



WUR Goes Abroad

1. Student Information

Field of study in Wageningen	BBC
Study period exchange (01/09/2019)	until (01/02/2020)
Country (exchange)	Spain
City (exchange)	Barcelona
University (exchange)	University of Barcelona
Faculty (exchange)	Economics

2. Motivation for exchange

Why did you choose to go on study exchange?

I really wanted to have the same experience that so many excited people told me about. To live in a new city in a country I didn't know and meet new people.

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

I have a few friends who went to Barcelona and they were all so excited about it. I love Spain and I really liked the city of Barcelona as well. It has everything and there is such a nice vibe. I also really wanted to learn how to speak Spanish. That is the reason I really wanted to go.

3. Accessibility to reach destination

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

Just take the plain to Barcelona airport. There is a bus called the Aerobus which goes every 10 minutes from both terminals to the city centre. It is only 5,9 and very fast. When you're in Barcelona for longer than 3 months, it is best to buy the T-jove card for €100 which you can use for the bus, metro etc. It is unlimited and cheapest to do.

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	Strategic management	6	Learn about all the concepts concerning management and leading a company in the right direction	2	Content is interesting, but teachers very bad. Also exam very weird and bad communication. Would not recommend.
2	Game theory for economic applications	6	Learn all about Game theory and how to apply it for economic purposes like maximizing profits etc.	5	Very nice!! Very good teacher, interesting content!!
3	Macroeconomics	6	Learn about economic models to use for macro economic purposes	4	Also very interesting, good interesting teacher and good workload/content
4	Health & welfare	6	Learn about concept concerning health and healthcare systems and what influences this.	4	Very interesting if you're interested in the more theoretical concepts of health and systems.
5	Spanish	5	Learn how to speak, write and listen Spanish	5	Very very nice! I really wanted to learn how to speak Spanish and had an amazing teacher!
6					

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

In General it is quite good. Most of the classes I took were nice, but some, like strategic management not so much. But in general the academic level, examination and workload is very good and comparable with BBC in Wageningen.

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?)

Lecturers are very nice and very approachable. Not a lot of contact with local students. There is more of a high school vibe than the somewhat more serious vibe here in Wageningen. Also Spain stays Spain so there are some things that are a bit less practical than in Wageningen. (A lot of paper work to take care of, they do not use online forms)

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

The university had some catering facilities, I'm not sure about sports but in general very good. They offer good options for international students with ESN 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?)

A lot of Erasmus houses and rooms for international student. Lot of options online. I paid 580 for a small room but with a big living room and kitchen in the city centre.

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

Spanish or Catalan people I must say, are very nice. Most are very proud of being Catalan so do not call them Spanish. The city has a very chill vibe with a lot of people in the streets. Cuisine is very nice with paella, tapas & sangria!

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

It is more expensive in Barcelona then in Wageningen. Rent is higher, groceries depend on where you go, but going out is way more 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 metro is ideal to travel around with. If you're there for longer than 3 month, buy the t-jove card for 100€ and this can get you almost everywhere. Also the university is reached very easily by metro!

6. Free time

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

See the Gaudi building, Sagrada Familia, Mont juic, the beach, Barri Gotic, ramblas, Parc Guell, all the architecture and more. There is so much to do! Also a trip to Valencia is very easy. It is only 3 hours by train!

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

All the small parcs

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

Periket is a very nice restaurant and for a good price. A lot of students go to lime house, mint house, carabella and more. La dorotea is a very nice café for drinks and studing and flamengo!!! I was there every day. For going out: apolla, razzmatazz where my favorites

7.Challenges & best moment abroad

What was a challenge you have experienced?

It was more expensive so sometimes it was a bit of a challenge to not spend all my money in the first days of the month.

What was your best memory abroad?

Meeting amazing new people from all over the world, going out with them, going to Valencia and many more thing. Such a nice experience!

8. Contact details (optional)

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