

My IAESTE Experience at Volvo Cars 🇸🇪

I had the incredible opportunity to work at **Volvo Cars** in Gothenburg through the IAESTE exchange program. This internship turned out to be one of the most valuable and memorable experiences in both my academic and personal life.

My main role was in the **Software Testing Department**, focusing on **Hardware-in-the-Loop (HIL) testing**. I contributed to configuring HIL systems, analyzing test execution routines, and ensuring robust integration of software with embedded ECUs. I worked with tools such as **CAPL**, **Python**, and **CANoe**, and gained deep insight into how large-scale automotive software systems are validated in real-world environments.

What stood out to me the most was how welcoming and international the workplace was. My colleagues came from many different backgrounds, and everyone was open, helpful, and eager to share their knowledge. I was treated like a real team member from day one, and my contributions were genuinely valued.

Life in Sweden ❄️

Living in **Gothenburg** was a unique experience. I stayed at countryside during the last 3 months, where I rent a guest house in a farm. The experience is incredible.



The city itself is peaceful yet vibrant, with great public transport and easy access to nature.

One of my favorite cultural habits was *fika* — the daily Swedish coffee break, which became a lovely moment of connection with my colleagues. I also enjoyed cooking with friends from different countries, trying out local dishes, and exploring the beautiful Swedish west coast.

I took weekend trips to the archipelago, visited Stockholm, and even traveled north to see the **Northern Lights** — one of my most unforgettable memories.

What I Learned

This internship helped me grow not only as an engineer but also as a person. I became more confident in professional communication, learned how to work in a highly collaborative and international environment, and developed stronger problem-solving and technical skills.

Final Thoughts

I'm incredibly thankful to **IAESTE** and **Volvo Cars** for making this journey possible. I highly recommend this internship to any student interested in the automotive or software testing field. It's more than just a work experience — it's a chance to explore a new culture, build lifelong friendships, and discover what you're truly capable of.