

STUDENT

TIMES

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Photo by Vaica Pelamjite

StuCo Election

In one of LCC hallways there is a glass box with people inside. The box is an office and people in it are Student Council, representatives of the university's student body. However, at the moment it seems that only a few students care about it. Where are those days when Student Council was a truly engaging student organization?

While this year's StuCo seemed to be rather active and initiated a few interesting projects, students still show little interest in this organization. And I guess it is not surprising that this year's debates and elections of new StuCo members went by unnoticed.

To start with, there was only one candidate for almost all the positions. In absence of com-

petition applicants limited their promotion campaigns to a few posters around the campus and facebook pages which provided minimum information (picture, name and position applied) about them and said nothing about their programs for the next year (to be fair, one action plan did appear after the debates). None of the candidates clearly explained why we, students, should vote for them and what to expect from them during the next academic year. Yes, debates helped to get to know the candidates better. Unfortunately, too little information was provided about the vision for the StuCo and future plans. My concern here is that the period of StuCo governance is very short and it is

Dear Graduates,

Student Times team greets you with successful end of the final year and wishes you to have a bright future full of exciting opportunities and experiences. Be inspirational and share your goodness with others.

Special greetings to the Graduates from the Student Times team Sasha Zinevych, Gintarė Varankevičiūtė and Natalia Baciū. Guys, thank you for your work. You are great!

As for the returning students, staff and faculty, we wish you to enjoy summer relaxation and we'll see you in fall!

good to have a program of action for the candidates to be ready to work right away if they are elected, rather than think of some ideas on the spot.

It is hard to say why the candidates did not prepare well enough. Either current StuCo did not do a good job on recruiting new candidates and explaining to them how to prepare promotion campaigns or we, the students, are just completely ignorant towards what is happening in

our university. Considering the number of people who actually attended the debates, the last one seems to be true. We did not care enough to inquire to learn more about candidates, their programs and vision for the StuCo. As a result, during the election days, we did not vote for ideas or action plans but expressed our support or dislike towards specific people. The irony is that next year we will continue complaining how little StuCo does or even forget about its existence at all.

The point being made here

is that there should be an engaging dialogue between student and Student Council. We need to express more concern for who represents our interests in order for them to understand their problems and needs. StuCo members on the other hand should try even harder to connect with students in order to win their support. Then we will have a real win-win situation for both parties.

So I wish best of luck to the new StuCo in their work and hope that they will manage to make a difference.



Ira Velykokhatko
ivelyko08@students.lcc.lt

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Student Times Staff

Editor in Chief: Iryna Velykokhatko
 Editor in Chief's Assistant: Oleksandra Smolyar
 Photography Editor: Vaiva Cekatauskaite
 Design Editor: Adomas Žudys
 Promotions Editor: Vaiva Cekatauskaite
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 Proofreader: Alex Whiting

Have a comment or question? We'd love to hear it.

studenttimes@students.lcc.lt

It IS all about HOUSING

Even though all the students have already chosen their rooms and roommates, there are still a few things they need to know before moving in to their new homes next semester. I interviewed Susie Lambright, the director of community life, and here is what I found out.

As far as I know, almost all the students know the room arrangement in both of the dorms. Neumann will remain as it is with an exception of having one extra bed in some of the rooms. Yet, the New hall rooms will be smaller, but not too small. "Students are not going to have as much space as they do now in Neumann; I mean Neumann Hall rooms are very large in comparison to most dorm rooms in the institutions I went to in my undergraduate experience in past 9 years," says Susie. The New hall will also be

equipped with an elevator.

I believe that most of the LCC girls who will live in the new dorm are concerned about the kitchens. Here is what Susie has to say about that: "The kitchens will be larger than what we have now. There will be two full ovens and several additional heating surfaces, and there will be three sinks to wash dishes in. Every room will have small cabinets with locks. Food prep area will have bar stools and a little bar, so students will be able to sit up there and eat and talk to people. There also will be several tables with chairs like in Neumann. On the other

side of the kitchen there will a section with carpet, some sofas and tables as well. This are will be separated from the cooking space by book cases."

As for the next year's freshmen, there will live on all freshmen floors. Why? Here are the reasons: "First year students will be living together with people who are going through the same experience. When placed together, they will have a chance to bond more. Also, RAs there will be focused more on being first year RAs, planning more things to do, being a little more hands-on. There's a little extra that students need from their Resident Assistance during the first year, and that's what our RAs are hired to do."

Susie also explained winter break room usage. "There is a Saltshaker youth conference that happens at LCC around the time of winter break. The executive cabinet and presidents' cabinet have made a commitment to host this event. As a result, there is a need to provide rooms for the high school kids and their adult sponsor who participate in the conference. So each Neumann room is used to host these people. Christmas '09



Photo by Vaiva Pelanyte



Photo by Vaiva Cekatauskaite

was the first year that the kids stayed in the residence hall. Up until this point, they slept on mattresses on the floor in De-Fehr (not very comfortable, not very cozy). Because Neumann Hall is basically empty during the winter break, we thought it was a good idea to utilize it for the guests of the conference. So for this year's conference that will happen during the winter break. We will again use every room in Neumann. It will be just for three nights and only in Neumann. The New hall will be used for all students staying on campus during the winter break to live in. If you're staying on campus during the winter break, you'll be expected to move to the New

hall for that time. But students will get more information about that in the beginning of the next year. "

All in all, life on campus next year will be much different from what we got used to. As with everything that is new life will be exciting as well as challenging. However, there is much to explore and to look forward to. From what I've heard from Susie Lambright, it seems that the New Hall and the Neumann hall are quite nice places to live in. Nice spacious kitchens seem like a good place for hanging out with friends and more roommates is an opportunity to get to know more people and save up some money.



Photo by Vaiva Cekatauskaite

Looking at the shower from one of the halls in the room



Oleksandra Smolyar
osmolya10@students.lcc.lt

DRIVING SCHOOL

M

"VENJORA"

Tel. 8 46 210363

"ŽEMAITIJA" 3 floor

20... LET'S HAVE FUN!

This year LCC International University turns twenty. In the course of these years LCC has become a well-known place. For twenty years LCC has been a starting point in the journey to success for many people by preparing young specialists for the challenges they may face in the future providing them with a versatile and qualitative study program. At the same time many of us have built life-lasting friendships and had the most exciting experiences in this place thanks to inspiring environment and caring people. That is why it is important to celebrate together with LCC. Student Times asked Aistė Motekaitienė, the coordinator of the celebration, about LCC 20 years celebration program and found out what it will look like.

- **Wednesday, September 21 – special celebratory Chapel**
- **Thursday, September 22 – Board Meetings**
- **Friday, September 23, will meet students with:**
 - **New Hall dedication:** a ceremony of naming the Hall and tours around it
 - **Reception in Neumann: students will be offered some desserts**
 - **Intercultural Fair in the center of the city:** entire campus community walks to the Lietuvinku square and sets up the booth for the fair. Students, staff and faculty will march along Kretingos street with national flags in order to share our excitement about LCC's 20th anniversary. During the Fair representatives from different countries will have an opportunity to present their national cuisine to whole Klaipėda. It will be the time to enjoy international atmosphere and to listen to some good music.
 - **Student Celebration at Michalsen Centras;** Friday's final event for



current LCC students to get together and to have fun!

- **Saturday, September 24, will start with the History Walk** (signing up is required). Participants will be guided around old facilities, including Karklu and former classrooms. There will presentation of the Alumni Book in which the history of LCC will be explored through the stories of successful Alumni, staff and board members.

Following three events of the day will be for Alumni and Staff/Faculty mainly, though students will be allowed to attend some of them.

- **Sunday, September 25, - church services**

Seems like September celebrations will turn LCC into an unforgettable place for everyone! Don't lose your chance to participate :)



Elizaveta Salenok
esaleno10@students.lcc.lt

Have you heard about the

Kaethlers?

The sky is clear and the temperatures have stayed sufficiently above zero for us to finally say that spring is here! However, the excitement of the rebirth of nature with its intense and bright colours comes at a cost. Premature signs of nostalgia mixed with smiles of joy are seen everywhere while people have replaced “hello” and “have a great day” with phrases such as “we’ll keep in touch”, and “hope to see you again someday”. One of the families on campus, who are putting their memories and experiences of their time in Lithuania into boxes meant for shipping are the Kaethlers. I had the privilege to ask them a few questions about what brought them to LCC, what made them stay, and their next destination – Scotland. Andrew will continue his contemplative life in academia at St. Andrews University, where he will be studying for his Doctorate degree.

Why LCC?

After finishing his Master’s program, Andrew and his wife Alene knew that they were standing on the crossroad which would define their life from that point on. The toss-up was between living abroad and teaching, or getting involved in a family business. If you’ve got to know Andrew at all, picturing him doing anything other than teaching is as difficult as imagining someone receiving a full A in one of his classes. They researched a few places and schools, but none of the mission statements appealed to them. At the right time, though, they remembered someone mentioning LCC and scrolling through the school’s creed they found a match.

What was your first experience in Lithuania?

Once they started inquiring about the procedures they needed

to follow in order to make their transition possible, they found great support from the preparation staff of LCC. The amity of the community continued after their arrival, immersing them into an environment filled with a sense of meaning that intertwines work and family. The slower pace of life provided time for building relationships with staff and the students.

What is your teaching and philosophy of life?

When Andrew was teaching in front



of a class for the first time, his initial goal was survival. Ironically, when students now take his class they aim for the same thing. Andrew sees teaching as a way of affecting lives and being transformed by the change he is a part of. His name for being a “though professor” comes from an honest drive of bringing out the best in his students by setting high standards and challenging them to reach greatness. Andrew says that being a professor at a University

shouldn’t be about building a reputation, and constantly competing for publications. Instead, it is about being part of the learning experience of the students and giving them your best, so that they can exceed their potential.

As for their life philosophy, Andrew and Alene believe in a meaningful existence that elevates beyond the social status quo. They say that following God is a life style that rejuvenates one’s soul and encourages giving.

What are the challenges you have faced in building a family in a foreign country?

The first impediment when you cross the borders of your home is that you find yourself not only among strangers, but among strangers that have no clue what you are saying. At their first arrival, Alene was the mother of one beautiful girl. Now, she and Andrew have three precious children: the youngest is Lewis, following Page, and the eldest is Charlotte. Even with one child, getting around in a foreign country is not an easy task. Alene found support and comfort in the community where the girls easily found playmates and fun things to do. When I asked about where “home” is, now she said that “home is where you are at. LCC is the place where the girls were raised so far and it will always be part of them and part of us.”

What is coming up next...?

“It will definitely be interesting to be on the other side of authority, after being listened to as one” said Andrew when I asked about his future studies. He said that he enjoys teaching and in order to enjoy it continuously, he needs to get better. It is a great loss for the LCC students and its community to have the Kaethlers leaving, but they have promised a possible return; if nothing else, for the sake of the *bandeles*.



Sara Dumitrana
sdumitr08@students.lcc.lt
Photo by Vaiva Pelanye

Hey, TAXI!

The first person any innocent freshman meets arriving to Klaipėda from a distant non-EU country is probably the taxi driver and the amount this smiling and friendly creature charges you creates the first big impression of the city. In this business section of Student Times I will explore why the prices for the taxi services has gone down since the month of March of the last year.

My experience of arriving to Klaipėda using the taxi service has been discouraging as I was forced to pay up to 12 LTL for a ride from the bus station to Karklų dormitory two years ago. Today an average taxi driver will not charge you more than 5 LTL using a taximeter and a better service for the same three minute drive following the same route. In order to answer the question by how much did the prices actually change and analyze the situation on the roads in depth, a Tom Frank- style marketing research has been implemented. Later on, an Eric Hinderliter-inspired vigorous methodology has been applied in exploring the forces of the market which have led to the price change.

Twenty LCC students have been interviewed on the amounts they pay on the top five destinations around Klaipėda, and the approximate amounts they report to have paid earlier. The graph is a result of the analysis among the destinations including: Karklų Dormitory – Memelis, Bus Station

– Karklų; Karklų – LCC (Neumann or DeFehr); Memelis – LCC; and the tour around Klaipėda destination as the last item on the chart. The results are surprising showing the biggest drop in prices of 53% on destination from Bus Station to Karklų and significant cuts on prices on other destinations. The results mean a lot for an average LCC student.

Now, for example, you and your three slender friends can pitch in for a fast ride paying about two litas each avoiding the embarrassment of being late to an Accounting exam. However, it also means that there is a bigger chance that after a pleasant walk around the old city with a girl you like, she will take a taxi instead of letting you walk her home. The question still remains, why did the prices drop. In my opinion, there are two reasons for it. First, the prolonged schedule of buses and minibuses going late at night create powerful competition for

taxis. Second, the taxi business owners want to keep their drivers busy all the time. Otherwise, a similar situation as the current one in Chisinau, Moldova might occur. Drivers simply get out of hand and start driving people by themselves, not splitting the cash with the company, but reporting to the main station that they are busy and unavailable all the time.

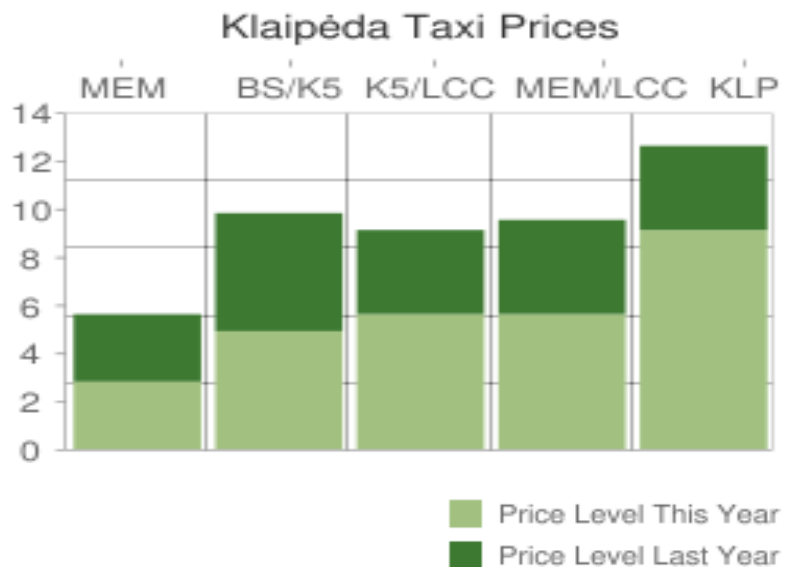
Concluding the topic, I would like to call all the LCC students, staff and faculty to restrain from using taxis, private cars or public transportation and start walking or riding bikes. Besides saving the environment and your personal capital, you will enjoy the actual coming of spring and notice the azure sky, greener grass and small leaves appearing on the trees. You will start hearing red-breasted birds twittering and feeling yourself better while noticing all the beauty around us in this gorgeous time of the year :)

(The graph used in the article was created with the help of Google Charts.)

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can pitch in for a fast ride paying about two litas each avoiding the embarrassment of being late to

an Accounting exam. However, it also means that there is a bigger chance that after a pleasant walk around the old city with a girl you like, she will take a taxi instead of letting you walk her home. The question still remains, why did the prices drop. In my opinion, there are two reasons for it. First, the prolonged schedule of buses and minibuses going late at night create powerful competition for



Denis Ivanov
divanov08@students.lcc.lt

Desperate and Loved

I heard the word *desperate* and something clicked in my wretched heart

My very being sprung out and captured the searing wholeness of the word

And held it close to the cracks and pitfalls of my soul that longed to be made *whole* and *holy*

It is *satisfying* to be *desperate*
An Infinite hunger of the heart
gently echoes of His steadfast love
It is good for the soul to thirst
To search for a well and find the Beloved

Yearn my heart
Yearn relentlessly and trust in His word,
The Word who became flesh and walked amongst us

All you who are thirsty -- come to the water and meet your Beloved!

Four years ago I left India and came back to Lithuania utterly desperate for God and dependent upon His grace for whatever was ahead of me. Four years later, I am about to leave LCC and my country with a bachelors degree in Teaching English as an International Language – having taken multiple classes, and written numerous papers on a variety of subjects – still very much... no... even **more** desperate for God and completely dependent on His relentless and abounding grace. I cannot deny that I am thirsty. I am earnestly hungry – and this deep and desperate yearning for God is what sustains me every-

day, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. It is good to thirst, for there is a wellspring of living water that shall quench my thirst. I do not need to toil and dig my own well – what good is it for me? God is my sea without a shore; “If grace is an ocean then we’re all sinking.” I look around and see that all is grace. Every breath I take, every movement I make, word I speak, sound I hear, all that is palpable, all that lives and breathes– it is all grace and it is abundant! Oh how it is satisfying to be desperate... for the Beloved.

I would like to end my short, but honest scribbling with a Bible verse that depicts my passion for God’s heart and my inability to not mention His glorious name: “But if I say, ‘I will not mention his word or speak anymore in his name,’ his word is in my heart like a fire, a fire shut up in my bones. I am weary of holding it in; indeed, I cannot” (Jeremiah 20:9).

Come all you who are thirsty – His love is deep enough for all of our longings.
Shalom



Photo by Gintarė Varankevičiūtė



Response for LCC

ALEKSEJUS PETRILA

LCC has changed and enriched my personality a lot. I believe that now I am more confident and mature. I have also met a lot of friendly and interesting people from countries that I would have never visited. I



Aleksejus in his first year

also like the style of lectures and the freedom that professors provide, especially during presentations. I always remember our team's presentation on Disney Company in accounting class. Also I found in myself many interesting things, which I didn't know about before.

First, I can go on a blind date. Second, I can play an evil and ruthless judge. Third, I can lead a group of students from North America around Moscow and Saint Petersburg, and they would not experience any discomfort, like feeling sick and tired or get-

ting hit by a bus. Finally, I have realized that I am a secret fan of "Kulverstukas" KVN team. I believe that such things are unforgettable.



Aleksejus presenting his thesis

IRA BALTAG

It might sound as a cliché phrase, but LCC changed me to the core. It taught me to think outside the box and it encouraged me to act upon my will and



Ira in her first year

need. I remember myself being a robust, scared and lost freshman; everything was new to me. Now, I see myself as a confident, self-aware and critically thinking individual with a broad perspective upon the way things actually work. Here I learned what friendship and fellowship means; I also learned to invest my time and energy in constructive relationships.

Recently, i had a dormant preview of my last day at LCC; it was puzzling.



Ira now

MASHA AND DASHA NEVAR

I never expected LCC to influence me that much. It taught me to take a completely different perspective on different things, which helps to see everything in more realistic light. It is like seeing everything in different dimensions, when something looks like a square in second dimension, it is



Freshmen

actually a parallelepiped, when you get to see it from the third. I hope you understood this metaphor.

The thing that changed greatly is actually my worldview. Now it really is broader, more diverse, and more critical. Somehow life at LCC brought more courage and strength to me. It taught me to believe in myself and what is more important strive for better. I feel that I am a new, self-confident and self-aware person, open-minded for new experience and recognizing and accepting differences among people around.

In LCC we learned the joy of achieving something with our own strength, because in this University nothing is cor-

rupted by the will to get as much money as possible. This is the place, where I really feel something is invested in students on the lectures and not just thrown out at them to get a check mark.

P.S. Funny, but it is a comment from both of us, though in 1st person =))



After the thesis

KATERYNA PIDDUBNA

When I came to LCC I was a really naive and scared little lamb. I didn't understand a whole lot of things and thought that I can't do many things because I am still a small kid. Today I am still a little naive lamb that still doesn't know how the things work in this world. What changed, you ask? Not much. The haircut and hair color, I guess))) The only difference is that I under-

stand now that the person can't know everything. Each of us is a little child that plays a mature adult.



4th year



Freshman

EGLE KAZBARAITYTE

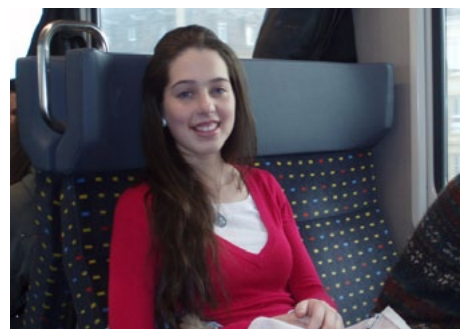
I didn't change that much from the outside, except that my hair is a few inches shorter, I have braces and I am slightly slimmer. :) However, I don't think that my outside is what matters. LCC people and experiences have changed my inside, my lifestyle much more



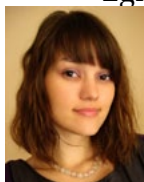
Egle in her 1st year

than the outside. Living in the dormitory with 3 other people and juggling my student's life with my work, has taught me how to manage my time, to be more organized and more punctual. At the same time having a relationship while studying, has taught me how to set the priorities, be flexible, loving, but firm. Thanks to one of the great professors, I've also understood what I want to do with my life and that teaching is my path I need to go at least for now. Most importantly, here at LCC, I've strengthened my faith, learned so much about God and found the peo-

ple with whom I can share my faith. Through all these 4 years, I've learned, found and experienced a lot and it will be hard to leave this place. However, I know that my life will not stop after LCC, I will be learning even more, but I will always remember LCC as the place where many changes happened, but where you could always rely on people to make the changes easier.



4th year in LCC



Oleksandra Zinevych
azinevi08@students.lcc.lt

Thefts on Campus

March was the month when LCC had several exciting events take place such as the Parade of Stars and Public Speaking Competition. However, March was also the month when the whole campus was shocked by several thefts. Two laptops were stolen from Residence Halls and one from the library.

Furthermore, one mobile phone was found missing from DeFehr offices. So how did this happen? Well, since the investigation is ongoing, no essential details can be revealed. However, as far we know, the thefts were made by people who, luckily, are not from LCC community. Campus surveillance cameras and eye

witnesses helped the police to determine the responsible people. Although the culprits of the thefts were found and stolen goods will be returned, this was the sign that LCC security is far from perfect. Even the newly incorporated ID card system cannot protect our possessions. So watch out for your belongings.



Karolis Ilciukas
kilciuk10@students.lcc.lt

FACE HUNT IN COLOR



Polina

A camera in one's hands and imagination in one's head in a cold February of 2006 created something special, "Face hunt". Young Yvan Rodic started to "hunt" style icons of Paris, who attended numerous art events in the capital and then posted them in his blog.

Yvan Rodic was born in Vevey, a French-speaking

part of Switzerland. As many say, from the early age he had a great sense of style and an eye for photography. Five years later, Yvan is considered to be one of the most influential "movers and shakers in fashion". Some even give him credit for the growth of blogging from its infancy into a phenomenon as we know it now. Today Yvan Rodic is invited to merely every fashion show and has already worked with such periodicals as New York Times, GQ, Vogue and etc.



Elsi

other luscious colors. My eyes, tired of grey winter, were desperate for bright and juicy colors in the looks of LCC students. People that I "caught" knew how to combine vibrant clothes with a touch of their unique styles.

I wish you a colorful summer and hope to see you this fall "in color" as well!



Bernardas



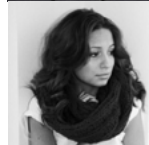
Ieva

Inspired by the idea of Face Hunt, I took a camera and started my personal "hunt" on campus. Even though weather in Klaipeda is still dull and chilly, some of the students are in springish mood already. Collections of Spring/Summer 2011 are brightened by intense red, green, blue, pink and many



Ausra

Pictures by Tomila Akhmadieva



Tomila Akhmadieva
takhmad09@students.lcc.lt

Travel CHEAP

A short overview of hostel experience

Students are still not done with the exams but their thoughts are occupied with the summer break. Where to go? What to see? And the most difficult question – where to stay? If you are not comfortable using couch surfing services, my answer to the last question is hostel.

Hostel is a dormitory for travelers. An average hostel provides Wi-Fi, hot shower and shared kitchen with a refrigerator. The number of beds in one room varied from 2 to 8, but rooms for 6 are more common. Every closet has a lock so that the traveler can safely leave his or her belonging while leaving for the day. By the way, a hostel is not only a place to sleep, but also a place to meet many interesting people and have fun with them. During my hostel experience I have encountered travelers from Britain, Italy, Spain, and even Japan. In the evenings, guests usually are spending time together in the lounge room, which has a TV-set, DVD and a small bar. What is more, English is spoken everywhere around.

However, in order to have a pleasant hostel experience a traveler should keep a few things in mind. It is good to look for a hostel somewhere in the city center. Such location saves



your money and time. In order to get a general idea about the hostel check out the responses of people who stayed in there earlier and see what they have to say about the place. You could look at such things as cleanliness, security and friendliness of the staff. Normally, a stay in hostel is cheaper than in hotel. However, costs could vary depending on the country and location of the hostel. On average prices are:

- Spain – 12 €
- Italy – 19-24 €
- Greece – 10 €
- France - 21 €
- Portugal – 12 €
- Austria – 15 €
- Germany – 19 €

If you put effort in hostel search, you may find a place for as cheap as 5-7 €. So do not hesitate to explore and enjoy your summer!

