



WUR Goes Abroad

1. Student Information

Field of study in Wageningen	MSc Biotechnology
Study period exchange (dd/mm/yyyy)	05/09/2022 until 03/02/2023
Country (exchange)	France
City (exchange)	Paris
University (exchange)	SUP'Biotech
Faculty (exchange)	-

2. Motivation for exchange

Why did you choose to go on study exchange?

I wanted to experience student life in another country and meet new people on an international level.

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

I knew the city already and I spoke the language

3. Accessibility to reach destination

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

The Thalys high-speed train is the quickest, cheapest and most comfortable way to reach Paris in my opinion. And more sustainable than taking the plane ofcourse.

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	<i>Cursus Applied Research & Development</i>	8	Consists of subcomponents: applied transversal project, applied synthetic biology, advanced genomics, cellular therapy, virology, animal testing (ethics & regulation)	1	
2	<i>Fundamental learning, social life and entrepreneurship</i>	4	Consists of subcomponents: competitive intelligence, international management, sociology of work and company, regulation and finance/ business plan.	3	
3	<i>Engineering Sciences</i>	7	Consists of subcomponents: protein engineering, reaction process engineering, system regulation, biostatistics, microfluidics and an innovative project (SBIP).	3	
4	<i>Specialty Sciences</i>	7	Consists of subcompents: datamining, database design, bioprocesses & applications, ecoconception, nanobiotech and combinatorial chemistry.	3	
5	<i>Minor Environment</i>	4	Consists of subcompents: Risk gestion, pollution – bioremediation, soil science and urban ecology	2	

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

Academic level is okay, however teaching form is not effective in my opinion. For example, due to long lectures (4h). Furthermore, a lot of group projects and not a lot of exams (only in the end). Furthermore, schedules are weird and change a lot.

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 classes are small so there is a lot of interaction, however french culture is less effective and less planning then dutch which you have to get used to.

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

There are a lot of student associations (sports, wine tasting, etc) and drinks organized.

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?)

There are a lot of student residencies, however it is difficult to get in when you are staying for less than a year. Rent rates are high. Start early with searching.

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

Laid-back and not too stressed, spend a lot of time on terraces and very fashionable people. Can come across a bit ruder in the weekends, especially waiters, because of the huge amount of tourists. Better during the week. Most students are kind and open to meet new people.

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

600-700 € per month

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

Metro is the easiest way to move, I paid a monthly pass for 75€ to travel unlimited. I lived near the campus, so I could walk to there.

6. Free time

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

Ofcourse all classic highlights, Eiffeltower, Montmartre, arc du triomphe, Louvre etc. Nightlife is also amazing and there are lots of free museums. Furthermore, Quartier Latin is an amazing area with a lot of students and nice bars and cafés. And Jardin du Luxembourg is great for park walking or running.

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

The mosque near Jardin des Plantes is great for Turkish tea and there is a spa. All "bouillon" restaurants have great student prices and the Bastille area is also nice for going out. Furthermore, daytrips with ESN are great and Fashion Week is also nice.

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

Follow [paris_nightlife](#) on Instagram and all Erasmus accounts for nice events. And go explore the city by just walking.

7.Challenges & best moment abroad

What was a challenge you have experienced?

Finding a room and communicating with the uni over official documents and procedures (takes a long time and their English is not always good)

What was your best memory abroad?

Meeting all new people and living in a big, international city.

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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