



# WUR Goes Abroad

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## 1. Student Information

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<b>Study programme WUR</b>	Environmental Science
<b>Exchange semester (dd/mm/yyyy)</b>	11-09-2023 until 19-01-2024
<b>Exchange destination: University</b>	Universidade de Aveiro
<b>Faculty</b>	Environmental engineering
<b>Country</b>	Portugal
<b>City</b>	Aveiro

## 2. Motivation for exchange

### Why did you choose to go on study exchange?

I heard good stories from other students and I wanted to experience how it is to live in another country

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

The weather, the location, how expensive it is, and the possibilities to travel. Also I knew that they had courses that could interest me.

## 3. Accessibility to reach destination

### Do you have any tips to reach your exchange destination?

I went by bus. For me quite doable and I wanted to go in a more sustainable way than by plane.

## 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	Environmental planning	6	Looking at different types of environmental plans and analysing them in group work	3	
2	Environment and climate change	6	Learning about climate change, their effects and solutions	4	
3	Materials and sustainability	6	An overview of the main used materials in the world, how they are yielded and their main environmental impacts	3,5	
4	Sociology and economy of sustainable development	6	Discussing the concept of sustainable development	5	
5	Portugese A1 level	6			
6					

### What is it like to study there?

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

Lectures are not recorded tho and they check your presence. The workload was okay. A bit more discussions than I was used to before and sometimes they told information that was already known by me.

### 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 teachers are nice and flexible in general when it comes to prosoning tests due to trips for example. Portuguese students were sometimes a bit shy but very nice.

### What does the university offer students additionally?

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

They have a canteen that serves meals every day for lunch and dinner for 2,65 which is very nice. And they have a sports school where you can go to several classes a week.

## 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 found my room on Facebook, although there were also a lot of scammers. There are also campus rooms.

**What is the culture of the country like?**

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

The living is more relaxed, people come late more easily than in the Netherlands, people eat later, nightlife begins later and pastel de nata is eaten regularly with coffee.

**Could you give some information about public transport infrastructure?**

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

Bolt or uber are often used to come to the beach and it is quite doable pricewise when you share. The trains and busses to other places in Portugal are also not too expensive

## 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: 100 by bus, but 50 euro I got back due to the green top up.

Visa if applicable: no

Vaccinations if applicable: no

Insurances (extra, if applicable): no

Housing costs per month & type of housing/accommodation: 350 euro

Groceries: lower

Public transport: lower

Restaurant/going out for dinner: lower

Daytrips/sight-seeing: I don't know, it depends

**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?*

Porto is near and Nazaré is also an experience you must have.

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

National parks (Serra de Estrella and Serra de Caramulo I did)

**Do you have general tips and tricks about leisure time?**

*E.g. recommendations for restaurants, going out?*

I went dancing Forró, a Bazilian partnerdance, which is amazing and for free and I went surfing in Praia da Barra.

## 8. Challenges & best moment abroad

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

Missing home in the beginning. I overcame them by just going to ESN activities to meet new people and be patient.

### What is your best memory of your time abroad?

Going to Morocco

## 9. Contact details (optional)

<b>Is the reader allowed to contact the writer?</b>	yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	no <input type="checkbox"/>
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