Are you East-Coast or West-Coast?



For Oualid Bachiri, a student at the Sciences Po School of Communication, to have an experience in the United States was a priority. Not only do the States have a strong internship culture but professional experience in the country is well looked-upon by recruiters. New York and San Francisco are very attractive centres but which to choose? Oualid gives his personal take on his experience in both cities. And may as well say it from the start: both were worth it!

EAST- COAST: EVERYTHING IS SO BIG, FAST AND ALIVE !

From the start of my second year at Sciences-Po, I had the objective of completing my Bachelor years with an internship rather than with a year of student exchange. I was attracted to the opportunity of practising the more professional English language and by the idea of working for a company for an extended period of time. Even though my search zone didn't include the United States (« impossible to find » « visa procedures are too complicated » « too expensive »), I decided to take a chance and answered an internship offer as assistant to the global team of <u>Havas Worldwide</u>, one of the largest communication networks in the world. My application was accepted and I left for nine months in Manhattan a few weeks later.

First impression for a newly-arrived : everything is so large, so big and so alive !

"You quickly lose the « French » accent complex... »

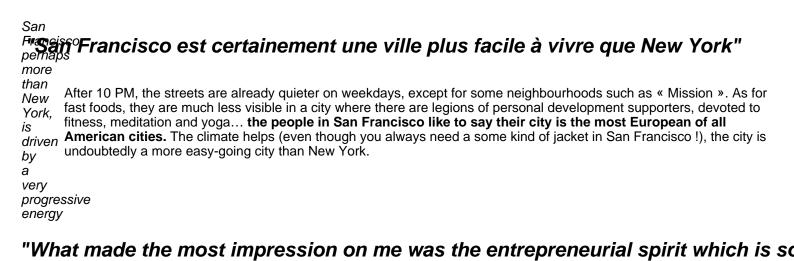
...because there are so many accents around. The city of the « Friends »' characters describes itself as a crossroad of cultures, promoting a very liberal and individualistic mentality which allows all to grow within the communities which they identify with, without restricting themselves to them.

"Mav As the Havas Worldwide's global team's assistant, versatility is the rule" say Ι I was responsible for the following: got the Monitoring the recent trends and news of companies' communication; doing marketing studies
Making the script of a video valuing the young leaders of tomorrow; experimenting digital solutions to Participating in the conception of a pro bono campaign for an association, organising a competition for the best network comr
Coordinating an artistic project during a top management annual seminar а bird eye's view of the different careers in the communication world. really liked that and it helped to confirm my master's choice."

WEST-COAST: WHILE NEW YORK IS SO ACTIVE, SAN FRANCISCO IS CHILL

"I chose to do my gap-year internship at a social start-up "

After a first gap-year internship at the BNP Paribas' Security services, I wanted to go back to the start-up working atmosphere. Again



The « Bay area » is also a region of the Silicon Valley, its 11 new start-up creations per week, its 11 500 high-tech companies

"As project manager at CALSO, my objective was to maximise the impact of social

- My first task was to assist in the writing of grant applications to company foundations for the financing of a training program fo
- My second assignment was to assist in the management and development of an incubation program for foreign start-ups whic I learnt as much about the entrepreneurial world as about the funders' world.

?Working for a start-up, with other start-ups, has been extremely interesting as it requires a lot of agility, creativity and a critical mine

TO KNOW MORE

Contact Oualid Bachiri on Linkedin

Learn about visa procedures for an internship in the United States

How to land an internship in San Francisco and the "Bay Area"

Sillicon Valley – the American Dream for Start-ups?

Being an Intern in San Francisco