



UNIVERSITY OF TARTU
International Student
Ambassadors

Living in Tartu 101

By Vincent Arata



Where is Tartu?

- With a population of 95.000, Tartu is **the second largest city in Estonia**
- Every fifth resident is a student or works for UT
- Known as the **Intellectual Capital of Estonia** and the **City of Youth**
- A cozy and compact town with a safe living and study environment and active cultural life
- **European Cultural Capital 2024**

More information

<https://visittartu.com/>



The biggest university in Estonia

- Belongs to **350 the world's best universities**
- Est. **1632**
- **14 800** students, **11%** international students from over 100 countries
- **Highest ranked** university and leading research centre in Estonia
- **4 faculties:** Arts and Humanities, Social Sciences, Science and Technology, Medicine
- **32 international degree programmes**
- **International** environment





Virtual tour

Launched in 2023

Only 360-degree photos

Biggest of its kind in Europe: 160 locations in 40 buildings in 5 cities

How to survive?

- Learn as much as possible about Estonia, the Estonian people, the Estonian language, and Tartu (check out the ISA blog post: [8 Words to Better Understand Estonia](#)).
- Keep studying and balance it with socialising and meeting new people.
- There's always an event in Tartu (**ESN**); you can also make your own.
- **Be prepared for winter! (Purchase winter clothes here)**
- **Pro Tip!** Don't hesitate to explore Tartu by foot: admire nature and get to know new places.



Health

*****112 for emergency**

- Search for a Family doctor at [Estonian Health Board](#) and register for one.
- For doctor's visit: European Health Insurance Card or private insurance (for example, Ergo, Swiss care, AS Inges Kindlustus, AON)
- **Emergency room in Tartu - 5 EUR for a visit**
- **Psychological Counselling at UT**

Check out the ISA blog posts:

- [Estonian Emergency Health Care From the Perspective of a Foreign Student](#)
- [Health Insurance For Students in Estonia](#)
- [Dental Care in Tartu: Handling a Dental Emergency](#)
- [Managing Exam Stress and Mental Health With the UT Counselling Centre](#)



Pharmacies

- Drugstores sell both non-prescription and prescription medicinal products.
- You can always ask for advice from the pharmacist to help you choose the best medication.
- Not all medications are available in Estonia, but they might be available in other countries. Check the medications available in Estonia and compare the prices of different drug stores [here](#) (web page in Estonian language).
- Find the closest drugstore to you [here](#). Raekoja pharmacy is opened 24/7 and situated at Town Hall.



Finances*

- **Banks**

- LHV
- SEB
- Swedbank

- **Intermediates**

- Wise
- Revolut

*Your faculty's dean's office can provide you with confirmation of studies to open a free bank account



Groceries

Big shopping centres Tasku, Kvartal and Kaubamaja
Groceries: Rimi, Coop, Prisma 24/7, Lidl, Maxima, Selver

Grocery stores near the dormitory:

- Selver (Raatuse 20)
- Kivi Konsum (Narva mnt 25A)
- Ujula Konsum (Ujula 2)

Markets (Tartu Turg, Tartu Avaturg)

ISA Blog post "[Guide to Supermarket Chains in Tartu](#)"

Delivery services:

- Wolt
- Bolt Food
- Tellitoit
- Fudy

*Get a client card for discounts and bonus points!



Household goods

- JYSK
- Koduekstra
- Pepco
- Decora
- Flying Tiger Copenhagen

Electronics:

- Euronics
- Expert
- KLICK
- iDeal
- ONOFF

Tip! Check second-hand store, [FB Marketplace](#) or [Flea Market Tartu FB group](#) for affordable offers!



Sports

Gym time*

- [University of Tartu Sport Club](#)
- Lemon Gym
- My Fitness
- Gym!
- FitLife Tartu

*Discounts for students

Check out **the ISA blog post:** [Sporting in Tartu](#)



What else?

- Be on time and keep an eye on your deadlines!
- Always check your **ut email**
- UT Library and Delta Building
- Tap water is safe to drink!
- 24/7 printing services by Print In City!
- Check current events:
 - [Events | Window of Culture of Tartu and South Estonia](#)
 - [Tartu 2024 Programme](#)
 - Check out the ISA blog post:
[Tartu 2024: An Inside look](#)
- Balance is the **key** (studies and social life)



Lunch offers

- **Daily lunch specials** around the city: 6-8 EUR (use Google translate)
- **Cook yourself** / bring the food box with you to the university - warm it up in the student rooms
- Student cafeterias are available in many UT buildings!
- Check out **the ISA blog posts:**
 - [Quick Estonian Recipes on a Student Budget](#)
 - [Five Easy Estonian Recipes for Busy Weeknights](#)



Transportation

Bus

- Get a Bus card (R- Kiosk - 2 EUR, install Pilet App), personalise it at Tartu Welcome Centre
- You can also just swipe your bank card (1.5 euro)
- Purchase monthly tickets at Tartu Information Centre: youth (under 26) – 12.95 EUR, regular – 18.5 EUR

Taxi - use the Bolt mobile application

City bike

- Install the “Tartu Smart Bike” application and follow the instructions

Bolt scooters - use Bolt application, choose scooters and follow the instruction

Check out **the ISA blog post:** [Tartu Transportation Essentials](#)



University of Tartu museums

- [University of Tartu Museum](#)
- [University of Tartu Art Museum](#)
- [Tartu Old Observatory](#)
- [University of Tartu Natural History Museum](#)
- [University of Tartu Botanical Garden](#)

Free admission for the UT Students!



Other Activities

- **Tartu City Museums**

- [Estonian National Museum \(ERM\)](#)
- [AHHAA Science Center](#)
- [TYPA - Printing Museum](#)
- [Tartu Art Museum](#)

- **Cafes and Pubs**

Tartu has a strong cafe culture, so walk around Raekojaplats and Apparaditehas to explore!





Tallinn



Viljandi



Saaremaa



Elva, Tartu county

Check out **the ISA blog posts:**
[Estonia, the Country We Love!](#)
[You will never believe it's Estonia! 7 things you would never expect to find in Estonia](#)

... and TRAVEL!

As much as you can

Cost of Living

A student needs approximately 600-800 EUR per month.

- **Accommodation (dormitory):** 159 EUR
- **Food:** 250-400 EUR
- **Daily lunch specials:** 6-8 EUR
- **Transportation for Tartu residents:** 12,95 EUR (youth) / 18,50 EUR (regular)
- **Mobile phone:** 10+ EUR
- **Sport:** 40-80 EUR
- **Entertainment:** 50+ EUR



University of Tartu International Student Ambassadors

- Email:
studentambassadors@ut.ee
- Website:
<http://ut.ee/isa>
- Blog:
<https://isablog.ut.ee>
- Facebook:
<https://www.facebook.com/utambassadors>



ISA Blog

- Adjusting to life in Estonia
- Studying at UT
- Exploring Tartu, Estonia
- Career and work in Estonia (personal stories)
- Useful life hacks for students
- Cultural Insights of international students
- Personal experiences in different situations

<https://isablog.ut.ee>



LGBTQ + Estonia: An alumni's thoughts on queer-friendliness, community and societal developments – Patrik (Sweden)

• May 24, 2024

Dear Reader, Summer is just around the corner – and so is Pride Season! As we prepare to...



An Eventful Inside look at the Institute of Computer Science at the University of Tartu – Viktoriia (Ukraine)

• May 14, 2024

Whether you are a current student, a student who has received a long-awaited letter of admission, or someone...



Dental Care in Tartu: Handling a Dental Emergency – Elfi (Azerbaijan)

• April 29, 2024

A portion of healthcare which we often take for granted is dentistry. While proactive prevention is often the...



You will never believe it's Estonia! 7 things you would never expect to find in Estonia – Polina

• April 23, 2024

A Scottish castle, lavender fields, alpacas, Dutch tulips and even the Eiffel Tower... Did you know that there...




What the University of Tartu Offers in terms of Science – The Faculty of Science and Technology – Baheli (Si...





Journey to a Dream Job in Estonia: UT Alumni Experiences – Azhar (Kazakhstan)

We are International Student Ambassadors of the University of Tartu. Through our experience, you can start planning your studies at the University of Tartu. We hope you enjoy our blog.

Recent Posts

 **LGBTQ + Estonia: An alumni's thoughts on queer-friendliness, community and societal developments – Patrik (Sweden)**
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Join our events



Social Media



ISA Events

- City Tours at the Orientation Days
- Scavenger Hunt/Escape Room at Tartu Student Days
- Alumni event
- Info sessions for prospective students, Open Doors Days, etc.

Follow our events:

<https://www.facebook.com/utambassadors>



Join the ISA Team

Apply by 29 September



ut.ee/isa



Useful contacts/links

- Visa support at UT:
studentvisasupport@ut.ee
- Admission office: admissions@ut.ee
- Estonian Police and Border Guard Board:
<https://www.politsei.ee/en/migration-consultants>
- Tartu Student Residency:
info@campus.ee
- Welcome Center:
<https://tartuwelcomecentre.ee/>



**Thank you!
Aitäh!**

Enjoy your stay in Tartu!



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