

WUR Goes Abroad

1. Student Information

Field of study in Wageningen	Spatial Planning
Study period exchange	25-01-2022 until 26-05-2022
(dd/mm/yyyy)	
Country (exchange)	Norway
City (exchange)	Ås
University (exchange)	NMBU
Faculty (exchange)	Life Sciences

2. Motivation for exchange

Why did you choose to go on study exchange?

I did not want to start with my master right after my bachelor.

What is the reason you chose for this country/university?

I had never been in Scandinavia before. And I heard good stories about NMBU.

3. Accessibility to reach destination

Do you have any tips to reach your exchange destination? (E.g. bus, train, etc.)

You can do it by plane, bus, car, boat, everything is nice.

4. University and studying

Could you provide some general information about the followed courses?

	Course	ECTS	Short description of the contents	Appreciation of course: 1(low) - 5(high)	Remarks
1	Planning for sustainable urban regions	15	Spatial planning theories for urban regions with focus on case studies in Norway (e.g. Bergen, Oslo)	3	If you have done BLP, you know most theories already. I did not expect that for a master's course.
2	The Politics and Governance of the Environment	10	Social, economic and environmental theories on politics and governance of the society and nature.	3	Highly theoretical course. However, the excursion is very informative.
3					
4					
5					
6					

How is the study formalized? (E.g. study forms, academic level, examination, workload, lesson material)

Academic level was lower than I am used to. Study form is quite the same, there are lectures, excursions, self-study. Same regards to lesson material.

What is the culture of the university? (E.g. How approachable are the lecturers, engagement with local students? What are the differences with the WUR?)

My professors were very approachable, you could just chat with them about daily life. But that is what I am used to at BLP as well.

What does the university offer the student additionally? (E.g. Catering, sports facilities, laundry facilities?)

University doesn't offer such things themselves. But you can easily do laundry in your apartment and sporting has also a low threshold (different sport clubs, gym etc.)

5. Housing-travelling-living

What are the possibilities for housing? (E.g. Availability to sign up for a room on campus, private rooms, rent rates?)

You can choose whatever you prefer on a special website. You just pick a housing facility with # roommates.

What is the culture of the country like? (E.g. Differences with home, local cuisine, habits, manners?)

Norwegians are definitely more reserved. Of course there are exceptions but in general, don't expect a 'cooking together vibe'. Cuisine is interesting, but not necessarily good.

Could you give a general price indication of the place of residence compared to living in Wageningen?

Everything is more expensive. If a diner in Wageningen costs generally ≤ 4 , here it is at least ≤ 6 , but probably more. You have to accept that everything is more expensive. Also clothes, electronics, activities.

Could you give some information about public transport infrastructure? (E.g. Cost public transport card, taxi prices, how to travel to the university?)

€7 per train ride from Ås to Oslo. To the university you go by foot or bike.

6. Free time

What are must-sees in the area? (E.g. nearby destinations, how do you prefer to travel, when to plan?)

Oslo is nice to see. And for further travels: Lofoten, Gotenburg, Lapland!

What does not appear in the travel guide, but is worth a visit?

See above.

Do you have general tips and tricks about leisure time (E.g. recommendations for restaurants, going out?)

Partying in Oslo is fun.

7. Challenges & best moment abroad

What was a challenge you have experienced?

You definitely need a credit card, I had one, but without it is difficult since multiple things can only go by credit card.

What was your best memory abroad?

The trip to Lofoten with Dutch persons and the international trip to Lapland were great.

8. Contact details (optional)

Is the reader allowed to contact the writer?	yes ⊠	no □	
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