

MSc Leisure, Tourism and Environment



Alumna Ana Raguz. *"My Master in Leisure, Tourism and Environment brought me a diversity of perspectives, cultures, experiences, sources of both theoretical and practical knowledge as well as the critical way of thinking, inspiring me for a creative action. It constantly triggered my personal and professional development and I adored and enjoyed it! For me many things started to fall into the place so suddenly and with such ease. It was a period of spreading ideas, trusting in them and working hard and thoroughly to realize them. At some point the right people started appearing and I was able to develop the project of harvesThink and with two colleagues I have been maturing the idea of opening my own company."*

Your future career

The MSc Leisure, Tourism and Environment programme is designed for students who seek a career as an academic professional or as a scientist. The programme prepares students for work in three major areas: policy and planning, research or consultancy, and development. A large proportion of our graduates find employment with government agencies or non-governmental organisations, in the areas of policy development and implementation. This is achieved at local, regional or international levels. Many graduates are employed by consultancy agencies, research institutes or network organisations that link different interest groups, such as leisure and tourism organisations with conservation institutions or private business with government organisations and communities. Others continue their academic careers by entering a PhD programme at an university.

Other interesting programmes

MSc International Development Studies, MSc Management, Economics and Consumer Studies, MSc Development and Rural Innovation, MSc Applied Communication Studies, MSc Landscape Architecture and Planning.



Programme summary

The Leisure, Tourism and Environment programme is characterised by a worldwide, transdisciplinary, critical and innovative approach. The focus is on the relationship between leisure and environment with special attention for tourism.

More and more people throughout the world are spending a growing proportion of their time and money on leisure. This means that the economic and social importance of leisure and tourism services is growing tremendously. There is increasing awareness that leisure in all its manifestations has major consequences for cultural, political, technological, economic and geographical transformations throughout the world. In this respect, leisure has become a powerful agent of both cultural globalisation and regionalisation. Leisure and tourism can provide a major contribution to quality of life and social well-being. They have long been recognised for their role in community and regional development but also for their impact on the environment.

The aim of the Leisure, Tourism and Environment programme is to analyse the development behind the fast growing leisure and tourism industry. It involves the study of leisure and tourism from a historical and philosophical perspective in a global, multicultural context. The study integrates the role of governmental, business and 'third sector' organisations in the innovation process towards sustainable (tourism) development. Debates about globalisation processes as well as the experience of leisure and tourism within the spatial, natural and social environment comprise a large part of the programme. Besides this theoretical approach to leisure and tourism, the study also focuses on advanced quantitative and qualitative research methods, and techniques commonly used in research concerning leisure and tourism.

The programme is international and multicultural. Faculty members from many parts of the world come to Wageningen and give lectures in the programme, bringing together an extraordinarily wide range of academic experience. Also, the class room itself is very international with students from various educational and professional backgrounds coming together to critically discuss contemporary issues.

Admission Requirements

For general admission requirements, see page 40. More information about specific admission requirements can be found on the website.