



WUR Goes Abroad

1. Student Information

Field of study in Wageningen	Soil, Water, Atmosphere
Study period exchange (dd/mm/yyyy)	15/08/2022 until 15/12/2022
Country (exchange)	Iceland
City (exchange)	Reykjavik
University (exchange)	University of Iceland
Faculty (exchange)	Engineering and natural sciences

2. Motivation for exchange

Why did you choose to go on study exchange?

Because I wanted to know what it is like to live abroad and to meet people from all over the world

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

Iceland is geologically very interesting with its volcanoes, plate boundaries and geothermal energy. I wanted to see whether geology is something for me

3. Accessibility to reach destination

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

Take the plane or ferry, Be careful in wintertime because you might end up in a snowstorm, which will cancel all flights.

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	Volcanology	7.5	Everything about volcanos, eruption styles, lava types, lava flow mechanics and hazards	4	
2	Introduction to the geology of Iceland	10	For beginning geology students, all very introductory	5	Starts with very cool excursion week
3	Current crustal movements	6	More advanced geology about tectonic movements and structural formations	4	
4	Geophysical exploration	7.5	Learning methods to look deep into the earth's crust and find characteristics of geothermal systems with this or other interesting formations	5	Very nice excursion week where you get practical experience with all methods
5					
6					

How is the study formalized? (E.g. study forms, academic level, examination, workload, lesson material) The workload is way less than in Wageningen. Academic level is lower as well, but perfect for me as geology was a relatively new topic for me.

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?)

The lecturers are very easy-going, even more approachable than in Wageningen.

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

There is a university gym on campus and some group lessons you can take like yoga or Basketball or workouts

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?) There is a housing shortage, so on campus is hard to get into on the right date, but it is possible, for \$850. Private rooms is another possibility. I got my room through facebook.

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

Culture is very similar to any northwest European or Scandinavian country. People are kind and a bit more relaxed than in The Netherlands. This also means that not everything is planned as tightly as in the Netherlands.

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

Where I pay 400 euros in Wageningen, I would have to pay 800 euros in Reykjavik

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

Bus is the best option within Reykjavik, It is not that expensive for students. Personally, I cycled everywhere in the city

6. Free time

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

Renting a car or camper is the best option by far (but expensive) than just explore all the attractions at the ring road. Reykjadalur is a must see. It is a hot river where you can bath.

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

Go to all hot pots and swimming pools there are, because it is always worth it and relaxing and you will meet some locals

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

The pools are the best. Especially in winter when it is cold and dark outside

7.Challenges & best moment abroad

What was a challenge you have experienced?

Public transport is very limited to Reykjavik. So in order to get out of the city you would have to rent a car, which is really expensive.

What was your best memory abroad?

Renting a camper in winter, drive north and see the best northern lights ever, the coolest waterfalls and the most amazing landscapes.

8. Contact details (optional)

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

Name/e-mail	Wouter van der Niet
--------------------	---------------------