



WUR Goes Abroad

1. Student Information

Field of study in Wageningen	Food Technology
Study period exchange (dd/mm/yyyy)	05/09/2022 until 31/01/2023
Country (exchange)	Hungary
City (exchange)	Budapest
University (exchange)	MATE
Faculty (exchange)	Faculty of Food Sciences

2. Motivation for exchange

Why did you choose to go on study exchange?

I wanted to leave my normal routine and surroundings for a while and explore what I am capable of in a new country where I don't know anyone.

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

As most agricultural universities are placed in a city that is a bit smaller than a big city, I specifically looked for an agricultural university that was placed within a capital city. MATE in Budapest is within the city centre and it was really nice to experience the city life.

3. Accessibility to reach destination

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

You can go by train to Budapest from the Netherlands. I did this when I went to Budapest, however it took me almost 20 hours, so it was quite exhausting.

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	Advanced Food Physics Measurements	4	This course explains different methods that are used in Food Physics. You have to write 5 reports about experiments that are done during this course.	2	
2	Dairy Technology	4	This is about different dairy products and their manufacture process	5	The teacher is really nice and understandable and the content is very interesting
3	Food Safety and Regulation	6	Explanation about HACCP and other Food Safety aspects in the industry	3	The teachers are very interesting and enthusiastic
4	Advanced Consumer Sensory Methods	4	Different methods in sensory sciences and studies on consumer behavior are explained	4	
5	Food Additives	4	All types and categories of Food Additives and their recommended application are explained	3	
6					

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

Most courses have a lecture every week. The level is not higher than in Wageningen but you will still be able to learn new things. For all courses I had to take an exam and do a presentation.

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 teachers are nice and helpful. All classes are in English and you are in a class with other Erasmus students so you probable won't meet Hungarian students in class..

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

Not really

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 know the universities has some dorms that many international students use. However, Budapest is a very popular choice for Erasmus students from all kind of universities, so there a lot of apartments available that are used for Erasmus students each semester.

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

In general I had nice experiences with Hungarian people. In cafes and restaurants they are mostly very friendly and nice. Because it is a big city you also see some homeless people sometimes which is of course very shocking and sad. The local cuisine is mainly meat based but there are also some vegetarian dishes and the city Budapest offers a lot of trendy vegetarian restaurants.

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

Most people paid between 300-400 euros a month for a room. So I think its similar to Wageningen, if not cheaper 😊

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

The transport in Budapest is very good! You can always get anywhere by either tram, metro or bus (even in the night after a party). The BKK (transport in Budapest) offers a travel card for students which is only 9 euros a month.

6. Free time

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

There are a lot of nice wine area's nearby such as Debrecen and Eger. You could do a city tour and winetasting there. Also Szentendre is a very cute city to go to once you're there. And Budapest is one of the fewest cities that has some hills in Hungary, so you could go for a hike on the Gellert hill or Normafa. Also the thermal baths are very nice and can be very cheap, Dandár is only 6 euros for students.

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

most things I mentioned above

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

Besides ESN there is also Erasmus Life Budapest (ELB) which is an independent corporation that offers parties and discounts and it's a nice way to meet other people that are on an Erasmus in Budapest.

7.Challenges & best moment abroad

What was a challenge you have experienced?

It can be sometimes challenging to communicate with Hungarian people that do not speak English. But most of the time I was able to figure it out with Google translate or someone was able to help me.

What was your best memory abroad?

I've had amazing memories but I mainly enjoyed it to realize I met so many great people and created a strong bond with them. I would never want to miss that.

8. Contact details (optional)

Is the reader allowed to contact the writer?	yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	no <input type="checkbox"/>
Name/e-mail	Marijn, marijn1.klos@wur.nl	