



# WUR Goes Abroad

## 1. Student Information

<b>Study programme WUR</b>	Bachelor Landscape Architecture
<b>Exchange semester (dd/mm/yyyy)</b>	01-09-2023 until 23-01-2024
<b>Exchange destination: University</b>	Porto: universidade do porto
<b>Faculty</b>	Faculty of sciences
<b>Country</b>	Portugal
<b>City</b>	Porto

## 2. Motivation for exchange

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

I chose to go on study exchange for a total new environment surround me. I really wanted to stay for a longer time in an other country to get to know the culture, the country and the language. It was a pleasure to get to know Portugal.

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

I chose for this country because Portugal has a beautiful ocean and nature. Landscape architecture was only in Porto so that's why I chose this city.

## 3. Accessibility to reach destination

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

You can go with the Flixbus and the train from Paris to Amsterdam, but it takes really a lot of time. Or sharing cars with other people.

## 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	Construction Techniques applied to (Landscape Architecture) Project	6	You will learn to work in autocad. You are improving a garden that they made in there 1 <sup>st</sup> year.	3	
2	Landscape Representation Technologies	6	You learn to work in sketchup, autocad, photoshop, civil 3D. The teacher only explains it once and mostly in Portuguese so it was really hard to follow.	2	

3	Outdoor Space Management / Studio: Management of Parks and Gardens	6	You make a report in a group about managing a park and there are many excursion to parks.	4	
4	Outdoor Spaces Project I / Studio: Landscape Design Project I	6	It's a studio course about a neighbourhood in Porto. You are making from the beginning till the end a design for this neighbourhood.	4	
5	Vegetation Application Project I / Studio: Planting Design I	6	You learn about trees, ecology and how to draw plants.	5	
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### **What is it like to study there?**

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

The academic level is not really high and the teachers are also not teaching well. The examination is clear and you always have all your exams at the end of the semester. The workload is really low.

### **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 lectures are sometimes good, but most of the time the teachers are just telling everything in Portuguese and then they do a summary of 10 minutes at the end of the lecture. The local students are open to talk, but you see that they are not well in English and than it's hard to communicate with them.

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

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

Catering and sport facilities.

## **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 had a room from a friend of friend, but the website idealista is really nice to search for rooms.

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

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

The people are more relaxed and just taking there time for everything. The local cuisine is mostly fish and pastel de nata.

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

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

You can get a transport card for a month and than you can travel for the month with the card. Every month you put again 30 euro's on the card, but they changed since 2024 that all the students can travel for free.

Uber is really cheap in Portugal. I always went with the bus to university, but it will take time if the bus is going into the city centre.

## 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: lower

Visa if applicable: -

Vaccinations if applicable: -

Insurances (extra, if applicable): -

Housing costs per month & type of housing/accommodation: 450 euro

Groceries: lower

Public transport: lower

Restaurant/going out for dinner: lower

Daytrips/sight-seeing: lower

### **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?*

- Algarve, Lissabon, National park Geres, Coimbra, Nazaré, Peniche, Ericeira etc.

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

Fishermen's trail

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

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

Going out: Gare, Vero, Plano B

Café: Adega

## 8. Challenges & best moment abroad

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

Take time and have patient. Just relax!

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

The beach!

## 9. Contact details (optional)

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