



WUR Goes Abroad

1. Student Information

Field of study in Wageningen	Food Technology
Study period exchange (dd/mm/yyyy)	07/09/2022 until 21/12/2022
Country (exchange)	Ireland
City (exchange)	Cork
University (exchange)	UCC
Faculty (exchange)	N/A

2. Motivation for exchange

Why did you choose to go on study exchange?

For the experience to live and study abroad.

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

This university offered courses I was interested in. Also, the country is an English speaking country and I wanted to improve my English.

3. Accessibility to reach destination

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

The plane is the easiest, however boat is also possible.

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	MG3012	5	Innovation techniques and strategies	4	
2	CS1061	5	Basic programming in C	5	Very interesting, however is not used a lot anymore
3	FE1016	5	Introduction to food business strategies and overview	3	Very basic knowledge, could be not very challenging
4	FE2200	5	Some supply chain concepts	3	
5	FE4008	5	Food security concepts, problems in the developing world	2	Only essay in the end, no tests
6					

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

One semester is only 4 months, while the same amount of ECTS is done. This makes the academic level a bit lower. The examination is often an essay in a time-frame written on paper, I am not used to that at WUR.

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?)

If necessary, lecturers can be approached easily, however you really have to ask, the engagement is low. Also, Irish students tend to stay in their own friend group, most friends I made were also internationals.

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

They have canteens. They also offer clubs (sports) and societies (social), which all can be attended for free. Also, use of the gym and swimming pool is for free if you are a student.

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?)

You can apply for on campus accommodation and private rooms, however rent is extremely expensive (around 1000 euro per month for a room close to uni).

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

They have a drinking culture, almost the only activity you can do in the city centre is going to pubs.

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

For a room with a private bathroom and shared kitchen, outside the city centre and far away from university, I paid €700 per month. A lot of students I know even paid around 1000 euro a month. It is really expensive.

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

There is a leap-card, which works a bit like the OV-chip-card. You pay 5 euro once for the card, and then you can top it up. Every bus-drive within the city is 65 cents with this card, most villages in the neighbourhood can also be reached by bus, which is only 80 cents. If you go further, the long-distance busses are more expensive. Only Dublin can be reached by train, however by bus it is cheaper.

6. Free time

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

Ballycotton is really nice, you can do a walk along the cliffs. Also, Dublin is worth a visit. Most places can be reached by bus, Dublin also by train.

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

The gap of Dunloe is a nice hike. Also, a bike tour around the lake of Killarney is worth a visit.

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

Costigans is the best local pub I found, really nice staff and a wide variety of drinks. They also really look after you, if there are annoying drunk customers, they will send them away, which is not always the case.

7.Challenges & best moment abroad

What was a challenge you have experienced?

The busses are always late or are not coming, be prepared to walk home sometimes late at night.

What was your best memory abroad?

An international dinner with all international friends, who all brought food from their own country.

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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