

WUR Goes Abroad

1. Student Information

Field of study in Wageningen	BPW		
Study period exchange (2/02/2023)	until june 2023		
Country (exchange)	Spain		
City (exchange)	Valencia		
University (exchange)	UPV		
Faculty (exchange)	Agronomia		

2. Motivation for exchange

Why did you choose to go on study exchange?

To become more independent, experience a different culture, personal and language development.

What is the reason you chose for this country/university? The culture, language, people, weather.

3. Accessibility to reach destination

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

By train is possible and environmentally friendly, but by plain is way easier. Once in Valencia the best way to travel is by Public transport (free for students) or by bike (Kleta is a nice rent business.

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	Citricultura	4.5	Cultivation of citrus trees	5	Pretty hard in spanish, but really nice with a lot of excursions
2	Malas hierbas	4.5	The combat of weeds	5	Interesing course, loads of excursions
3	Marketing agroalimentario	5	Marketing considering agrifood	3	Difficult to do group work in Spanish, not my subject of interest
4	Botanica sistematica	4.5	Botany, loads of knowledge of native Spanish plants	5	Interesting course, nice insight to see spanish plants.
5					

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

Workload was not extremely high, but it was difficult because I did not speak Spanish very well. Even though the UPV is the most prestigious university in Valencia, I think subjects especially in English are very doable compared to WUR subjects. Lessons are given pretty much like at the WUR, but smaller classes, it feels more personal.

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?)

Students call teachers by their first name, and are not afraid to ask/talk/make a joke in class. Lecturers are approachable and helpful with erasmus students. English subjects are given only to erasmus students, but since I had lessons in spanish I engaged a lot with the spanish students and also had coffee, went to dinner with them.

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

Sports facilities are free, with lots of classes like yoga, pilates and crossfit and a free gym. The cafetaria are amazing and cheap.

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 would try to find a room via housing facilities online. I found mine via FlatstoEnjoy.

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

People are open, and very direct. Generally when speaking spanish they were more helpful and open than when speaking english.

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

500 a month more or less

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

I traveled by bike everyday, I hired one for 5 months. Other students went walking or by public transport.

6. Free time

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

Beach, city centre, general highlights of the city.

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

Since Barcelona/madrid/javea/andalucia are all relatively close, it is worth spending a holiday/weekendtrip there. Especially a roadtrip to javea was amazing.

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

The clubs are amazing and there are many good tapas restaurants, my favorites in the city centre.

7. Challenges & best moment abroad

What was a challenge you have experienced?

The biggest challenge I experienced was passing my exams in a different language. Generally I did not experience many challenges adapting to the spanish culture.

What was your best memory abroad?

The trips to ibiza, javea and andalucia

8. Contact details (optional)

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