



WUR Goes Abroad

1. Student Information

Field of study in Wageningen	Bedrijfs- en Consumentenwetenschappen
Study period exchange (dd/mm/yyyy)	18-09-2023 until 08-12-2023
Country (exchange)	England
City (exchange)	Reading
University (exchange)	University of Reading
Faculty (exchange)	

2. Motivation for exchange

Why did you choose to go on study exchange?

I was up for a new challenge and liked a change of scenery, to broaden my horizon a little bit.

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

For me I really was interested in the modules they offered and liked that Reading was close to London. Also big + was of course that everything is in English which was really good for my overall skill of the language. Additionally, I liked the idea of an on-campus life and there seemed to be a lot of opportunities to socialise.

3. Accessibility to reach destination

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

It is very accessible by train (Eurostar) from Rotterdam/Amsterdam to London, then it's just 1 more train to Reading.

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	Management in Media Industries	10	Showed management opportunities in creative industries and the impact of media on society	5	The professor was amazing fun with actual experience in the industry.
2	Management Debates: Ways of thinking about business	20	Legal,historical, economical and psychological perspectives on management	4	The economic part was easy but the psychological perspective was refreshing.

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

Workload was pretty similar to WUR, lectures are mandatory and you can choose to do some assignments individually or in groups. Examination was mostly assignments (had to make an advert/pitch for the media module) and had to write essays, no exams.

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 nice and you can always ask for a little guidance/ help, local students are pretty open especially if you join a society or sport. Overall pretty similar to the culture of WUR.

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

It is really like life on-campus so there is catering (optional), sports facilities and big sports fields, laundromat, some student pubs on campus and also a COOP, Starbucks, Bagel place, another coffee shop, Bubble tea shop, Merch store and an Asian grocery store.

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 signed up for a room on campus & you get placed with other internationals. They have a lot of different options in different price ranges, generally it is more expensive than in NL. If you sign up for a room via the university it is guaranteed that you get one as a study abroad student. The rooms are private (no roommates) but you do have flatmates.

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

Pretty similar culture, but people are more polite.

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

I lived with 12 people in total with a living room + big kitchen, shared my bathroom with only 1 person and had to pay +- 800 euros a month. (without the meal plan)

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

You don't need a public transport card, you can pay via your phone (usually credit card for sure, so tip is download Revolut). I could walk to my classes so that was nice, I know some people also bought bikes via the university but it's not really necessary as everything on campus was a 10 min walk. Overall train tickets for trips are also not that expensive (use the app Trainline).

6. Free time

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

There is not a lot to do in Reading, except Reading festival but that is way before the semester starts. My advice would be to just take trips, London and Oxford are not that far away. But also other places like Bath or Brighton are pretty nice. Everything is very accessible with the train and you don't have to plan anything that far in advance.

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

I took a trip up to Liverpool which was really nice :).

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

Restaurants: Las Iguanas, O'Neils (also a pub) & Bill's. For lunch/brunch Workhouse Coffee Company .
For going out: Lola Lo & Club Era

7.Challenges & best moment abroad

What was a challenge you have experienced?

What was your best memory abroad?

Day trip to Oxford with friends :)

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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