

Accommodation in Groningen for exchange students – 2019-2020

[3 pages]

Dear student(s),

General remark:

Students need not wait until they receive our letter of acceptance/invitation before booking accommodation – once students receive our confirmation of their nomination with the below information and instruction, students are advised to book accommodation as soon as possible.

Our letter of acceptance/invitation will follow later.

In order to book accommodation for their exchange period in Groningen, international students can make use of:

1. room-swap, via the Law Faculty's international student association Nexus
2. The Student Hotel
3. The Student Guesthouse Groningen
4. SSHXL - the Student Housing organization
5. At-Home-in-Groningen website
6. other options

IMPORTANT: all incoming students are required to attend the Law Introduction and University welcoming. These events will take place on (dates still provisional!):

- Fall semester: 28 + 29 August 2019.
- Spring semester: 30 + 31 January 2020

More details and exact programme will follow.

Facebook group for incoming + outgoing exchange students Law Faculty:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1299540880151372/>

1. Room-swap

The Law Faculty Student Association for international students **NEXUS** has created a "Nexus Online Room Exchange". By this Facebook group, Nexus wants to encourage incoming and outgoing exchange students to connect with each other. Maybe students could use it to swap their rooms and even gain new friendships. Ultimately, Nexus hopes it will help law students in the process of arranging their stay abroad. Therefore, all students are welcome to use the service, be Dutch, LLB, LLM or exchange students from the Faculty of Law. Moreover, students need not be a member to use the group, Nexus just wants to help as many students as possible.

Link to the Nexus room-swap facebook group:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/877601649032594/>

2. The Student Hotel Groningen

The Student Hotel Groningen opened in 2016, and offers a special concept similar to The Student Hotels which are already operational in Amsterdam, Rotterdam, Eindhoven, and The Hague. The Student Hotel is not connected to the University of Groningen, so the Law Faculty or University of Groningen are not involved in the rental contracts. The Student Hotel offers accommodation to all groups of guests: students, expats, young professionals, regular hotel guests, etc.

For more information on the special concept of The Student Hotel, the types of accommodation, available services, and rents per month, please check the website for updated information: **www.thestudenthotel.com**

Rental periods: 5 months (one semester), 10 months, 11 or 12 months (acad.year). You can book accommodation via their website.

3. The Student Guesthouse Groningen

The Student Guesthouse Groningen started in 2016 and is meant for temporary accommodation and offers furnished rooms (37) and studios (3) which can be rented for 6 or for 12 months (starting 1st of February or 1st of September). Please visit the website for updated information: www.sghg.nl

4. SSHXL

The SSHXL is a student housing agency which offers accommodation to visiting (exchange and degree) students of the University of Groningen and the Hanze University of Applied Sciences. The SSHXL runs several student dormitories which offer a variety of rooms for specified categories of students: exchange students, degree students (bachelor or master), and PhD students.

All general information about the SSHXL, such as the type of rooms, procedures, house rules, bank details etc. can be found on the SSHXL website www.sshxl.nl/en

How to book SSHXL accommodation: www.sshxl.nl/en

► Students should first make an account/register with SSHXL (see website) – this can be done as of Monday 6 May 2019.

► Reservations for Fall accommodation can be made as of Monday 13 May 2019.

Make sure you choose the category "**reserved accommodation**" (= rooms reserved for international students of the University), and further on in the application form you should choose the category 'Exchange students' (so not bachelor/master students).

► Contact person for incoming law exchange students: ms. Astrid van Dort.

Arrival and start of rent - Fall semester 2019-20

The SSHXL rooms can be rented either from

- **9 August** - for students who join the KEI introduction week: this week was originally for Dutch students, but now international students can also participate: <https://www.keiweek.nl/en/kei-week-2018/>, or from
- **26 August** - so students can attend the international introduction events.

Arrival and start of rent - Spring semester 2019-20

Spring semester rental contracts of SSHXL rooms all start on **1 February 2020**. Staying in your room before the start of your rental agreement is not possible. If you want to arrive before these dates so that you can join the mandatory introduction events, then you are strongly advised to book a room in a hostel or in a hotel well in advance of your arrival in Groningen.

NOTE: the booking and reservation option for the Spring semester opens up some time in October 2019 – we will inform you in due time.

Hostels in Groningen www.budgethostels.nl/en/ www.simplonjongerenhotel.nl	Hotels in Groningen www.booking.com http://www.hotels.nl/indexen.html
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Questions?

Check the SSH website www.sshxl.nl/en and especially the FAQ's (Frequently Asked Questions). These will answer most questions you may have!

Groningen office of the SSHXL

- Contact: Groningen@sshxl.nl or call +31 (0)88 730 4200.

Visiting address: SSHXL office Groningen: Sint Jansstraat 2D - 9712 JN Groningen

Detailed Instruction for law exchange students when booking via SSHXL:

When you are on the housing website, you must first register. After you filled in your personal details in the registration form, you come to the item: Educational Institution. Under that heading the following options should be chosen:

-student number: no need to fill in a Groningen student number if you do not have it yet, so you can skip this and continue with the next question

-City: Groningen

-(Educational) Institution: University of Groningen (RuG) & Hanze University of Applied Sciences (HG)

-Department/Faculty: RuG Law- Exchange students

-Type of Resident: RuG & Hanze Exchange students

-Rental period: then you can choose RuG (& Hanze) Exchange + your rental period
Your application should now reach the correct Groningen person (or office) who will be able to approve your housing application.

► Your contact person for housing: Astrid van Dort (Law)

5. At home in Groningen – useful website

On www.athomeingroningen.com international students and staff can find information on living in Groningen and on the way to find a home in the city, also on the private market. Costs of housing and issues regarding legal contracts are also dealt with. They are working on a booking module for rooms on the private market, so we advise you to check this website regularly. Besides answers to FAQ's, a team of 6 students is stand-by to answer all email questions.

The website is an initiative from the *Akkoord van Groningen*, in which Gemeente (the Municipality), RUG (University of Groningen), Hanze (Hanze University of Applied Sciences) and UMCG (University Medical Centre Groningen) are participating.

► Usually in the first week of July, this website will publish a lot of rooms which then become available on the private market. Please check website regularly.

6. Other options

If you can/want to arrange accommodation via Facebook groups, or via people you know, or via other ways, then of course that is fine as well.

But make sure to check first if the source/person you are dealing with is reliable.

Last year there were a number of scams, so pay attention! If a room looks too good to be true, then it probably is!

With kind regards,

Astrid van Dort
Eleonora Goljan

Email: exchangelaw@rug.nl