EXCHANGE STUDENT GUIDE FH KUFSTEIN TIROL / AUSTRIA

DISCOVER KUFSTEIN TIROL

Welcome to the FH Kufstein Tirol. This student guide should help answer your most important questions about accommodation, everyday life, student facilities, grading and much more. Enjoy your journey in Kufstein!



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HELLO AND WELCOME!

Dear Students,

As you know, learning is a journey to a new world, an adventure, an expedition. Although you have to do the walking yourself, the FH Kufstein Tirol University of Applied Sciences accompanies our students on this expedition and helps them reach the highest summits.

We are happy to welcome you to the Fachhochschule Kufstein Tirol – University of Applied Sciences. After months of preparation you finally made it to Austria. The International Relations Office (IRO) team is here to help you get started. This Exchange Student Guide should help answer the most important questions regarding your life abroad - such as accommodation, daily life, student facilities, housing, grading, etc.

You will be integrated into an international environment, surrounded by Austrian and foreign students and faculties. It will not only be one of the most exciting experiences in your life - a new language, a new culture, and a different way of life - but also a lifelong memory of a time full of new skills, insights and friendships. Enjoy your journey!

The IRO is happy to assist you in any matter, so please do not hesitate to contact us.



Anja Kaufmann, MSc
Head of International Relations Office & International Program

The International Relations Office (IRO) Team is here to help!
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WELCOME TO AUSTRIA


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COUNTRY FACTS

Total area: approx. 84,000 km²
Population: 8.9 million
Capital: Vienna
Languages: German; English is by far the leading foreign language and is widely spoken and understood.
Topography: The landscapes in Austria range from Alpine peaks to broad river plains. Austria's highest mountain is the Großglockner (3,797 m); its longest river is the Danube.

Austria, a captivating destination located in the heart of Europe, beckons visitors with its timeless charm and diverse offerings. From the majestic, historic yet modern city of Vienna to the many crystal-clear lakes, picturesque castles, Alpine adventure possibilities and melodious culture of classical music, there is bound to be something for everyone to enjoy.


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WELCOME TO TYROL

HELLO WINTER

On the one side of student life there are classes; on the other, recreation and fun. Winter life in the Alps is all about pristine snow-covered mountainsides, challenging ski slopes, exciting boarder parks, endless cross-country ski trails, and the magic of the cozy mountain huts. Ski areas near Kufstein are Westendorf, Itter, Hohe Salve, Kitzbühel, and many others.

HELLO SUMMER

The demands placed on the mind by intensive study can be easily balanced by participating in regular recreational activity. There is an extensive range of summertime leisure activities to choose from: water sports on nearby lakes and rivers, running, mountain biking, hiking and climbing as well as outdoor concerts, book readings, and festivals.


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WELCOME TO KUFSTEIN

CITY FACTS

Total area: approx. 39.37 km²
Population: approx. 20,000. Kufstein is the largest town in the District of Kufstein and the second largest after Innsbruck in the Province of Tyrol.
Climate: Kufstein lies 503 meters above sea level. The alpine climate is characterized by cold, snowy winters and relatively warm summers. Temperatures range from -5° C in winter (short periods of strong frost are possible too) up to 30° C in summer. Periods of fog and rain are common both in late fall and early spring.


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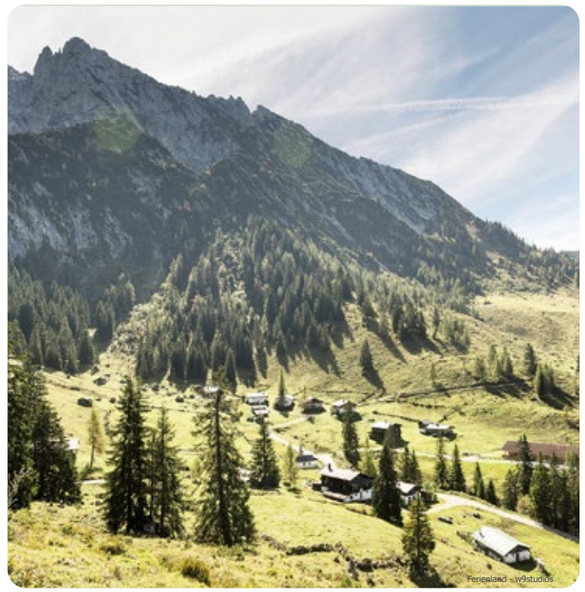
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"THE PEARL OF TYROL"

Set on both sides of the river Inn, the historic old town, the fortress and the mountains strongly contribute to the atmosphere and attraction of Kufstein. Thus the city's nickname: "The Pearl of Tyrol."

Many old buildings bear witness to Kufstein's medieval times. Lovingly restored, they invite visitors to imagine what it must have been like 700 years ago. The impressive fortress demonstrates Kufstein's important history. Originally owned by the bishops of Regensburg, the fortress was first mentioned in official documents in 1205. Over the next hundreds of years, the fortress was owned by a variety of Dukes and Emperors. Since 1924 it has belonged to the city of Kufstein.

Today, the fortress houses an open-air stage, which is often used as a venue for concerts, as well as the world's largest open-air organ, which fills the town with music every day of the week.

Kufstein is also a commercial centre. Riedel, a creative glassware manufacturer; Kneissl, the first ski manufacturer in Austria; and Simmerwerke, a manufacturer of high-tech sealing rings, all originated here.


Tirolwerbung - Bernd Ritschel


Kufsteinerland - Max Draeger

ARRIVING IN KUFSTEIN

>> VISAS & RESIDENCE PERMITS

Nationals of the European Union (EU), European Economic Area (EEA) or Switzerland only need a valid passport to enter Austria. Citizens of other countries generally require a visa.

>> TRAVELING TO KUFSTEIN

Kufstein is conveniently located in the middle of Europe and can therefore be easily reached by car, train and plane. The closest airports are Munich in Germany (approx. 120 km), as well as Innsbruck (approx. 80 km) and Salzburg (approx. 100 km) in Austria.

>> INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SUPPORT

The **International Relations Office Team** is your first point of contact at the FH Kufstein Tirol.
The ESN (Erasmus Student Network) organizes social gatherings and helps the international students settle into Kufstein and integrate into the Austrian society.
A **buddy program** is available to connect exchange students with local students.

Please review the checklist for exchange students! It can be found in the Links & Download section of the website and contains all the steps required before arrival, during your stay and before you leave.

>> click or scan the QR code:

WELCOME TO KUFSTEIN

WELCOME2CAMPUS

Further detials and helpful information can be found on the Welcome2Campus pages on our website.

>> click or scan QR code:





EMERGENCY NUMBERS

Police: 133
Ambulance: 144
Fire Brigade: 122

Mountain Rescue: 140
Kufstein City Police: +43 5372 63222

Please save these numbers to your phone.

LIVING IN KUFSTEIN

>> ACCOMMODATION

International Student Residence (ISR)
The **International Student Residence** is located near the river Inn and provides a high quality of living. In only 10 walking minutes you can reach the town center, followed by a few more minutes to the university campus. More information, floor plans and pictures can be found on the university website. Please note: rooms are allocated on a first come, first served basis.

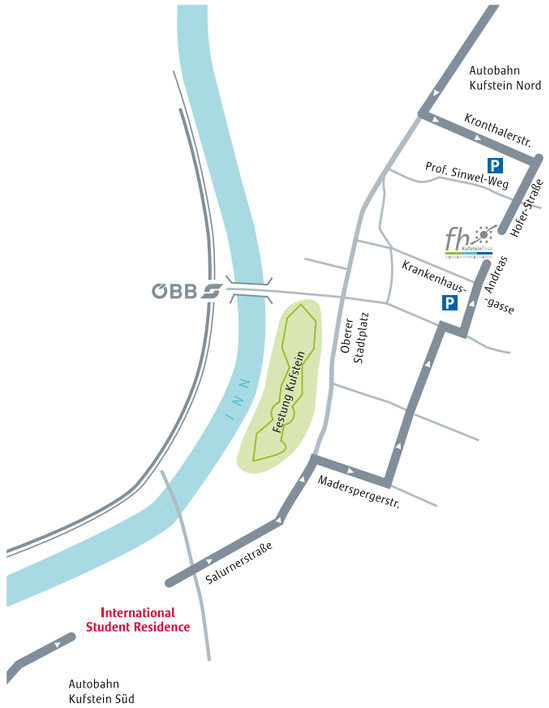
Apartments
You also have the possibility to search for your own room or apartment. There are plenty of websites available to help you with your search.

>> AVERAGE COST OF LIVING PER MONTH

Accommodation	€ 450,-
Food	€ 350,-
Study-related & personal costs	€ 300,-

>> FINANCIAL SUPPORT & SCHOLARSHIPS

The FH Kufstein Tirol itself does not offer financial support to students, but there are **numerous possibilities** for obtaining aid such as governmental stipends, grants or sponsorships.



>> HEALTH INSURANCE

All exchange students must have medical insurance that covers the cost of treatment in Austria in case of an accident or illness. The insurance must be valid for the entire duration of stay in Austria. For stays lasting less than six months (with or without a visa), a travel health insurance is usually sufficient.

>> LEISURE ACTIVITIES

Sports
Kufstein is the ideal place for summer and winter sports. The Alps offer the best outdoor sporting activities, for example hiking and climbing in the summer and skiing, snowboarding or tobogoning in the winter.
Kufstein also has countless sport clubs such as football (soccer), volleyball, tennis, basketball, and ice hockey. The ÖH (student union) of the university also offers its own sports program for students.

Cultural Activities
Kufstein organises cultural events throughout the entire year such as concerts on the fortress, music and wine festivals in the city center, and the annual christmas markets. As a university city, cafes, bars, and pubs are also a popular place to meet after studying.

Shopping
Kufstein residents can browse through a great selection of individual stores and larger shopping centers, especially within the pedestrian zone of the city center.

>> MEDICAL FACILITIES

Should you need medical attention, you can either see a general practitioner or go to the hospital. The hospital is at the southern end of Kufstein. Medication can only be bought at pharmacies. Pharmacies with nighttime and weekend standby services can be found online. Further information is available within the Student Starter Course in the student intranet.
In case of emergencies, please call the emergency numbers!

>> PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

Kufstein is a small city where almost everything is within walking distance. The unviersity is in the city center and can be easily reached by bike, bus, car, and on foot.
The city bus connects all parts of Kufstein and nearby towns. Short term parking zones, underground parking as well as several bike-sharing stations are conveniently located throughout the city.

TRAVEL DISCOUNTS

The Austrian Railway Services (ÖBB) offers a 50% discount card ("Vorteilscard Jugend") for anyone under the age of 26 years traveling within Austria. The Bayern-Ticket for Bavaria allows for 1-5 persons to travel within Bavaria, for example to Munich.

WELCOME TO THE FH KUFSTEIN TIROL

The FH Kufstein Tirol University of Applied Sciences was founded in 1997. There are currently over 2,400 students studying in 14 bachelor's degree programs, 14 master's degree programs, and several postgraduate courses. Around 200 exchange students enrich the campus with an international flair each semester.

The university offers international and innovative degrees in the fields of economics, engineering and business administration, preparing students for their future career. Its high teaching standards have resulted in multiple awards.



QUICK FACTS

>> established in 1997
>> 2,400 Students from 66 nations
>> 200 Exchange students per semester
>> 10,600 Graduates
>> 350 Lecturers
>> 250 Partner Universities
>> 28 Degree Programs



Bachelor

>> Business Psychology & Management ft
>> Coding & Digital Design ft
>> Drone Engineering & AI-based Innovation ft
>> Energy & Sustainability Management ft
>> Facility & Real Estate Management ft, pt
>> Industrial Engineering & Management ft
>> International Business Management ft, pt
>> Leadership & Business Management ft
>> Marketing & Communication Management ft, pt
>> Sports, Culture & Event Management ft, pt

Master

>> Corporate Transformation Management pt
>> Data Science & Intelligent Analytics ft, pt
>> Digital Marketing ft, pt
>> Energy & Sustainability Management ft, pt
>> ERP Systems & Business Process Management pt
>> Facility & Real Estate Management pt
>> International Business Management ft
>> Smart Products & AI-driven Development pt
>> Sports, Culture & Event Management ft, pt
>> Web Engineering & IT Solutions pt

Postgraduate Programs

MBA Programs
Certificate Courses
Further Education

ft = full-time; pt = part-time

INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM

The FH Kufstein Tirol offers a special International Program (IP) for exchange students. A pre-selection of courses is made based on the course catalogue before arrival. The final enrolment takes place during the Orientation Days on site.

The language of instruction is English. Free German courses (beginner or intermediate) are available for exchange students. A placement test is done after arrival.

>> ACADEMIC CALENDAR & COURSES

Winter Semester:
End of September - Mid-February

Summer Semester:
End of February - Mid-July

>> course catalogue

>> GRADING SYSTEM

Percentage	Grade
100 - 90%	1 (very good)
89 - 80%	2 (good)
79 - 70%	3 (satisfactory)
68 - 60%	4 (sufficient)
59 - 0%	5 (fail)

ECTS: EUROPEAN CREDIT TRANSFER SYSTEM

ECTS (European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System) is a scheme that encourages transparency in teaching and learning within higher education in Europe and thus facilitates the recognition of student performance across borders and among different universities. ECTS makes it possible for students to transfer their learning experiences between institutions, fosters greater student mobility, and gives students greater flexibility in earning a degree. Moreover, the system plays a role in curriculum development and in quality assurance.

>> KEY FEATURES

ECTS is based on the principle that 60 credits measure the workload of a fulltime student during one academic year. The student workload of a full-time study program in Europe usually amounts to around 1,500 - 1,800 hours per year and in those cases one credit stands for around 25 to 30 working hours.

Credits in ECTS can only be obtained after successful completion of the work required and appropriate assessment of the learning outcomes achieved.

Student workload in ECTS consists of the time required to complete all planned learning activities such as attending lectures, seminars, independent study, preparation of projects, and examinations.

The **performance** of the student is documented by the local/national grading system.

The **Learning Agreement** contains the list of courses to be taken with the ECTS credits which will be awarded for each course. This list must be agreed to by the student and the responsible academic body of the home institution. In the case of credit transfer, the Learning Agreement has to be agreed to by the student and the two institutions concerned before the student's departure and updated immediately when changes occur.

The **Transcript of Records** documents the performance of a student by showing the list of courses taken, the ECTS credits gained, local or national credits, if any, local grades and possibly ECTS grades awarded. In the case of credit transfer, the Transcript of Records has to be issued by the home institution for outgoing exchange students before departure and by the host institution for incoming exchange students at the end of their period of study.

>> DIPLOMA SUPPLEMENT (DS)

The Diploma Supplement is a document attached to a higher education diploma providing a standardized description of the nature, level, context, content, and status of the studies that were successfully completed by the graduate. The Diploma Supplement provides transparency and facilitates academic and professional recognition of qualifications (diplomas, degrees, certificates).

CAMPUS SERVICES & FACILITIES



>> Room Numbers

The room numbers are split into three sections defining the exact location on campus. For example:

B.2.16

This room is in building B, second floor, room number 16.

(Please note that the ground floor is "0")



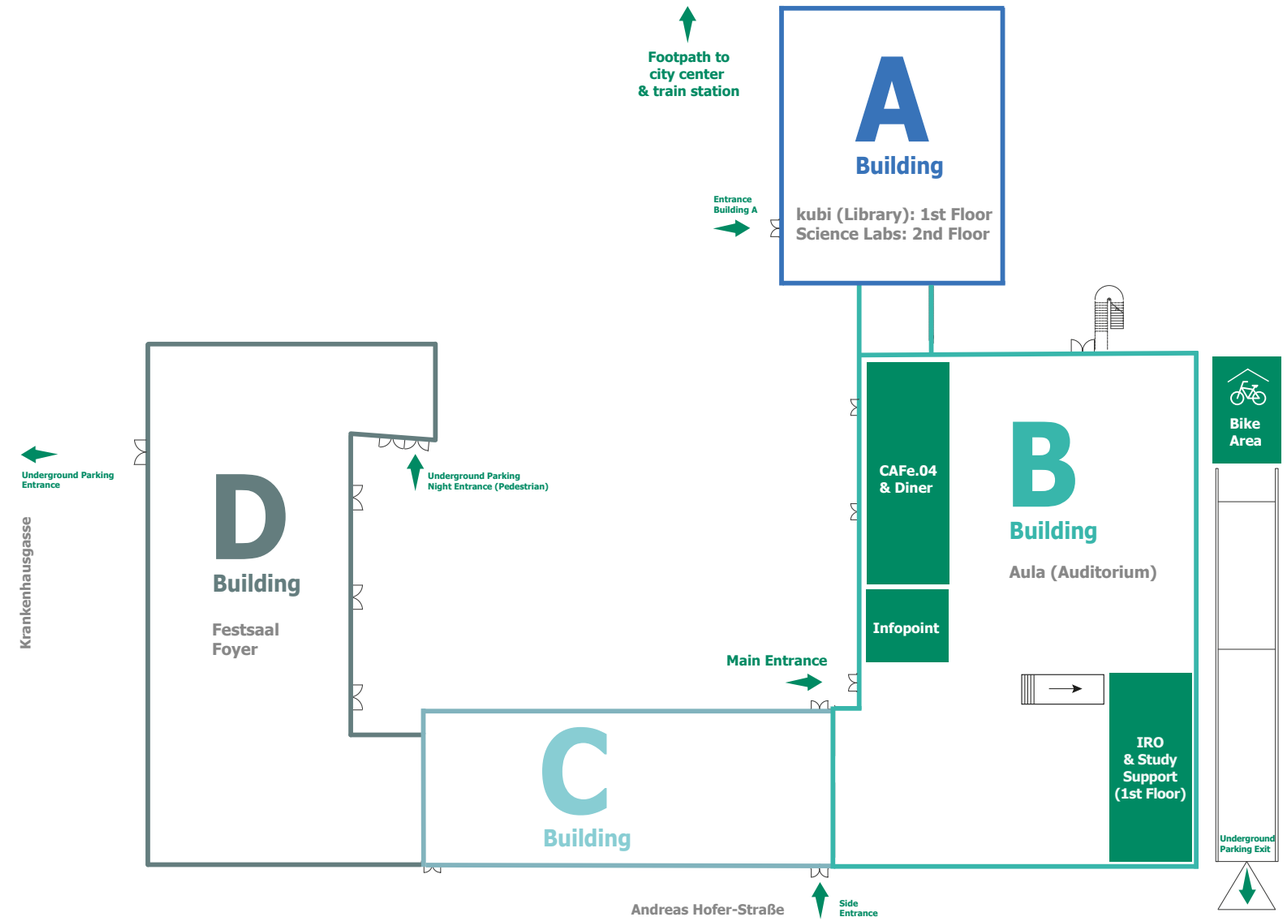


CAFE.04 & DINER
The university's cafeteria is located on the ground floor in Building B and features a fantastic view of the Kufstein Fortress and into the city park. The CAFe.04 offers hot and cold beverages as well as snacks throughout the day. The Diner provides a lunch buffet with a selection of warm meals and a fresh salad bar. Vending machines for drinks and snacks outside of the cafeteria's opening hours are available.

COMPUTER FACILITIES
The computer room ("Brown Study") is located on the ground floor of Building C. Here you will find several PCs, computers with a CD writer and scanner, plugs for notebooks, a printer and one fully-equipped cutting desk. The printer is designed to be used with the student card, which has a prepaid function that is rechargeable and can be loaded at the terminal in the university. For additional information, please contact the Infopoint next to the main entrance.

INFOPOINT
The Infopoint team is a professional and caring first level support, who will assist you with your questions. The office is located directly at the main entrance.

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS OFFICE (IRO)
The International Relations Office (IRO) is your first point of contact for all matters concerning your exchange semester or year at the FH Kufstein Tirol.



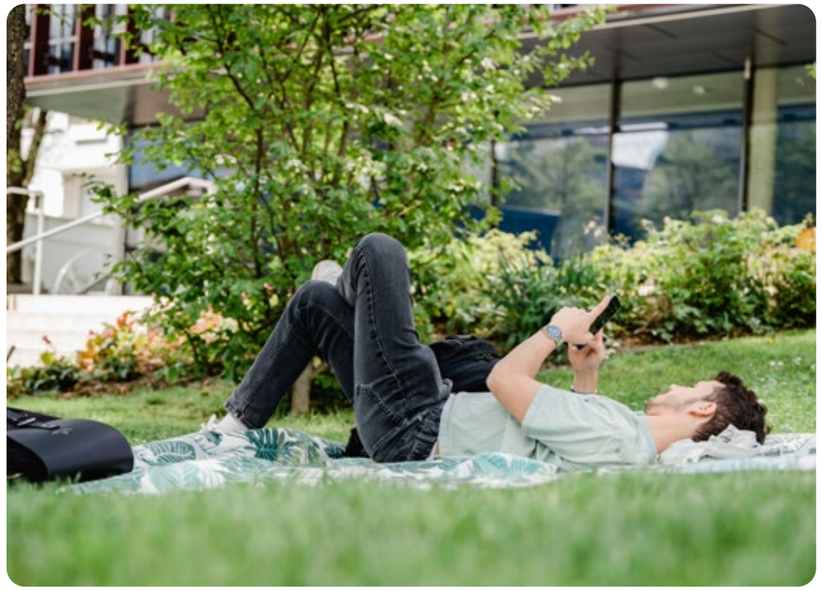
LIBRARY
The university library ("kubi") contains printed and digital books, journals and newspapers from various fields. An automated borrowing system as well as work spaces for independent research and group study are provided. The library also offers an equipment rental system for cameras, microphones, tablets, etc.

ÖH FH KUFSTEIN
The representation of students (ÖH) is regulated by law in Austria and represents the interests towards the responsible ministries. The mandatory fee is used in part for insurances, however 87% of the sum remains with the local ÖH and benefits the students through a variety of activities, projects and services.
See also Page 7 "Arriving in Kufstein."

SCIENCE LABS
The university **science labs** provide a research infrastructure to address challenges in manufacturing, communication, mobility, finance and education. All students can use and rent the equipment for free (also for personal projects!) after a brief training.

INCLUSION
The university offers **barrier-free access to learning facilities.** Students can apply for an extended examination time if needed (with a medical report from a specialist). For assistance and additional information, please contact the IRO team.

DIGITAL CAMPUS



>> LOGIN

Student number and password

Your initial FH Kufstein Tirol account login information will be sent to your **private e-mail account** before the start of the semester. Please be sure to login and check your FH e-mail account to receive the information regarding the Orientation Days.

INFOBOARD
The current lecture schedule can be found on the infoboard screens in the main hall (Aula), within the student intranet "FH.Checkin" or via the FH app.

FH APP
The FH app is your daily tool to view your lecture schedule, cafeteria menu options and messages. It also contains course grades, course evaluations and helpful information about the ÖH, and living and studying in Kufstein.

>> FH App

STUDENT INTRANET
The student intranet contains useful student documents and guidelines, course grades, course evaluations and general information about living and studying in Kufstein.

MOODLE (ONLINE LEARNING PLATFORM)
The university's online learning platform "Moodle" contains all course materials as well as tasks and partly exams. The sport and event program of the ÖH can also be found on Moodle. You can access Moodle via the Quicklinks on the university website.

SOCIAL MEDIA
The university's social media accounts are a great place to stay informed about news and events from around the campus. Follow, share, comment and interact with us - we are looking forward to connecting with you!

ENJOY YOUR STAY!

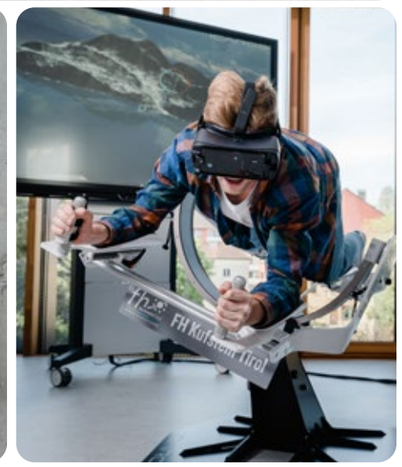
























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