



What is your function?

I work as a work placement coordinator in the Zadkine College in Rotterdam, the Netherlands.

Did you have international experiences yourself?

Yes, I have had several international experiences myself. Unfortunately not as a trainee, but as a teacher and work placement coordinator I had the opportunity to go to many places in Europe.

Why should a training centre send trainees abroad?

My main motivation to send students abroad are the students themselves. Because when you see how they come back when they have at least four months of experiences in a foreign country, they come back as totally different persons.

Often, when they go abroad, they go as youngsters and they come back as adults. You can actually see a change in their behavior. They are more mature, more independent and more secure as a person.

What tips do you have for other trainers?

Well I think the main suggestion for other trainers is, that *internationalization starts by persons and not by organizations.*



Who are you and what are you studying?

I am 22 years old, from the Netherlands and I am studying international business and languages in 'sHertogenbosch. I am in my third year now and I am doing an internship in Spain

Why did you choose for an internship abroad?

I have chosen for an internship abroad, because I would like to have a lot of marketing experience from different countries and I also like to learn about the language and the culture of that country.

What did you expected from an internship abroad?

Before I started my internship, I already knew something about the company, but I really wanted to give my ideas and input and creativity to the company and learn how working would be in this company.

Are your expectations during your internship fulfilled?

Yes, completely, the company gave me a lot of opportunities and they wanted to know my opinion as well, so I am really happy with it.

What did it with you personally?

Another view on life, I think I have more an international view now, as I have more experiences with other cultures and languages and I also think I am more grown up now ☺.

What tips do you have for other trainees?

Make sure you are ready to go abroad, Don't do it for somebody else, *do it for yourself*, do it for your experience, for your own life.



What is your function in the company?

Hi, I am a training coördinator in lloret de mar in a big four star hotel resort.

What is your benefit of trainees?

Well of course, the trainees of nowadays are the future and they could also be our future employees, so they deserve to have good traineeship. So that they can be like us, a good mentor for the future for the next generation of trainees.

What is your best successtory?

The best success story is when a trainee wants to do a traineeship abroad and has a doubt if she/he can make it and then finally at the end they graduate and have a lot of rich experiences.

OK thank you, How are you prepared in being a mentor?

Off course you need certain experiences and the best is to start with a traineeship yourself. In that case you have a mentor as well, where you can learn from. And of course, talk with your students: what they prefer and what their expectations are.

What tip can you give to trainees during their work placement?

The best advice is to see the traineeship as one step. You cannot do everything in one traineeship. Have realistic expectations. There are many extra issues in an internship abroad compared to an internship in your own countries, for example other language and cultures as well.



What is your function in the company?

I am part of the hotel management of a five star hotel resort in Santa Susanna, Spain.

Why do you take foreign trainees?

I think it is good opportunity for both sides, for them to be part of a big hotel like us and for us it is a good opportunity to have new faces and fresh ideas in the company.

What do you have to offer as work placement company?

Basically what we have to offer is the experience to work in a real working environment before they go out and work in the real world.

What is your nicest memory?

Well the nicest memory would be the will of the trainees to learn something new and develop themselves.

Did you have an international experience abroad yourself?

Yes I actually I had to go to Cancun for a couple of months that helped me out to develop myself and to see what the "real thing" was like.

What can be improved in international internships?

I think that the school does a very good job, the only thing I would like to remark is the language of destiny. Take an advantage before they come here and learn a little bit of the language.

What is according to you the difference between a trainee and an employee?

Basically, I think an employee does his job and a trainee comes here with the experience of doing it the best way they can. It is the last part of the school before they really start to work.