

- *Who are we (Cecilie and Alberte)?*
- *VU - What to expect?*
- *Next time...*

Before arrival – hello!

You know it! We know it! And all of our friends know it! We can all relate to the feeling of being “the new one” in school. You cannot read your schedule, find your classrooms and you don’t know anyone. Dear foreigner, we know exactly how you feel - we feel it too. In only two months, we (Alberte and Cecilie) will attend Vrije Universiteit of Amsterdam with you.

We have tried to be on top of this new adventure in Amsterdam. What should we prepare? It seems like the majority rides a bike in Amsterdam. Actually, it seems impossible to live without a bike in the city. In Copenhagen, where we come from, a lot of people have started to wear a helmet, when riding their bike. We decided to bring this trend to Amsterdam - so we bought a helmet and we now feel ready to go to Amsterdam and make our first purchase - a bike!



Look closely at the picture above. Please, let us introduce ourselves.. Hello! We are Cecilie and Alberte and we look forward to meeting you. Hopefully, you will get to know us better during this spring semester at VU in Amsterdam. We are here to help you, guide you - but also, we are just

like you (students, new at VU and new in Amsterdam). So get onboard and join us on this adventure! - We are really excited and (almost) ready to go! Are you?

Who are we?

Where to begin? Our names are Cecilie Marie Nørrevang and Alberte Wahlers. We are both 24 years old, studying Communication at the Danish School of Media and Journalism, Copenhagen, and looking very much forward to start a new adventure - just like you - in Amsterdam at Vrije University.

The two of us narrowed down to a few lines:

Cecilie

- Danish girl
- Lives in Copenhagen
- Working in a cafe/bar
- From the countryside
- Fun fact: *I never set the alarm at equal numbers.*

Alberte

- Danish girl
- Lives in Copenhagen
- Previous gymnastic coach and very much into sports - especially gymnastics, cycling and running (and all kinds of competitions)
- Fun fact: *I can do a hand-stand in almost 2 minutes (consequence: red tomato face)*

We will be blogging about the student life at VU. Our blog will contain some small regular posts - tips and tricks from us and other exchange students. Below you can see the titles of our future regular posts. Maybe you have something you want to add? - then please, let us know! You can place our posts in the category: "*VU in Amsterdam for dummies*" - maybe you agree to this, maybe you don't, but you might learn something if you read along (and we really hope that you will).

- **Foreigner of the week** (if you want to attend our post: we need your name, a photo of you, where are you from, where you are staying, studies, best advice, favourite place, best meal and so on. Do you have a great tip? Hit us up!)
- **New Discoveries in the city!**
- **Do you speak Dutch?** - Word of the week

VU - What to expect?

Sooo... What is actually the reason, that we ended up going to VU?

Let us go a couple of months back in time. The race in school had begun - *student exchange!*

Main gold: Amsterdam. But guess what? We did not get a spot through our school. Sadly! However, we quickly learned, that it turned out to our advantage. We got a new title - “freemover”. We were still determined to go to the Netherlands and more specific - Amsterdam! We found a lot (read: A LOT) of different and interesting classes that we would like to attend at Vrije. Being Communication students we found the classes, among others, “New Media Challenges”, “Digital Antropology” and “Intercultural Communication” - courses that our school in Copenhagen does not offer.

We are on the edge excited to see what classes we will end up with! No matter what, we are convinced, that our experience in Amsterdam at VU will contribute and provide us with: first of all - a great experience, an expanded English vocabulary (almost as good as if we were from Great Britain), dedicated professors, new friends from all over world and who knows - maybe even a weekend trip to Rotterdam, Paris or Brussels?

Next time!

Ready for take-off? We will make a pre-departure guide you through the important steps of take-off!

- Do you have your ticket ready?
- Place to stay? Or still looking?
- Courses selected?
- How to deal with your butterflies.

Don't worry - we are here for you! See you soon! We are looking forward to meeting you all!

Over and out,
Cecilie & Alberte