



# WUR Goes Abroad

## 1. Student Information

<b>Study programme WUR</b>	BFT
<b>Exchange semester (dd/mm/yyyy)</b>	7-9-2023 until 15-1-2024
<b>Exchange destination: University</b>	Technical University Dublin
<b>Faculty</b>	Food science and environmental health
<b>Country</b>	Ireland
<b>City</b>	Dublin

## 2. Motivation for exchange

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

I heard a lot of positive stories from other people that went, and I was interested to explore this for myself.

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

I chose Dublin because first I wanted to go to a bigger city than Wageningen. And in addition, Ireland really appealed to me because they speak English there, so I thought it was easier to connect with local people.

## 3. Accessibility to reach destination

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

I went by plane and almost everyone did. But I think you could also go by boat and train but that takes much longer.

## 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	Food & Bev Product Dev	5	This module is about the development of new food products.	3	
2	Irish Cultural studies 1A	5	To learn about the Irish culture, only for Erasmus students.	4	
3	Intl Beers&Draught Disp. Mgmt	5	This module is about different beer styles, the developing and taste.	4	

<b>4</b>	Spirits and Liqueurs	5	This module is about different spirits and liqueurs. Also the developing of them and the taste.	4	
<b>5</b>	Shelf Life mgmt & Packaging	5	This module is about shelf life of food products and how to increase that with packaging.	3	
<b>6</b>	Sci of Brewing & Distilling 1	5	About brewing and distilling drinks.	5	

### **What is it like to study there?**

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

All the courses are given at the same time so you have the same schedule every week for the whole semester. Therefore, there was only a few hours per week per course, these were mostly lectures but sometimes practical's. The level was a bit lower than in Wageningen and the workload as well. Only thing was at the end all the exams were at the same time, so I had 4 exams in a few days.

### **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 lecturers were very approachable because most classes were very small so most of them knew all the names in the class. I think it was quite easy to engage with local students as they speak English.

### **What does the university offer students additionally?**

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

The university offers a lot of societies who are very easy and free to join.

## **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 is very difficult to find and expensive in Dublin. I paid 850 euro's per month which was cheap compared to other people. A lot of people live with host families or in student hubs but they are very expensive.

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

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

There are not a lot of cultural differences. Irish people are quit open and love to make a joke. They also go to the pub very often. You could also eat in the pubs.

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

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

As it is a bigger city there was a lot of option for public transport but the busses and trams were not really on time and were very busy. But it was cheap. You had to buy a Leap card, an ov card, and with that you could travel. The busses were 1 euros and the tram only 65 cent per time. Sometimes I walked to the university and sometimes I took the tram.

## 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.*

Prices in the supermarket were quit similar to the Netherlands. Only alcohol was more expensive as there are a lot of taxes on it. And housing was also more expensive. Museums are often free.

### **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 nature in Ireland is very pretty, so I went to a lot of ESN trips to see this. They also organised trips to different cities. But you could also just take a bus or train. A town nearby was called Howth and was very pretty, were you could do a cliff walk. But I also really liked the West-coast of Ireland.

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

I went surfing in Bundoran with a trip from the surf society which was very nice. But also some smaller towns were very nice to visit.

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

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

The most touristic pubs were in Temple Bar. They were very nice and there was a lot of live music but outside of the centre were the pubs also nice and there were more locals and was the Guinness a bit cheaper 😊. The cobblestone was very nice and they also played live Irish music.

## 8. Challenges & best moment abroad

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

The university was a bit more chaotic than in Wageningen which was sometimes a bit annoying but if you mailed or asked they were all very willing to help.

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

My best memory were the trips to different places in Ireland, like to Galway and the Cliffs of Moher. But also the nights at the pub with my friends were very nice.

### 9. Contact details (optional)

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