



# WUR Goes Abroad

## 1. Student Information

<b>Field of study in Wageningen</b>	Soil, Water, Atmosphere
<b>Study period exchange (dd/mm/yyyy)</b>	08/08/2022 until 16/12/2022
<b>Country (exchange)</b>	Norway
<b>City (exchange)</b>	Sogndal
<b>University (exchange)</b>	Western Norway University of Applied Sciences
<b>Faculty (exchange)</b>	-

## 2. Motivation for exchange

### Why did you choose to go on study exchange?

To experience how it is to live in another country for half a year, for me Norway. I also wanted to meet a lot of new people there, from different nationalities. And as last to study something you can't study in Wageningen.

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

I choose Norway as I have been there once as a child and the nature made a lot of impression on me back then. I remembered it as a beautiful country that I wanted to go back to. I choose this university because of the minor 'From mountain to fjord', I liked that you followed the same courses with the same people so that you easily can get to know people. I also liked to courses a lot of this minor.

## 3. Accessibility to reach destination

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

The flibus to Oslo is nice to take and if you book it early it is really cheap. After that, you can take to bus to Sogndal, don't forget here to fill in that you are a student, that saves money. The journey in total is long, but especially the views on the bus from Oslo to Sogndal are beautiful.

## 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	Geological Aspects of Western Norway	6	You learn how Norway is formed and information about rocks and minerals.	4	
2	Glaciers and Ecology	6	You learn a lot about the mass balance of a glacier	5	
3	Fjord Processes	6	You do a project where you investigate all the biotic and abiotic factors of a fjord	3	
4					
5					
6					

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

The lessons and the way of learning are quite the same way as in Wageningen. If you are doing the bachelor 'Soil, Water, Atmosphere' the workload is less than in Wageningen. This is because the minor perfectly fits this study program, especially if you followed some extra geology and water quality courses in your third year which I did. If you come from another study program I think a lot more is new and the workload is more.

**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?)**

I think the culture of the university is quite the same.

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

There are a lot of sports you can do, and there are also a couple of student associations.

## 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 as an exchange student apply for housing via Sammen, you are then guaranteed of a room. But every exchange student gets a room of 13 m<sup>2</sup>, which you need to share with another person. The advantage is that it is relatively cheap, about 300 euros a month. If you know a person that goes with you, you can say that and then share the room with that person.

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

It is sometimes difficult to start conversations with Norwegian people, as a lot of them are not that social and are a bit shy. You really have to put a lot of effort in by yourself to get to know the Norwegian people better. But I think in general the culture in Norway is quite similar to the Dutch culture.

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

A room is 300 euros a month.

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

In Sogndal, everything is within walking distance. If you want to go somewhere you can travel by bus. You have to say that you are a student and then the buses are only a bit more expensive than in the Netherlands.

## 6. Free time

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

Hiking all the mountains Sogndal is surrounded by (Stedjeasen, Nuken, Hesteggi, Molden and Storehaugfjell, they are all nice). Doing multiple day hikes in the area and sleeping in DNT huts (for example to Skala is fantastic). Visiting the city of Bergen is also really beautiful.

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

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

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## 7.Challenges & best moment abroad

**What was a challenge you have experienced?**

Things to do in November, when the weather gets worse and the days shorter.

**What was your best memory abroad?**

Making a two-day hike with 8 nice people and sleeping in a tent at a beautiful place.

## 8. Contact details (optional)

<b>Is the reader allowed to contact the writer?</b>	yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	no <input type="checkbox"/>
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<b>Name/e-mail</b>	Lisa.darwinkel@wur.nl
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