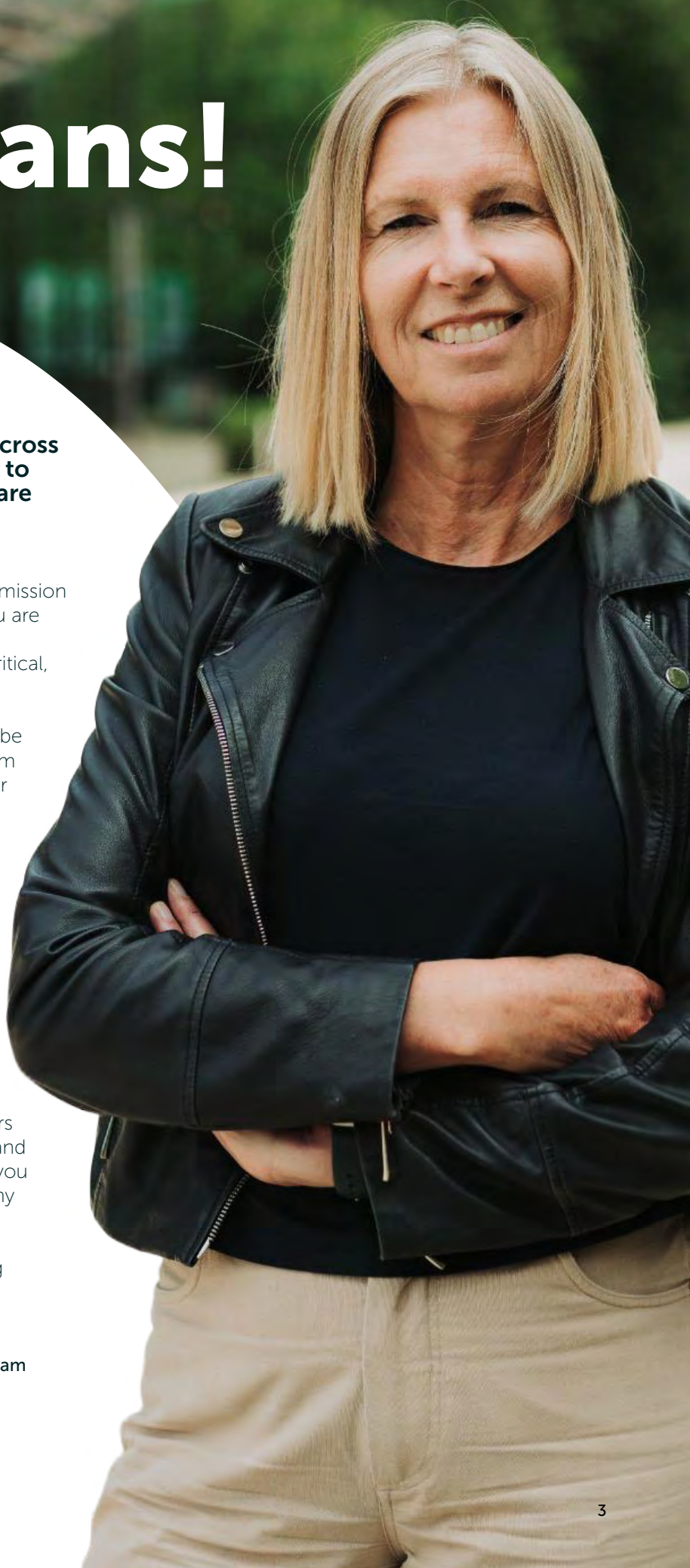
At Erasmus University Rotterdam (EUR) our mission is to create positive societal impact, and you are an essential part of that mission. Being an Erasmian means being open-minded and critical, connecting with people from different backgrounds, and taking initiative to make a positive difference. We encourage you to be curious, to challenge ideas, and to learn from perspectives that may be different from your own.

Your time here will be about more than lectures and exams. It is also about finding your place in our community. Take the opportunity to join a student association, try a new sport, explore the city, and connect with fellow students from around the globe.

We know that starting at a new university can feel overwhelming at first. That is why many teams across Erasmus University are here to support you: from academic advisors and student counsellors to career services and wellbeing support. This magazine will help you find your way and introduce you to the many opportunities our university has to offer.

I wish you a wonderful start and an inspiring time ahead. Welcome to our community!

Prof.dr.ir. Jantine Schuit
Rector Magnificus Erasmus Universiteit Rotterdam



Getting around Campus Woudestein

Campus Woudestein has plenty of places to discover. Soon enough you will find your favourite spots. Here is a quick guide to the buildings where you can study, eat, find support, or connect with other students.

Library

Looking for a late-night study session or a quiet place in the weekend? The University Library is open longer than most buildings and is popular during exam weeks. Be sure to reserve your spot in advance online.

Bonus tip: there's a mindfulness cube on floor 0 - a peaceful space for a quick mental reset.

Polak

Polak is one of the most popular buildings. So, make sure to be there on time if you want to study here! It has a bit of everything for everyone: classrooms, small bookable project rooms, large study spaces with and without computers, couches to rest, booths for group work, and a silent floor for focused studying (5th).

Langeveld

Langeveld has some great features beyond the many study spaces and classrooms. On the ground floor, you will find microwaves to warm up your food, a place to get fresh paninis and coffee, and the Living Room - a cozy, low-pressure space where you can relax, recharge, and connect with others. Perfect for a break.

P-Building

If you're looking to connect with student associations, but don't know where to start, head to the P-Building! That's where their offices are located, so you can drop by for a chat (during the association's office hours) and find out how to get involved with the different communities of your interest.

Sanders

Sanders Building houses the Law Library - a popular study space with both silent and non-silent sections - and Erasmus Student Service Centre (ESSC), your go-to place for all things administrative like enrollment, financial aid, lost & found, IT issues, and more.

Van der Groot

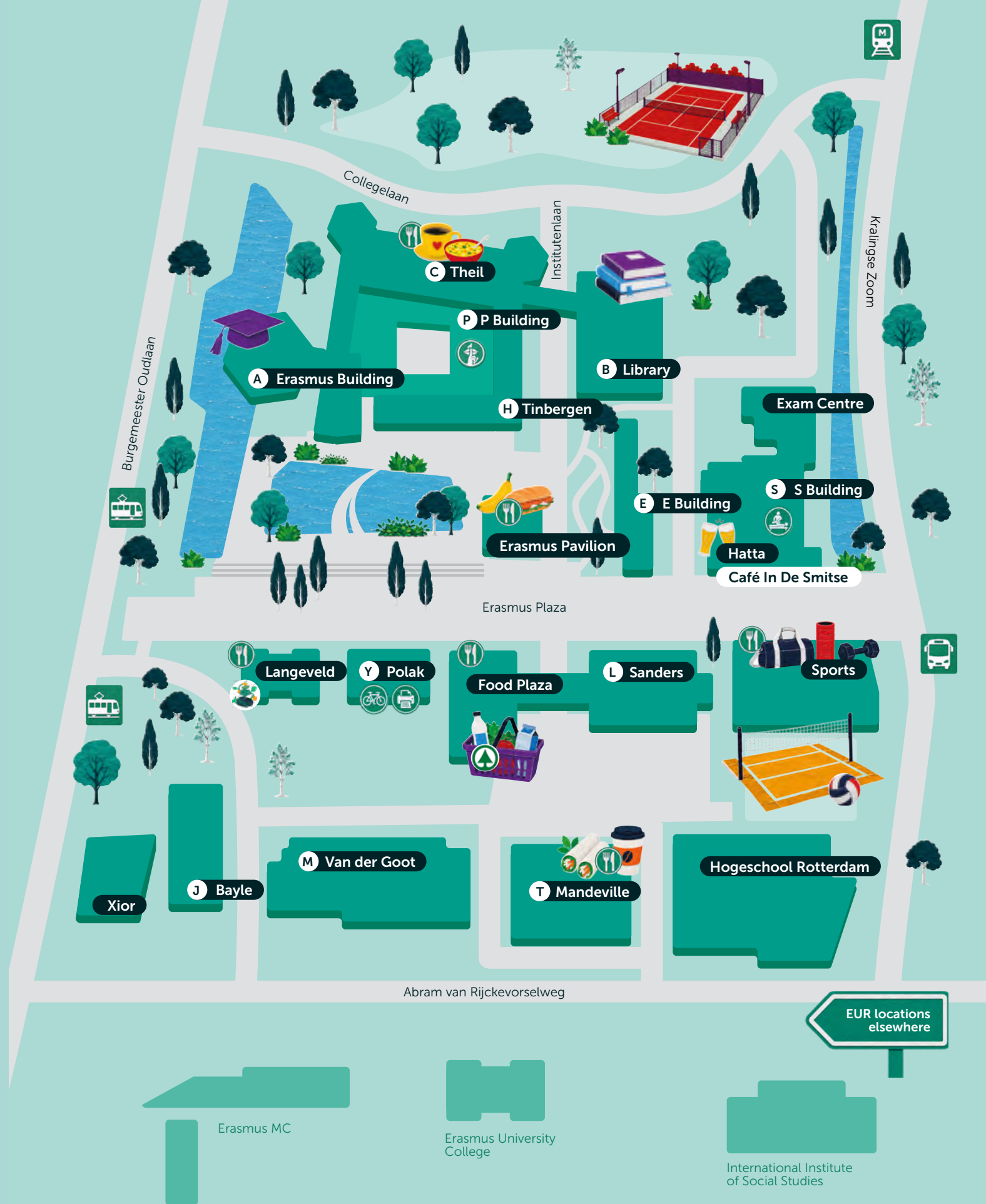
Van der Goot Building has many study places on the 1st floor and a skybridge to Mandeville on the 2nd floor. Also, you will find Safe@EUR here, the university's central point of contact for support and reporting. If you ever feel unsafe or experience undesirable behaviour from staff or students, this is where you can go for help and advice.

Mandeville

Don't overlook "Mandi"! On the 4th floor, you will find one of the cheapest places to eat on campus. The same floor has spacious PC rooms and a silent study area. It's less crowded than other buildings, so check it out! On the 5th floor, you will find a self-service podcast studio that is free to use, but it does require booking in advance.

Building names and letters

Buildings may have a letter code, a name, or both. Where both are used, the code and name are usually unrelated.



Studying at EUR: 101

Whether it's learning how to manage your studies, making new friends, adjusting to life in the Netherlands, or surviving exam season, starting at EUR comes with plenty of new experiences. In these student stories, tips, and reflections, EUR students share study hacks that actually work, their biggest surprises about student life in Rotterdam, and what has helped them during their first year. One thing they all agree on? One way or another, it will all work out!

**If I could go back to my first year,
I would tell myself...**

"Slow down! I feel that in my first year I was super worried about everything and put a pressure on myself to do everything and figure everything out immediately."

-Maggie, bachelor student at ESHCC

"Invest time in making friends, there are so many opportunities to meet amazing people. Just enjoy the ride, because time FLIES by. You're not even ready for how great it's going to be!"

-Nikica, bachelor student at ESHCC

"Be brave enough to ask questions in lectures and tutorials."

-Dagmar, master student at ESE

"Try new things, meet new people, LIVE TO THE FULLEST!"

-Lenka, bachelor student at RSM

"Everyone has their own journey. It's okay to move at a different pace from your friends or peers. Follow your own timeline and try not to compare yourself too much with others."

-Rei, bachelor student ESPhil & ESSB

"It will be the best years of your life!"

-Anna, bachelor student at ESHCC

"Do not eat chips every day"

-Umut, master student at ESPhil

Study hacks that actually work

Different study techniques work for different students, and finding what works best for you can take some trial and error. On this page are a few study strategies that helped EUR students during exam periods. You can also discover useful strategies through workshops and study skills activities offered by your faculty, or by checking out these [tips for effective studying](#) from the student counsellors.

"Practice old exams and try to explain course material to others."

-Dayna, master student at EMC

"Just lock in during your exam week. Fun times will come."

-Dagmar, master student at ESE

"Active recall by writing everything you know on a piece of paper, making mind maps, and by making your own practice questions."

-Amisha, bachelor student at ESE

"Start studying for the exams in time. Always keep the last week before the exam for the review. Studying should come before that."

-Kate, bachelor student at ESSB

"Study at places where you know you will get less distracted. Basically, not your super comfort zone."

-Ashmita, master student at ESHCC

"I always use a pomodoro timer to remind myself to take breaks."

-Maggie, bachelor student at ESHCC

Click the link
to learn more

"Time-block your calendar. Instead of saying I am going to study today, be more specific about what you are going to study, and at what time."

-Paul, master student at RSM

"Studying with someone during exam season saves you from going insane. Even just the quick SPAR breaks and the complaining together about the exam is all a bonding experience."

-Julie, master student at ESSB

"Explaining concepts to your friends and coming up with examples together is the best way to understand and remember things for exams."

-Gloria, master student at ESHCC

You don't need to
have it all figured out.
You just need to
start!

Navigating student services

Studying is fun, exciting, and a bit chaotic. And yes, sometimes just tough. Know that you don't have to figure it out all alone. EUR has a lot of support available to you. Think of it as a toolkit. You choose what you need and when you reach out for support.

Need someone to talk to? Start here

Are you doubting your study choice, struggling with planning, or do you just want to check if you are on the right track? Your [Study advisor](#) is always a good place to start. They will think along with you and, if needed, help you find the right support.

"Talking to my study advisor really helped me feel less overwhelmed. They listened carefully to my concerns and offered practical advice tailored to my situation. I left the conversation feeling more confident and reassured."

– Mina, master student at ESSB

Got a lot on your mind? That is okay

Everyone goes through phases where things might feel a bit heavier. Stress, pressure, lack of motivation, or homesickness. It happens. Do you want to talk about it? You can speak to a [Student psychologist](#), an [Online coach](#), or reach out to [other Student Wellbeing services](#). You can also use the [ROOM app](#), with short exercises to help you manage stress, and feel better.

"ROOM helps me pause and actually connect with my feelings. This could mean understanding where stress is coming from by doing a practical exercise, but also savouring the good days by writing down things I am grateful for!"

– Luna, bachelor student at ESPhil



Studying your way

You are unique, and the way you want to spend your time at university is unique too. That's why EUR offers different options to help you tailor your student life entirely to your needs.

Besides being a student, you might be a parent, an elite athlete, or someone caring for a relative who is sick. Or you may need additional support because you have dyslexia, AD(H)D, or a physical impairment.

Whatever your situation, we are here to help you make your studies work for you.

The Student Counsellors & Team SMF offer support to help you study in a way that works best for you. Furthermore, the **Student psychologists** organise peer support groups regularly where you can meet students with similar needs.

Whenever you need to make big decisions like taking a gap year, choosing a master's or looking for your first job, you can contact the **Career advisors**.

Wellbeing on campus

Do you want to get to know other students, or just chill whenever you are on campus? Check out the **Living Room**. You can play a game of pool, grab a board game, or unwind in a massage chair. At the Living Room, trained student hosts are there for you if you want to talk.

"I go to the Living Room to unwind from the busy study life. Whether I'm catching up with friends, reading a book or hopping in a massage chair, I always leave the room feeling a little lighter."

– Frits, bachelor student at ESPhil

Staying active can also make a big difference to your wellbeing. At **Erasmus Sport**, you can join sports associations, take group classes, or participate in tournaments; a great way to stay healthy, and make friends.

"I wanted to stay fit at university, so I joined a sports association at Erasmus Sport, and it was one of the best decisions I've made! Signing up was really easy, and I found such a lovely group of people who I get to see every week."

– Marin, bachelor student at EUC

Sorting out practical things

IT issues, questions about facilities or tuition fees, or other practical questions? You do not have to figure it all out on your own. Through support services, such as the **Erasmus Student Service Centre**, you can get help with all kinds of practical matters.



Being or going abroad?

The [International Office](#) supports both international students coming to Rotterdam and EUR students preparing to go abroad. From immigration, housing, and practical matters to exchange opportunities and internships abroad, they can help throughout your international journey. They also organise orientation events and other activities like the Connecting Cultures Festival, day trips, and career workshops to help students feel at home at EUR and in the Netherlands.

Explore beyond your studies

Do you like participating in courses and workshops, or do you want to expand your knowledge of a range of current topics not necessarily related to your study? For academic and social insight and a wide range of cultural activities, [Studium Generale](#) is the place for you.

Looking to improve your language skills or prepare for an international experience? The [Language & Training Centre](#) and [Erasmus Language Sharing](#) offer a wide range of courses. Whether you want to learn Dutch as an international student, improve your English, or get ready for studying abroad by learning another language, there are courses to support you.

Feeling safe

We want everyone to feel safe and welcome on campus. [Safe@EUR](#) is here for students dealing with unwanted behaviour, intimidation, online concerns, worries about unsafe situations. You can always reach out to talk, ask for advice, or make a report. And the important thing is: you decide what you share and what happens next.

Everyone belongs

[IDEA Center](#) (Inclusion, Diversity, Equity & Access Center) is an expertise center that works to ensure that everyone feels at home at EUR, regardless of background, perspective, or who you are. They are committed to inclusion, equal opportunities, and creating an academic environment where everyone can be their true self and can develop to their full potential. They create policies, offer advice, and set up initiatives and events that contribute to an inclusive study and working environment.



You are in control

In the end, you know best what you need. And whenever you need help along the way, there is always somewhere to start. Do you want to see everything in one place? The [Student support overview](#) shows you where to go.

A photograph of three young adults, two women and one man, smiling and looking towards the camera. They are standing outdoors in front of a modern building with large windows. The woman in the center is holding a large pink piggy bank. Several blue triangular arrows point towards the piggy bank, suggesting a focus on saving or budgeting.

Money talk:

Budgeting student life

Tuition fee, rent, groceries, nights out, and even a coffee between lectures can add up fast. The good news? With a few smart habits and by making use of student discounts, you can manage your budget and still enjoy everything Rotterdam has to offer!

Start with a budget plan

Your lifestyle largely determines how much money you will need as a student. Experience shows that students living and studying in Rotterdam spend approximately €1.000 - €1.800 per month, mainly depending on housing costs.

Creating a budget is the best way to understand where your money goes.

How to get started:

- ✓ Estimate your monthly income (e.g., student finance, part-time work, savings)
- ✓ Identify your fixed expenses (e.g., tuition fee, rent, insurance, transport)
- ✓ Add your variable expenses (e.g., groceries, eating out, social activities)
- ✓ Calculate the difference: subtract your total expenses from your total income.

If the result is positive, you are spending less than you earn. If it is negative, adjust your spending!

- ✓ Set financial goals. Do you want to save for a trip? Or build an emergency fund?
- ✓ Keep track of your budget: monitor your spending regularly and update it when needed. Most banking apps already provide insights that make this easier.

Creating a budget may take a little effort at first, but it helps you take control of your finances and make better decisions!

Click the link
to learn more!



Smart student spending

Managing your finances does not mean giving up on your social life. Small changes can make a big difference:

- ✓ Watch out for “invisible costs”: small daily purchases like coffee, matcha, or snacks can quietly drain your budget.
- ✓ Home-cooked wins: ditch the delivery apps, start cooking and plan your groceries. Make a list before going to the supermarket to avoid impulse purchases and check weekly discounts.
- ✓ Review your subscriptions: subscriptions such as streaming services can add up. Cancel services you rarely use or consider sharing them with housemates. Be careful with ‘free trials’ you may forget to cancel.
- ✓ Be mindful of energy use: turning off devices and using energy-efficient lighting can help lower your monthly bills.
- ✓ Use helpful apps: apps like **Too Good To Go** help you save on food while reducing waste. Many supermarket apps also show weekly deals.

“Pack lunch at home to eat at uni and do groceries at the Blaak market on Tuesdays or Saturdays. Download Too Good To Go. Most importantly, don’t waste money on things you already have or don’t need.”

- Mohammed, master student at RSM



Student discounts you should use

Many companies offer discounts specifically for students, even if they don't advertise it clearly. Making use of these can save you a lot per year:

- ✓ **Rotterdampas:** With a Rotterdampas you can do many fun things for free or at a discount rate in and around Rotterdam. Here are some ideas to get you started.
 - Unlimited free admission to the Kunsthal, Trompenburg Gardens or the Fenix museum
 - Go and see a movie for free at cinemas in Rotterdam, like Kino or Pathé
 - Take a free tour of De Kuip stadium or a harbour boat ride with Spido
 - Enjoy free views from the Euromast or visit the Euroscop
 - Rent a stand-up paddle board or canoe with a 25% discount at Rif010
 - Visit the zoo at a discountGet yours [online](#) or visit their shop in the Central Library @ Blaak!
- ✓ **ESN Card:** join the [Erasmus Student Network](#) community to unlock many discounts at their partners
- ✓ **Erasmus Sport:** affordable [gym membership for students](#)
- ✓ **UniDays:** Free and exclusive discount codes for college and university students. Check the [website](#) for more information.



Budget-friendly spots in Rotterdam

Supermarkets based on the lowest prices



Pro tip: Visit the [Blaak Market](#) on Tuesdays and Saturdays. It's popular for affordable fresh fruit, vegetables, and more. Tuesdays are usually less busy.



Click the links
to learn more!

Second-hand shopping

Second-hand stores are perfect when you've just moved and are looking for affordable furniture, clothing, or kitchen essentials. Besides the well-known online platform [Marktplaats](#), these are also worth checking out:

- ✓ **Popular vintage stores:**
 - [Think Twice](#)
 - [Episode](#)
 - [Kilo Kilo Store](#)
 - [ReShare](#)
 - [Cheap Fashion](#)
- ✓ **Used furniture:**
 - [Pop-up Swap Shop by the International Office](#)
 - [Het Goed](#)
 - [Rataplan](#)
 - [Kringloop Bonnefooi](#)
 - [Kringloopwinkel Rotterdam](#)

Government benefits

Depending on your situation, you may qualify for financial support in the Netherlands. Make sure to always check your eligibility:

- ✓ **DUO Student Finance** - available for many EU students who work a minimum number of hours per month
- ✓ **DUO Tuition Fee Loan** - available for many EU students, without the need to work a minimum number of hours
- ✓ **Zorgtoeslag** - healthcare allowance that helps cover insurance costs
- ✓ **Huurtoeslag** - housing allowance for certain types of accommodation

If you find it difficult to manage your finances independently, you can also schedule an appointment with a **Student counsellor** for personalised guidance. In addition, students who experience study delays due to personal or family circumstances may be eligible for financial support, such as the **EUR Student Support Fund** or provisions related to the **DUO performance grant**.

"As a working international EU student, make sure to apply for DUO financing as soon as possible once you start working since it can take a long time to get it confirmed."

- Maggie, bachelor student at ESHCC





Getting started as an international student

Moving to a new country to study comes with both excitement and practical challenges. To help you get started, the International Office has created a checklist to guide you through the key practicalities.

Done? Check the box!



Secure your housing. Still looking? [Check our website](#), stay flexible and be cautious of scams, especially when searching from abroad.

Connect with other students via the [Goin' app](#) before or upon arrival.

Start your [municipality registration](#) to obtain your BSN (up to four weeks before arrival in Rotterdam).

Set up a [Dutch bank account](#). No BSN yet? Explore temporary alternatives.

Arrange your [insurance for international students](#) (health, liability, and travel) before moving to the Netherlands.

[Register with a GP](#) (doctor) soon after arrival.

Plan your [transportation](#). Will you bike, walk, or use public transport with a student mobility card?

(Non-EU/EEA only) If applicable, schedule your TBC appointment and /or your biometrics appointment. Pick up your residence permit.

Explore Dutch courses at the [Language & Training Centre](#) for a full local experience.



Biggest surprises in the Netherlands

"Dutch food! Coming from India, I am used to elaborate lunches and flavourful food with spices. For me, toasties are a 4 pm snack, and not a full meal!"

– Amisha, bachelor student at ESE

"Everyone bikes everywhere, in any weather. No excuses. Biking will be one of the most convenient ways for you to get around."

– Nikica, bachelor student at ESHCC

"You experience a clear division of the seasons here. You can feel when autumn or spring are coming. It is beautiful and makes you appreciate the small moments like sunny days or even just rainbows."

– Gloria, bachelor student at ESHCC

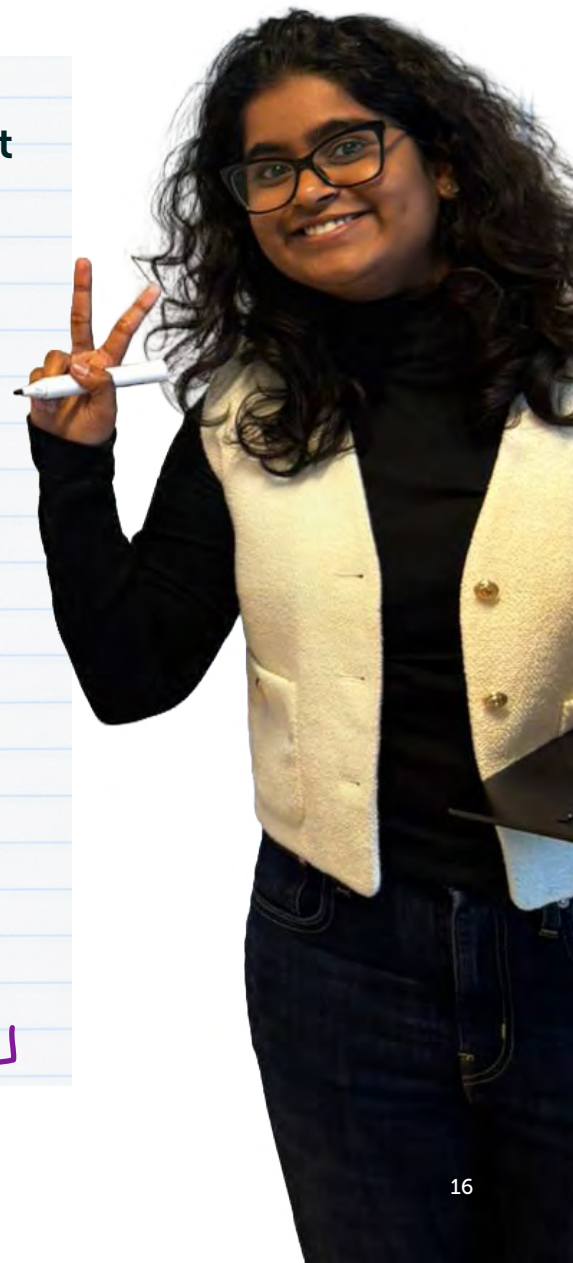
Memoirs of a first-year international student **Amisha Dange**

My first year at university was one of the most difficult years, but also a beautiful rollercoaster ride, that I will cherish for the rest of my life. Juggling academics, making new friends, keeping up with household chores (don't let your dishes pile up), and adjusting to a new country at the same time isn't easy. The fact that you are here proves you are ready for this challenge!

University is a whole different experience than high school. There's no teacher nagging you to finish your assignments on time, nor do you have seven hours of different subjects per day. The flexibility of university life comes at a cost of high self-discipline. Studying becomes your own responsibility. My friends and I usually sit in the empty classrooms of Mandeville and try to lock in, often working independently or trying to explain concepts to each other, and concluding study sessions with sweet treats from SPAR.

My favourite activity is to go to the Living Room's massage chairs during study breaks, and sneak in a cup of tea there. Pro tip: take a walk around the university or near the Slotvijver to unwind and relax. Taking care of your mental health is as important as your physical health!

Change is exciting, but also scary, and you are not alone in this journey! Remember that it takes time to build meaningful connections, and each person will be different. Be kind, and good things will follow.



Association diaries

University life is more than just lectures and exams, it is also about finding your community and making lifelong friends. At EUR, (student) associations play a huge role in this. Whether you are looking to dive deeper into a culture, explore new interests, or simply meet like-minded people, there is an association for everyone. We present a few associations here, but there are many more. [Find an overview of all associations recognised by EUR here.](#)



Erasmus Student Network (ESN)

ESN is the largest international student association in Europe, originally founded to help exchange students feel at home. Today, it supports a much broader community of international students. ESN Rotterdam organises over one hundred events each year, from major highlights like EUR Vision and Intro Days to cultural activities, social gatherings, career workshops, and trips across the Netherlands and Europe. And of course, there's ESN Tuesday: the weekly student party. Whatever your interests, there is always something happening.

Their mission is simple: creating a true "home away from home." As Elea explains: "Moving to a new city can feel overwhelming, but ESN creates opportunities to meet people and build real friendships. Active members shape our events, turning ideas into reality. Whether you join or organise events, there is a place for you at ESN."



Erasmus Polish Association (EPAR)

The EPAR aims to build a strong and supportive community for Polish students at EUR, while also welcoming anyone interested in their culture.

The association organises social events, including bar meetups, lake parties, karaoke nights, and cultural celebrations. EPAR also offers professional development through workshops with companies and its flagship conference, NEXT. Through Road2NL, EPAR runs a mentorship programme that supports Polish high school students applying to universities in the Netherlands.

EPAR is all about connection, helping students feel at home while building friendships and opportunities that last beyond university.

Maria shares her experience: "EPAR's event in August was my highlight. Joining EPAR made it easy to meet people who understood what it feels like to move abroad."



Erasmus Pride

"I honestly had never been around such a big and embracing community," says Mariana. Erasmus Pride creates a safe and welcoming space for LGBTQIA+ students and allies at EUR. The community celebrates queerness in all kinds of ways, from just getting together on a Thursday evening, to organising museum visits and occasional club nights. "Erasmus Pride is a space where I can explore, question and try new things without judgement." Through their events, Erasmus Pride brings together people from all backgrounds, offering a space to share both queer joy as well as struggles.



Association of Students of African Heritage (ASAH)

"ASAH aims to create a strong sense of belonging and a community that quickly feels like family. Many members describe joining ASAH as their best first-year decision, as it is where they formed some of their closest friendships," Dennis shares.

ASAH is dedicated to celebrating the rich diversity of African heritage. At its heart, ASAH is built on inclusivity. Whether you have African roots or simply a curiosity for the continent's traditions, there is always a seat at the table.

ASAH's events range from professional networking workshops and panel discussions to high-energy cultural galas and social gatherings like game nights. Through these activities, ASAH provides a supportive network for both personal and professional growth, while exploring African music, food, and history.



Erasmus Padel Association (EPA)

The Erasmus Padel Association is a fast-growing student community founded in 2020 by padel enthusiasts at Erasmus University Rotterdam. What makes it special is the international vibe and how easily people connect on and off court. There's always something going on: weekly trainings, club nights with matches and drinks, and tournaments for every level. At the start of the year, they kick things off with an introduction period full of activities, from tournaments to a weekend away and social events like a beer pong tournament, where people quickly get to know each other.

Kenzie tells us: "One of the highlights is our annual Spain trip. Traveling together to cities like Barcelona, Valencia, or Málaga, you spend days playing padel, exploring, and going out as a group. It's during this trip that a group of students naturally turns into a close friend group. On top of that, we make sure everything stays accessible, with trainings, competitions, and club nights offered at student-friendly prices, combined with all the social events that make it such a good time."



Rotterdamse Kamer van Verenigingen (RKvV)

The RKvV brings together the five largest Dutch social student associations in Rotterdam: Laurentius, S.S.R.-R., R.S.G., N.S.R. and R.S.C./R.V.S.V. Each of these associations has its own unique identity and traditions, while all share a strong focus on connection, friendship, and personal growth.

By joining one of these associations, you can take part in a wide range of activities, from social drinks and parties to career events, trips, and committees. This variety in events and association characters ensures there's always something that matches your interests and helps you meet new people.

Becoming a member means more than just joining activities, it's about becoming part of a close and supportive network. As Louise puts it: "Through my association, I not only met my best friends, but also discovered opportunities I never expected. It truly shaped my student life in Rotterdam."



Koepel Organisatie Rotterdamse Faculteitsverenigingen (KORF)

KORF is an umbrella organisation for faculty associations at Erasmus University Rotterdam, such as Cedo Nulli, EFR, JFR, STAR, and many more.

Faculty associations organise activities such as networking events, exam trainings, and company visits. These not only support you during your studies but also give you insight into your opportunities after graduation while helping you meet new people.

What is special about faculty associations? Kevin explains: "Faculty associations offer the best of both worlds, because you work on your future while enjoying student life. Everything is possible, nothing is mandatory."

Becoming a member is a valuable addition to your student life: you expand your network, discover what suits you, and build friendships that often last a lifetime.

Discovering 010: Rotterdam hotspots

In Rotterdam, there is plenty to see, do and experience. Things that go beyond the lecture halls and campus life. Rotterdam is a dynamic, multicultural city full of surprises. From architecture to green parks, and from a buzzing nightlife to live music performances, there's something here for everyone. Whether you're into art, nature, dancing, food, or just finding your new favourite hangout spot, this overview will help you explore what your new city has to offer.

Architecture & landmarks

When you think of Rotterdam, the skyline immediately comes to mind with icons like the [Erasmus Bridge](#), [Depot Boijmans Van Beuningen](#), and the [Markthal](#). It's no surprise the city is known as the architecture capital of the Netherlands, where historic buildings meet bold, modern design. Must-see highlights include the [Van Nelle Factory](#), [Cube Houses](#), [De Rotterdam](#), and [Rotterdam Central Station](#).

More to explore: [Central Library](#) | [Euromast](#) | [Nieuwe Instituut](#) | [Historic Delfshaven](#) | [Kop van Zuid](#) | [Laurenskerk](#) | [ss Rotterdam](#) | [Willemsbrug \(at night\)](#) | [Wijnhaven](#)

Click the links
to learn more!

Parks & nature

Need a break from the city buzz? Rotterdam has plenty of green spaces. [Kralingse Bos](#), close to Woudestein campus, is perfect for a study break, picnic, or a 5K run around the lake. [Het Park](#), near the Euromast, offers a spacious and calm setting for a walk or for reading a book underneath the trees. [Vroesepark](#) is a favourite for sunny-day hangouts and barbecues, while [Dakpark](#) offers a unique rooftop park experience with great views over the city.

More to explore: [Bergse Plassen](#) | [Museumpark](#) | [Trompenburg Gardens](#) | [Tuschinski park](#) | [Zuiderpark](#)





Arts, movies & music

Rotterdam's cultural scene is as diverse as the city itself. The [Kunsthal](#) hosts a wide range of exhibitions by artists worldwide that change frequently, from contemporary paintings to photography and fashion. [Fenix](#) is a new cultural destination in Rotterdam, shaped by migration stories from across the globe. It's about journeys of love and loss, identity and belonging, hope and homecoming. For film lovers, [KINO](#) and [Cinerama](#) screen both arthouse and mainstream films, while [LantarenVenster](#) focuses on arthouse cinema and is also one of the city's best-known jazz venues, together with [BIRD](#) and [de Doelen](#). [Rotown](#) has been a cornerstone of Rotterdam's live music scene since 1987. For a guaranteed laugh, [Comedy Club Haug](#) regularly hosts English-language stand-up shows.

More to explore: [Annabel](#) | [Jazz Café Dizzy](#) | [Oude Luxor Theater](#) | [Maaspodium](#) | [Maassilo](#) | [Nederlands Fotomuseum](#) | [Pathé Schouwburgplein](#) | [Grounds](#) | [Theater Walhalla](#) | [Theater Rotterdam](#)

Adventures & activities

Did you know you can go surfing in the city? Yes, you read that right. [RiF010](#) is the world's first urban surf pool, where beginners can ride their first wave and pros can go all out with barrels and airs. Other fun activities include taking dance lessons at [HipHopHuis](#) or enrolling in a DJ or rap course at [SKVR](#). Prefer something fast-paced? Hop on a [Watertaxi](#) and speed across the Maas with skyline views for a thrill ride. Is the sun shining? Try outdoor activities like supping or kayaking at [Klimbos Fun Forest](#).

More to explore: [Blijdorp Zoo](#) | [Fenix Food Factory](#) | [Dikke Mic](#) | [Lasergame Rotterdam](#) | [Monk Boulderbergym](#) | [Mooie Boules](#) | [Pancake Boat](#) | [Skate Fever Rollerdisco](#)



Markets

Blaak Market (the largest market in the city centre) offers a wide range of goods on Tuesdays and Saturdays. In the South, **Afrikaanderplein Market** is famous for its multicultural vibe and international foods, open on Wednesdays and Saturdays. **Visserijplein Market** in the West, operating on Thursdays and Saturdays, features fresh seafood and local produce. Additionally, Rotterdam has several neighbourhood markets spread throughout the city.

More to explore: [Kralingse Markt](#) | [Laurensmarkt](#) | [Rotterdamse Oogstmarkt](#)



Clubs, bars & nightlife

Clubs like **Maassilo**, **Annabel**, **Toffler** and **Now&Wow** are set in unique and unexpected locations across the city. **Witte de Withstraat** is a go-to for a night out, lined with lively bars and cosy cafés. **Biergarten** is an all-time favorite on sunny days. Whether you're in the mood for a casual drink or an all-night party, there's always somewhere to go. Looking for queer-friendly spaces? Check out **FERRY** or **KeerWeer**. And during summer, festivals like **Blijdorp Festival** and **Boothstock** bring the city to life.

More to explore: [Bars around Oudehaven](#) | [Bierboutique](#) | [Biergarten](#) | [Café LaBru](#) | [Concordia](#) | [Jigger](#) | [Karaoke Bar Fame](#) | [Locus Publicus](#) | [Melief Bender](#) | [MONO](#) | [MUNCH](#) | [De Vrienden Live](#) | [De Witte Aap](#) | [WORM](#)



“Just walk! Rotterdam is a city where you have to hit the streets. Walking, watching people, having a chat ... That’s the best way to get to know the city.”

– Mette, master student at RSM



“Rotterdam has something for everyone! From techno clubs to jazz bars to comedy nights and great bars. There’s always something going on. I would say a pro tip is, keep an eye out on [Uitagenda Rotterdam](#)”

– Nikica, bachelor student at ESHCC



Study spots in the city

Looking for a change of scenery? If you're tired of studying in the library or your student room, heading into the city can be a great way to refresh your focus. From cozy cafés to modern co-working spaces, these study places are recommended by your fellow students.

[Café @Home](#)

Café @Home on Goudsesingel is a popular workspace in Rotterdam among students. They also call it 'your home away from home', and it's always pleasantly busy.

[The Usual](#)

A modern co-working space on Westblaak, next to Cinerama. On the ground floor of the hotel, you find a co-working space where you can open your laptop at the large table or in one of the booths.

[Served.](#)

Grab a window seat at the bar and study while watching the city go by in one of the Served locations throughout the city.

[The Central Library Rotterdam](#)

Located at Binnenrotte, the Central Library is a popular study spot in the city, partly thanks to the quiet and calm atmosphere you can always expect in a library. You can settle in with your laptop at one of the available tables.

[Diner at Donner](#)

What could be more inspiring than being surrounded by books? That's why Diner at Donner, on the first floor of Donner bookshop on Coolingsingel, offers some lovely study spaces. Whilst enjoying a bite to eat and a drink, you can get your work done in peace, whilst looking out over the bustling city centre.

[The Social Hub](#)

The Social Hub on Oostzeedijk is not just a (long-term) student accommodation, but also a community hub, event venue, restaurant/bar and co-working space.

[Coffee Company at Eendrachtsplein](#)

A reliable spot to settle in and power through your study session, with good coffee and a relaxed atmosphere right in the heart of the city.

[Hopper](#)

Hopper has two locations, one on Schiedamse Vest and one on Zwaanshals. This true Rotterdam coffee bar is all about quality and flavour, with a cool industrial design. Grab a seat by the large windows, enjoy a fresh cup of coffee, watch the city pass by, and start your day feeling energised.

Click the links
to learn more!

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