



WUR Goes Abroad

1. Student Information

Field of study in Wageningen	BBC
Study period exchange (dd/mm/yyyy)	06/02/2022 until 06/07/2022
Country (exchange)	Spain
City (exchange)	Barcelona
University (exchange)	University of Barcelona
Faculty (exchange)	Business and Economics

2. Motivation for exchange

Why did you choose to go on study exchange?

I choose to go on study exchange to further develop myself in studying in a new city. The first step was to start a bachelor in Wageningen away from my parents' home and now I wanted to start somewhere new outside of the Netherlands. I wanted to challenge myself by going to a foreign country, going to a big city and going all by myself.

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

I knew for sure that I wanted to go to a country with good and sunny weather. With this in mind, the decision for Spain was easily made. I have always loved Spain and have been to several places in Spain already but never for a longer period of time.

3. Accessibility to reach destination

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

To reach Barcelona Airport, the easiest mode of transport is by plane. A tip to travel from the airport to the center of Barcelona is Aerobus. The Aerobus is very cheap and fast and stops at approximately 3 places in Barcelona.

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	International Economics	6	International trade, trade models, trade policy	3	
2	Operations Management	6	Getting vision of operations management; kinds of operations, kinds of decisions, identifying problems	4	This course was quite hard compared to the other courses, but it was an interesting course
3	Industrial Organization	6	Understanding enterprise behaviour, evaluating markets functions	4	
4	Organization Innovation and Technology	6	Giving knowledge related to innovation	2	This course was only groupwork about science parks, but the workload is low!
5					
6					

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

For most courses you can choose to do either one final exam which counts for 100% or a continuous evaluation in which you have multiple parts that count up for your final grade. For operations management I did the final exam because there were a lot of things you had to when you did continuous evaluation. For the other courses I did the continuous evaluation which consisted of some group assignments, problem sets and mid-terms.

The workload is lower than in Wageningen.

In general, the academic level is lower than in Wageningen, except from the operations management course. This course was comparable.

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?)

I experienced the culture at the university quite relaxed. I did not have a lot of compulsory lessons. Compared with WUR, I had a lot less groupwork.

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

There are catering and sport facilities.

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?)

Popular housing sites are Idealista and Badi

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

The culture in Barcelona is very nice and relaxed and there are a lot of international people.

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

The living prices in Barcelona are more expensive compared to Wageningen, but considering you live in a big city, it is doable. My room for example was €550 a month including gas, water and light.

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

The public transport infrastructure is very well arranged, especially the metro. It is also very low in costs: you can buy a public transport card for 3 months which costs 80 euros and can be used in all transport modes; bus, tram, train and metro.

6. Free time

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

I would recommend to go to beaches outside of Barcelona, because Barcelona can be very crowded. Nice places are Sitges, Casteldefells or Badelona. For Castelfefells or Badelona you can use your own public transport card. Badelona is reachable by metro and Casteldefells by train. For Sitges you need to buy a separate train ticket but only costs around 6 euros for a retour.

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

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

7.Challenges & best moment abroad

What was a challenge you have experienced?

In the beginning you have to spend a lot of time meeting new people and finding the right people for you, which was a bit intense sometimes

What was your best memory abroad?

The ESN Ibiza trip

8. Contact details (optional)

Is the reader allowed to contact the writer?	yes <input type="checkbox"/>	no <input type="checkbox"/>
Name/e-mail		