

## 2011\_Portugal\_Maschinenbau\_Corzilius

Experience report PT/2011/21

I am from Germany and was 3,5 months in Lisbon/Portugal as a trainee. It was a wonderful time. I arrived in Lisbon and hoped that I will have a bit interesting job and time for travelling. After my stay I can say my fear was unfounded. I had a very interesting job and learned a lot about topics connected with my study. So it was a useful time for my knowledge.

The next good thing connected with my job was the people there. They were very helpful with all the problems I had independent from the reason of my problems. For example somebody went with me to a doctor as I was ill and help me to organize all around it. In addition I got a view in the different culture, while free time activities with them and many conversations. So by this way I got more than I expected.

Many other experiences I collected while travelling. Most time I was together with other IAESTE students. We were a very international group and so I collected impressions about completely different cultures while I saw a beautiful country.

The payment was good. I did not have to think about the money during my whole time and I was able to do everything I wanted. Also the flexible working time supported all activities.

It is hard to describe the best things I have seen. For me it was great, that Portugal connected so many opposites. Lisbon and Porto are big cities with many people, life and it is easy to handle everything in English. Then there are nice small villages, where it is good to know a bit Portuguese, and the landscape shows the same. The mountains, cliffs, beaches and national parks look different and I recommend to everybody to go in all directions for a more general view. My favorites are Lisboa, Porto, Sintra, Tavira, Píódão, Lagos, Évora and Monsanto, Tomar.

Some other maybe useful tips for a time in Portugal. It is a warm country also in the winter, but at night it can be cold and it is not usual to have a heater and the isolation of the windows can be worse. For travelling you can use a good bus network and the trains, but some nice places are only available if you rent a car. To drive in Portugal is easy and to rent a car is cheap.

All in all I can only say thanks for the wonderful time and all the good experiences.