



WUR Goes Abroad

1. Student Information

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|---|-----------------------------|
| Study programme WUR | Climate Studies |
| Exchange semester (dd/mm/yyyy) | 16/09/2023 until 01/02/2024 |
| Exchange destination: University | Universidade do Algarve |
| Faculty | Marine Biology |
| Country | Portugal |
| City | Faro |

2. Motivation for exchange

Why did you choose to go on study exchange?

Because I thoroughly enjoy meeting people and exploring new places.

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

Because I needed to take my electives on marine ecology and I believe the best place to do so is in a university by the ocean.

3. Accessibility to reach destination

Do you have any tips to reach your exchange destination?

Bus and train.

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 | BIOLOGIA POPULACIONAL MARINHA | 6 | Dynamics of populations in the marine ecosystem | 4 | It was nice |
| 2 | DINÂMICA DE ECOSISTEMAS AQUÁTICOS | 6 | Dynamics of aquatic ecosystems | 4 | I enjoyed it |
| 3 | MORFODINÂMICA MARINHA | 6 | Morphodynamics of the coastline | 5 | Very interesting |
| 4 | PROCESSOS OCEANOGRÁFICOS DE GRANDE ESCALA | 6 | Large scale oceanographic processes | 5 | I fell in love with oceanography, incredible course |
| 5 | | | | | |
| 6 | | | | | |

What is it like to study there?

E.g. study forms, academic level, examination, workload, lesson material.

It was less demanding then Wageningen.

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 local students have fraternities that seem very toxic.

Zero political engagement from students on internal and external issues.

What does the university offer students additionally?

E.g. catering, sports facilities, laundry facilities?

Sports and very cheap food.

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?

Housing crisis, not enough housing for students.

What is the culture of the country like?

E.g. Differences with home, local cuisine, habits, manners?

Very nice food culture not very warm.

Could you give some information about public transport infrastructure?

E.g. Cost public transport card, taxi prices, how to travel to the university?

Horrible, the buses could not fit all the students to go to university.

6. Expenses

Can you give an indication of your expenses for/during your exchange?

E.g. you can also indicate price differences (higher/lower/equal) in comparison to the Netherlands.

Ticket there: 90

Visa if applicable: 0

Vaccinations if applicable: 0

Insurances (extra, if applicable): 0

Housing costs per month & type of housing/accommodation: 300 for a room in a shared house

Groceries: 120 per month

Public transport: 30 per month

Restaurant/going out for dinner: between 10 and 20 euro for a dinner

Daytrips/sight-seeing: between 10 and 20 euros

Additional remarks regarding expenses?

7. Free time

What are must-sees in the area?

E.g. nearby destinations, how do you prefer to travel, when to plan?

The entire coastline of Algarve.

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

Zavial beach

Do you have general tips and tricks about leisure time?

E.g. recommendations for restaurants, going out?

Go surfing

8. Challenges & best moment abroad

What challenges did you encounter and how did you overcome them?

Meeting people at first was a bit exhausting but then after some time I found my tribe.

What is your best memory of your time abroad?

Surfing three meter waves.

9. Contact details (optional)

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| Is the reader allowed to contact the writer? | yes <input type="checkbox"/> | no <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Name/e-mail | amanieraedoardo@gmail.com | |