

## **“Study, Travel and Food” - German Exchange Student Reflects on Her Semester Experience at Taylor’s University**

**Spending a semester living, studying, travelling and eating her way around Malaysia was an eye-opening Asian experience for Janina Raiser from the Technical University in Ingolstadt, Germany.**



**Janina Raiser Loving KL**

Ms Janina Raiser came to Taylor's University as a semester exchange student from the [Technical University Ingolstadt](#) (THi) in Bavaria, southern Germany. She said that while international students can find out a lot about Taylor's from the website, *“I'd like talk more about my experiences in Malaysia.....and the food!”*. Janina said that *“I decided to go to Malaysia for a semester abroad, as I wanted to experience something completely different. I have never been to Asia before and my university has a lot of partner universities all over the world. In the beginning, it was quite hard to make a decision. So, I looked up things about every country we could go to - and finally decided to apply for Taylor's University. The main reason was because some students who went there told me a lot of good things about their exchange semester, and of course Malaysia just looked to be an amazing country for travelling”*. As she explained, *“Being an exchange student, you need to find the right balance between working hard for your classes and enjoying the most out of your stay. During the week I was always in the library in between classes to work on my assignments so that I could travel on the weekend. I was able to visit really amazing places in Malaysia such as Pulau Perhentian, Melakka, Penang, Taman Negara National Park, Pulau Redang and Pulau Tioman. Plus, I was even able to travel to Singapore and even down to Perth in Australia for a long-weekend”*. She said that she had found TU to be really supportive throughout her whole stay, and that it had really helped a lot that the university had organised many different

welcome events not only for exchange students, but also events open to everyone. This helped her to also get to know some locals. As she said, *"I would recommend to everyone to join a club to get to know people quickly"*. Reflecting on her semester abroad, she agreed that not only saw amazing places and made new friends, but also learned what it is like to live in a different country and to experience other cultures. She commented, *"Being abroad will teach you how to be more open-minded, how to work together with people from different backgrounds and it will teach you how to cope with a lot of new and unfamiliar situations"*. She returned to her studies in Germany, but she has already embarked on yet another international experience and has completed an internship in the UK. One year after getting back to Europe, she said *"I still love to think back about my semester abroad and all the great memories I have made – and then I think about the fact that I miss all the food!"* To find out more about [spending a semester at THi](#) and the Global Mobility options at Taylor's University click [here](#) (Global Matters 2017)