



WUR Goes Abroad

1. Student Information

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|---|---------------------------|
| Field of study in Wageningen | Soil, Water, Atmosphere |
| Study period exchange (dd/mm/yyyy) | 24/01/2023 until 16/06/23 |
| Country (exchange) | Spain |
| City (exchange) | Valencia |
| University (exchange) | UCV |
| Faculty (exchange) | Marine Sciences |

2. Motivation for exchange

Why did you choose to go on study exchange?

Meet new people, learn new language, be more independent and doing things on myself

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

I wanted to learn Spanish, and I liked Valencia as a city to live and study in.

3. Accessibility to reach destination

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

You can easily reach it by Flixbus, Amsterdam/Arnhem – Paris and Paris – Valencia. Or you can just take the plane...

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 | Marine Ecology | 6 | Learning about the ecology specific for marine life | 3 | You don't have to do much to get this course, you will also learn little.. |
| 2 | Marine Botany | 6 | Algae, algae and algae, and a bit of sea weeds | 3 | If you do not want to study for hours about algae and the different characteristics they all have.. then it is not something for you. Also relatively much work. |
| 3 | Español B1 | 6 | Spanish | 5 | Totally worth your time, really nice teachers, I have learned a lot and it was definitely useful, because not many people speak English in Vlc. |
| 4 | Sedimentología (in Spanish) | 6 | Sedimentology, how the rocks are formed by marine influences and vice versa | 3 | Quite interesting, but impossible to follow if your Spanish is not fluent, because the teacher talks with an accent and really(!) fast. |
| 5 | | | | | |
| 6 | | | | | |

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

4 hours per week of lecture, some practicals. At the end all the 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?)

Teachers are approachable.

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

They offer some sports lessons, for example volleyball, but it will take you 30 minutes by metro. They did do a course on rock climbing for really cheap, that was really nice.

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?)

Via rentaroom or different sites, there's enough availability, you can also still search for a room when you are in Vlc, just first take a hostel or Airbnb.

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

The food is ofcourse great, also affordable. Be careful with choosing a home and flatmates, in general, it is better to live with internationals than Spanish people (from experience), regarding cleaning and well living together nicely in general (also because they do not speak English).

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

You can definitely find under 400 euros. Russafa is nice, bit more expensive though..

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

Joven 30 public transport card; then every metro, bus and tram is for free with your personal card.

6. Free time

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

Blablacar is quite nice to go to other cities, like Cordoba, Granada and Sevilla (big recommendations those 3 cities). Córdoba has Medina-Al Zahar, very interesting archeological site. Buñol has beautiful water falls.

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

Cullera, for just a nice hike, easily reachable by train, relatively cheap day of hiking :)

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

La finestra, just go to the park, beach, go to many cafes, relax

7.Challenges & best moment abroad

What was a challenge you have experienced?

Living together with some Spanish people, just having all the disadvantages of flatmates and none of the advantages. So really choose your flat (more) wisely!!!

What was your best memory abroad?

The trips to Andalusia, the relaxing moments of going to a cafe and restaurants,

8. Contact details (optional)

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