



WUR Goes Abroad

1. Student Information

Field of study in Wageningen	Soil, Water and Atmosphere
Study period exchange (dd/mm/yyyy)	05-08-2022 until 16-12-2022
Country (exchange)	Norway
City (exchange)	Sogndal
University (exchange)	Western Norway of Applied Science (HVL)
Faculty (exchange)	Geology

2. Motivation for exchange

Why did you choose to go on study exchange?

I wanted to go abroad and explore a country and its culture. Furthermore I wanted to learn new people from all over the world.

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

I have been on vacation in Norway and I loved the country. I wanted to study here and live in Norway for half a year.

3. Accessibility to reach destination

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

You can use discount if you take the airplane to Sogndal. Also you can fly to Oslo and take the bus from Oslo to Sogndal. This will save you some money. Or you can fully take the bus to Sogndal, but that will take you at least 24 hours.

Be smart and go on vacation to Norway with your parents and let them drop you off.

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	GE476 Geological Aspects of Western Norway	6	Geology of western Norway	5	Here are a lot of excursions and it is a really nice course. Even with an excursion of a week
2	GE477 Glaciers and Ecology	6	The types of glaciers, how they work and ecology on and next to the glaciers	4	Also nice excursions
3	GE478 Fjord Processes	6		5	Nice visit to Bergen
4					
5					
6					

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

For me the workload was less compared to the workload in Wageningen. But it was a nice level and the examinations were doable.

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?)

We were totally a exchange program, so we haven't much anticipated with Norwegian students. But the university is very nice and the hours that you spend on the university are enough that you also can do nice things in the spare time.

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

Really much. You can join student associations and our course did a lot of fun activities.

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 will get a house assigned if you enrol on time for Sammen (house-association in Norway, same as Idealis/ROOM in Wageningen). Mostly you will have to share this room with one other person, but if you know someone who is going to the same university you can say that you want to share your room with this person.

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

It is almost the same as in the Netherlands. Only they celebrate more Christmas than I was used to.

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

Living here in Norway has now become cheaper than living in Wageningen. A shared room cost around 300 euros. But the groceries are very expensive.

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

The public transport is easy. You can pay your tickets in the bus or book them before on the internet at vbyuss.no.

6. Free time

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

Definitely the hikes Stedjeasen and Nuken. They are really the effort worth.

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

Visit the unpopular glaciers. They are really nice.

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

Sogndal self is not really much to do, but going to neighbouring cities is really nice. Visiting Bergen and Forde are really worth it. You can go on many hikes and the outdoor student association organise nice trips. Also, if you like surfing you can go to Hoddevik. And you can visit many glaciers.

7.Challenges & best moment abroad

What was a challenge you have experienced?

Making new friends, but everybody was looking for people to hang out with. Thus eventually it went easy.

What was your best memory abroad?

This is a hard one. I have to many. It has been a remarkable and amazing journey. I loved every bit of my exchange. But maybe going on hikes and camp outside was really cool.

8. Contact details (optional)

Is the reader allowed to contact the writer?	yes <input type="checkbox"/>	no <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Name/e-mail		