



WUR Goes Abroad

1. Student Information

Field of study in Wageningen	BSc biotechnology
Study period exchange (dd/mm/yyyy)	3/10/22 until 31/1/23
Country (exchange)	Austria
City (exchange)	Vienna
University (exchange)	BOKU
Faculty (exchange)	Technology

2. Motivation for exchange

Why did you choose to go on study exchange?

I am driven to make myself in the future a great consultant, a entrepreneur and a leader to help great companies to become more sustainable in its production processes.

Therefore, there are a couple of reasons I am applying for studying abroad. I am not only applying for studying abroad for my skillset but also for the experience and excitement. It feels like something pushing me to my limits and creating opportunities and experiences that I will not find by staying within my comfort zone. I was really looking forward to living in a different place, getting to know different people and culture. Exploring a different environment and nature

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

I want to have the skills to be able to work internationally, this means being able to speak multiple languages and work together with different nationalities. This explains my choice for two courses of the German language. This also explains why I chose the city Vienna, since the BOKU is a very popular university for international students. I have a high preference for teaching myself the German language since I already have basic skills in the language and I think it is better to improve my German to academic level than for example start from scratch and go to France where I would have to start without any familiarity of the language.

In addition, I have a very specific interest in the environment (climate change) and biotechnology. This is the field I want to specialize myself. I am aware that this can be done perfectly here at Wageningen University, however, Wageningen University does not give me the international development and independency I would like to improve myself in. I think it is good for my independence to study abroad and I also think that studying a similar field at different universities can give a broader skillset and flexibility.

3. Accessibility to reach destination

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

By train, there goes a train directly from Arnhem to Vienna

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	Fermentation processes in food industry	2	Application of fermentation technology	4	
2	Plant biotechnology	3	Application of plant biotechnology	5	
3	Practical course in process engineering	3	General concepts in process engineering	2	
4	Unit operations in food processing	4.5	In depth analysis of different ways to process food	5	
5	Biopolymers for sustainable utilization	2	Organic matter technologies, organic chemistry and technology	5	
6	Environmental bioprocess engineering	4	Applications of environmental bioprocess engineering	5	
7	Renewable energy resources	3	Comparing different energy resource technologies	3	
8	Fat chemistry and technology	2	Fat nutrition and technology	4	
9	Emerging and re-emerging viral threads	2	Different illnesses	4	

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

Academic level is low, examination is diverse study form is on campus, workload is low lesson material is only present in the form of powerpoints

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?)

Lecturers are approachable and like to interact with the students. Engagement with local students only happens after studies, in Wageningen you engage with students around the lectures as well for example when getting a coffee. Over there you just interact with the people you already know. Asking questions is done relatively less although it is possible. The culture is just different.

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

Een Pinautomaat, A sort of aula to eat and chill for the students and a library

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 many possibilities for housing, the availability is high and the university helps with that

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

They are definitely less open to other people than in the Netherlands, they are relatively more introverted. But they do like to chill out more and relax.

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

Around the same price

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

The infrastructure is amazing, 60 euros per semester and unlimited use of public transport.

6. Free time

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

Budapest, Melk Salzburg,

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?)

LOCO, good cocktail bar, very cheap very nice

7. Challenges & best moment abroad

What was a challenge you have experienced?

Being alone sometimes and not having a rigid social network

What was your best memory abroad?

Many amazing memories, going out, doing stupid stuff. Biking to Bratislava and exploring all the beautiful monuments.

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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