



WUR Goes Abroad

1. Student Information

Field of study in Wageningen	Forest- and nature conservation
Study period exchange (dd/mm/yyyy)	22-08-2022 until 15-1-2023
Country (exchange)	Sweden
City (exchange)	Alnarp
University (exchange)	SLU, Sveriges lantbruksuniversitet
Faculty (exchange)	

2. Motivation for exchange

Why did you choose to go on study exchange?

I wanted to explore Scandidavia, learn about the forestry sector and get different overview of forestry in Europe. I wanted to learn new cultures.

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

Sweden has a big important forestry sector and great nature. I wanted to see the mooses, big forests and learn about the forestry sector of Sweden. I wanted to learn about the swedisch culture.

3. Accessibility to reach destination

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

I went with my own van with 2 fellow students to Sweden. This was a easy travel. We travelled by daytime and it took around 12 hours to get on destination. Good playlist and good company made it a beautiful roadtrip. The ferry is super nice in offseason but was to expensive in summer. It is than cheaper to go via the 3 bridges.

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	Silviculture of temperate forests	15	Sustainable management of trees and forest in temperate region. 30	4	Nice course with interesting focus on economic sustainabilty. Sadly with dutch forest regulations

			species where shown in detail and great focus on high quality timber.		much of the practices will not be allowed in the Netherlands. I learned to make high quality timber and it is still of great interest for me
2	Urban Forestry management of urban forests and trees	15	Management of trees and forest with focus on recreation in a city environment, Forestry, recreation and biodiversity where of importance.	5	This was like forest- and nature conservation with a city perspective! Should be cool to introduce a course like this on the WUR for nature conservationists in urban settings.
3					
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How is the study formalized? (E.g. study forms, academic level, examination, workload, lesson material)

The academic level is the same as in Wageningen and for both course also in work load. The lesson materials were free and the books and papers were interesting. The examinations were for the first course oral and the second one a logbook. I think it would be nice if the SLU gave clearer descriptions how to get a grade. There is a lot of space for the professor to give the grade while I like to see how my grade is made up.

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?)

Small classes! 12 till 30 students in a course. It was super approachable to get to the lectures and to engage with locals. Only size of class was different. The culture was the same.

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

Housing, laundry, restaurant, café. It has a big park on campus, outdoor gym. The student union organised things but they were not that active or fun as the associations in Wageningen. I also organised things by myself for people. We could hire the pub for free as a student. So we could influence the parties that was fun 😊

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 sign up for a room on campus. I have to say this was super stress full as we were promised to have guaranteed housing and in the process they changed their policies. I was not amused by this. Hopefully they will do this upcoming times more

professional by saying in advance if the rooms are guaranteed or not and not changing the policies. I lived with a lot of polish people in a house for 20 people for around 300 euros. If you want to live in a bigger city go for lund or malmo. Alnarp is small. 😊

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

The culture is super cool! They have always fika (coffeetime with snack).

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

Everything is a bit more expensive than in the Netherlands. Watch out with having a car. If you drive a diesel car the prices per liter could increase to 3 euros. That was a bit painfull. Also alcohol is expensive. Local produced vegetables are cheap. Meat is also expensive. Camping is a right and you can do that for free in Sweden. The nature parks are for free and even some ferries are for free. The public transport is good and not too expensive. Fika is expensive but worth it.

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

Its cheaper and pretty good. There is a lot of busses and trains bringing you to destinations. You live already on campus so no worries to travel to university. As I said for cars its an expensive country. You are also not allowed to park your car for more than 24 hours. The roads are more dangerous than in the Netherlands as swedes do not salt icy road. We almost had some accidents wit completely frozen roads. Still fun for drifting.

6. Free time

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

Kullaberg from nils holgerson. Ales stenar, store mosse and some other national parks. Go see Copenhagen! Super cool atmosphere in that city. You can spot seals on the beach. And go in the forest to see mooses.

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

the beach sauna of malmo. Super nice spot where you can go to the sauna for 10 euros and you can dip in the sea afterwards.

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

Yes Malmo has some nice restaurants and lomma has some good fish at the harbor restaurants.

7.Challenges & best moment abroad

What was a challenge you have experienced?

Learning swedish

What was your best memory abroad?

The trip from the temperate forest course! We went to Denmark, Sweden and even Germany. Super cool!

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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