



WUR Goes Abroad

1. Student Information

| | |
|---|-----------------|
| Field of study in Wageningen | Animal Sciences |
| Study period exchange (dd/mm/yyyy) | until |
| Country (exchange) | France |
| City (exchange) | Toulouse |
| University (exchange) | INP Purpan |
| Faculty (exchange) | X |

2. Motivation for exchange

Why did you choose to go on study exchange?

I wanted to see how the animal production sector can be different in various countries. I also wanted to see if I would be willing to live in France after my studies, for work.

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

I liked its programme and the city was very appealing to me.

3. Accessibility to reach destination

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

I got there by car as I spent some vacations near the Mediterranean before the start of my exchange. It was a very nice road trip ! The train station and the airport are also really well connected to the city, it is easy to reach it with public transit.

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 | Intercultural Issues and Communication | 2 | Understand French cultural identity and specificities | 2 | |
| 2 | GIS and remote sensing | 2 | Introduction to the principles of GIS and remote sensing, relation to land-use and land-cover | 4 | |
| 3 | Strategic management | 2 | Management principles relevant to agribusiness firms | 4 | |
| 4 | Agricultural policies | 2 | Introduction to policy issues for food and agricultural markets | 4 | |
| 5 | Animal Productions | 14 | Introduction to Animal Sciences, Nutrition, Welfare, Reproduction and Product Quality | 4.5 | Very broad course with interesting teachers. The excursions were very interesting. |
| 6 | Tutored work in animal productions | 2 | Bibliographical research, presenting the results and develop a critical knowledge. | 4 | |
| 7 | Winemaking | 4 | The production process of wine. | 5 | The best course of the exchange, many interesting visits and activities were planned. |

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

I liked how many excursions we had. They were all very interesting. The academic level isn't as high as 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?)

As we were a very small group, the lecturers were very approachable and friendly to us. This difference in group size is radically different from the WUR (we were a group of 8, ;due to covid).

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

Unfortunately there isn't a restaurant or canteen for lunch in the university. The only possibility to buy food was through the "sandwich club", a student initiative in which some students sell and prepare some sandwiches for lunch. Not many extra facilities.

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?)

The university doesn't have campus on which rooms can be rented, but they do offer help to find housing. There are several options: CROUS (very small rooms, but cheap !) or private students residence. I chose the latter and it was an amazing experience, I ended up making loads of friends within my neighbours.

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

I am French myself so I did not experience any cultural difference. I only noticed that people there tend to be friendly.

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

It depends a lot on the type of housing you get. CROUS rooms are very cheap (below 300 euros). I was in a 20m² studio in a private student home. The rent was 560 euros per month but you can get 170euros per months from the caf off the rent if you manage to subscribe to it ! Rooms are much easier to find there than in Wageningen.

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

If you show your student card, you can get a card at any Tisseo agency with unlimited travel for 1 month at only 10 euros ! The public transport is very efficient there. However, my favourite way to get to the university was with a bike, as it was faster from my room. Cycling is less easy than in the Netherlands there but I got used to it fairly easily.

6. Free time

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

The sea on the Mediterranean coast, the ocean on the Atlantic coast, the Pyrenean mountains, the city of Albi... It is easy to get there by train, during some months there are even 1 euro tickets available !

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

The city of Montauban

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

The city has a very active student life so going out is very easy! Hanging out around the Garonne is nice, and I must recommend this excellent pizza restaurant near the capitole, cheap and delicious : Forno Gusto

7.Challenges & best moment abroad

What was a challenge you have experienced?

The paperwork was a lot to handle.

What was your best memory abroad?

The day spent at the beach with everyone from the exchange.

8. Contact details (optional)

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