

Laetitia's experience - Travelling by train between the Netherlands and Belgium:

I wanted to do my third-year physiotherapy internship abroad. My goal of having my internship in this region was to be close enough to Eindhoven. To do so, I needed to be able to easily travel between the two countries, and not for too long and/or too far. That is why I decided to do it in Belgium (Wallonia), in the region of Liège.

To travel to Verviers, I have used the application "NS International", in which I have been able to book my ticket from Eindhoven to Verviers. Each travel lasted 2h30 and the changes were as follow: Eindhoven-Maastricht, Maastricht-Liège, and Liège-Verviers (and vice-versa). A single ticket from Eindhoven to Verviers costs 21,90 Euros.

A few tips if you are thinking of traveling by train between the Netherlands and Belgium:

- You can study in the trains: the changes between train stations are long enough to allow you doing whatever you need to do for university. If you do not want to study, you can read, listen to music, play video games, sleep, etc.
- It allows you to stay close to the people you know from Eindhoven, but also to be efficient at work and meeting new people during the week in Belgium.
- These travels are smooth, the changes are easy to make and the path is always the same. However, it is possible that the train from Liège to Maastricht is sometimes delayed. No fear: arriving in Maastricht, you always can take the next train to Eindhoven, which only adds 30 more minutes of traveling.
- If there are any rail works, no worries as well. The paths are clearly explained, and there are always solutions provided by "NS" and the "SNCB". That is why I advise you to download their applications as well.
- "NS International" also offers train paths that will bring you to Verviers, traveling through Germany. I do not advise you to take the train to Germany, because this can be a waste of your time and energy. The tickets are more expensive, there are more changes, the travels last longer, and the trains are most of the time delayed. Unless you want to visit the three borders of the Netherlands-Germany-Belgium by train as a touristic purpose of course (go to Aachen!).
- Trains in Belgium work more or less the same way than in the Netherlands: you cannot be disoriented!
- Ask for a Green Travel extra-amount scholarship! This is tremendously needed, especially if you travel often by train, like I did.

In my opinion, being able to travel that easily between the Netherlands and Belgium during my semester has been the best choice of both of my professional and personal lives combined.

