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DUBLIN WORK EXPERIENCE 2021/2022

This project "Studying without borders VII" enabled the work experience of 38 students of the Business School and Further Education College Brno to Ireland for two weeks (10 working days).



We received the grant from the European Union project Erasmus+ and 19 students + 2 teachers could travel to Dublin in December 2021 and May 2022. We are the 13th and 14th group that were given this chance to live and work in an English-speaking country for two weeks. Everything was financed by the European Union. All we needed was pocket money.

During the time we worked in various Dublin companies: Invoice Fair, KODC Advisory Limited, John M. Quinn & Co., Martin & Grove Solicitors, etc.

We became part of a team and were supervised at all times by at least one mentor. We participated in everyday procedures and developed new specialised skills in the field of our study. The managers prepared daily work tasks and monitored our progress together with our accompanying teachers. The managers evaluated our achievements at the end of the working experience.

Most of us worked in different companies. Those of us who are students of business school worked with business correspondence and with databases of clients, prepared presentations, dealt with internet enquiries, answered phones, took messages, served and advised customers and supported senior staff. We did some market research, assisted in various computerized activities such as processing, data input, emailing. We worked with internal IT system, PCs, printers, scanners and other office equipment. We also had some general duties such as filling, faxing and photocopying. We assisted and communicated with customers on daily basis and thus improved their communication skills.

The typical tasks of students of information services and librarianship were answering reference inquiries, lending documents to the user via automatic library systems, creating catalogue records of documents and books, modifying records in the database of books, looking up relevant records and communication with clients.

After working hours we had free time which we spent together or went sightseeing. We lived in host families which provided us with food and place to stay. Every once in a while we all met online with mentors from the ADC College, which is the partner of our school in Erasmus+. If we had any problem we could consult it with our teachers or an ADC College employee.

It was great experience for all of us because we learned new skills and improved our English. At the end of the two weeks work placement project a ceremony was held at ADC College to celebrate our achievements – we received the certificates of completing our work placement. We also received references from our employers and Europass Mobility. Some of us were offered a part-time job for summer.



Our programme

On the first day when we came to Dublin (Sunday) we were given Leap cards and met our host families with whom we spend the evening to get to know them. On Monday we had an online meeting with ADC College and they told us details about travelling and working in Dublin. After the meeting we had to find our way to our companies and take a selfie which we had to show in ADC College. Then we started working.



From Monday to Friday we were working, but after work we went sightseeing. We visited e. g. St. Patrick's Cathedral, Christ Church Cathedral, Dublin Castle.



At the weekend, we went for a trip to the north of Ireland (Belfast - Titanic Visitor Experience and Black Taxi Tour, Giant's Causeway, Dunluce Castle).

In the end each of us received Europass Mobility from ADC College. On Saturday we said goodbye to our host families and travelled back to Brno.

We managed work in companies without problems and our employers appraised our communication skills, professional skills and work attitude. We improved our skills in contact with customers, administrative work and use of information technologies. We also learned to present their work to our colleagues or customers in a suitable way, which contributed to the development of our soft-skills.

We broadened our professional English terminology. All these aspects will enable us to gain competitive advantage at the labour market. New experience from Dublin companies will be used during our further education and practice.

Work experience abroad is nothing to worry about. If you doubt it read about our experience in this brochure. It can be your turn next year! Our participants will give you advice and help you to be prepared!



“Hello, we would like to share our experience with you and give you some advice about your Dublin Erasmus. We can assure you that you’ll enjoy your time in Dublin.”

Work and co-operation with the staff

In Ireland, everyone is really open and super friendly to others so you don’t have to worry about being lonely or left out. In your workplace try to be as positive as possible. If you have some problem or you mess up something don’t hesitate to ask for help. (Agáta Hánová)

When it comes to language try to talk as much as possible, ask questions and be interested in their lives even if your English isn’t perfect. Everyone is very patient so don’t be scared to communicate. (Agáta Hánová)

If you are done with your task ask for another. Be helpful and productive. They will always appreciate you for participating in their job. (Agáta Hánová)

I’ve spent my internship at solicitors which was something I’m really interested in this field. All the colleagues were very friendly and helped me with everything I ever needed. The best work experience was definitely the possibility of going to the court. (Kristýna Hráčková)

If I had any doubts about my task I simply asked my supervisor who was extremely helpful and was always willing to help me. (Tereza Coufalová)



They were so kind to me and I talked a lot with them and also with the CEO of the company. I was working with Excel and special program Experian. I was

searching for contact details about potential clients. Everything is about communication so don’t be afraid to ask for help, explanation or advice they won’t be mad at you. (Lenka Štajnarová)

One of the important things is to always make sure that you understand the task and know exactly what you are supposed to do. Asking someone is always easier than fixing the mess you make if you don’t ask. (Petr Pospíšil)

Bringing a little gift is also really appreciated! I brought one on the first and last day as well. It can be something small like a box of chocolate, it really depends how many people are going to be in your office – since there were six people with me I brought a bigger box that everyone could take from. (Hana Komínová)

Everyone’s going to try to make small talk with you every chance they get. It is usually about traffic or weather, classic stuff. But don’t be afraid to start the conversation! Just always make sure they’re not doing anything important and that you’re not disturbing them. (Hana Komínová)

At first you should communicate with your supervisor and everyone in the company as much as possible because this will help with your English the most. Being polite and open for every task they give you is really important. If you think you are not able to do some tasks just ask your colleague and they will be happy to help you. When there are some tasks you don't want to do or you are not sure if you get the assignment right ask them as well. Always try your best with task because most of them are not that difficult so I guess it is better when you are doing everything as thoroughly as you can. (Lucie Němcová)

My co-workers were so nice and care about us and our problems, they tried to solve them and help with everything we need. If you ask them they give you tips for some restaurants and nice places and give you some useful advice for travelling. (Tereza Plachá)



Irish people are very warm and open to each other, so do not be alarmed if the family members or co-workers start to ask you questions you would not normally hear in the Czech Republic. Usually, the conversations start with: 'Hey, how are you?' and the respondent says something along the lines of: 'I'm fine, how about you?'. It is polite to return the person's good manners and I think that Irish people smile more and are friendlier than in the Czech Republic. (Eliška Vévodová)



Our job was to carry out basic administrative work. We had a good time in the office because we had our own room as a workplace so we could work in a convenient pace. We even could play songs in the background on the computer while working and keep a positive vibe. Even our superior, miss Barbara Grove told us that it is a good idea. She was

always smiling and in a good mood. Working for her was a real pleasure. (Lukáš Eliáš)

During my stay, I worked in a company providing financial advice. It was a calm and quiet environment. The workers were really nice and friendly, our supervisor was always smiling. Working in a company for the first time and adapting to a new environment and people could be difficult, but in the end, it's not a big deal. They don't expect anything huge from you. The most important thing is to communicate and always ask for help if you're not sure with something. Don't just sit there all day and be active, they will appreciate it. (Denisa Foukalová)

When it comes to working in Ireland, don't expect the typical relationship between you and your boss that you know from Czechia. The biggest barrier – vykání (special pronoun used in Czech when talking to your boss or a superior person) - is gone once you talk in English. That way, everyone is (and sounds) super casual when talking to you. Once you arrive to your new job, bring a gift or two. A Czech chocolate or a red wine is enough to satisfy every Irish person. Especially chocolate, if your supervisor is a stress-ridden solicitor. (Daniela Frelichová)

My advice to you is that if you don't understand something, simply ask. You won't get yelled at, your boss won't make you feel embarrassed. After all, it's your first time. Everyone is helpful and kind. If they're not, gain their favours by making them tea with milk. (Daniela Frelichová)



The very first thing I noticed about my workplace was, that everyone was really friendly and kind towards me. That's when most of my anxiety fell off. The atmosphere was warm and pleasant. There was no need for stress when my boss taught me what I needed to do. He explained to me, that there was no pressure bestowed upon me. I had to engage with the clients through telephone calls and in person and no matter their age or gender, they too, were patient, considerate and kind towards me. (Gabriela Grufíková)

In the Czech Republic we're used to this sort of hierarchy, where you can often imagine your boss as this untouchable, powerful person you sometimes go to to beg for a raise (for legal reasons, that's a joke), but it's entirely different in Ireland. It's pretty hard to keep in mind that the person sitting next to you, drinking coffee with you and ranting about the newest episode of whatever Irish show they're watching, is your boss. The atmosphere in the workplace is usually very friendly and relaxed, unless you're currently not fighting with the printing machine, in that case, it can get pretty heated. That's probably one of the most memorable things

for me - the gosh darn printing machine. I've never really had to print out over a thousand papers ever in my life before. What I'm trying to say is, be prepared. There is a very high chance something will make you incredibly angry during your working hours. The solution is either to panic and cry in the corner about it, or finding someone more



competent than you to fix the issue. And while the first one is, in my opinion, totally valid, it doesn't solve much. Just go ask your supervisors for help. You don't have to be worried about them getting angry, I feel like they understand that you're absolutely new to all this and honestly don't expect much from you. Like, at all. Three different people, on three different occasions, explained to me how to scan papers. They're ready for you to be stupid, so don't be afraid to do stupid mistakes, it happens. (Zoe Jelínková)

It is good to get dressed well on your first day at work, so you can make great impression. However, rest of your weekdays you can in fact dress yourself how you want. Yes, it depends on your work placement and supervisor, but for example my supervisor was wearing his Celtic (its football team) sweatshirt most of the time. (Lukáš Pipek)

Every time I had a problem, my colleagues would help me. My recommendation is not to be afraid to talk with your colleagues, even if you don't say the sentence exactly right. The point is, they'll understand what you're trying to say. Talking to my colleagues was one of the best experiences in my company, and I learned a lot at the same time. (Veronika Pluháčková)



Since my tasks weren't that difficult, I was looking forward to going there every day. Also, because my co-workers were really friendly and talkative. Even though some of them had a strong accent, it wasn't hard to communicate and I understood almost everything. And if you don't understand anything, don't be afraid and just ask them. They will for sure repeat it again. (Anita Žáčková)

My working experience was a nice opportunity to show me I can do more than I thought and I should not be afraid to try new things. (Eliška Vévodová)

Host family

I did not expect our host mum to be as generous, talkative and warm-hearted, as she was. And the entire family (her mother, two daughters and her boyfriend) was great. They talked to us a lot, mainly after/during the dinner, which was always tasty and there was enough of it. I wish everyone, whoever has to stay in a host family, to have as good family as I had. I am going to miss the atmosphere, that was always in the house. (Gabriela Svobodová)

They were all talkative and were always making sure that everything is ok. They also recommended me great places to go on the weekend and after work. (Tereza Coufalová)

It's usual to bring a gift for the family and to the work. I took some Christmas sweets, chocolate Studentská pečeť and Becherovka. They really appreciate something they don't know, so mainly the Christmas sweets were a huge success. (Kristýna Hráčková)

It is very cold in Ireland overall, not depending on the season, so I would advise you to bring warm clothes and socks. At home, I usually walked around with a hoodie on. The wind is very strong and cold as well. (Eliška Vévodová)

My biggest advice is to take warm pyjamas! In Ireland it can be really cold especially at night so be prepared for that. (Agáta Hánová)

Try to be helpful ask if they need anything. Don't forget to be polite respect their household and their rules. (Agáta Hánová)

I had the best family that I could wish for. They were so kind and they treated us like their own kids. Husband of our host mum cooked every day delicious meals even when we came home bit late. It was all about communication as well if we wanted something or there was problem we told them about it and we found some solution for it. Good move was that we gave them a little present that contained red Czech wine, candle and small decoration. They liked everything so much and they were so happy. (Lucie Němcová)



Also, here is the communication a big factor. I was lucky that I've had a great family and the host lady really cared about us, gave us lots of food and even let us stay out for a bit longer than the other students could. This was also possible thanks to talking to her about it. We said "Could we come home a bit later tomorrow" and she said "Oh, no problem, text me when you're on your way home so I can start making the dinner" and the thing was solved. So always ask before assuming you can't do something. The worst thing they can say is no. But also ask before assuming you can do something. They won't mind and it's better than doing something you shouldn't do. (Petr Pospíšil)

If the family sees that you are interested in talking to them they will be very friendly. I think Irish people are very cheerful and it is contagious. Don't be afraid to ask for anything. (Karolína Pustějovská)

Our host family was amazing. When we arrived and we saw them for the first time, we knew that we won the best family. Ray and Maria were really caring. They wanted us to feel like home. I was staying here with my friend from my class. We had breakfast and dinner prepared every day. Breakfast was the same all the time – some toast, jam, peanut butter... Dinners were amazing. For example, pizza, tacos... (Denisa Fazorová)

Our family was the best host family I could ever ask for. They were very kind, talkative and supportive and treated us like their own children. When we came home from work, they always asked us how our day was and every evening, we sat at in a kitchen and talked about all sort of things for hours. The house was always clean and the atmosphere was warm and welcoming. We didn't have a time set for dinner, they cooked for us even if we came home a little later. But it was all about communication, respect and being polite. On the last day we went for a walk to the coast and enjoyed our last day together. They even told us we can contact them if we ever return to Ireland. I will really miss them. (Denisa Foukalová)

The very first thing you need to know about Irish families is that each one is different and unique. The families have some rules and some of them might seem like they are illogical but as long as you follow them or discuss them politely, they might change them according to your needs. (Gabriela Grufíková)

Don't have high hopes. I feel like that's the golden rule to most stuff. But don't be pessimistic, either! Just get ready for a very different environment. What surprised me was how dirty the house was. I'm used to cleaning every week, very thoroughly, and the mess and dirty bathroom sink was a cultural shock for me. Also get ready for the food. The food you'll be getting differs from family to family, but it's some sort of tradition to eat cereal for every breakfast. I've also eaten way more potatoes during my stay than I would like. The Irish people are used to eating pre-cooked meals, which, to be absolutely honest, aren't good. It's not that hard to get used to it, though. The houses aren't all that big either. You'll most likely get the smallest room in the house. I hope I'm not scaring you with all this, by the way. Let's move onto something more positive - the hosts themselves. Sure, there is a chance you and your host won't be best friends from the get go, but don't hesitate trying to talk to them. They might give you some really good tips for trips, where to buy food et cetera. (Zoe Jelínková)

As for housing, I was pretty satisfied. I lived with 3 girls and I couldn't ask for better roommates. We got along really well and my stay was definitely better because of them. When we arrived, we were greeted by our host mom. She was very grateful for all the gifts we gave her. She even gave every one of us keys. The house was clean and smelled very nice. Our rooms were very nice and we even had our own bathroom. She was very nice and we were told to return at any time we wanted but later on we realised she was very strict about her rules that she didn't even tell us about in the beginning. It is important to set the rules in the beginning so there's no misunderstanding later on. (Anna Kumpová)

As soon as our host dad opened the door, we knew we will have a great time there together. We were really tired after the flight the first day, but we stayed downstairs with the family and had a great conversation. Our host parents have three children. Two of them are little smiling sunshines and one is a 16 years old girl. The girl took us shopping and we had a great time together. Her birthday was on Wednesday and I and the girls bought her some donuts. We celebrated her birthday with the whole family in a house and we loved it. The parents are both great cooks! We had every day a big and delicious dinner, so we were going to sleep filled up with happiness. The family was treating us the whole time so well. We were feeling so comfortable and loved. They took us last day in Dublin on the Donabate cliff walk. The view was as gorgeous as the memories we have from there. We got a little emotional with my friends, because we knew how much we will miss them. I'm so glad we had a chance to be with this

family, we won the lottery! I miss them already, but I hope we will see them again someday. (Kateřina Zdražilková)



Free time

In Dublin I can recommend to visit city centre, where you can see Spire of Dublin, which is basically a high pillar, Trinity college, the most popular college in Dublin or Butlers, chocolate café, where you get one free

praline, when you buy any drink. You can also go to Phoenix Park, where are fallow deer. Another nice place is Howth or Bray, docks. (Gabriela Svobodová)

In your spare time you definitely have to visit Phoenix Park. The park is huge so there is a lot of things to see. Not so far from the main gate, there is a part of the park where you can see deer. They walk around so you can take pictures of them but don't forget that they are animals so have some respect for them. (Agáta Hánová)

The centre of Dublin is really breath-taking. There are many shops and sights. The best meet-up spot is definitely The Spire of Dublin you spot it from anywhere. (Agáta Hánová)

The best place we went to was definitely the Howth seaport. It's easy to get there by train from the city centre. There are two gorgeous light houses, cliffs and just the beach and the streets around it are really pretty and really photogenic! (Tereza Plachá)

I would recommend coast, for example, Howth or Dún Laoghaire harbour which has beautiful surroundings. (Tereza Plachá)

I really recommend going to the neighbouring cities. Dún Laoghaire is a really beautiful city only about 20 minutes by train from Dublin. And it's most beautiful during sunset. (Nikola Vašíčková)

I loved Dublin. The city has its own typical atmosphere, with traditional stone architecture and gorgeous city centre. Places like Trinity College, Dublin Castle, National Gallery of Ireland and others are really unique and different from what we can see in Czechia. I would recommend



visiting some traditional Irish pub, ideally with music and taste their beer. You can spend countless hours walking through the city and still finding new things not really typical for Czechia. On the surface, they are not so visible but once you really see some part of the city, you will start to notice them. (Tomáš Konečný)

One thing I can really recommend are galleries and museums. The best thing about them is that many of them are free. Just be careful, some of them require you to book a "free ticket" before you come there so make sure you have your booking. (Petr Pospíšil)

The city centre is a little crazy but a walk around O'Connell and all the shops is just a must. (Hana Komínová)

If you have a Leap card you will be able to travel to a lot of places without paying for a bus or a train. I visited for example The Malahide Castle of the Howth and I recommend it if you want to go for a nice walk. (Karolína Pustějovská)

Although travelling around Dublin is sometimes a bit stressful and long, it is not so different from the Czech Republic. Every time you get on a bus, you have to use your Leap Card

otherwise the driver would not let you in. It is polite to thank the driver when you get off, just shout 'thank you!' from the centre doors like everyone else. The Luas is the tram in Ireland and every time you want to take it, you have to use your card on the stop. The same goes for the DART. (Eliška Vévodová)

Dublin is a beautiful city. There are many interesting museums, art galleries, parks and monuments you should see. I still miss Dublin. (Lenka Štajnarová)

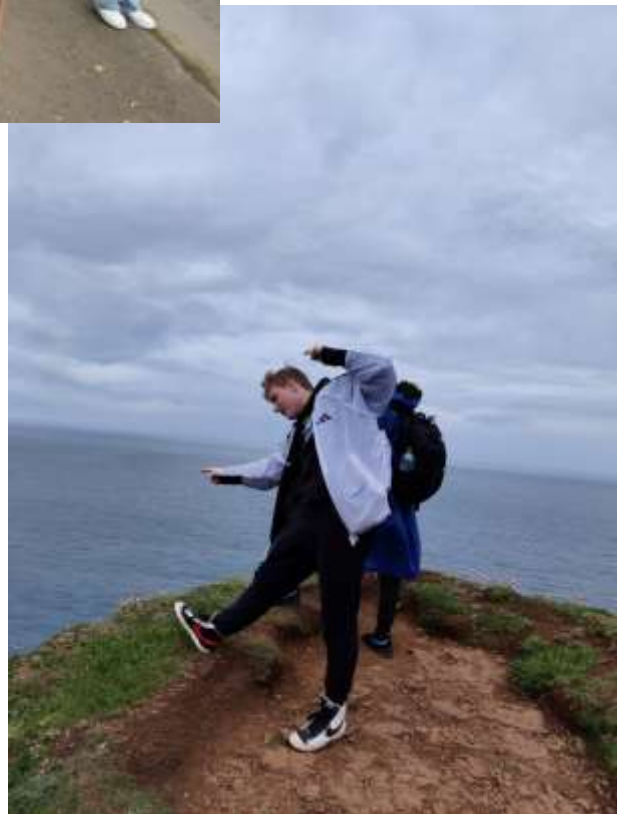
Since our work office was right in the city centre, after our shift we had time to walk around Dublin and see what their life looks like. We have visited the National Art Gallery which contains some interesting painting from for example Pablo Picasso and Vincent van Gogh. Unfortunately, the National Museum was temporarily closed. All the national exhibits are free of charge so I recommend visiting them. (Lukáš Eliáš)



At the weekend we were at trips with school – Giants Causeway, Guinness Storehouse, Belfast. It was fantastic. I had the chance to learn something new about Belfast. The man that was our taxi driver was amazing. He made it so funny and interesting. He made fun of all of us. I will never forget this. The most amazing thing was that I could sign on the Peace

wall. I saw the Atlantic Ocean. I saw the castle where The Game of Thrones was filmed. And so much more. (Denisa Fasarová)

Public transport seems complicated at first, but after a few days you get used to it. Travelling is easy with Leap Cards, which you have to beep when getting on the bus and when getting on and off the tram and train. Dublin buses are double-deckers and the view from the first floor was lovely. Buses don't stop on every bus stop, so don't forget to wave at them when you want to get on and press a button when you want to get off. Also, don't rely on timetables, buses tend to be late. It is polite to thank the driver when getting off. (Denisa Foukalová)



People in Ireland are the friendliest people I've ever met. They don't have a problem starting a conversation with you out of nowhere and they are willing to help you with anything (Denisa Foukalová)

My recommendation for exploring Dublin is to walk. Got free twenty minutes in the city centre before work starts? Explore the surroundings. You might stumble upon the most beautiful parks and historical buildings in Ireland. Speaking of history, Dublin's got plenty. There are numerous museums and art galleries to visit, like Dublinia, the National Museum of Ireland or the Irish Immigration Museum. If you're a bookworm, head into one of the many bookshops. You'll find cheap and well-preserved novels. My recommendation is Temple Bar Bookshop on Cow's Lane. In the city centre, you shouldn't miss out on South Great George's Street which is right next to Dame Street. It's got beautiful red brick buildings. In one of them is George's Arcade, a hidden gem where you can buy things like souvenirs, vinyls or pins. St Stephen's Green is a big park in the city centre which workers from the surrounding area visit during lunch. Overwhelmed by the crowds? Take the DART train to see the coast. (Don't forget to touch in your Leap Card at the station!) You may want to see Howth, a charming peninsula in the north, or the southern seaside town of Bray. Should you feel spontaneous, just get off the first stop that makes an impression on you. You never know where you'll end up. You might be positively surprised! (Daniela Frelichová)



I recommend spending the first day just exploring the city and getting used to the way the buses and trams (don't) work, it'll help you a lot. Maybe look for some bars or pubs to go to later (wink wink). Go to the coast too, of course! The best strategy is to get on the train and let it take you whenever. Get out on a stop you think has a funny name or where you think it looks pretty outside. That's what my friends and I did, and it was absolutely worth it. Make sure to have a lot of time and maybe buy some food beforehand (in a Tesco, for example), so you don't have to rush back. When it comes to buying gifts, beware all the tourist traps, there's a lot. Of course, you'll eventually have to go in one. If you do, go as far from Temple bar as you can, trust me. On the last day, me and my friends stayed out pretty late, so we were all tired the next day, but on the other hand, we found a really nice place. It was some sort of a cinema with a restaurant. We ate there and

chatted for a very long time. I recommend doing something similar. But if you want to explore the city more and don't want to sit in one place, that can be great too. You know what? Just have fun! Enjoy the pretty countryside, notice the differences between our culture and theirs, talk to natives and don't get hit by a bus, that'd be a shame. Good luck! (Zoe Jelínková)

We also visited Phoenix park. It is very beautiful and we got to see deers. It's an ideal place for a picnic or a walk. One thing I would definitely recommend is going for a swim in the ocean. Although it is pretty cold it is a very fun thing to do with your friends. You can go during the day but we went in the evening and the sunset that comes afterwards is really nice. (Anna Kumpová)

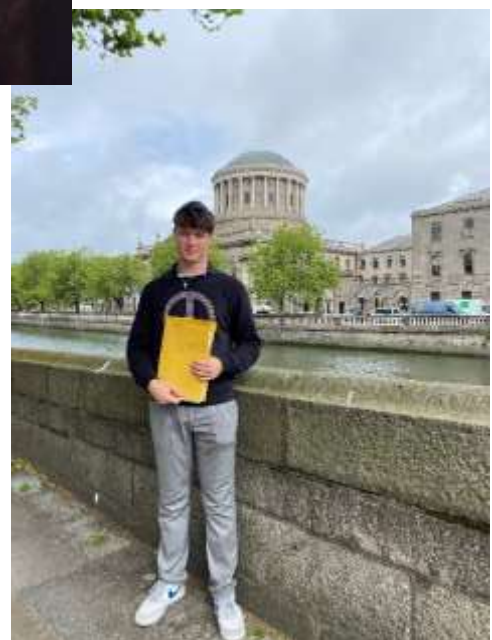


We wanted to know what it looks like in Dublin gyms so we started looking for one. There were so many gyms near us but you have to buy a month membership for 30 €. Luckily, we were advised to visit Colosseum Gym where you can buy a week membership for 15 €. It was a big gym – 2 floors and it was well equipped. It took us an hour from our house to get there every time but it was worth it. (Soňa Nguyen)



I would like to recommend Henry Street, which is in the centre. You can find many clothing shops there. You should expect long queues for changing rooms. But only in girl section. So, if you are girl, take what you want to try and go to the boy changing rooms so you don't have to wait. Also try to look up Dime Coffee.

It's the best coffee you can have and it's a lot better than Starbucks. If you are not a fan of crowded places, visit the Phoenix Park. It's one of the biggest parks in Europe. There's a Zoo, some monuments, but what I enjoyed the most was to go there just for a walk and see a sunset. If you are lucky, you can also see deers, that are living there. If you have some time to spare, visit Sandymount Beach. To be honest, I am not a fan of big cities so the centre of Dublin wasn't really for me, but together with my friends I was lucky to find some lovely parts of Dublin I mentioned. (Anita Žáčková)



I mostly went to various parks for a small walk with my friends. I haven't seen prettier city parks than this. The grass was always cut and there was no trash in it. It was

so calm and quiet there. There are a lot of nice historic places in the centre, such as Trinity College, Dublin Castle, Dublinia...but there is also quite a lot of new cool looking buildings like Dublin City Council. I really enjoyed the trip to Northern Ireland. In Belfast, we were going in groups of 5 in old, themed taxis. The driver was taking us to interesting places where he stopped and started narrating what exactly happened there, for example why there was an armed attack... I was just astonished by the history of the city. After that we moved to Dunluce Castle and the Giant's Causeway which was spectacular. (Lukáš Pipek)



We usually took Dublin buses to get somewhere. Each of us had our own Leap Card, which was valid for one week and then we had to replace it for another one. Buses have two floors and you can get on just with the front door. You always have to beep your leapcard and when you want to get off, you have to use back door and thank to the bus driver. (Šarlota Volentierová)

Dublin is the friendliest and the most communicative city I've ever been in. Strangers on the streets were talking to me very often and I loved that, so I was talking to them too. Dublin is very colourful and clean place. Only the weather was really making fun of us. Once you saw a cloud, you were thinking how much it will rain that day, but of course there were sunny days too. (Kateřina Zdražilková)

Food and meals

My colleagues and my host family recommended me few cafés and restaurants that I went to and I can also recommend - Lemon jelly café, Cornucopia Wholefoods restaurant and Couple of Coffees. Cornucopia is a plant-based restaurant so if you do not eat meat or try to reduce meat products this is a perfect place for you. Both cafés that I mentioned provide variety of non-dairy milk options. (Tereza Coufalová)

If you want to go to a restaurant, be prepared to pay at least €15 for a meal and around €20 in average. The restaurants there are very expensive compared to Czech ones. If you don't want to pay that much for food, you can visit numerous fast foods where you can usually get something cheaper. Or you could go to some Tesco store or other supermarket where you can get yourself something to eat for much lower prices than in the restaurants. (Petr Pospíšil)



Buy a hot chocolate, cafe or pralines in Butlers, which is a traditional Irish chocolate factory. You can do your food shopping in Lidl – there is similar assortment and prices. (Kristýna Hráčková)

There is a shop called Carols, which is a shop with souvenirs and they have anything you can think about. (Gabriela Svobodová)

We have also visited several typical Irish pubs. The interior of the pubs is truly astonishing, the waiters were always smiling and customers were happy. My personal favourite was The Lincoln's Inn. (Lukáš Eliáš)



If I'm being honest me and the girls spent all the time in shops. I always worked till 4 pm and they were finishing earlier so they had to wait in the town for me to finish. The city centre was really beautiful, in every corner there

was Starbucks and Penney's. We visited lots of coffee shops and found our favourite. The prices were higher than usual prices in Czech Republic. The best place to get sandwiches and baguettes was shop Centra, it was the cheapest place to get lunch. (Adéla Konigová)

We tried out a few restaurants but the one we kept coming back to was Aobaba. It's a Vietnamese restaurant and the food was really good there. The only downside was that it was a pretty small restaurant so you might have to wait before you can take a seat. As for our favourite place for drinks, our pick was Sweethouse Tea Coffee. (Anna Kumpová)

If by chance, you won't know where to go for a food, visit Centra, a small supermarket, in which you can buy a very delicious baguette, sandwiches etc... But you can find a McDonald on every corner. There's also a Lidl or Aldi, but don't expect that wide range of pastry food as here in the Czech Republic. (Anita Žáčková)

Conclusion

Visiting Ireland was a great experience and I hope I will get to visit this beautiful country again. (Lukáš Eliáš)

I was really scared to go there. I didn't know what to expect. At the end I am glad a get into this program and had the chance to go to Ireland. If I had to give some advice, I would say don't be scared to try something new. Try it. You will not regret. (Denisa Fasorová)



Internship in Ireland was one of the best experiences I've ever had. I gained a lot of knowledge and memories that I'll never forget. So, if you have ever thought about taking part in this programme, don't hesitate and apply. I fell in love with Ireland and the people living there and I will definitely return someday. My biggest advices are not to lose your Leap Card, turn on Google Maps, communicate and most

importantly enjoy your whole stay! (Denisa Foukalová)

Overall, I am really thankful for this experience. I think it's the best opportunity for young people to travel to another country. They have their support from their teachers and ADC collage. If anything, unexpected happens they will help you. (Adéla Konigová)

Working there was a really good way to practice my English and encouraged me to think about working abroad in the future. (Anna Kumpová)

I really enjoyed my time in Dublin, I was always looking forward for a program of the next day and to new experiences and to making unforgettable memories. (Soňa Nguyen)



Overall, I enjoyed my accommodation in Dublin and it was a once in a lifetime experience so I am glad I could be one of the chosen ones and explore this city with my friends. (Simona Pohanková)

My time in Ireland

Matěj Kunc has a great way with words, that is why we want to share his whole text with you.

Ireland is quite a beautiful and magnificent country, in which I had the pleasure of staying for two weeks from the 14th of May till the 28th of this same sunny month. It was a great trip which gave me an incredible experience and I would love to share at least some of this experience with whomever may be reading this text. So, my dear reader, make yourself comfortable, bring in some snacks and delve with me into the interesting facts about my trip to this ancient Celtic island.

My time in Ireland was spent mostly working in a small and cosy building in almost village-like Dublin district, called Dundrum, or Don-Dróma if you speak Irish. This is one of the things I would advise everyone to get ready for, as Ireland may be primarily an English-speaking country-however, we must keep in mind, that this language of the Anglo-Saxon kind, was forced on them by the invaders from England, and is not native to the island at all.

Now this was a lovely linguistic detour. However, let me speak more about my work now. I will make sure to keep it brief, though, as I want



to mainly give you useful information about the city life. I worked for a company called Tax Assist Accountants. Just by the name, you can tell that it was mainly a company, concerned with numbers, which I found absolutely horrifying in the beginning, as I have never possessed too much talent for those. You can then picture my delight when I actually started working, and found the assigned tasks to be rather easy. Soon, I started enjoying myself at work and I low-key fell in love with the informal structure of this particular Irish company. Everyone was equal and everyone was friends with each other. Now, yes, we had a boss, a friendly and outgoing man named Garry O' Rourke, whose natural charisma commanded deep admiration and respect. And even though he was respected by his employees, he still managed to give off the vibe of a friendly and concerned father, rather than of a typical boss. He even had a friendly laugh with me when I called him „boss“ once, as he was not used to this term at all.

The tasks I had to do were mainly working with books, clients, receipts and Excel, which, as I have already stated, was no big problem for me. I do not find this chapter of my stay in Ireland to be particularly interesting, so I shall move on to the part where I talk about the mighty city of Dublin.

Well, first of all, I have to get one topic off my chest. This topic is the traffic in Dublin, which is simply awful. It is quite normal for buses to arrive late, so my advice to you would be, to catch some bus that goes earlier than the one you would normally take.

Let us get to the discussion about the actual city at last. Dublin has a very specific vibe to it. It is beautiful, with its simplistic, yet sophisticated architecture, its vast and open streets, filled with many establishments. You may have heard about the famous Irish pubs and let me tell you, those pubs do live up to the hype that is made around them. They are full of life and joyful energy, as well as high quality alcohol and mumbling Irish. Avoid the pubs in the city centre if possible, as the prices there are truly high. Just peak in to witness the beauty of the Irish pub. Generally, the more you go out of the city, the cheaper the prices are, which is always great, of course. Also, bear in mind, that if you want to eat in local restaurants, it will be kind of costly. Prices are not exactly poor people-friendly and you will spend around 8 – 12 euros per meal. This is why I advise you to visit supermarkets, where the food is significantly cheaper. Going out to restaurants is gonna pay off, only if you do it in a group of friends at the weekends. When it comes to picking a restaurant, it does not really matter, as most of them cook magnificent food. However, if you get the chance, I would recommend visiting Panem Café and Bakery on Ormond Quay Lower street. I was served one of the greatest salads I ever had the pleasure of eating here.

Anyway, my dear reader, this is all the information I want to pass to you. May the great Fortune make your trip to Ireland as pleasurable, as mine was.

Good luck :)



Are you thinking about applying for the Erasmus+ programme?

by Lenka Roušarová

Working in foreign country will give you a lot of experience. For example:

- Experiencing other cultures
- Better language skills
- You will become more independent

You will meet new people and you will see how they live, their values and lifestyle differences. Erasmus is an unrepeatable life experience.

It sounds exciting to stay with a host family. How do I live with them?

- Improve your language – be open and communicative
- Break the ice – bring a gift from your country
- Be respectful
- Accept the differences

Is there lots to do in Dublin?

Sure, there is! There are lot of beautiful places you can visit in a city centre or near Dublin!

- Take a walk in Phoenix park – with lots of deer
- Dublin Castle – a must see in a city
- National Museum of Ireland – for art lovers
- Listen to some live music at a pub
- Visit Guinness Storehouse and experience production of the most iconic Irish beer!
- And many more

Just visit Dublin and experience everything by yourself.



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