



# WUR Goes Abroad

## 1. Student Information

<b>Field of study in Wageningen</b>	Bachelor Business and Consumer Studies
<b>Study period exchange (dd/mm/yyyy)</b>	26-9-22 until 31-1-23
<b>Country (exchange)</b>	Austria
<b>City (exchange)</b>	Wien, Vienna
<b>University (exchange)</b>	BOKU
<b>Faculty (exchange)</b>	/

## 2. Motivation for exchange

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

I was inspired by friends of mine that went on an exchange before me. They told great stories about it, told me that they learned a lot.

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

The BOKU university seemed interesting to me because of the similarities between this university and Wageningen, focussing on topics like sustainability, the environment, food. I also really loved the level of personal education that both universities seem to have in common. I looked up courses, and found courses that really seemed interesting to me. Besides, I had never been to Vienna before. And I could see myself walking there between the beautiful buildings.

## 3. Accessibility to reach destination

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

I personally travelled by train. The 'night jet'. You could sleep the entire night and wake up in the middle of the city: Vienna trainstation. It was really cheap especially since I booked my tickets via [locomococheap.nl](http://locomococheap.nl).

## 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	Global Waste Management	3	About: Waste! How is it handled globally? What are problems that arise with handling waste, and what are the specific steps and processes behind this?	5! (I loved this course, very interesting)	If you hate waste / (therefore love learning about waste) you should definitely check out the waste incinerator that is located in the middle of Vienna too as an excursion. This is designed by an artist (Hundertwasser) and you can get a free tour within the waste incinerator and see how viennese waste is handled. For the course, no background info was needed.
2	Foresights – what future to expect? (Late lessons from early warnings)	3	About: Climate change, future perspectives, where is this world going?	5!!! (super interesting, although a bit depressing really necessary and relevant)	I reaaaally loved this course too. It was so interesting, and I learned a lot. No background info was needed. It touched on several dimensions.
3	Negotiating change: simulating an international conference for sustainable development	3	About: politics, UN, how to negotiate as a country? Where do you stand for, what is important for different countries? Touching several perspectives	5!	Although this course was intense (time intensive) it was cool because you get to go to the UN building and simulate a conference there, representing a country. It really felt like I worked in the UN building for 2 days, dressing chique and having my personal pass to enter the building :)
4	Marketing project – case studies	3	About: a specific case, a brand, which you will be giving advise.	4	This was cool because it was so practical, the brand really used our feedback.
5	Social ecology and sustainable development	3	About: bringing together different perspectives looking at sustainability (sounds vague but	5	I learned so much in this course and the teachers had so much knowledge and passion for these subjects.

			was really interesting with specific lessons)		
6	German language course	2	Learning a language	4	Interesting! With only a little experience you can begin this course. And you will learn a lot discussing nice topics.

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

Overall workload was okay. I really found my courses interesting so that helped a lot. Examination differed greatly per course, and there was much room for student-input. Teachers mostly wanted you to learn something in class or by practising, they didn't often used exams in my experience. But this was nice.

**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?)**

There are a lot of similarities between the Wur and BOKU. Firstly: Its focus on sustainability, environmental topics, and food. But also looking at inclusivity, personal education, treating each student as the unique being they are. I really liked the vibe, atmosphere. Lecturers were very approachable and you had small groups of people in classes.

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

There is a nice menza where you can have lunch in several buildings. The menu changes daily, and they often have Austrian meals (so a lot of salt) but they taste quite good and are affordable! You can do sports, there is a volleyball court near the campus.

## 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 university itself doesn't offer you rooms so you have to search for one yourself. But overall, Vienna is quite affordable, and if you start early you will find a room for sure. I myself stayed in a double room with a roommate I did not know before and got assigned to randomly. This turned out to be such a nice person but it is risky I must say.

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

So much meat! But if you are vegetarian you will have no problems finding the vega options though! Vienna itself is so clean, safe, pretty, everything looks expensive, the buildings are pretty.

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

Pretty much the same I think. But you will find a room sooner, and you will live in a waaay bigger, more prettier city.

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

Public transport is really convenient. 10/10. Quite cheap as a student.

## 6. Free time

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

Ahh there are so many things you can do. Cities such as Praag, Budapest, Brno, Bratislava, Graz are nearby and nice to visit by train (very cheap if you book on time). But Vienna itself is also enough <3

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

Loco! A club with very cheap cocktails. It starts with cocktails for about 1-2 euros at 19:00. Every hour they add a euro.

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

To save money: You can enter many museums for free with this trick: book your tickets online and select under 18, and when you enter the museum you only scan the barcode and they never actually check your age. Haha woops.. Or you can just pay the normal price.

## 7.Challenges & best moment abroad

**What was a challenge you have experienced?**

As you probably also experience now: a lot of administrative work. Sending emails, documents etc.

**What was your best memory abroad?**

I would 10000% recommend to go to the BOKU ball. The most beautiful place I have ever been, danced the entire evening and doing the 'wiener wals' with fellow students.

## 8. Contact details (optional)

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