



WUR Goes Abroad

1. Student Information

Field of study in Wageningen	Biotechnology
Study period exchange (dd/mm/yyyy)	26/09/2022 until 27/01/2023
Country (exchange)	United Kingdom
City (exchange)	Nottingham
University (exchange)	University of Nottingham
Faculty (exchange)	Biosciences

2. Motivation for exchange

Why did you choose to go on study exchange?

I was looking for an experience studying at not only a different university but a completely different environment. The aim was to broaden my horizon and discover new interests.

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

The UoN had a broad range of courses to choose from and a very impressive campus. I wasn't looking to learn a new language and I am very comfortable with English and so the language attracted me to the university as well.

3. Accessibility to reach destination

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

I took the Eurostar train on the way to Nottingham. This was very efficient. The train arrives in London and then there is an easy train from London to Nottingham where you can take a tram or taxi (rather cheaply) to your accommodation. I took the plane on my way back from Schiphol to EMA but the only airline that makes this trip has gone bankrupt I believe.

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	Biotechnology in Animal Physiology	5	Biotechnological methods making use of or applied to animals.	5	
2	Rural Business Management	10	Learning about the business (financial and planning) aspects of running a farm using basic business concepts.	2	The business aspect as it turns out is not for me but I learned a lot.
3	Molecular Plant Pathology	5	Different plant pathogens and there method of infection. Writing a pathogen profile on one given bacterium.	5	
4	Food Flavour and Sensory Science	10	Learning about the correct way to set up a sensory test and understanding the effects of different aspects on flavour perception.	3	I expected it to focus more on the molecular aspects of flavour but there was far more focus on the sensory part which I did not find as interesting.
5					
6					

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

The courses were mainly lectures and theory. The 10 ECTS courses included groupwork on a big project with a paper and presentation. The 5 ECTS were tested either with a big paper or an exam.

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 were very approachable and open to questions. The difference with the WUR was that class was only once a week whereas in the WUR we see our lecturers several times a week.

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

The UoN offered catering and laundry facilities. The sports facilities were incredible. The price was a bit steep but I thoroughly enjoyed all the facilities and the level of professionalism in the classes.

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 personally couldn't find much housing that was not university accommodation. But I highly recommend it. The university accommodation was close to campus, in a safe area and right next to the tram stop. Very clean and all the exchange students were placed near each other.

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

Not very different to the Netherlands. Need to be careful crossing the road and get used to strangers calling you "love" but apart from that, not much of a difference. Things like groceries weren't that much more expensive than they are in the Netherlands either.

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

I believe I paid around 500 pound a month (cheapest option) which is a lot more than what people pay in Wageningen but bear in mind this was university accommodation and cleaners came every week (this is not optional).

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 more expensive than it is in the Netherlands. You need to get a tram/bus ticket each time. There is nothing like a subscription. In some buses you can ask for a student ticket which will be cheaper (2 pounds). The trains are very expensive but it is worth investing in a railcard. If you plan on traveling around the UK.

6. Free time

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

London, Edinburgh, The Caves Nottingham, Ye Old Trip to Jerusalem, The Haunted Museum

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

Raglan Road (Irish Pub), Waterstones Book shop

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

On a night out taking an uber is probably the same price as taking the tram.

7.Challenges & best moment abroad

What was a challenge you have experienced?

The UoN doesn't use ECTS. They use credits. 2 credits = 1 ECTS. This is important to know when choosing your courses.

What was your best memory abroad?

It is impossible to say. The friends I made, the beautiful campus, so many museums and things to see. Traveling around and going to London. And so much more...

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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