



**Università Commerciale
Luigi Bocconi**



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Degree Program at TAU: MSc at Collier school of Management

Host University: Bocconi University, Milan

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Exchange Experience

First, I'll start by saying this was one of the most interesting and amazing experiences I have ever had, Studying abroad, in a foreign university, with students from around the world, was challenging and very enjoyable at the same time.

About the country and city

Milan is a big and vibrant city, full of activities, festivals, and things to do. The main streets are full of restaurants, museums and shops. Most importantly – it has the best pizza, pasta and ice-cream in the world! It is not one of the cheapest cities in Europe, but you can manage no matter what is your budget. One of its biggest advantages is of course its location – in northern Italy, where you can find many options for traveling in the weekends or in the mid-term vacation, with your family and friends. You can easily get to Lake Como, Lake Garda, Lake Maggiore, Bergamo, Turin, and more with only one hour drive. If you don't mind putting a little more effort, you can get to Verona, Venezia, Florence and more.

About the Host University

Bocconi university is known to be one of the best universities in Italy and in Europe in General. It has great professors, very nice facilities, and the staff is very welcoming and helpful. You have a special ISD (International Student Department) department that can help you with everything you need, and every problem you encounter is fixable.

The atmosphere in Bocconi is very special, because there is a big portion of foreign students coming all over the world, filling up the hallways and cafeterias. Regarding the special atmosphere, I have to mention my favorite thing is the campus – in the



lobby of the main building there is a black grand piano which the students can use anytime, and almost every time I got to the university, or cross the lobby I could hear someone playing music and it was enchanting!

The university has many associations of various kinds, and they gather a lot of social meetings, whether it's just for the purpose of networking, or for learning something new.

The university also has an active career service who can help you find a job if you wish to work in Italy.

All communication in Bocconi is through its digital platforms: The university mail, The teaching platform YOU@B, and the Blackboard. It is very convenient and very easy to learn.

Bocconi is located in via Bocconi, not far from the city center, and easy to get to by public transportation.

Courses and professors

There are many courses in English you can choose from according to your field of interest and your schedule. I found a lot of them to be very interesting, but in the end I took 3 courses and I recommend each one of them:

1. Management of Fashion and Luxury companies – by Stefania Saviolo
2. Television Management – by Andrea Quartarone
3. Social entrepreneurship and Impact investing – by Clodia Vurro

They were all very interesting, led by very good professors, had interesting projects and school trips to enrich our knowledge and experience.

Regarding the bidding – My advice is to get on the website and choose your desired courses as soon as the bidding starts, because classes are getting full very quickly.



Accommodation – dorms and other solutions

As I went on this journey with my family (husband and 2 kids), we needed a big apartment, so we looked for apartments online and found a suitable one on Airbnb which was not too far from the university.

As far as what I heard from my friends, the dorms in Bocconi are very nice and in good shape, and if want to rent a small apartment on your own or with roommates, there are some nice options surrounding the campus.

Visa

As the first step on the Visa process you need to schedule an appointment in the Italian embassy in Tel Aviv, and bring some documents as described on their website. Approximately a week later you will get the VISA. But as you arrive in Italy you will have to fill in a form, which you will get as soon as you'll arrive to the university on the welcoming days, and send it by mail at the post office to the immigration office in Italy (on the first week of your arrival). They will provide you with an appointment to the immigration police office where you will have an interview. All About this process you can learn in a special meeting Bocconi will organize on the first week of the semester. Just to note that if you have a European passport this is not relevant to you.

Transportation

The transportation in Milan is one of its many advantages. You have the metro, the tram and the buses, and they are all running in perfect order. You have many lines, many stops, and you can get anywhere in Milan using them.

To Bocconi you can get by each one of them – depends on where you are coming from.

Insurance and Health Services

We had Health insurance through David shield and didn't end up using it in the end.

Living expenses

As we went on this journey as a whole family, I guess our living expenses were higher than the average student going alone on his exchange experience (we had a big apartment, kindergarten for the kids, a big budget went on food, etc.).



Food

Milan is considered to be one of the more expensive city's in Europe, but it only means that you need to choose carefully how you spend your money. In Bocconi there are 3 cafeterias, where they serve decent food in reasonable prices, and surrounding it there are a lot of coffee shops and small restaurants suitable for the student's budgets. As you get far from the university, or get closer to the city center (The Duomo Area) everything becomes more expensive.

Tips

The most important tip I want to give is to mothers like me, who are hesitating if they should go on this adventure or not. I want to encourage you not to give up on this wonderful experience, and let you know that from my personal experience – it's doable and it's worth it!





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