



WUR Goes Abroad

1. Student Information

Field of study in Wageningen	Plant Sciences
Study period exchange (dd/mm/yyyy)	16-02-2022 until 28-07-2022
Country (exchange)	Italy
City (exchange)	Bologna
University (exchange)	University of Bologna (Unibo)
Faculty (exchange)	Agriculture

2. Motivation for exchange

Why did you choose to go on study exchange?

I really wanted to get out of Wageningen and enjoy a change of scene and get to know Europeans better

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

It sounds like a cliché but Italy has some great food, nice weather, beautiful cities to visit and just in general is completely different from the Netherlands. I chose Unibo because Bologna is known for its great food and is very central in Italy so you can easily travel to other cities from there

3. Accessibility to reach destination

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

I went by plane. It was a lot cheaper than doing it by train and I live close to Eindhoven airport. A small shuttle train goes from Bologna airport to the train station in the centre and from there on you can go by foot or by bus

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	Sustainable And Safe Use Of Horticultural Equipment	6	A course that only talks about the safety regulations in tractors	1	For the exam you needed to be able to recite everything from you head. Lectures are unbearably slow.
2	Viticulture	6	You learn a lot about the different factors that influence the berry growth of the grapevine and how it can affect the taste of wine	3	Nice to learn something about the local crop. Quality of the lectures is very low as is the lecturers English level.
3	Precision Orchard Management	6	A course that talks about how we can use advancing technology to improve our insights in orchard management and more precise application of water and nutrients	4	A course more akin to the ones in Wageningen. Young enthusiastic professor that knows his english
4					
5					
6					

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

These 3 courses only have lectures and some non-mandatory excursions and oral exams at the end. You don't need insight, but instead they expect you to be able to just recite what has been said in the lectures. Still, they are quite relaxing, allowing you to enjoy more important parts of your exchange

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?)

Lectures always start late, not respecting the time and effort of the student to be there on time. Their English usually isn't that good. Local students are really nice and very liberal and gay friendly.

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

Unibo does not offer you anything except for a 10 euro bus card that you can use without a limit.

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?)

Nothing is done by the university. Your best chances are things like dovevivo, the student hotel or erasmusU

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

The food is great, the people are nice and everything is a bit more laid back. You will get annoyed by their negligence though. They can also be very strict in their rules and will follow them without thinking (not lenient with exceptions or personal circumstances)

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

Supermarkets are just as expensive, housing is around 600 euro, train tickets are pretty cheap, restaurants are also not too expensive as is clubbing

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

There are buses, but the centre of Bologna is small enough that you can do everything by foot or by bike. Try to buy a bike in your first week. The Agriculture faculty is 30 minutes by bike from the centre should you go there

6. Free time

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

By train you should go to all the great local cities. In Bologna, you should definitely go to the ESN tandem nights, San Luca and Pratello

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

Cassero! It is for sure the best club in Bologna

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

Literally every restaurant is very good and there are sooooo many that you could eat out every night and still haven't done all of them when you leave

7.Challenges & best moment abroad

What was a challenge you have experienced?

In general, contact with Unibo is hard. If you have things you need to take care of with them, mail them as soon as possible. It took them a month to give me my Transcript of records

What was your best memory abroad?

Definitely the week I spent in Puglia with friends, the week in Napoli, drinking aperol spritz and clubbing at Cassero

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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