



# WUR Goes Abroad

## 1. Student Information

<b>Study programme WUR</b>	MSc Development and Rural Innovation
<b>Exchange semester (dd/mm/yyyy)</b>	14/07/2023 until 31/12/2023
<b>Exchange destination: University</b>	University of Melbourne
<b>Faculty</b>	Faculty of Arts
<b>Country</b>	Australie
<b>City</b>	Melbourne

## 2. Motivation for exchange

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

To specialize in the field of conflict, disaster and crisis and to experience studying in a different country

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

Australia is a magnificent country, they speak English and Melbourne is an really cool city. Besides, the University of Melbourne is one of the best universities in the world (I believe #14 in international rankings)

## 3. Accessibility to reach destination

### Do you have any tips to reach your exchange destination?

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	Global Crisis Reporting	7.5		5	
2	Disaster and Humanitarian aid	7.5		5	
3	Crisis Management	7.5		3	
4	Conflict, Security and Development	7.5		3	
5					
6					

### What is it like to study there?

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

Study load is similar to WUR only the semester is different. You 4 subjects at the same time, some are intensives that only go for a few weeks, some go throughout the semester. This requires a bit more planning sometimes. Also for my subject I didn't have any exams, only assignments, which has its pros and cons.

### 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?*

*I didn't expect it but the teachers are really approachable. Sometimes they even knew my name why I never spoke to them. They are engaged and respond to questions fast.*

### What does the university offer students additionally?

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

*There are plenty of opportunities to join clubs etc but the university does not really actively support this, you have to look for it yourself. Throughout the semester there are various events, but you have to know that they happen (I often missed them because the info was not always available)*

## 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?*

Expect really high prices for rent. The rent goes per week and cheap student accommodation starts at 340AUD/week (about 200 euros per week, almost 1000 per month). There are plenty of options but you have to be flexible

**What is the culture of the country like?**

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

Experience yourself! Aussies are really friendly and you'll have a great time

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

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

I bought a bike the first week which saves me a lot of money on public transport (which is 10AUD per day for msc students, 5 for bsc students). But public transport is really good in Melbourne, which has the biggest tram network in the world

## 6. Expenses

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

*E.g. you can also indicate price differences (higher/lower/equal) in comparison to the Netherlands.*

Ticket there: depends how far in advance, I paid 1200 euros as I was really late

Visa if applicable: 630 AUD

Vaccinations if applicable: no

Insurances (extra, if applicable): Overseas Student Healthcare Cover, you need to have this will be about 400 AUD

Housing costs per month & type of housing/accommodation: 1350 AUD/month for shared accommodation outside the CBD (30 min cycling, 45 min public transport)

Groceries: 400 AUD/month

Public transport: 10/day

Restaurant/going out for dinner: cheaper then in Netherlands – BUT alcohol is really expensive, so if you want to go out partying/drinking with friends expect to spend lots of money

Daytrips/sight-seeing:

**Additional remarks regarding expenses?**

You can sign up for free meals at the university. Every week you can pick up 3 or 4 frozen meals and fresh vegetables, saves a lot of money!

## 7. Free time

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

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

*Great ocean road, Philip Island, Wilsons Promontory, Tasmania, Sydney, whole of Australia*

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

If you want a beach go to Geelong, 30 min out of Melbourne but amazing place

**Do you have general tips and tricks about leisure time?**

*E.g. recommendations for restaurants, going out?*

*Make friends! Travelling through Australia is really expensive but if you have other people you can share the costs. Also rent a car in the weekends and explore around the city*

## 8. Challenges & best moment abroad

**What challenges did you encounter and how did you overcome them?**

I thought it would be easy to find a job, but it isn't. Especially on a temporary student visa it is near impossible to find a job in Melbourne. So get your finances in order.

**What is your best memory of your time abroad?**

The friends I have made

## 9. Contact details (optional)

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