



# WUR Goes Abroad

## 1. Student information

<b>Study programme WU</b>	Bedrijfs- en Consumentenwetenschappen
<b>Exchange semester (dd/mm/yyyy)</b>	5 February 2024 until 20 June 2024
<b>Exchange destination: University</b>	Czech University of Life Sciences Prague
<b>Faculty</b>	Economics
<b>Country</b>	Czech Republic
<b>City</b>	Prague

## 2. Motivation for exchange

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

I always wanted to study and live abroad, ever since I can remember. I always knew that I could go on study exchange during my bachelor, so I knew I had to take this chance.

### b. What is the reason you chose for this country?

My previous preference for a country was not the Czech Republic, but it was Sweden. However, I am very happy that I went to Czech Republic, because I loved the country a lot, especially Prague, where I lived.

### c. What is the reason you chose for this university?

I could not choose a university in this city, I was assigned to it.

## 3. Accessibility to reach destination

### a. Do you have any advice about reaching your exchange destination?

I went by plane, but I heard it was also quite easy to go by train or even by bus. Since it is not too far from The Netherlands, each transportation is doable. I did not have any problems with my luggage.

## 4. University and studying

### a. 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	Economics of Brewing	5	Learning about brewing beer and a little bit about the economics of it.	1	I have to say, the teacher was not extremely nice and had a harsh and uncommon way of giving feedback. His lectures were sadly

					also quite boring. It was not what I was expecting from this course.
2	Science, Philosophy and Society	5	You learn mainly about Philosophy.	4	This course was very interesting as I had not had a course about Philosophy before. The teacher was very nice and had an interactive way of teaching, which made you learn a lot.
3	Introduction to Sociology and Rural Sociology	5	A course about philosophy in the context of rural areas.	3	The course was similar to the Sociology course you also follow during BBC, but it was still quite different because of the rural aspect. It was a fine course.
4	Psychology of Organizational Behaviour	5	You learn about psychology within organisations.	2	The course was fine, but not super interesting, since I knew a lot of the information already.
5	Theory of Management	5	You learn mainly about management in different context.	3	
6	Human Resource Management	5		3	

**b. I had sufficient possibilities to select suitable courses that were taught in English (Yes, No - Explain):**

I think there were a lot of English courses, but you did have to make sure the courses that picked, did not have any overlap. This was kind of difficult, since you had to create your own schedule, but it was doable and you could make sure you had a schedule that was convenient for you.

**c. I had sufficient possibilities to select suitable courses in my field of interest (Yes, No - Explain):**

Yes, there were a lot of suitable courses in my field of interest and in a lot of other fields of interest.

**d. I am satisfied with the level of the courses that I followed (Yes, No - Explain):**

The courses were not as difficult as they are at the WUR, but it was okay. Since you also experience so many other things and you live in a completely different country, which can be difficult sometimes, it would be extra hard to follow very difficult courses, so for me, this was completely fine.

**e. I am satisfied, in the end, with the selection of courses I followed (Yes, No - Explain):**

I liked the courses I followed and I think it was certainly an addition to my knowledge. The course: 'economics of brewing industry' was not what I expected, since it was mainly about the actual brewing process, and not much about the economics.

**f. What is it like to study there?**

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

As I said before, it is not very difficult to study there. The exams were not very difficult, but it did depend on the course. All courses were different. Some had only presentations, some had only an examination, but most had a combination of an exam, presentation and often a small essay.

**g. What is the culture of the university?**

*E.g. How approachable are the lecturers, engagement with local students? What are the differences with WU?*

The teachers are often very approachable. They are mainly nice, but sometimes a teacher can be a little harsher. Czech people are in general a little harsher, so this fits in their culture. However, the teachers were mainly nice and you could share your problems with them and they help you. Sometimes it was harder to communicate with them due to language barriers and the fact that the university is less well organized than, for example, the WU.

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

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

The campus has a Mensa and a small gym. There is not much more, to my knowledge.

## 5. Housing-traveling-living

**a. What are the possibilities for housing?**

*E.g. Availability to sign up for a room on campus, private rooms, rent rates?*

There are dorms, but the ones from CZU are not very recommendable as I have heard. I got my room through 'Erasmus in Prague' which went great in my opinion, and the apartment was beautiful.

**b. What is the culture like?**

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

Czechs are generally reserved and polite and sometimes a little short, especially in initial interactions. They may take some time to open up. I didn't really get to know many Czech people. Public behaviour is more reserved. Loud talking is not very common. Czechs drink a lot of beer, so you can buy it everywhere for quite cheap.

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

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

Public transportation is extremely well organized and cheap in Czechia. Through the PID app, you can buy a ticket for either a month, 3 months, 6 months or a whole year. If you use your ISIC card, which you receive at the beginning of your Erasmus stay, it becomes even cheaper. The PID app can also be used as a sort of Google Maps and often gives you better routes than Google Maps.

## 6. Expenses

**a. Can you give an indication of your expenses for/during your exchange?**

Category	Expenses
Travelling there	Back and forth, around 400 euros by plane
Visa - if applicable	-
Vaccinations - if applicable	-
Insurances (extra) - if applicable	-
Daytrips/sight-seeing	I did a lot of trips with friends that visited me, in Czechia and around the country, so 200 euros a month.
Housing costs per month & type of housing/accommodation	600 euros/month
Grocery costs per month	150 euros/month
Public transport costs per month	15 euros/month
Restaurant/going out for dinner costs per month	150 euros/month

**b. The price levels were in general [higher; lower; equal] in comparison to in the Netherlands:**

Lower

**c. Additional remarks regarding expenses?**

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## 7. Free time

**a. What are must-sees in the area?**

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

In Prague: Prague Castle, Charles Bridge, Old Town Square, Wenceslas Square, Josefov (Jewish Quarter), Petřín Hill

Around Prague: Český Krumlov, Lake Lipno, Terezín, Adrspach (which I travelled to by bus, except for Adrspach, I went by a friends car)

In other countries: Vienna, Berlin, Budapest, Krakau

**b. What does not appear in a travel guide, but is definitely worth seeing/doing?**

Letná Park, a great park in the city centre. During the spring and summertime, there is a small festival going on every other day.

## 8. Challenges & best moment abroad

**a. Any challenges? How did you deal with them?**

It was sometimes hard to live completely on your own, away from all your friends and family, but you make new friends very quickly. It can be challenging to do this for half a year, but it is very worth it. Make sure to keep in touch with your friends and family at home, because it makes it all a lot easier.

**b. Best memory?**

Going to parties and going on trips with the friends I made in Prague.

## 9. Contact details

<b>Is the reader allowed to contact the writer?</b>	yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	no <input type="checkbox"/>
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