

SLOVAK UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURE IN NITRA

Exchange students guide



Lifelong
Learning
Programme



Content

WELCOME	5	SYSTEM OF STUDY	34
SLOVAKIA IN BRIEF	7	HOW TO REACH US	35
GEOGRAPHY	8	UNIVERSITY CAMPUS	39
CLIMATE AND WEATHER IN SLOVAKIA	10	STUDENT LIFE	42
POPULATION AND RELIGION	11	STUDENTS' ASSOCIATIONS	43
HISTORY	11	PREPARING YOUR STAY	45
GOVERNMENT AND ADMINISTRATION	12	ACADEMIC CALENDAR	45
PUBLIC HOLIDAYS	13	HOW TO APPLY	46
FAMOUS SLOVAKS	15	PREPARING THE STUDY PROGRAMME	47
NITRA – MOTHER OF SLOVAK TOWNS	17	COORDINATORS FOR EXCHANGE STUDENTS	48
PLACES TO VISIT IN NITRA	18	LANGUAGE PREPARATION	49
INTERESTING PLACES IN NITRA REGION	21	ACCOMODATION AND CATERING	50
THINGS TO DO IN NITRA	23	VISA AND RESIDENCE PERMIT REGULATIONS	51
KEEPING FIT	25	HEALTH INSURANCE	52
EVENING ENTERTAINMENT	26	AVERAGE LIVING COSTS	53
SLOVAK UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURE IN NITRA	29	ORIENTATION WEEK	54
ABOUT US	29	EXTENDING YOUR STAY	54
OUR STRUCTURE	30	PRACTICAL INFORMATION DURING YOUR STAY	57
STUDY PROGRAMMES IN ENGLISH	32		
EUROPEAN CREDIT TRANSFER SYSTEM			
AND ECTS LABEL	33		

Welcome

Globalization is an inevitable phenomenon in human history that has been bringing the world closer through the exchange of goods and products, information, knowledge and culture. Students and teaching staff have perfect opportunities to study abroad and thus achieve intercultural perception of the reality and mutual understanding and tolerance. Study stay abroad helps them to develop both personally and professionally.

This guide is designed for Exchange students who have been admitted to study at the Slovak University of Agriculture in Nitra. The purpose of the guide is to provide general and detailed information which we hope will be useful to you while planning your stay as well as during your stay in Slovakia. In this guide you will find useful information about living in Nitra, some tips for discovering the beauties of Nitra region and Slovakia, and also general information about the Slovak University of Agriculture that has been associated with the university education for over 60 years and currently offers more than 80 study programs at all levels within its 6 faculties.

ECTS Coordinators, International Relations Office administrators, our teachers and students are here to help you with the integration into day-to-day students life at our university and into social informal networks. You can contact them for any academic matters and additional information which is not included in this guide.

Dear students, I warmly welcome all of you and I wish you a pleasant and fruitful stay in Nitra, which I am sure will surpass your initial expectations.

Prof. Dr. Ing. Elena Horská

Vice-Rector for International and Public Relations



Slovakia in brief



Official name: The Slovak Republic

Capital city: Bratislava

Population: 5,4 mil.

Total land area: 49,035 sq km

Short form: Slovakia

ISO 2-letters code: SK

3-letters code: SVK

National flag:



State emblem:

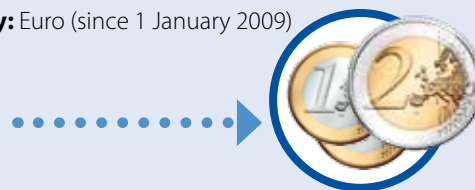


Official Language: Slovak

Political system: parliamentary democracy

Date of Establishment: January 1, 1993, after the split of the former Czechoslovak Republic.

Currency: Euro (since 1 January 2009)



Membership in international organizations: EU, NATO, UN, OECD, OSCE, WHO, INTERPOL

Geography

Slovak Republic is a **central European country** with vast forest areas extending on two fifths of its territory. Its total area of 49,035 sq km does not rank Slovakia among large countries. Slovak Republic is **bordered** on the north by Poland; on the south by Hungary; on the west by Czech Republic and Austria and its eastern border is formed by Ukraine. The surface of Slovakia is very irregular, characterized by **lowlands, valleys, hills, highlands and mountain chains**.

The south and the south-east of the country are covered mostly by lowlands: Východoslovenská nížina, Záhorská nížina and Podunajská nížina, the last one being the largest and most fertile. The northern part is dominated by the mountain range of the Carpathian Mountains. Their well known mountain chains are: High Tatras, Low Tatras, Slovak Ore Mountains; volcanic Štiavica Mountains; Greater Fatra and Lesser Fatra. Many of them are part of national parks and protected landscape areas.

High Tatras is the most famous Slovak mountain and it is the only mountain range with an Alpine character on the Slovak territory.

Time zone: GMT + 1; GMT + 2 from last Sunday in March to last Saturday in October

Did you know?

SLOVAKIA RECORD

The highest point



Gerlachovský štít (Gerlach peak) in the High Tatras 2,655 m
Klin nad Bodrogom - 94 m
Starý Hrad Cave - 432 m
Váh - 406 km
Modrý Kameň - 1,414 inhabitants (district of Veľký Krtíš)

The lowest point

The deepest Cave

The longest River

The smallest town

The largest river island in Europe is the Rye Island in southern Slovakia (1,326 km²).



Climate and Weather in Slovakia

Climate in Slovakia is continental with mild summer and winter temperatures, snow and rain, sun and wind.

Although Slovakia is not a large country, the weather can be quite different in the mountainous north and in the plain south. Generally, the climate is relatively continental with almost no extremes below minimal -20°C (-4°F) or above maximal $+37^{\circ}\text{C}$ ($+99^{\circ}\text{F}$).

Winters are more severe in mountains, where the snow lasts the whole winter until March or even April and the night temperatures go down to -20°C or rarely even lower.

Bratislava and Southern Slovakia is the warmest region. In summer, the temperatures may rise up to $+30^{\circ}\text{C}$, on sunny and hot days even up to $35-37^{\circ}\text{C}$. There may be warm nights with temperatures above 20°C . Spring and autumn are something in between. It may rain at any time of the year and at any place.



Population and Religion

The total number of inhabitants is 5,4 mil. (women with 51,5% share). Apart from Slovaks there are Hungarians, Czechs and other nationalities living together in Slovakia.

Slovakia is traditionally a religious country. The first Christian bishopric was established in the 9th century in Nitra. The majority of people declare their affiliation to the Roman-Catholic Church. Other registered churches are Evangelical Church of Augsburg Confession, Greek Catholic Church, Reformed Christian, Orthodox, Jewish and others.

History

Present-day Slovakia was settled by old Slavic tribes around the 6th century. The first state formation - the Great Moravian Empire - appeared in the 9th century. In 907, the Germans

and the Magyars conquered the Moravian state, and the Slavs fell under Hungarian rule from the 10th century up until 1918. When the Habsburg-ruled empire collapsed after the World War I in 1918, the Slovaks joined the Czech lands of Bohemia, Moravia, and part of Silesia to form the new joint state of Czechoslovakia.

Shortly after the "Velvet Revolution" in 1989 the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic split into two and the Slovak Republic came into existence on Jan. 1, 1993. In 2004, Slovakia joined the EU and NATO. In May 2005 it ratified the EU constitution and adopted the Euro currency in 2009.



Government and Administration

Slovak Republic is a parliamentary democracy. Head of the state is the president elected for a five-year term. The highest executive body is the Government of the Slovak Republic, headed by the Prime Minister. The legislative power is held by The National Council of the Slovak Republic, an unicameral parliament that consists of 150 Members elected for a 4-year term.

The country is administratively divided into 8 higher territorial units, 8 regions and 79 districts. The biggest cities of Slovakia are Bratislava, Košice, Prešov and Nitra.



Bratislava



Košice



Prešov



Nitra

Public holidays

National, public and religious holidays are days off in Slovakia. Banks, Post Offices, medical centres and most shops are closed. Public transport services may be reduced.

1 January - New Year's Eve, Independence day of Slovakia

6 January - Feast of the Epiphany (Three Kings Day)

Good Friday

Easter Monday

1 May - Labour Day

8 May - End of World War II

5 July - Day of St. Cyril and St. Methodius – Commemoration of Greeek brothers who compiled the first Slavic alphabet and codified the Old Slavonic language and translated liturgical and biblical texts into it

29 August - Day of Slovak National Uprising

1 September - Constitution Day

15 September - Day of Our Lady of Sorrows

1 November - All Saints' Day

17 November - Struggle for Freedom and Democracy Day, Students' Day

24 December - Christmas Eve

25 December - Christmas Day

26 December - St. Stephen's Day



Did you know?

Currently seven places in Slovakia are listed as UNESCO World Heritage Sites:

Banská Štiavnica Historic Town and surrounding Technical Monuments (1993),

Bardejov Town Conservation Reservation (2000),

Levoča, Spiš Castle and its associated Cultural Monuments (1993, 2009),

Vlkolínec Village (1993)

Wooden Churches of the Slovak Part of the Carpathian Mountain Area (2008)

Dobšinská Ice Cave and Slovak Karst (1995)

Primeval Beech Forests of the Carpathians (2007)

Spišský hrad (Spiš castle) is the largest medieval castle complex in Middle Europe. It is more than 40,000 m² large.



Banská Štiavnica



Bardejov



Levoča



Vlkolínec

Famous Slovaks

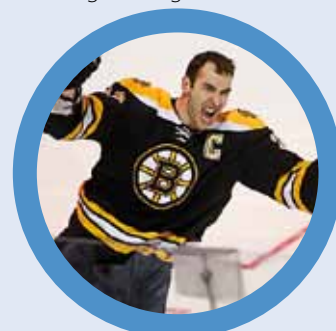
Matej Bel – polyhistor, teacher and researcher, and an evangetic priest. He was one of the greatest scientific figures of the 18th century and was referred to as the Great Ornament of Hungary.



Štefan Banič - inventor of the parachute. In 1914, Banič demonstrated how his parachute worked, by jumping from a building in Washington. He then kindly gave away his patent rights to the U.S. Army and although his invention proved extremely important during WWI, he received little fame or fortune.

Aurel Stodola – engineer, professor, and inventor. He achieved his greatest successes in the area of steam turbines. His calculations and constructions formed a basis for this particular field of mechanical engineering.

Zdeno Chára - is a Slovak professional ice hockey defenseman. He is the captain of the Boston Bruins of the National Hockey League. The 2011 Bruins were the first team in NHL history to win Game 7 for three times in the same playoff run.



Daniela Hantuchová - is a Slovak professional tennis player. She turned professional in 1999 and had her breakthrough year in 2002, when she won her first Tier I Tournament and ended the year in the top ten.

Did you know?

Pop art king Andy Warhol, actor Paul Newmann, actress Angelina Jolie and singer Jon Bon Jovi also have their roots in Slovakia.

Nitra - mother of Slovak towns



Nitra is one of Slovakia's most ancient and most beautiful towns, with almost 83,000 inhabitants. It is located in the south-western part of the country, on the banks of river Nitra, right below Zobor Hill (588 metres) which towers above the town, accompanied by six minor hills to create a unique view.

The favorable location at the crossing of ancient roads as well as the river Nitra and the bottom of Tribeč mountain predestined this place for origination of a settlement. The history of the city is closely related to many important events that influenced the development of Slovakia. Nitra played a key role in the history of the Great Moravian Empire and of the young Hungarian Kingdom. In Nitra and the surrounding region, one can find several unique monuments and sites of European historical importance – the first Christian temple in our territory and the introduction of the first Slavic alphabet. Nitra, the seat of Prince Pribina and King Svätopluk, was and is a symbol of historical values and traditions for the Slovak nation. For these reasons it has been attributed the title "the Mother of Slovak towns".

Two large universities reside in Nitra, museums and several institutions of cultural importance. There are many places worth visiting. The people of Nitra are proud of their Andrej Bagar Theatre, where regular theatre shows and the annual international theater festival "Divadelná Nitra" (Theatrical Nitra) take place. The extensive exhibition area of Agrokomples is a place where many international fairs and exhibitions take place.

Welcome to Nitra, a town of rich history, numerous monuments and cordial people, and have a nice stay here!

Places to visit in Nitra

There are so many interesting places and sights in Nitra that it is difficult to recommend just a few. Don't miss a visit to:

Nitra Castle

The main symbol of the town is composed of four separate parts of particular character:

St. Emeram's Cathedral – Basilica Minor, Bishop's Palace, Household buildings and **The Outer Defence Walls**.

The Cathedral itself is composed of three temples: the Romanesque St. Emeram's Church, the Lower and the Upper churches.



Pedestrian Zone, Štefánikova trieda

The main shopping street gained its present appearance during the major reconstruction in 1996 when the local sculptors and other artists made their contribution using symbols from Nitra's Great Moravian past. One such work of art is the Sword just in front of the Ponitrianske Museum, half buried in the earth as a symbol of peace. In the middle of the pedestrian zone you can find the popular Music Clock that strikes every hour with a different tone.



Synagogue, Street Pri Synagóge 2

It was built in 1911 in the Moorish-Byzantine style, designed by architect Leopold Baumhorn, a designer of many monumental synagogues in Hungary. Nowadays it houses the permanent Holocaust exposition called "The destinies of Slovak Jews" and is also a place of concerts, art exhibitions and other cultural events. An **old Jewish cemetery** from the 18th century with approx. 5000 gravesites is located near Pražská street in city part Klokočina.



The Nitra City Park

Jesenského Street

The park is now a popular place of relax for both Nitra's citizens and visitors. Covering an area of about 20 hectares, it is located in vicinity of the river, the Castle Hill and the sports compound on Jesenského Street. The oldest part, also known as Sihot', is rich in places attractive for all age groups of visitors, with beer gardens, large playgrounds and the Frog Fountain with the statuette of Ploppy the Water Spirit in the middle. Behind the building of the Nitra Community Centre (officially known as the Park of Culture and Rest - PKO), in the New Park, are ponds Large and Little Hangócka, particularly popular with fishermen.



Zobor Hill

It is a part of protected landscape area named Ponitrie. You can discover it via several hiking trails starting at the Sanatorium for Treatment of Tuberculosis and Respiratory diseases (Kláštorská str. 134).

One of them is leading to the Pyramid of Zobor (556 m) passing by the St. Svorad spring and cave, offering a wonderful view of Nitra from the top, or another one going to Drážovský church, a picturesque Romanesque church from 11th century.



Did you know?

If you are not a big fan of walking you can use Nitra's summer attraction "Nitriansky expres" - the sightseeing train that provides unique opportunity to admire the historical and current sites of Nitra from April to September, or you can take a virtual tour of Nitra sights at www.virtualtravel.sk/sk/nitriansky-kraj/nitra/

Museums

The Slovak Agricultural Museum, Dlhá 92

www.spmnitra.sk

The museum is a part of the exhibition area of Agro-komplex – Výstavníctvo Nitra. It presents almost 30,000 exhibits of agricultural origin and cultural traditions of the peasants community in Slovakia, covering the period from prehistory to the present times. An attractive part of the open-air museum is a narrow-gauged field railway.

Nitra Museum, Štefánikova trieda 1

The museum documents the development of various areas of the regions Nitra, Zlaté Moravce and Šaľa. It houses the findings of the archeological excavations in Nitra and surroundings.

Diocesan Museum, Hradné námestie 1

The Diocesan Museum resides in one of the buildings of Nitra's Bishopric in Nitra Castle. Important antiquities are there to be found, such as Zobor Deed from 1111 and 1113.

Galleries

Nitrianska galéria (Nitra Gallery), Župné námestie 3

www.nitrianskagaleria.sk

Trafačka Photogallery, Janka Kráľa 65, www.trafacka.sk

Nitra Information System (NISYS)

Štefánikova trieda 1, www.nisys.sk

Here you can buy maps, guidebooks, brochures or souvenirs and receive useful information about what to do and see in the city and surroundings.

Interesting places in Nitra region

The Nitra region is particularly rich in historical chateaus, castles and castle ruins as well as museums, skansens and natural attractions.

**Château Topolčianky
(36 km from Nitra),**

Parková 1, Topolčianky,
www.zamok-topolcianky.sk

The historical Classicist Manor-House, surrounded by a beautifully landscaped English park, possesses the status of Natural Cultural Monument.



**The National Stud Farm of Topolčianky
and Hippology Museum (36 km)**

Parková 13, Topolčianky,
www.sk.nztopolcianky.sk

Located close to the Château is the National Stud Farm, founded in 1921 for horse-breeding of Arabian, Lipizzaner, Hucul and race horses. In the museum visitors gain an insight into the past of the stud farm and learn about the most important promoters of horse breeding and their sporting success in Slovakia.

Bison Park, Lovce, near Topolčianky (38 km)

Route: Nitra-Topolčianky - Lovce

The park was founded in 1958 to save the European Buffalo from extinction. Since then over 120 buffalos have been successfully raised and transferred to ZOO's, wildlife parks and private owners. Visitors can witness the feeding of buffalos at 9 am and 2pm.



Bison Park



Arboretum of Tesárske Mlyňany (37 km)

Vieska nad Žitavou, 951 52 Slepčany,
<http://www.arboretum.sav.sk/>

This evergreen park established in 1892 on mild slopes near Vráble, covers nowadays the area of 67 hectares and is a home to 2200 species of bushes and trees, both decorative and common, from all over the world. It is best to visit in May and June.

Rock dwellings of Brhlovce (65 km)

Route: Nitra – Levice – Brhlovce,

<http://www.slovakheritage.org/Townsvill/brhlovce.htm>

In Šurda, a part of the village of Brhlovce, some people still live in cave-like stone dwellings, that as they say were carved into the stone by their ancestors as a protection against Turkish invaders.



Brhlovce

Things to do in Nitra

Nitra offers many opportunities and cultural events that delight the soul. The current information about clubbing, discos, concerts and other cultural and sports events in Nitra is available at www.nitra.eu.

Calendar of regular Cultural and Sports Events in Nitra

September

International Theatre Festival "Divadelná Nitra" - associated with presentations of film, music, art and literary works

October

Music Autumn in Nitra - a series of concerts of classical music (October - November)

Cithara Aediculae - international festival of classical guitar music

November

"Choirs for the town" - a festival of choirs

December

Christmas in Nitra - Christmas market town and Bethlehem in Svätopluk Square in Nitra, with presentation of Slovak Christmas traditions, concerts, Christmas songs and carols, New Year's Eve Party with fireworks

February, March

The Carnival - "Fašiangy" - in Nitra - afternoon full of customs and traditions connected to the beginning of Lent - carnival masks parade, pork specialties with real carnival atmosphere, fair of traditional crafts and treats

April

Spring Celebrations - customs and traditions, parade in the city, folk music and dance performances, *Music Spring in Nitra* - a series of concerts of classical music

May

Ars Organi - international festival of organ music in Nitra
Night of museums and galleries – free night visits accompanied by various events

Night of churches - free night visits to Nitra churches accompanied by various events



Keeping fit

Sport lovers can spend their time in many fitness and sport centres in Nitra. Passive sportsmen can support Nitra football and icehockey teams, university basketball club BK SPU Nitra or university volleyball club TJ Slávia SPU.

SPORTS CENTRES

Athletic Stadium TJ Stavbar Nitra, Tr. A.Hlinku 55

Ice Hockey Stadium – "Nitra Aréna", Jesenského 2
www.hkknitra.sk

Open also for public ice skating in winter and inhall in-line skating in summer.

Ice Hockey Hall, Škultétyho 1
www.hokejnitra.sk
 Open all year long for public iceskating.

Tennis grounds, Ďumbierska 2

SWIMMING POOLS

City Bath (Mestský kúpeľ), Kúpeľná 4
www.sarznitra.sk

Indoor swimming pool with a 25 m-long pool for adults, a 25 m-long pool for children and a sauna all year round.

SWIMMING POOLS WITH ALL-SEASON SERVICE NEAR NITRA

Thermal swimming pool Podhájska, 941 48 Podhájska, district Nové Zámky
www.tkpodhajska.sk

Galandia – Water Park and Wellness Centre, kpt. Nálepku 43/2373, 924 01 Galanta, www.galandia.sk

Thanks to **Agrokomplex – Výstavníctvo Nitra** that organizes many international and national fairs and exhibitions each year, Nitra is also known as exhibition centre.

Regular fairs and exhibitions are the Furniture and Living, Gardenia, International Engineering Fair and the most famous are Agrokomplex and Car Show "Autosalon".



Evening entertainment

As the offers for fun in the evening can serve plenty of coffee houses, pizza-restaurants, pubs and bars that are usually open till midnight on the week days. Disco bars and clubs are open longer. The most popular are those in Mostná Street and near the Pedestrian zone: Devils Pub, Mexiko, Barracuda, Rio, Nová pekáreň, but you will surely find your own favourite one.

CINEMAS

Cinemax

Chrenovská 1661/30
www.cine-max.sk

Film Club Tatra Nitra

Staré divadlo Karola Spišáka,
Ulica 7. pešieho pluku 1

THEATRES

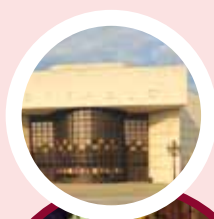
Divadlo Andreja Bagara

Svätoplukovo nám.1
www.dab.sk

Staré divadlo

Karola Spišáka

Ulica 7. pešieho pluku 1
www.staredivadlo.sk



MUSIC AND CONCERTS

Music a Cafe Nitra

Akademická 1 (Shopping centre CENTRO NITRA),
www.acao.sk

Nová pekáreň

Rázusova 2, www.novapekaren.sk

Valašský šenk

Mostná 35, www.valasskysenk.sk

BOWLING

Park of Culture and Relax (PKO Nitra)

J. Kráľa 4, www.pkonitra.sk

RESTAURANTS, CAFES, BARS

Many of the city's pubs, cafes and restaurants are situated in the Old Town centre and in the new shopping centres throughout the town. Nitra has also a network of fast-food restaurants (McDonald's, KFC) and a variety of ethnic restaurants.

The eating habits in Slovakia may be different from those of your home country countries: the main meal of the day is usually lunch, served between 11am - 1pm and consists of two courses – soup and the main dish, sometimes with a cake. A number of restaurants serve a reduced price menu in this time – a selection of two or three dishes, normally one of them is vegetarian. Dinner is served usually till 10pm and can also be a large meal.

Former foreign students recommend:

RESTAURANTS

Reštaurácia Tantal

Akademická 1 (OC Centro)

Restaurant Pizzeria Boccaccio

Farská 36,

Café Piano

Farská 46,

Chinese Restaurant Panda

Kupecká 2,

PUBS & BARS

Devil's Pub

Kmetkova 2, www.devilspub.sk

Kelt Pub

Štefánikova 4, www.keltskapivnica.sk

Music a Café

Akademická 1 (OC Centro), www.acao.sk

Čierna Hora Pub

Štefánikova 18, Nitra

....and many more

Slovak University of Agriculture in Nitra



About us

The University of Agriculture in Nitra, consisting of Faculty of Animal Science and Faculty of Agronomy was formed by the Czechoslovak government decree in 1952. Within a short time the Faculty of Operational Economics was created, and in 1969 Faculty of Agricultural Engineering was established. Further development of the University was recorded in 1995 when the Faculty of Horticulture and Landscape Engineering was established. In 1996 the University of Agriculture was renamed to Slovak University of Agriculture in Nitra (SUA). In 2002 the Faculty of Biotechnology and Food Sciences and in 2004 the Faculty of European Studies and Regional Development were founded.

At present SUA is a top Slovak research and educational institution of international importance operating in a wide range of scientific fields such as genetics, biotechnology, agriculture, environment, food sciences, horticulture, landscape engineering and design, engineering, economics, management, marketing with focus on rural regions and regional development.

Did you know?

As the only agricultural university in Slovakia, SUA has an exclusive position within the Slovak universities and nationwide field of activity. Its mission is to provide and ensure education, research and professional consultation services so that the knowledge necessary for the development of agriculture and related industries and rural development in Slovakia is created, transferred into and interconnected with the international community.

Postal and visiting address:

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of Agriculture in Nitra
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Tr. A. Hlinku 2
949 76 Nitra, Slovakia

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Fax: +421-37-641-5492
www.uniag.sk
erasmus@uniag.sk

Our structure

SUA consists of 6 faculties:

Faculty of Agrobiology and Food Resources (FAFR)

<http://www.fapz.uniag.sk>

The faculty prepares specialists in the development, utilization, protection and recovery of food resources of plant and animal origin through the development and application of biological, ecological, technical and economic principles of functionality and knowledge of sustainable agro-ecosystems.



Faculty of Biotechnology and Food Sciences (FBFS)

<http://www.fbp.uniag.sk>

The faculty deals with knowing, understanding and managing biological, technological and economic sciences, specializing in modern processes of food production.



Faculty of Economics and Management (FEM)

<http://www.fem.uniag.sk>

The principal mission of the faculty is to prepare experts for agricultural and food processing industries as well as cooperating industries and to educate them in the areas of management, economics, accounting and finance, information and communication technologies, international trade, foreign languages and regional development.



Faculty of European Studies and Regional Development (FESRD)

<http://www.fesrr.uniag.sk>

The faculty guarantees training of professionals capable of processing the strategic objectives, contributing to the community development, especially in rural environment in cooperation with the governing bodies of public administration, and succeeding in advisory and project agencies which prepare projects within the EU programmes.



Faculty of Horticulture and Landscape Engineering (FHLE)

<http://www.fzki.uniag.sk>

The faculty's priority is the education of professionals oriented on horticultural production, fruit growing, viticulture, vegetable and flowers, garden design and landscaping.



Faculty of Engineering (FE)

<http://www.tf.uniag.sk>

The main mission of the faculty is to train skilled operating engineers and graduate engineers. The faculty does not only rely on an experienced team of teachers, but also on cooperation with many other educational and research institutions in Slovakia and abroad.



Study Programmes in English

SUA offers several study programmes in English language. As the internationalisation of education is one of the strategic priorities of our university, we aim to offer more and more English taught programmes for international students.

Bachelor degree:

International Business with Agrarian Commodities
European Development Programmes

Master degree:

Management of Crop Production
Business Economics
Food Safety and Control
Management of Development of Rural Area and Rural Tourism

PhD degree:

General Animal Production, Special Animal Production, General Plant Production, Special Plant Production, Agro-Chemistry and Plant Nutrition, Plant and Timber Physiology, Nutrition, Plant Protection, Genetics, Landscape and Garden Architecture, Economics and Management of Agriculture and Food Industry

More information about study programmes is available at the university and faculties websites. Vice – Deans for International Affairs of our faculties will be also happy to give you more details about study possibilities for foreign students.

European Credit Transfer System and ECTS Label

European Credit Transfer System is a tool developed by the European Commission to facilitate student exchange among European universities. Slovak University of Agriculture in Nitra implements ECTS at all three levels of study in all study programmes since 2001. The ECTS Information package can be found at www.uniag.sk/en/ects/

Did you know?

For transparent and high quality implementation of ECTS the Slovak University of Agriculture in Nitra was awarded by the European Commission with the ECTS Label as the first university in the Slovak Republic in October 2010.



System of study

SUA implements a flexible system of study with a credit evaluation of courses in accordance with the principles of the ECTS. Students obtain credits for completion of courses. Standard credit load per semester is 30. Exchange students are required to take minimum 25 credits per semester.

The majority of courses are completed with an exam – oral, written, practical or combined. Examination period starts in January and lasts till 31 August, which is the official end of the academic year.

If the student fails to attend the registered exam without reason and does not provide proper excuse within three days he/she is graded FX (4). Failed exams can be re-taken twice.

Grading system at SUA

Local Grade	ECTS Grade	% of points reached at the exam	Definition
A (1)	A	93 to 100%	EXCELLENT
B (1,5)	B	86 to 92%	VERY GOOD
C (2)	C	79 to 85%	GOOD
D (2,5)	D	72 to 78%	SATISFACTORY
E (3)	E	64 to 71%	SUFFICIENT
F, FX (4)	F,FX	less than 63%	FAIL

Performance of a student is documented in Transcript of Records that lists the courses taken, the credits gained as well as the local and ECTS grades awarded. ToR for Exchange students is prepared by the faculty ECTS coordinator at the end of the stay and sent to the home university by post.

How to reach us

Nitra is easily accessible from the nearest international airports in Vienna (AT), Budapest (HU), Prague (CZ) and Bratislava (SK).

From Vienna (Austria) – Bratislava – Nitra (140 km)

Slovak lines commute between Vienna International Airport (Schwechat) and Bratislava main bus station "Mlynské Nivy". The bus stop at Vienna airport (look for Vienna – Bratislava stop) is right in front of Arrivals Gate. Purchase your ticket from the driver.

From Bratislava to Nitra

From Bratislava's main bus station "Mlynské Nivy". take a coach to Nitra bus station (cca 80 min.). There are many departures during the working days, fewer departures during the weekends. For more information on timetables check www.cp.sk or www.slovaklines.sk. Purchase your ticket from the driver.

From Nitra bus station to the university

Use the City Public Bus transport - "MHD". The bus stop is a short walk down "Družstevná" street to "Štefánikova" street. Cross to the other side for the bus stop to downtown. Take bus numbered 2, 12, 14, 15, or 25 to bus stop "Univerzity". Purchase your ticket from the driver). You may need to press the STOP bell to signal the driver that you wish to get off. You will see the mushroom-shaped main university building on the right when you get off the bus.

From Budapest (Hungary) – Nové Zámky – Nitra (155 km)

From the Budapest airport go to West (Nyugati) railway station or East (Keleti) railway station. Take the train to Nové Zámky in Slovakia. In Nové Zámky, change to the local train to Nitra. In Nitra the railway station is close to the bus station. See section above, "From Nitra bus station to the university" for information how to get to the university.

From Prague (Czech Republic) – Bratislava – Nitra (420 km)

There is quite frequent connection by coach or train between Prague and Nitra or Prague and Bratislava. For timetables check www.cp.sk.



MAP OF NITRA

Main Campus, Tr. A. Hlinku 2, 949 76 Nitra

Faculty of European Studies and Regional Development, Mariánska 10

Faculty of European Studies and Regional Development, Farská 4

Faculty of Horticulture and Landscape Engineering, Tulipánová 7

Faculty of Horticulture and Landscape Engineering, Hospodárska 7

Dormitory Anton Bernolak, Tr. A. Hlinku 38

Dormitory Poľnohospodár, Vihorlatská 10

University Sport Center, Československej armády 1

University Campus

Most of the buildings of SUA are situated at the main campus on Trieda Andreja Hlinku street, 2. However, some faculties and departments are situated at different places in the town. Faculty of Horticulture and Landscape Engineering is located near the city park on Tulipánová street, 7 with some departments also at the foot of Zobor hill on Hospodárska street, 7. Some departments of the Faculty of European Studies and Regional Development are situated in buildings on Farská street, 4 and Mariánska street, 10.

Within the campus you can also find Botanical garden and its greenhouses and nursery, Dormitory and Congress centre of Anton Bernolák, Dormitory Mladost and University Sport Centre, University Vivarium and Reading room of the Slovak Agricultural Library.

Did you know?

The main campus with the mushroom shaped aula of SUA built in the 1960`s was awarded the title „Building of the 20.century“ in 2001. The building of the Faculty of Horticulture and Landscape Engineering won the „Dusan Jurkovic Prize“ awarded yearly by Association of Architects of Slovakia.

The Botanical Garden with an area of 25 hectares, serves as an educational, research and cultural facility as well as agro-botanical garden. Natural flora, cultivated temperate plants, fruit and vegetable crops, medicinal and culinary herbs are all presented in the open-air and greenhouse areas of the garden. The area of the Botanical Garden is open not only to university students and staff but to the public as well and serves as a place for walks and relax.
www.bz.uniag.sk



The Slovak Agricultural Library in Nitra (SAL)

Štúrova street, 51

Slovak Agricultural Library of the Slovak University of Agriculture in Nitra gathers more than 520 thousands of works in agriculture and related sciences. It offers library and information services for the University staff and students by an automated lending system, which also provides access to online magazines and scientific journals. More information can be found at the library web page www.slpk.sk.

University Sport Centre

Československej armády street, 1

The University Sports Center, located near the dormitory Mladost offers wide range of possibilities for sport activities of students and staff. There is a multipurpose gym, 25-meter indoor swimming pool, aerobic studio, fitness-centre, tennis courts and beach-volleyball courts in the sports center. Students of SUA can choose various sport activities as part of their curricula such as basketball, volleyball, small football aerobics, yoga, swimming, tennis, table tennis, canoeing or bodybuilding. Summer and winter courses, children's sports camps, and sport activities for university staff and the general public are provided. In partnership with the Sport club ZŠK Slávia it runs Basketball club EDYMAX SPU Nitra, Volleyball club EKONÓM SPU Nitra and Floorball club ŠK SLÁVIA SPU DFA Nitra, all of them playing in the extraleague. www.uniag.sk/en/university-sports-centre/



Student life

Studying at a university does not mean just sitting at lectures and studying. SUA students have wide opportunities to spend their leisure time, relax and engage in sport activities or hobbies.

Various students clubs and groups are gathered under the **Department of University Services**, such as folklore ensemble „ZOBOR“, dormitory students` radio „MLADOSTĚ“, Dance club „LÚČE“, Dance group of Afro-Brazil Martial Art Capoeira, Hunting group „BUTEO“.

Two traditional events full of cultural activities, social events and sport competitions are the **Students Days of Nitra Universities** in November and **Nitra University Days** in April.



Students' Associations

Students can spend their free time by joining in the activities of students' organisations. The so called STUDENT FOUR unites Slovak Red Cross Youth Association, International Students Association AISEC, Catholic Youth Club FONS and local section of ERASMUS Student Network (ESN Nitra).

International Association of Agricultural Students (IAAS) and Association of Students of Garden and Landscape Architecture (ELASA) are also active.

ESN SUA NITRA (Erasmus Student Network) local section of was established in 2007 by a group of enthusiastic ex-Erasmus students. They provide an ESN buddy – a Slovak student - for each foreign student to help them with solving practical everyday life problems before and during the stay in Nitra. ESN also organises various events and parties throughout the year for the international students. Their "office" is located on the 2nd floor of the Dormitory Anton Bernolak. www.esn.sk



Preparing your stay

Academic Calendar

Academic year starts on 1 September and ends on 31 August of the following year and it is divided into two semesters:

Winter semester

Duration: last week of September – mid - December (13 weeks)

Winter holidays: approx. 2 weeks around Christmas

Summer semester

Duration: second week of February – mid - May (13 weeks)

Easter holidays: one week around Easter



How to apply

All required documents duly signed by the student and by the home university coordinators should be sent to International Relations Office of SUA by post by **May 31** for winter semester or for the whole academic year and by **October 31** for summer semester to the following address:

International Relations Office
Slovak University of Agriculture in Nitra
Tr. A.Hlinku 2, 949 76 Nitra, Slovakia

The required application documents are:

- ▶ **Application and Learning Agreement**
- ▶ **Application for Accomodation**
- ▶ **Transcript of Records**
- ▶ **Curriculum Vitae,**
- ▶ **English Language Certificate** - foreign students are required to have at least intermediate level of English (B1) in order to follow lectures and pass exams

- ▶ **Copy of Passport or Identity Card**

Students applying for **Erasmus Work Placement** should send the **Application for Placement, Draft Training Agreement** (instead of Application and Learning Agreement form) **and above mentioned enclosures** at least 2 months before the planned beginning of stay.

Once we have received a complete application and it has been accepted by the faculty, we return signed Learning Agreement or Training agreement and a Letter of Acceptance to your home university Erasmus Institutional Coordinator. This may take 4-6 weeks from the respective deadline.

Preparing the Study Programme

Each of our 6 faculties offers number of courses in English language for Exchange students. The public course catalogue is accesible via the University Infomation System website: is.uniag.sk.

Select the courses you wish to study and consult them with your home university coordinator at the time of application. Necessary changes can be done after arrival upon an agreement with the faculty coordinator of SUA.

Each course has a code consisting of numbers and a letter that indicates the faculty which offers the course as follows:

A – Faculty of Agrobiology and Food Resources
P - Faculty of Biotechnology and Food Sciences
E – Faculty of Economics and Management
U – Faculty of European Studies and Regional Development
Z – Faculty of Horticulture and Landscape Engineering
M – Faculty of Engineering

Students can select courses from different faculties as long as the majority of courses are from one faculty. Lectures are given in small groups or as individual consultations with teachers.



Coordinators for Exchange students

At each faculty there is an ECTS coordinator, usually a Vice-Dean for international relations, who is the first contact point for any questions or problems regarding the study matters.

Institutional coordinator at the university level is the Vice-Rector for International and Public Relations, who is the official signatory of all Erasmus documents. Contact for administrative issues is the International Relations Office.

Contact:

International Relations Office of SUA
Tr. A. Hlinku 2, Pavilion E, 3rd floor, room 304
phone: +421 37 641 5490, fax: +421 37 641 5492
erasmus@uniag.sk,
www.uniag.sk>International cooperation > Exchange students



Language preparation

The regular language of instruction is Slovak, however our faculties offer wide range of courses in English language for foreign students. Exchange students are required to have intermediate knowledge of English language (at least B1) in order to follow lectures and pass exams.

Department of Languages offers number of courses of English, German, Spanish, French and Russian language and also a **basic course of Slovak Language for foreigners** (2 hours per week, 2 ECTS credits) that can help you to lessen the language barrier and culture shock.



Accommodation and Catering

SUA offers accommodation for its students and guests in 5 university dormitories - Akademická, Mladost', Nová Doba, Anton Bernolák and Poľnohospodár. Some of them are located within the campus, some are in the town.

Units of 2 double rooms sharing a bathroom are available. Shared kitchen with cooking facilities and foodlockers is available on the floor. Wifi and cable internet connection is available in the rooms upon registration into the university network.

International Relations Office book a place for you in our dormitories on the first come first served basis as soon as we have received your complete application. Number of places is limited.

Rules of conduct:

Please remember to pay the rent on time
If you want to organise a party, keep in mind that your neighbours may not like it! Please respect the night quiet period from 10pm to 6am – no loud music or noise.
You are responsible for keeping your room in order, any damage will be at your expenses.
If you lose the key, you have to pay a fee of 100 EUR for the new one.

Meals are served in two canteens within the university campus - in dormitory A. Bernolák and dormitory Mladost'. Lunch is served between 11am - 2pm and dinner from 3pm to 7pm to the university students and staff at reasonable price. On weekends lunch is served from 11:30am - 1pm. With your student card you can order from 4 different menus (soup plus main course) one day before or choose any meal from the offer of the day. The price per meal is from 0,33 EUR – 1,50 EUR.

Snacks and refreshments can be bought in several snack bars located in the dormitories and university buildings.



Visa and Residence Permit regulations

If you are **EU/EEA or Swiss citizen** you may enter Slovak Republic with your valid ID document (National Identity card, Passport).

Students from other countries might need visa to enter Slovakia. Contact respective Slovak Embassy or Consulate in your home country to find out more details.

NON – EU citizens staying more than 90 days in one half year must apply for **Temporary Residence Permit**. The application is to be submitted in person at the Slovak Embassy or Consulate in your home country or at the Immigration Police Office in Nitra upon your arrival (Cudzinecká polícia, Kalvárska street, 2, Nitra).

Contact the Slovak Embassy or Consulate in your home country to find out the up-to –date information about required documents and fees.

NOTE:

The official language of communication with the public authorities in Slovakia is Slovak, which means that any required documents must be officially translated into Slovak Language.

Within 30 days after you enter Slovakia or after the Temporary Residence Permit has been issued you must submit to the Immigration Police Office in Nitra the **Confirmation of Health Status** issued after an obligatory medical check by the Health centre for foreign diseases in Nitra Hospital.

Health Insurance

All foreign students coming to study at Slovak University of Agriculture in Nitra are legally obliged to have a health insurance valid for the territory of Slovak Republic and for the whole period of their stay. Without the prove of such insurance student cannot be registered at SUA in Nitra.

EU/EEA and Swiss citizens are entitled to health care under the same conditions as the Slovak citizens if they are holders of the **European Health Insurance Card (EHIC)**. Since it can be used only for public sector health care providers, we strongly recommend to buy a commercial health insurance as well.

Students from **NON-EU countries** have to have the Confirmation of Travel Health Insurance valid for the territory of Slovak Republic for the whole period of stay. Students without insurance from home country can arrange Health insurance for foreigners in Slovakia.



Average living costs

Slovakia is generally considered as not very expensive country. Student`s monthly budget is usually about 200-250 EUR. It will of course depend on your personal lifestyle. The first month generally includes some extra costs for legal arrangements (Temporary Residence Permit, obligatory Medical Check for non-EU students), long-distance calls, purchase of household & kitchen items etc.

Expected costs during your stay in Slovakia:

Legally required Medical Check 140 EUR (non EU students)
Accommodation 90 EUR per month

Average prices of some basic products in Slovakia:

Taxi/1 journey	2 EUR
	(students discount)
Cinema ticket	5,30 EUR
Lunch menu	4-5 EUR
Pizza	4-6 EUR
Beer, 0,5l	1-1,20 EUR
Coke	1,15 EUR
Tea, Coffee	1-1,30 EUR
Mineral Water, 1,5l	0,55 EUR
McDonald`s menu	5 EUR
Bread 1kg	1.32 EUR
Milk 1l	0.74 EUR
Yoghurt 150g	0.37 EUR
Cheese, 1 kg	6.27 EUR
Butter, 125g	1 EUR
Salami, 1 kg	7.83 EUR
Poultry, 1 kg	2.74 EUR
Vine, 1l	2.41-2.60 EUR



Orientation Week

One week before each semester the International Relations Office organises an Orientation week for the incoming Exchange students in order to help them start their mobility smoothly.

In addition to the registration and basic information about the university, there is a campus tour, meetings with faculty coordinators and registration for courses, tour of Nitra and sightseeing trip to Nitra surroundings.



Extending your stay

If you enjoy your stay so much that you would like to stay one more semester you can extend your Erasmus stay in Nitra provided that your faculty coordinator in Nitra and your home coordinator agree with it. You will need to submit to the International Relations Office **new Application & Learning agreement** form with courses you would like to study in the summer semester signed by you and your faculty coordinator in Nitra by **1 December**. We will then send it to your home university for approval and arrange prolongation of your accommodation in our dormitories.

NOTE:

Please remember to extend your Temporary Residence Permit (students from Non -EU countries).




Smoking Policy

Smoking is legally prohibited in restaurants, or allowed only if the restaurant separates smokers and non smokers. Bars and pubs are not included in the ban. Smoking is also prohibited in shopping centres, bus stops, train stations, hospitals, schools, theatres, cinemas and all governmental buildings.

Electricity

Electricity in Slovakia is 230 Volts, alternating at 50 cycles per second. If you travel to Slovakia with a device that does not accept 230 Volts at 50 Hertz, you will need a voltage converter.

Electric outlets in Slovakia generally accept 1 type of plug with 2 round pins 

If your electric appliances plugs have a different shape, you may need a plug adapter.

Communication

More than 90% of Slovakia is covered by mobile phone signal. There are three major mobile phone operators (Orange, O2, T- mobile) and several smaller ones.

International prefix for Slovakia : +421
Nitra dialing code from abroad : +421 (0) 37

There are several Post Offices in Nitra, most of them operate from 9am to 6pm. On Saturday and Sunday the post branches in local shopping centres are usually available.

Public Transport

Public transport in Nitra is due to its size limited to city buses and taxis. A single taxi ride will cost you about 2,50 EUR depending on the distance. It is not common to hail a taxi, but you can always order one over the phone or simply ask a driver at one of the taxi stands around the city.

As for the city buses, please visit:
www.imhd.sk/nitra a non-commercial website about public transport in Nitra with detailed information about public transport including list of routes, timetables,

maps and information about tickets.

There is much more to discover around Slovakia.

Complete information on buses and trains schedules are available in English at www.cp.sk, www.slovaklines.sk, www.slovakrail.sk.

Banks, Money

Official currency in Slovakia is Euro. If you are travelling from outside the Euro zone, we recommend you to bring some cash with you as exchange offices at airports or stations do not always offer the best rate. It is also highly recommended to exchange money in banks or licensed exchange offices rather than in the street. There are several bank branches in Nitra with opening hours from 9am to 6pm. Saturday and Sunday branches are mostly available in local shopping centres. All major credit and debit cards are accepted in cash machines, shops and most restaurants around Slovakia.

Emergency Phone Numbers

Police, firemen, ambulance... all these are important numbers you may need during your stay in Slovakia

Police	158
Firemen	150
Ambulance (Life emergency)	155
SOS, integrated emergency system	112
Information on phone numbers in Slovakia	1180

Even if you forget all other numbers, please remember to dial 112 in case of emergency!

Health Care and Pharmacies

There are public and private health care providers in Slovakia. Generally you need to visit the general practitioner (GP) first, who then refers you to a specialist if needed. You might need to bring somebody with you to translate.

Usual working hours of medical doctors are between 7am - noon. In case of emergency you might want to visit an **Emergency Room** (Špitálska street, 6) that operates between 3:30pm – 7am on weekdays and Non-stop on weekends. **Dental Emergency Room** is located at the

same address and operates between 4pm – 7pm on weekdays and Non-stop on weekends.

There is a **general practitioner on campus** located in the Mladost' Dormitory (side entrance, close to the river, ground floor), who will help you Mon – Fri from 7:30am to 12:30pm .

If you need to see a specialist you may be directed to either the city Hospital (Špitálska street, 6) or Medical Centre in Chrenová (Fatranská street, 12). Dental Centre is located in Párovce (Kocel'ova street, 29).

There are dozens of pharmacies in Nitra. Most of them are open Mon – Fri , 8am – 6pm, Sat and Sun 8am – 4pm. They take turns in operating Emergency service at nights. Name and address of the one on Emergency duty is listed on the door of each Pharmacy. Pharmacies in shopping centres are open daily between 8am - 8pm.

List of pharmacies close to the university campus:

Pharmacy SUN PHARMA, Shopping centre CENTRO NITRA, Akademická 1/A

Pharmacy CHRENOVÁ, Fatranská 12

Pharmacy PRI HVEZDÁRNI, Fatranská 5

Pharmacy SUN PHARMA, Shopping centre MLYNY, Štefánikova 61

Pharmacy D+D, Štefánikova 53

Souvenir Shop

Are you enjoying your stay with us? Why not visiting our university souvenir shop and bring home something more than just your memories... A small gift will be much appreciated by your friends and family members.

Our university souvenir shop is a part of the University book shop and is located in CH pavilion. We will be happy to help you Mon – Fri from 8am to 3pm.

Copy Shops

There are several copy shops in Nitra. Most of them are located in or around the city centre and your ESN buddy will be happy to show you the way to one of them. However, the most convenient option as for the copy making would probably be the Copy Shop in the Mladost' dormitory (ground floor).

Student Card

University student card as you may know from your home university can help you to make your stay with us even more comfortable. If you for example wish to dine in our student canteen or visit our library you will need the student card. It's easy! First you need to pay a refundable deposit of 13 EUR (AE pavilion, floor 1, office number 105), then, with the receipt of your payment and passport size picture in jpg.format collect it in the card office (AZ pavilion, ground floor, office number 14). Once you don't need the card anymore you can return it (AE pavilion, floor 1, office number 105) and your money will be refunded if you return the card and the receipt of the payment (please do not loose it).

Internet Connection

There is an internet connection available in your dormitory. To activate the internet access you will need to visit the IT office (AS pavilion, floor 3, office number 316) with the application and connection fee payment confirmation. The office staff will also assist you in case of any technical difficulties. You can also use computers located in corridors or computer rooms on university premises.

Basic Slovak Phrases



Hello	Ahoj
Goodbye	Dovidenia
Good morning	Dobrý deň
Good afternoon	Dobré popoludnie
Good evening	Dobrý večer
Yes	Áno
No	Nie
Please	Prosím
Thank you	Ďakujem
My name is ..	Volám sa ..
What is your name?	
	<i>Ako sa voláte? (formal), Ako sa voláš? (informal)</i>
How are you?	
	<i>Ako sa máte? (formal), Ako sa máš? (informal)</i>
Fine, and you?	
	<i>Dobre, a vy? (formal), Dobre, a ty? (informal)</i>
Pleased to meet you	Teší ma
How much is it?	Kolko to stojí?
Sorry	Prepáčte (formal), Prepáč (informal)
Excuse me (asking for information)	Prepáčte
Excuse me (to pass through)	S dovolením
Can you help me please?	
	<i>Môžete mi pomôcť, prosím? (formal), Môžeš mi pomôcť, prosím? (informal)</i>
How can I get to....	Ako sa dostanem do....
I do not understand	Nerozumiem
I am trying to learn Slovak	Pokúšam sa naučiť po slovensky
One, two, three, four, five	Jeden, dva, tri, štyri, päť
I need help.	Potrebujem pomoc.
Train/ Train Station	Vlak/ vlaková stanica
Bus/Bus Station	Autobus/autobusová stanica
Plane/ Airport	Lietadlo/letisko
Hospital	Nemocnica

Epilogue

Dear Erasmus Exchange student,

We hope that you have found useful information on these pages while preparing for your study visit to Slovakia and the Slovak University of Agriculture in Nitra. For more information please check our website: www.uniag.sk/en/exchange-students/. The Erasmus Staff cares about little details so that you can feel very comfortable at university facilities, enjoy typical Slovak hospitality during your traveling around our country and gain academically as much as possible.

A journey of thousand miles must begin with a single step. We hope your first Erasmus step will account for the entrance ticket to internationalization of your personal and professional life ... so, good luck on your journey!

SUA

Exchange Students Guide

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