



# WUR Goes Abroad

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## 1. Student Information

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| <b>Field of study in Wageningen</b>       | Msc. International land and water management |
| <b>Study period exchange (dd/mm/yyyy)</b> | 18-09-2019 until 8-02-2020                   |
| <b>Country (exchange)</b>                 | Spain  |
| <b>City (exchange)</b>                    | Sevilla                                      |
| <b>University (exchange)</b>              | Universidad de Sevilla                       |
| <b>Faculty (exchange)</b>                 | Agronomical engineering                      |

## 2. Motivation for exchange

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

Wanted to improve my level of Spanish and enjoying the Spanish lifestyle for a while.

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

Only university from a big city in Spain that actually accepted me with my A1 level of Spanish.

## 3. Accessibility to reach destination

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

Plane

## 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 | Grassland sciences                 | 6    |                                   | 2  | Teacher has such an incredible Andalusian accent that it is very hard to understand him. |
| 2 | Plant Propagation                  | 6    |                                   | 4  | Nice course with a lot of practicas in the greenhouses.                                  |
| 3 | Soil degeneration and regeneration | 6    |                                   | 2  | Lectures where interesting but practicas useless   |
| 4 | Weed sciences                      | 6    |                                   | 3  | Very funny teacher, but not the content was not really interesting                       |
| 5 | Organic agriculture                | 6    |                                   | 5  | Very interesting course. Good teachers and good exercises                                |
| 6 |                                    |      |                                   |  |  |

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

Level is a lot lower than in the Netherlands. You almost don't have any assignments and the exams are easy. The nice thing is that the classes are small and you have quite a lot of practicas, so you really learn it by doing. What also was quite strange for me is that they did not have any book or sometimes neither the slides online, so that you could self-study a bit.

**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?)**

This is very good at the faculty. The faculty is localized a bit outside of Sevilla and only has about 400 students and only a couple of international students. This results in the fact that basically everyone knows you and it is very easy to integrate with them. As said earlier, the classes are very small and the teachers are very approachable.

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

The canteen is great. A good lunch costs 4 or 5 euros.

## 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 find a room through websites such as idealista, piso compartido, room sevilla & viverasmus. I definitely recommend to go a week before and stay in a hostel to find a room.

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

The climate and extrovert people of Sevilla results in the fact that you spend your days on the streets. You eat and drink everyday outside basically, which is possible because sevilla is extremely cheap and still warm in winter. The timetable is totally different, as you lunch (warm dish) around 2 or 3. And then have dinner around 10.

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

A lot cheaper. Vegetables in the supermarket are almost half of the price as in Wageningen. The room costs around 300/350 euros. Going for tapas costs 7-10 euro and half a liter of beer between 1 and 2 euros.

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

I bought a bike to go to uni (30 min), but there is also a metro line

## 6. Free time

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

Andalusia is a great region for day trips. Rent a car through get around or go with ESN or ECS.

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

Bar Epheta in Parque Prado & Bar Marbella.

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

## 7.Challenges & best moment abroad

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

The language. I did not expect they would have such a bad level of English over there. And also to learn the Spanish language was more difficult than expected.

### **What was your best memory abroad?**

In general just the lifestyle of a Sevillano

### **8. Contact details (optional)**

|   |   |                             |
|---|---|-----------------------------|
| <b>Is the reader allowed to contact the writer?</b> | yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | no <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <b>Name/e-mail</b>                                  | Tim-bennen@hotmail.nl                   |                             |