



# WUR Goes Abroad

## 1. Student Information

<b>Field of study in Wageningen</b>	Bsc Food Technology
<b>Study period exchange (dd/mm/yyyy)</b>	15-02-2022 until 27-06-2022
<b>Country (exchange)</b>	Austria
<b>City (exchange)</b>	Vienna
<b>University (exchange)</b>	Universität Für Bodenkultur
<b>Faculty (exchange)</b>	Food science

## 2. Motivation for exchange

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

I wanted to see how studying in another country would be like. Next to this I thought it would be another challenge to try to start something new again.

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

I mainly chose this university due to its location in Vienna. I really wanted to go to a capital city, since Wageningen is considered a smaller city and see what life would be like. Next to this, the university offered some courses in food safety which I wanted to acquire more knowledge in. Since I know I will not do it as a master.

## 3. Accessibility to reach destination

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

Generally it is pretty easy to reach Vienna. You can take a night train, the plane or even go by car. I went by car.

## 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
<b>1</b>	Food authenticity practical course; UE	3	See boku website for this	3	It was really easy and pretty interesting lab work
<b>2</b>	Patent law and strategic patent management; VO	2	-	4	The lectures were long and the professor could be a bit boring, but the content was very interesting
<b>3</b>	Gender, nutrition and right to food; VS	6	-	4	This course is a very big one but the professor is absolutely amazing at teaching
<b>4</b>	Human safety in food processing; SE	3	-	3	This course is very independent you only needed to write a report
<b>5</b>	Food safety in livestock feeding; VS	3	-	4	Very interesting lectures and a great professor
<b>6</b>	Ethnobotany - introduction; VO	2	-	4	Something completely different. The professor had a real passion for the subject and it is a nice interactive class
<b>7</b>	Specific and emerging topics in food microbiology; SE	3	-	4	You had to make a poster or presentation for this course about a subject of your choice
<b>8</b>	National and international food safety authorities; SE	3	-	3	This was a lot of information in a short amount of time.
<b>9</b>	Microbiological plant hygiene and safety; VO	2	-	5	This is the best course I have ever taken. Super interesting content and the professor has real life experience so he can give great examples. I would 100% recommend this course to anyone.
<b>10</b>	Automatic identification technology in food industry; VU	3	-	3	This course was a bit difficult since you had to know German for it. However this was due to corona. The plan is to go on a fieldtrip the next semester it is taught instead of the german assignment.

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

The academic level was definitely lower as the one at the WUR. The workload was doable if you know how to plan well, since it can be that you need to write 4 reports at the same time in a week while the next week you are completely free.

**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?)**

The lecturers are very approachable and are always in for a discussion on the topic. They also respond fast to their email. The students were nice but you had to approach them yourselves. The classes were smaller than at the WUR.

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

There is a sport facility which offers many different types of sport called USI. You have to subscribe really fast though otherwise you will not be able to follow a course. On the campus there is also a menza which is where you can get some nice healthy food.

## 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?)**

It is really easy to acquire housing, you can look on the boku site to find the different housing sites.

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

Vienna is a very international country with many different cultures. It felt very safe to live there (also as a woman) and I could walk home safely even in the middle of the night by myself. The cuisine is not that different from the Netherlands, AVG is also appreciated there. I noticed that Austrians are a bit more reserved in talking to you.

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

Housing could cost between 250-500 depending on what you are looking for. I paid between 300-400 for a room to myself with shared facilities with 1 other person.

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

Public transport is amazing in and around Vienna. You can purchase a semester ticket for around 75 euros and you can travel throughout Vienna for the whole semester. There is a metro stop at the food tech campus and a bus stop at the other campus called tuwi. Everything is really well connected in the city so you never have to walk more than 10 minutes to get to a bus/ metro/tram.

## 6. Free time

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

You should definitely go to Bratislava, which is super close. Next to this other cities to visit are Graz, Salzburg and Brno. Also Budapest and Prague aren't that far away. Skiing is also something that could easily be done by going to the alps.

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

Go to donauinsel or romawiese to chill and swim when it is hot.

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

Go to clubs in the weekends (praterdome, U4, O'club) because the metro runs throughout the night on Friday and Saturday.

U4 club is most fun on Wednesday since it is international day.

## 7.Challenges & best moment abroad

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

Planning your school schedule was very difficult at the BOKU since a lot of courses overlap.

**What was your best memory abroad?**

My best memory is making new friends really easily who I think will be friends for life.

## 8. Contact details (optional)

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