



# WUR Goes Abroad

## 1. Student Information

<b>Study programme WUR</b>	BLP - LAR
<b>Exchange semester (dd/mm/yyyy)</b>	25/9/2023 until 3/2/2024
<b>Exchange destination: University</b>	University of Sheffield
<b>Faculty</b>	LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
<b>Country</b>	UK
<b>City</b>	Sheffield

## 2. Motivation for exchange

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

For international experiences, to speak to people from other cultures, for life experience etc.

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

I heard from a friend that went her last year that she really enjoyed her time here and she thought the landscape architecture courses were very good. I also wanted to go to an English speaking country and it was also close-by so a bit cheaper to travel to.

## 3. Accessibility to reach destination

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

Plane is quite a lot cheaper than train if you book it far in advance and with Easyjet (but less sustainable of course). Take the coach bus the university provides from Manchester to Sheffield, its 25 pounds.

## 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	Green infrastructure and ecological planning	10	Studio course about the outside of a museum. There are lots of field trips. Teacher is Nigel Dunnet. Lots of guest lectures.	5	Really inspiring course where I have learnt lots about designing itself.
2	Urban Futures	10	Studio course about a landfill, some theory lectures and groupwork, one field trip.	3	Master course, it only lasts 6 weeks, so it ends earlier than the semester. You really had to work/hard fast since there is so little time.
3	Sustainable communities	10	Course where you have to make a poster about a topic you chose about sustainable communities. One field trip.	2	Lots of literature reviews, you have feedback sessions every week.
4					
5					
6					

### What is it like to study there?

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

Academic level is a little bit higher than in Wageningen regarding landscape architecture (average skill level of designing is a bit higher). However, you can definitely still get a passing grade if you just do your work in time.

Study forms: you have feedback sessions once a week in almost every course, where you can approach the teachers and they will give you useful feedback.

In the green infrastructure course study forms was mostly in field trips, so you will get to see a lot of the city/the UK.

Examination is about the same, mostly portfolios you had to submit

Workload is about the same, so quite high for landscape architecture but probably not for other majors as I've heard from housemates. They only had maybe one class a day. So just depends on your major.

Lesson material is literature, but mostly your own designing of course.

### 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 very approachable and friendly, you can always ask for feedback since you have a tutoring session every week.

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

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

There are more facilities than in Wageningen.

You can sign up to their gym which just got rebuild and is quite big, also a nice swimming pool.

They have lots of computers in the library or in the Arts Tower, that you can use, that already have many Adobe programs installed + AutoCad.

There are many cafes/food places nearby where you can grab something to eat for about 5 pounds.

Laundry facilities are mostly at your own apartment. However, they are really expensive, its about 3 pounds for a wash and then 2 pounds for a dry. I'd recommend buying a drying rack and buying something where you can combine all colours together.

## 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?*

You can get housing with the university, but they are really expensive than if you would get housing outside of that. I really regret it, because I heard from people that lived there, that said it should be possible to get a room much cheaper private.

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

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

Culture is very friendly overall, people are very nice, employees often say 'love',  
Not much local cuisine.  
Everyone walks, not bikes!

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

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

Get a 1-year railcard!

You can travel by bus to campus if you live far away, it's about 1.20 pounds per ride.

If you do say you are a student so you get a discount and show your university card.

I don't think getting a bicycle is useful since there are no bicycle roads so it can be more dangerous than in the Netherlands. Plus it is very mountainous.

## 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: 70 (EasyJet 23pounds for ticket itself + 47pounds for an extra suitcase)

Visa if applicable: no

Vaccinations if applicable: no

Insurances (extra, if applicable): health insurance for 1 year is about 12 euros a month with Allianz

Housing costs per month & type of housing/accommodation: 600 euros (700 pounds)

Groceries: 200-250

Public transport: 10

Restaurant/going out for dinner: 10

Daytrips/sight-seeing: 20

### **Additional remarks regarding expenses?**

Definitely recommend going to the Lidl/Aldi, you can cut down a lot on groceries.

Book your ticket in advance!

Also just walk everywhere.

## 7. Free time

### **What are must-sees in the area?**

*E.g. nearby destinations, how do you prefer to travel, when to plan?*

Plan trips around the study week, to e.g. York, Edinburgh, the highlands of Scotland ( I recommend doing a bustour), Oxford, Manchester, Liverpool etc. Most of these cities you can visit with the daytrips provided by the university (except Scotland).

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

Arts Tower and go to the highest floor!

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

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

Sign up to a study association you like and participate in the daytrips the university provides!

Also recommend getting lunch at 'falafel king', really good wraps for about 5 pounds!

## 8. Challenges & best moment abroad

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

It was scary to go abroad for a long time at first, but it was a very memorable experience.

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

Seeing the fireworks on Guy Fawkes night on the 5<sup>th</sup> of November (tradition in Sheffield every year)

**9. 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>		