



# WUR Goes Abroad

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## 1. Student Information

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<b>Study programme WUR</b>	MME-A Sustainable Business & Innovation
<b>Exchange semester (dd/mm/yyyy)</b>	14-08-2023 until 08-12-2023
<b>Exchange destination: University</b>	Nanyang Technological University (NTU)
<b>Faculty</b>	Business Management and Organisation (BMO)
<b>Country</b>	Singapore
<b>City</b>	Singapore

## 2. Motivation for exchange

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

I chose to go on a study exchange to broaden my worldview before entering the workforce. I believe gaining international exposure will enhance the understanding of different cultures and perspectives, which will be useful in my future career. Also, studying abroad offers great opportunity to meet new people and embark on new experiences.

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

It was obvious to me that I wanted to plan my exchange in Singapore because it is one of the global forerunner cities in terms of technology, innovation, and sustainability. Due to Singapore's excellent facilities and educational environment, there are one of the best educational institutions in the world. Singapore was also a destination on my bucket list because of the high standard of living, diverse culture, and ease of access to other southeast Asian countries.

## 3. Accessibility to reach destination

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

As for reaching Singapore, my suggestion is to carefully plan your journey ahead of time. Flights can be quite expensive, so it is essential to avoid booking your flight too late.

## 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	Project Management	5.5	It is a general course about project management	3	This course was just general and did not really introduce many new concepts. However, the teacher was super helpful.
2	Supply Chain Inventory Planning	5.5	This course focused on the importance of sharing information in supply chains. It covered topics incl. multi-echelon inventory management, the distinction between push and pull supply chains, the trade-off between inventory and transportation, and strategies for mitigating risks in global supply chains.	4	I was unfamiliar with a lot of the equations and calculations in this course, so it was really challenging for me to follow. I did, however, learn a lot about supply chains and the course was really interesting.
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4					
5					
6					

### What is it like to study there?

Overall, the workload is very doable. The classes are not really intense, taking place only once a week for 3 hours per course.

### What is the culture of the university?

Local students seemed closely-knit, making it a bit challenging to integrate, but they're eager to help you with anything if you ask for it. The culture is heavily school-focused, with a lot of internal competition among local students. However, as an international student, I did not feel the impact of this competition as much.

### What does the university offer students additionally?

There are a lot of (cheap) canteens. However, there is not a lot of western food available (as you can expect). There are lots of sports facilities and gyms available. For instance, the residence hall where I was staying had its own gym. Plus, each hall has its own laundry facilities.

## 5. Housing-travelling-living

### **What are the possibilities for housing?**

There are a lot of student rooms available on their campus, and they are very affordable. I stayed there myself in a single room with aircon. You also have the option to stay off-campus, but that tends to be more expensive. The rooms come with different features like air conditioning, shared or private setups. Keep in mind that you are assigned a room, so you don't get to choose the specific type.

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

Singapore has a lot of rules, such as not being allowed to drink in public transportation. Also, food holds great significance in Singaporean culture, with a strong emphasis on dining together. They have a lot of Hawker centres, offering a diverse array of cuisines, which can be found everywhere.

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

The taxi fares are relatively reasonable, costing around 15,- for a daytime trip to the city center. However, it's important to note that prices can be higher during nighttime or peak hours.

The public transport infrastructure is well-developed with efficient metro and bus lines. Although the public transportation is convenient, it can be time-consuming, taking nearly 1 to 1.5 hours to reach certain destinations. In contrast, a taxi can cover the same distance in approx. 25-30 minutes.

## 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: -

Visa if applicable: n.a.

Vaccinations if applicable: n.a.

Insurances (extra, if applicable): n.a.

Housing costs per month & type of housing/accommodation: around 400,- per month

Groceries: I hardly bought groceries and mainly ate out.

Public transport: cheaper than in the Netherlands if I remember correctly

Restaurant/going out for dinner: more expensive than in the Netherlands, especially alcohol is very expensive in Singapore

Daytrips/sight-seeing: more expensive than in the Netherlands

### **Additional remarks regarding expenses?**

Singapore, in general, is an expensive country and is notably more expensive compared to the Netherlands.

## 7. Free time

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

Must-sees in the area include traveling to other Asian countries such as the Philippines, Thailand, and Indonesia, as well as exploring cities like Hong Kong. Many students also visit Japan and South Korea.

In Singapore, be sure to check out Gardens by the Bay and visit CE LA VI for a stunning view of the famous Marina Bay Sands hotel!

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

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

Definitely visit the hawker centres, where you can find different delicious cuisines. If you're up for a more western lunch, go to Merci Marcel. When it comes to nightlife, I would recommend checking out Marquee, CE LA VI, or Zouk

## 8. Challenges & best moment abroad

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

One challenge I faced was managing expenses, given the high costs there. To overcome this, I tried to stick to a budget and try not to eat as much outside of campus.

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

My best memory of my time abroad is the unforgettable travel experiences and the wonderful friendships I made.

## 9. Contact details (optional)

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