



WUR Goes Abroad

1. Student Information

Field of study in Wageningen	Bsc Landscape architecture
Study period exchange (dd/mm/yyyy)	30/08/2021 until 01-06-2022
Country (exchange)	Sweden
City (exchange)	Alnarp
University (exchange)	Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences
Faculty (exchange)	Faculty of landscape architecture, horticulture and crop production science & Faculty of forest sciences

2. Motivation for exchange

Why did you choose to go on study exchange?

I wanted to experience living abroad, I wanted to study at a different university and I wanted to take courses which were not offered at WUR

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

I have always been a fan of Scandinavia, I was excited about the courses and subjects the university had to offer, and I trusted this university to have an appropriate level of English.

3. Accessibility to reach destination

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

If you are able to, I would take the train. It is a journey of approximately 10-11 hours through Germany and Denmark, but once you are in Copenhagen, it takes very little time to get to Alnarp. I would also recommend to book it through Deutsche Bahn (DB) for the best price. Alternatively, you could go by plane, which is very fast.

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	Design Project: Advanced Planting Design	15	Landscape architecture course that focuses on the design of planting plans. A lot of excursions, lectures and studio assignments, very useful to increase your knowledge of plants. The teachers are very nice and helpful.	5	
2	Urban Forestry	15	A course which combines landscape architecture and forestry though the urban environment. Important topics are biodiversity, recreation, timber production, multifunctionality and management.	5	
3	Forest and Landscape Ecology	15	Basic course which introduces ecology overall as well as ecology in landscape/forest types found in the temperate zone. Has a lot of lectures, some assignments, exams and a few excursions.	5	
4	Broadleaves	15	Forestry course aimed at the management of temperate broadleaved forests. Topics included are forest dynamics and diversity, forest history, conservation, angulates, pests and diseases, fast growing broadleaves, ancient forests, and	5	

			management and restoration.		
5					
6					

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

Most courses are either project or exam based. The academic level is similar to WUR. Examination and materials as well. The workload is lower compared to the landscape architecture bachelor at WUR, which is appreciated.

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?)

It is very informal and personal, even more so than WUR. This is because the courses in Alnarp had a maximum of 30 participants, which made the teachers very approachable.

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

There is a café and a restaurant on campus. Laundry is included in the housing. The university did not offer any sport activities, but these were often organised by students instead. Additionally, there are a lot of sport facilities in the nearby towns/cities.

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 will make you an offer to live on campus. The rooms are in good condition, can be with just 1 housemate or up to 12. Rent is usually between 300-400 euro. It is also possible to move to another room, in case you are not happy with your house.

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

It is very similar to the Netherlands, although people generally have more faith in each other in Sweden. They are also less in a hurry compared to people in the Dutch cities.

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

Prices are quite similar, for me it was slightly more than what I paid in Wageningen. Between 300-400 euro.

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

Living on campus means you can walk/cycle to university. To go to other places, there is a bus and a few train stations nearby. You get student discount for traveling, which makes it a bit cheaper cheaper than Dutch prices (without student OV, that is).

6. Free time

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

Definitely Malmö, Lund and Copenhagen. Furthermore there are some very nice nature areas like Söderåsens, Dalby and Kulaberg. The campus itself is also very fun to walk around.

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

Fulltofta naturreservat & Skrylle

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

Definitely try the falafel (especially Jalla Jalla in Malmö) and the kanelbullar (I can recommend a bakery called Leve in Malmö). Furthermore I can recommend taking the public transport on the weekends to go out and explore the cities, towns and nature areas. If you are looking for some fun volunteer work with other students, check out Alnarps agroecology farm.

7.Challenges & best moment abroad

What was a challenge you have experienced?

Not being able to use the common payment method in Sweden: Swish. A Swedish bank account is required to use this.

What was your best memory abroad?

All of it. Meeting a lot of swedes and internationals, taking inspiring courses, going on fun trips and enjoying the parties.

8. Contact details (optional)

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