



WUR Goes Abroad

1. Student Information

Field of study in Wageningen	Life science - BBC
Study period exchange (dd/mm/yyyy)	31-01-2022 until 30-06-2022
Country (exchange)	Italy
City (exchange)	Rimini
University (exchange)	Alma mater studio – University Bologna
Faculty (exchange)	Life science

2. Motivation for exchange

Why did you choose to go on study exchange?

I wanted to go on exchange because I wanted to experience to life within another country. I wanted to get to know the world a bit better. For personal development as well. Besides that, of course study related, I was curious and really interested in further exploring my interest in different topics. My main interest were marketing courses.

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

I wanted to go to a country where you could follow marketing/ consumer related courses. Moreover, if I could combine this with living in a warm country that would make me happy. I had never been to Italy. So I went searching for different city's where I was able to follow these courses. Then Rimini was in my top 3 list and I got voted to go there.

3. Accessibility to reach destination

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

The best way is to go with the plane and then take the train to Rimini. This is quite easy. Use the app or website of Trenitalia.com to book your tickets. You do need to have PayPal before you go to Italy! Be aware for that. Moreover, Moovit, an app for busses is also very convenient.

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>Destination marketing and management</i>	6	Really diving into the touristic part of management. The course was quiet intens but really educational. Good examples for how to approach customers and interesting topics.	4	If you are interested in tourism, this course is yours. Teacher was strict, but reasonable. Some people didn't liked that, but I thought it was oke and he was really helpful and always trying to give you nice feedback if you participated.
2	Organizational Behaviour	5	This was quiet a basic course. To explore your interested it is a good course, however I didn't really think it was something for me.	3	This course could be combined with another course relation to organization processes. But then for 10 credits. I didn't do that but would suggest to because it would have been an easy way to learn the process and get more credits.
3	Sustainable Business	6	How can we think of a more sustainable business world. Defined for individuals and groups and moreover rethinking the processes.	2	I like the theories and the main topics. Only not the way how it is discussed and taught. Because if I say so my self there was a lot of subjective things and discussion going on in class which I didn't thought was relevant or educational.
4	International Marketing in Tourism	8	This course is defided in to parts, qualitative, very creative and focuses on tools for visible marketing and quantitative, really statistical to see how significant and relevant your marketing is.	5	The quantitative part was quiet vague, but still got a good grade so don't worry about that if you doubt about following the course.
5	Strategic Management for the Fashion System	6	All kinda strategie's were highlighted and a lot of (historical) info about fashion industry was given. Also some insights for marketing	3	I did not really liked the teacher, but it was her last year. No worries about that anymore. I think I would otherwise appreciate the course even more!

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

How the study was formalized was different for each course. Often you needed to do group work and that grade was part of your examination. Which was really nice, because teachers really see how much effort you put into the work. The workload was often quite intense, but the materials were not hard. So to compare it to the Netherlands, you needed to put more effort into going to class and following tutorials/ group work things, but less studying because the materials you got taught were quite understandable and sometimes even simple.

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?)

It was always easy to get to know new people and the environment was really friendly! Almost everyone spoke English, only some older men and women behind the office were not always able to speak English. However they were always willing to help you no matter what. (Talking with gestures, hand, feet). I had mainly contact with other international students, because those were in my class and were my friends. However sometimes I spoke with locals and that was always kinda nice. The difference with WUR is not that big I guess. Only that the university is wayyyyyyyyy smaller!!

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

ESN is the main organization where you go as international. I really had a fun time joining that. They organized a lot of nice events to get to know new people, but also trips and sport activities on the beach. I did not use other facilities but catering and sport facilities were available.

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?)

The possibilities for housing were not that good. You have the Erasmus house, especially for Erasmus people, but that is not that big. The university has some suggestions, but I eventually did it on my own. Start early with searching is my tip. Online on Facebook or on Subito (market place of Italy) people often rent rooms!

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

The culture is quite different. People are more intense, quite energetic, and have totally different habits. In Italy they also have "siesta". So my rhyme was fucked up for the first month and I really needed to adjust my breakfast, lunch and dinner time. And we often got an extra break for aperitivo around 17:00. The people were most of the times kind to you, locals are really helpful. You will get adjusted to it quite easily I think. Just go with the flow and always be 15 minutes to late, then you are right on time!

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

It really depends how much you pay. For residence I payed 400, but also heard people around 250 and 600. So that is a general indication.

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

Buy a bike is my best tip. You don't need public transport to go to university. Otherwise see my tips already mentioned part 3.1. Taxi prices are fine, always use the number or Rimini taxi. They talk English, others don't and are often scams!

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 places nearby. Bologna, Ravenna, Urbino to state some. To go party you must see (cocorico) Riccione. These are all nearby but my tip is to plan a lot of trips on the weekends, because you do have time for it!

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

Forli, Cervia, Cattolica. Small cute Italian places to have a daytrip to.

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

You need to go to bar Malatesta (near the castle) to have the best Aperol of your life!

7.Challenges & best moment abroad

What was a challenge you have experienced?

Living with my Italian roommate. Learning Italian without doing a course, also didn't really worked out.

What was your best memory abroad?

The friends I made and the trips I had with them. Going to Napoli and Pompeii was also a highlight!

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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