

zGENERAL INFORMATION

NAME STUDENT : Ryan van der Voort

NATIONALITY : Netherlands

ON GRAND TOUR/ EXCHANGE BEFORE INTERNSHIP: **NO**

EXPECTED STARTING DATE INTERNSHIP: September 2026

INTERNSHIP PREFERENCES

PREFERRED REGION/SEGMENT: Brabant/Leeuwarden/Amsterdam

PLAN A: COMPANY: House of Watt POSITION: F&B Manager

PLAN B: COMPANY: The Hardest POSITION: Stage Manager

Note that your plan A&B are your preferred options which can be discussed and altered during the Account Manager Talk.

MOTIVATION PREFERRED REGION / SEGMENT

My personal preference lies with the regions of Brabant and Leeuwarden. Over the past few years, I have built a valuable network in Leeuwarden, which can be of benefit to me during my internship. Additionally, my second preference is Brabant; this is because my girlfriend lives there, reducing the distance, and a great many festivals are hosted there that align with my interests.

Furthermore, my father is from Amsterdam, and as a result, Amsterdam has played a significant role in my life. Following my conversation with companies from Amsterdam during a school networking event, I know that there are many opportunities in Amsterdam regarding hospitality.

MOTIVATION PREFERRED COMPANIES & POSITION

**House of Watt – F&B Manager
The Hardest – Stage Manager**

Both companies appealed to me greatly due to their drive, atmosphere, and opportunities to further develop my organizational and hospitality skills on both a personal and professional level.

After the conversation with House of Watt during a networking event, I became much more enthusiastic; this is partly due to the strong connection I felt with both owners. I felt that both parties were on the same page, which made me feel very welcome, and they gave me a positive perspective on the internships they offer.

Having worked at The Hardest event several times, I have witnessed its growth. The owners started by organizing small-scale events for 150-250 people, which has grown to 2,500 people in just two years. This also demonstrates that I can grow along with the company in terms of internships.

Furthermore, I am currently exploring interesting internship opportunities in the Brabant region that appeal to me and offer me the chance to continue growing personally and professionally.

WHAT ARE YOUR DREAMS & AMBITIONS?

Personally, I find this a very difficult question. The reason for this is that I enjoy doing too many things, which makes it difficult to focus specifically on the kind of job I would like to have in the future.

Nevertheless, through my internship, I want to look at the things I really enjoy doing, but also the things I don't. One of my dreams is to be able to combine my hobbies with my work. Furthermore, I also find it important to have a stable income later on that will allow me to support my family well.

WHAT DO YOU HAVE A COMPANY TO OFFER? (strengths/experiences/personal traits)

When I look at my strengths, a number of things stand out. For instance, I have one of the most unique student part-time jobs there is. I work as a cook at a small residential facility for elderly people with dementia. This ensures that I have a good ability to adapt to every resident. Because not every type of dementia is the same, this sometimes leads to unusual situations, which I am incredibly good at anticipating.

Furthermore, I am very social; I get along well with people and am not afraid to talk. I really enjoy networking and meeting new people; thanks to my social skills, I have friends living all over the Netherlands whom I can rely on.

WHAT DO YOU WANT TO LEARN DURING YOUR INTERNSHIP?

What I would really like to learn during my internship is managing a team. I would also very much like to observe different departments. In this way, I hope to find out what kind of job I would like to have in the future by ticking off the enjoyable and unpleasant aspects.

WHICH EXPECTATIONS DO YOU HAVE AND/OR WHICH CHALLENGES DO YOU THINK YOU WILL ENCOUNTER DURING YOUR INTERNSHIP? (in terms of)

CULTURE:

I expect that a lot of international candidates will apply for the internship positions. This requires good adaptability to different cultures. It is also important that I have a little background information about these cultures; for example, it is useful for a Muslim person to know that certain ingredients are not allowed to be eaten.

WORKING:

Especially in the first two weeks, I expect it will really take some getting used to in the new work environment. I have set a goal, however, to learn everything I can about the company and my colleagues within these two weeks.

LIVING:

Should I choose Amsterdam after all, I expect the house hunt to be very difficult. Fortunately, I am lucky enough that my twin brother lives in Zaandam; I hope that I might be able to look for something together with him. Should I go to Brabant instead, I will be living with my girlfriend in that region, and I expect the search to be less difficult than in Amsterdam and the surrounding area.

LANGUAGE:

Since the program is in English, I do not expect a major language challenge. I possess good English skills. I also worked in the hospitality industry on Texel for many years, where mainly German guests came. Over the years, I have also come to understand German well and speak it reasonably well.

PERSONAL CIRCUMSTANCES:

I expect few personal challenges. I am a practical person and already have significant work experience in hospitality. Something I do want to focus on is managing a team rather than performing tasks myself.

WHAT DO YOU NEED, TO BECOME THE BEST VERSION OF YOURSELF?

What I need to become the best version of myself is a trusted environment of friends, family, and acquaintances. I believe that people I love can help me develop the best version of myself.

DESCRIBE YOUR PREPARATORY ACTIVITIES: (research, info sessions, industry events, etc.)

I conducted extensive research into potential internships beforehand. I also attended various networking events, and a number of internships and locations managed to convince me. I also spoke with the internship office several times about possible internships outside of NHL Stenden's offerings.	Furthermore, I have built a strong network that I can rely on. Many friends and acquaintances are helping me in this search and are coming up with various options and ideas. My network is also willing to speak with various companies to recommend me.
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HOW WELL ARE YOU PREPARED FOR THE PRACTICALITIES?

(housing/work-life balance/ financial)

Personally, I feel reasonably well prepared. I am spending a lot of time planning ahead, creating financial stability, and finding the right balance between work and my private life. Nevertheless, I experience some tension regarding earning all my credits and keeping up with the current semester. Especially in the final year, I feel a lot of pressure and try to manage it well. Also, by planning clearly and staying motivated, I expect to be able to start my internship in September 2026.
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NB. Inform the Account Manager and/or your coach if there are any issues (physical/ psychological/ family related), which might influence your internship. A customized provision maybe an option.