



# WUR Goes Abroad

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## 1. Student Information

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<b>Field of study in Wageningen</b>	MSc Food Safety
<b>Study period exchange (dd/mm/yyyy)</b>	25/03/2022 until 25/07/2022
<b>Country (exchange)</b>	Spain
<b>City (exchange)</b>	Cartagena
<b>University (exchange)</b>	Cartagena Polytechnic University
<b>Faculty (exchange)</b>	School of Agriculture Engineering

## 2. Motivation for exchange

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

To change the environment and observe how other institutions organize their laboratories and perform experiments.

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

The topic for research is very interesting and I want to specialize in that field.

## 3. Accessibility to reach destination

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

By Plane from Eindhoven to Alicante Airport and then take a bus from the airport to the bus station in Cartagena.

## 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	Internship Food Microbiology	24	Experiments were performed to evaluate the interaction of essential oil nano-emulsions to reduce microbial load in cherry tomatoes and lettuce	High	

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

Final report including results from experiments and final examination with supervisors and examiners.

**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 culture in the university is similar to WUR since we can easily approach lecturers and talk to professors directly. The differences with WUR is the lab installation since in Cartagena there are no specialized equipment such as microscopes to observe the rupture of microbial plasma membrane.

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

The catering in Cartagena is very cheap and the food is very good. Also the cafeteria offers fresh orange juice which I have not seen in WUR.

## 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?)**

I found my room in Idealista. It was challenging but, in the end, possible.

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

In Spain, people eat from 9-10 pm. Also, there is siesta time some in the afternoon from 2-5:30 pm many shops are closed.

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

In Spain, I pay 200 euros for my rent, but in WUR, I pay 370 a month. However, in my case, utilities such as water, electricity, and gas fees were not included in the rent.

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

The cost of a public bus is 1.20 euros in cash. However, if we buy the student card for the public bus (20 euro), then we pay 0.80 cents.

## 6. Free time

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

I definitely recommend visiting Malaga, which is the neighboring region in the southwest of Spain. It is my favorite city so far.

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

I recommend visiting "El Caminito del Rey." Reservation shall be done 1 month before at least, but it is absolutely worth it to visit.

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

In Spain, eating tapas with drinks is a common way to socialize. Also going to the beach and playing volleyball.

## 7. Challenges & best moments abroad

**What was a challenge you experienced?**

Transportation in Cartagena is not very good. The connections with other provinces have not been well developed or are under construction. Additionally, in Cartagena, water cannot be drink from the tap, so we have to buy a lot of water in shops.

**What was your best memory abroad?**

I made many international friends, ate good food, learned a lot in the laboratory, and visited the most beautiful beaches I have ever seen.

## 8. Contact details (optional)

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