



WUR Goes Abroad

1. Student Information

Study programme WUR	BML
Exchange semester (dd/mm/yyyy)	04/09/2023 until 22/12/2023
Exchange destination: University	University College Cork
Faculty	x
Country	Ireland
City	Cork

2. Motivation for exchange

Why did you choose to go on study exchange?

It seemed like a fun challenge. I really wanted to just live in a other country for a while and meet some new people.

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

I really liked that Ireland is a English speaking country, so I could understand and converse with nearly everyone. I chose Cork because it was one of the top options and I heard some good things about it.

3. Accessibility to reach destination

Do you have any tips to reach your exchange destination?

Cork airport is a nice little airport not far from the city center so I would just fly there. You can also fly to Dublin and take the bus/train which takes about 3 hours.

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	Linear Algebra	5	Challenging course but I found it interesting.	3	
2	Differential Equations	5	Really useful course if you want to learn how to solve differential equations.	5	
3	Vertebrate Diversity	5	Is about all the vertebrates.	4	
4	Invertebrate Diversity	5	All the invertebrates.	4	
5	Mathematics for Economics	5	Mostly just relatively simple maths applied to some economics problems.	3	
6					

What is it like to study there?

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

I chose courses which only had lectures, so it was a lot of listening. Each course had only 2 hours of lecture each week, so lots of free time. You did need to study outside those hours of course but I found it very doable. I had all my examinations in the span of 3 days, which was quite intense.

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?

My lectures were with very small classes so the lecturers were quite approachable. I did tend to engage with the other international students more than with the local students.

What does the university offer students additionally?

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

They have some nice restaurants where you can eat relatively cheap. There is also a really nice pub for drinks. The sports facilities were very modern but very busy at most times.

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 helps with housing, but all these options are very expensive. There are some other private dorms, but it can be quite hard to get in. Finding a room is just very hard because of shortage and you will probably need to pay very much (above €1000 a month is quite common).

What is the culture of the country like?

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

The pub culture in Ireland is quite famous and I really liked it. All sorts of people gather in the pubs for a good time and it is really fun. The cuisine is quite similar to the Netherlands, with some exceptions like breakfast.

Could you give some information about public transport infrastructure?

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

Busses in the city are okay. They are usually not on time, but they will get you where you need to be. Outside of the city the busses will only get you so far. They are really cheap if you get a student or young adult leap card, and it will only cost you €0,60 per trip. I used to walk to university (and nearly all other places in the city) because it is quite fast.

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

Visa if applicable:

Vaccinations if applicable:

Insurances (extra, if applicable):

Housing costs per month & type of housing/accommodation: €950

Groceries: € 200 per month

Public transport: €10 per month

Restaurant/going out: €200 per month (pints In the pub is about the same price as in the Netherlands. You nearly always get a pint (>500 ml) for about €5,50-€6

Daytrips/sight-seeing: €50

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?

Travel by car is the nicest because you can get anywhere. If you have a car I would drive part of the Wild Atlantic Way through Beara, Kerry and Dingle.

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

The cliffs of Moher are in every travel guide, but I would not just visit the cliffs themselves. You can get from Galway to Doolin (by bus) and do the cliff walk to the cliffs of Moher themselves. You can get really close to the edge and you have beautiful views.

Do you have general tips and tricks about leisure time?

E.g. recommendations for restaurants, going out?

There are so many great pubs which you should visit. One thing to note is that going out in the weekend can be quite hard if you're under 21. During the week students are welcome in most places but in the weekend often not. If you do want to go to the pub in the weekend if you're under 21 I would go just outside the city center where most pubs are just >18.

8. Challenges & best moment abroad

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

So many forms to fill in... Just fill them all in and hope someone will correct you when you do it wrong.

What is your best memory of your time abroad?

Probably the cliff walk near the Cliffs of Moher

9. Contact details (optional)

Is the reader allowed to contact the writer?	yes ☒	no ☒
Name/e-mail		