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# DUBLIN WORK EXPERIENCE 2022

This project 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 September 2022 and December 2022. We are the 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> 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: 4Property, Gifts of Ireland, Ad'reme Solicitors, FM Accountants, 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 Dublin (Howth Cliff Path, Howth Harbour).

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!



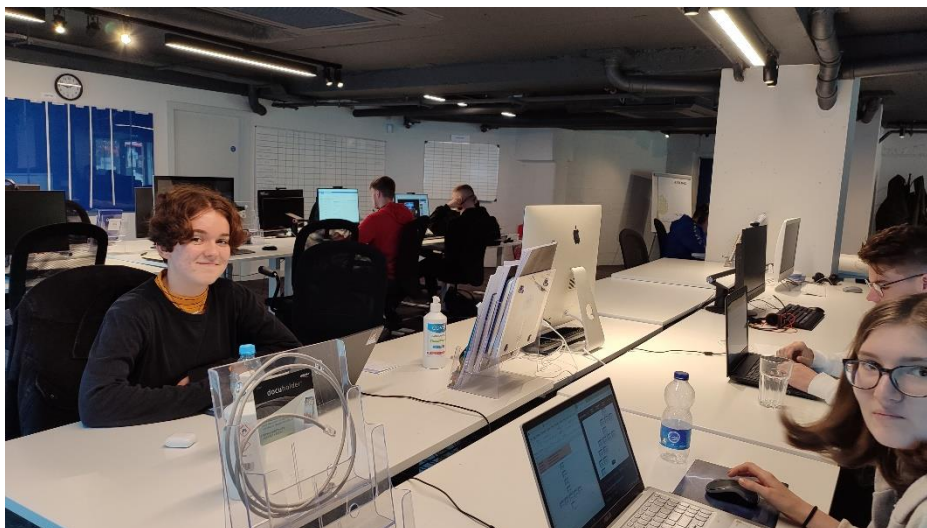
**“Hello, we would like to share our experience with you and give you some advice about your Dublin Erasmus. We can assure you that you’ll enjoy your time in Dublin.”**

## **Work and co-operation with the staff**

I worked in TaxAssist Accountants in Dún Laoghaire. I had to leave my house at 8:30, because it was a long way. I had a one hour break for lunch every day. I always bought something in nearby shops and went for a walk. Dún Laoghaire has a quite lovely coastline, so if you work there on your internship, definitely go for a walk there. My job consisted mostly of doing Excel spreadsheets and working with accounting software Dext. The tasks were not hard, so I did not have to be worried that I do something wrong. I have learned a lot of things in my job. For example, I learned how to use accounting softwares. The workplace was really cozy. I had my own work table and two monitors to work with (which really surprised me). There were three other people with me. All of them were nice to me and when I had some questions or issues, they were always glad to help. (Petr Batůšek)

Most of you will probably work in some offices. I would advise you to not expect something awesome, because the experiences may vary from office to office. You should probably also know that you shouldn’t be jealous of your friends if their workplace seems better than yours (it is personal, some offices may be more fitting for some people, some don’t). When working don’t be afraid to ask any questions to your supervisor, even if they have their own work. It is better to annoy them by making sure than to annoy them with bad results. (Petr Dostál)

I worked in company called Alldus International Consulting Ltd. Its purpose is to help other companies to find the right candidates for their jobs, to help them modernize their business and give them advice about how to ensure a good workflow thanks to modern technologies. I worked there with my classmate Tony, a girl from Austria and a group of foreign students who were taking care of marketing. Our supervisor was nice, he gave us a great training especially at the end, about how to be successful in our careers, he gave us some great advice he’s been putting into practise himself. My job was to do market research for



another employee from Glasgow, so we got in touch usually within Microsoft Teams. I was told to make a list of people from other companies who were British and now working in America based on the information they had on their LinkedIn profiles. (Adéla Drábková)

I worked in a Christian bookshop called Footprints in Dun Laoghaire, a normal, small bookshop. I was mainly adding books on websites and I worked with customers there. Work with customers was a little hard, since most of them were elders, which made it challenging for



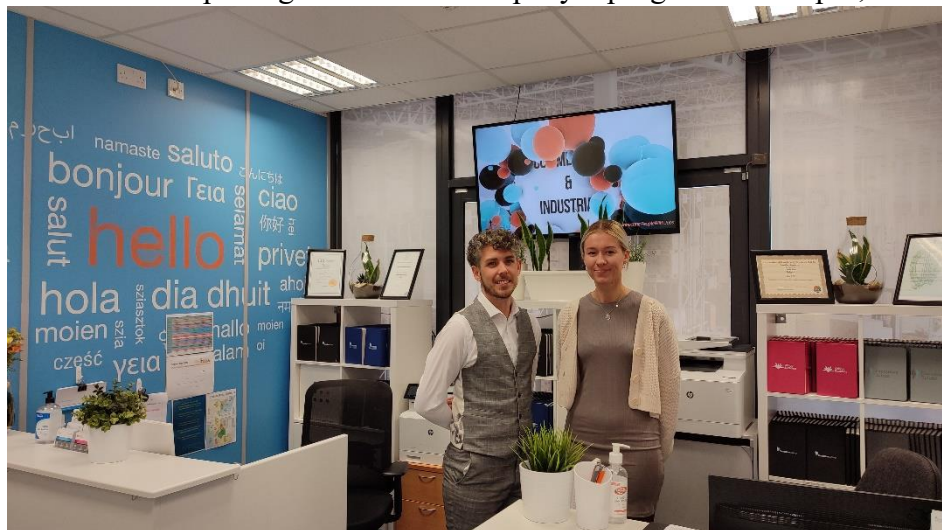
me to understand them. My supervisor was very kind, and even got us tea and coffee when I was there. (Adéla Dufková)

I was working at the Westcourt Management Services. It was really pleasure for me to work there. Everyday I was there with Bobby, my supervisor, he talked with me a lot so I had a chance to get better in English. At first I was looking after apartments to rent. Then I got a chance to talk via phone with some clients. Everything is about communication so don't be afraid to ask for help, explanation or advice they won't be mad at you. (Tereza Dvořáková)

I worked at Allgo rewards which is a company awarding company's employees with money or gifts. My work was different every day. For example I was printing vouchers, saving pictures of products, giving them descriptions and prepare them for selling, on Google drive I was checking if companies have client security form, I was checking on their website if companies who want to reward their employees have KYB verified. My supervisor was Laura Montgomery, she was really kind and talkative. There was a girl called Leonie from Germany and she was from ADC collage just like me which was genuinely great, because we could work together and our English was improving,because we talked a lot. Other employees were also friendly and were trying to help when I needed anything. (Klára Hönigová)

I worked in a company called Carey solicitors. My supervisor's name was Mairead Carey. She and Jim Downing are solicitors and Pamela Cartagena is a legal executive. Every morning I picked up the mail, which I then opened and scanned, sometimes I would start a new case which meant I first typed all personal information of the client into the system and then I would start a physical file by first picking out the right file, different colors of files were for different cases for example yellow was for purchase, green for sale, orange fo personal injury etc. after that I printed out the client's personal information and glued it on the file. (Ivana Jakešová)

In Dublin I worked in Broadline Group, which was a recruitment agency supplying temporary, contract, and permanent staff and training in each of their divisions to many of the largest national and multi-national companies in Ireland. I worked everyday from 9 am to 5 pm. My tasks were scanning documents and putting them in the company's programme Eclipse, stock taking, greeting and communicating with customers, organizing meetings and interviews. Documents usually consisted of candidates's CVs, references, application forms, contracts and many more. My colleagues were



really friendly. I was greeted by them on the first day with very positive energy and it lasted like that for my entire stay. I worked in a completely different country, yet I became very comfortable and confident in speaking English and making new friends. During my stay my

colleagues were indeed helpful and everytime I wasn't sure with anything they were there for me to help. (Anna Kmínková)

I got lucky regarding my workplace. The people there were nice and helpful. The workplace itself was clean and well organised. There were snacks around the whole office and a small kitchen, where you could make coffee at any time you wanted. The atmosphere was relaxed



and calm. My supervisor was a very kind hearted man, who always made sure everything's alright. When I got lost in my tasks, he would help me out. One of people working there was Hugh. Hugh was a college graduate and was working there as a part time job or something along that line. He was talkative and we would have conversations about everything. It wasn't just men company. One woman was working there as well. Her name was Denise. She was the sweetest human ever. She was helping me write the emails. I was also searching for files. (Vendula Kršková)

I have to say that I won. I was working with the best supervisor Sophie. She was so kind to me and she helped me a lot. I really liked the work place. There were so many students from all around the world. And I was working with Excel, Word and with their program called Moodle. I created school accounts in program Moodle for new students. Also I created diplomas for students who have successfully completed their studies. I also did timetables in Word and I made tables in Excel, controlled the number of students in each subject. And I did classic office work like printing, scanning. So I think the job is not that hard how it sounds. Everything is about communication so don't be afraid to ask for help or advice from them. They will help you. And try to talk to them as much as possible. (Ngoc Anh Nguyen)

I was working in Celtic Garden Company and the whole point of the company is to accommodate people who just came to Ireland and have nowhere to stay. It's cheaper than normal rent and the people don't stay more than two months. My coworkers were all from South America so they spoke Spanish most of the time with each other, but at the same time they spoke English with me and Šarlota. They were very kind and friendly so the communication and the whole work experience was excellent. (Matyáš Polehla)

I worked in a company called GN&Co. Solicitors. It was a company that was focused on cases of immigration, naturalisation or family matters. I was there also with my classmate Petr. Our supervisor was called Shy and she was really helpful, even though we had trouble understanding the assignments sometimes. Our tasks were usually scanning documents, digitalizing files, creating new folders, speaking to clients over the phone and in person, stamping letters and documents, writing emails to the Department of Justice or to clients and posting some packages so we were never bored there. It was very challenging to try all those different tasks and I think that it helped me a lot to improve my English and talking skills. If you are worried that you won't understand your tasks, don't be afraid to always ask about what they want from you so that they can explain it to you once again. (Anna Ptáčníková)



I, together with Adéla, got to work for a company called Alldus. Alldus is a specialist recruitment company, which connects people with experience in artificial intelligence and data science with companies that are looking for those kinds of people. They also have a podcast called The Alldus Podcast - AI in action, which breaks down the hype and explores the impact that Data Science, Machine Learning and Artificial Intelligence are making on our everyday lives. Our supervisor was Mark Kelly who is the CCO of the company. He was very nice, but unfortunately we didn't get to see him that much as he was very busy and wasn't in the office very often. At the end of our internship he did give us a seminar about the things that helped him both in personal life and in business to get to where he is now. My main tasks included obtaining data and creating an Excel sheet organising said data. Other tasks could be researching a certain topic and then informing Mark about what I've found out, for example the PeacePlus program or Interreg NPA. (Antonín Slezák)



Working in a completely unknown environment is what I was the most worried about and I can imagine many people could be worried about that as well. I was pretty scared I wouldn't be able to do the tasks they would ask me to, or that I wouldn't understand properly and generally just worried I wouldn't like my co-workers that I would have to work with for the next two weeks. Turns out there was no reason to be worried. So what I would recommend you is to not stress about that at all. The people there are probably going to be used to people working there for only a certain period of time to get the work experience. I also wouldn't be too worried about the work itself. You will be working there



only for two weeks, so most of the firms that you could get into won't ask you to do anything too important or hard. In my case, I was working with at least 5 other people and all of them were giving me easy tasks to do and helping me with them, but many of my friends were only seeing one person that was guiding them through the tasks they asked them to do. (Lenka Šedová)

Working in a law firm on an internship in Dublin affected me very positively. Despite the fact that I was uncomfortable how I fit into the company's team, my supervisor welcomed me pleasantly on the first day and introduced me to the operation of the company and colleagues who were very sympathetic to me. They helped me every day with the tasks I had been performing for two weeks. We quickly became friends and surprisingly, the working hours I had from 9 am to 5 pm passed very quickly. My usual tasks at work were scanning, printing documents, sorting documents, working with mail or data in a database. My favourite job was working with the documents. Leaving this company was emotional for me. I have gained a lot of experience that I will use in my professional and personal life. (Tereza Tomanová)

Don't be scared of making a mistake, they are still people who make mistakes too. They won't give you very important tasks from the beginning so if you don't do something right it won't be a big deal. Don't be worried about being late, most firms are not as strict as school or work here, they're just glad you showed up. But if you're more than 30 minutes late, text them. Ask a lot. Ask about



anything and everything you can, usually the people there are excited about answering any question you may have about the firm. And also ask about some job they may have for you, because a lot of the time they forget you're there. (Šarlota Vojtěchová)

I experienced an internship at Ashfield College Dundrum. Ashfield College is a full Time Leaving Cert Day School offering two year programme (5th and 6th Year) or one year programme (6th Year). The activities I dealt with and came across in this company included for example creating student files, creating databases in Excel with timetables and incoming exams, creating databases in Excel with breakdowns of names and contact details of students in individual grades, working with Manager Tickets and dealing with enquiries, answering emails and sending relevant information and invitations and also copier and printer operations. (Karolína Andreevová)

My work placement was the best thing about the whole stay. I was working in the Irish Rock N Roll Museum Experience which was situated in the centre. My tasks were selling the tickets



and greeting visitors, but I also did administration and helped with online shop. My supervisor and the other workers were kind and charismatic. They helped me with everything and most of them were musicians which I did not expect. Also, the museum consisted of a recording studios and concert venue for smaller interprets and gigs. During my internship I was also working with many other students from different countries (France, Belgium, Germany, ...). They were about the same age, so we got on easily. One day they invited me to a French cafe, and it was really nice. We are still in contact, and I hope to see them again one day. (Nikola Cinciová)

The biggest fear of mine was that I wouldn't be good enough for the tasks prepared for me at work. This fear was absolutely valid and natural, but in the end not called for at all. My supervisor was a nice lady who was considerate of my nervousness and elaborated every instruction step by step. We often concluded it wasn't necessary because I was more than capable to do the tasks I was asked to do; I just wasn't brave enough to do them in fear of messing up. I worked the till, did paperwork, prepared packages and brought them to the post office afterwards, created website and so much more. The important part is, that I had fun while doing it, thanks to my amazing supervisor Valmai. We had a laugh most of the time, drank tea and talked about anything and everything. She surely gave me more experience than any teacher at school could ever give you through talking about it at class. (Sára Hrdá)



My work placement company was Gerrard L McGowan & Co Solicitor, one of the largest private law firms in North County Dublin with offices in both Balbriggan and Skerries. I was working in that small office in Skerries. It took me 1 hour and 10 minutes to get to my work by bus, but when I found out that there was a sea about 200 meters from my workplace, it was a win for me. So, during lunch breaks, or in the morning when I got to Skerries and had time before work or in the afternoon after work, I went often for a walk along the beach and enjoyed the view of the sea, the waves and especially the scenery, which was beautiful. My supervisor, Ms Tersia Campbell, was a very friendly, nice and kind person, who always explained the work clearly and understandably. If I needed help with anything, I could contact her at any time without any problem. My work consisted of



scanning and copying legal documents, shredding, drafting documents, sorting individual client files, handling correspondence at the post office, handling other matters with the other law firm and communication with clients, either in person or by phone. The atmosphere in the law office was very pleasant. The office environment was very cozy and all the other employees were very nice and friendly to me, so I had a really great time there. (Kateřina Hyclová)

I was quite nervous about my placement in the company, I didn't know what kind of team I would have around me, what my supervisor would be like or what kind of tasks I would be given and whether I could handle them. Luckily, from the first day I met my supervisor and supervisor, I knew I had nothing to worry about. After I introduced myself to the whole company team, I presented them with a gift containing Becherovka and chocolates from a



Czech chocolate factory with the theme of the most famous Czech places. Throughout the internship I was quite busy and always had work to do, this was due to the pre-Christmas holidays of the company's team which were badly scheduled, and due to the unannounced departure of one of the employees his entire clientele was transferred to the rest of the staff. This meant that I helped to inform clients of the change in the employee who was looking after them. But apart from that, I spent most of my time working with the property listings, setting up new files, pre-filling purchase and sales contracts, creating advertising flyers for different parts of Dublin and approaching potential sellers. Most of my time was spent in the office, but for part of the last day I was distributing advertising flyers I had created with the help of the firm's team around the neighbourhood. As for my co-workers, they were very helpful and gave me meaningful yet simple tasks. By the end of the internship I liked them very much and they liked me back. (Adam Kristek)

You will be placed in a firm based on your skills and your field of study. I personally was Ad'REME Solicitors which is law company. Tasks are mainly administrative and work with devices like pc, printer, scanner etc. Also working with documents and forms. Workers are very friendly and try to guide and help with your job. My supervisor Mr. Innocent Chukwuezi was very polite and educated man. You get to experience real work abroad and use your skills from school. (Jakub Paluda)



I worked at company called Gifts of Ireland, where you can purchase all kind of stuff, for example I would mention sweaters with Ireland print on it, they are very lovely and I even got one for myself, also you can find there whisky stones or even jewelry. I was not working there alone, in total there were 4 inters, 2 of them were my classmates. Our supervisor called Aidan



was really funny and kind guy, when we did not know something, he would always help us and since there was a lot of work to do, sometimes we had to overwork..., it made our work easier, when he helped us. It was fun. Our supervisor was super talkative, and he gave us some business advices that are super useful. (Kristýna Paulczyňská)

I was working together with Elie a 6 years younger student from our school. We were working on the second floor in The Green Gallery at The Stephen's Green Shopping Centre. Our job included communicating with customers, packing, selling paintings and prints, sending



packages at the post office, running errands around Dublin, reframing, rearranging the gallery and working with a drill and silicone tube. Our supervisor, the owner of the gallery, Dermot O'Grady was kind, open minded and helpful. (Andrea Skaláková)

I worked in upholstery called Chair Doctor. My first impressions of the job weren't very good, because travel from home to there took more than 2 hours with about an hour walk. But when I arrived there, they were kind and said to me that they can pick me up at the last bus stop so they will save me like 30 minutes of walking. The staff there was welcoming and explained me everything about the company and the tasks that I will do. I worked in office with my 2 supervisors Kevin and Amanda. I brought my own laptop from home and was working almost whole time on it. I worked in business administration. My main task was filling information about companies and customers with who Chair Doctor cooperated. Another task was sending newsletter and offers to those same receivers. Most of the time I worked in Excel in different files and tables. Every day they cooked me a lunch which I really appreciated so I didn't have to buy it in city centre. Every time I didn't know what to do with some task, they were helpful and showed me how to do it. (Petr Skryja)

I worked in a law firm which specialized in criminal and immigration law. I was very lucky because my coworkers were really nice from the beginning and made me feel at home in a way. My supervisor, Ms. Renata, especially made sure I was content with the work and the internship overall. She also originally came from Slovakia and Hungary, so we had quite a lot in common. One of my coworkers was also originally from Poland and he was so nice that he brought us all a gift for Saint Nicholas day on the 6<sup>th</sup> of December. My work usually consisted of scanning and closing different files, sorting files, numbering files and putting data into the database, but my favorite part was that I had the chance to visit the Criminal Courts on Justice a few times and even watch an ongoing murder case. That made me realize I'm really interested in this sort

of thing. My recommendation would be to bring some really nice, business type clothes, just in case. I definitely didn't think I would visit court like this. (Valentýna Špačková)

When I found out how great my family is I automatically thought that my job experience will not be Good at all. But I was wrong!!! I was supposed to be in work from 9 am to 5 pm, but it changed a little bit every day. On the first day me and my two mates from school met my supervisor Aiden, who owns a company called The Gifts of Ireland. His business is to sell Gifts and souvenirs from Ireland to people from all the world. He does not have any employees so the atmosphere was very friendly as we spent the whole time working together. Every morning he invited us to have a cup of coffee with him. My work in office was various and interesting because I had done a lot of different tasks in here. I was creating labels for the packages, filling up orders in Google Excel sheets and preparing them to be sent to the customers. Also went to post office, picking stuff from supplier and working with office equipment like printer and shredding machine. (Anežka Štorová)

Company where I was working was called FM Accountants. My supervisor's name was Des Barnes and he was really nice guy. Although he didn't have much time to talk to me because he had a lot of his own work, there were other co-workers who helped me with completing my tasks. My main tasks were scanning, printing, working with Excel and sorting documents. When there was something I couldn't understand, my co-workers Michael and Regina always told me what to do. They were really talkative and generous. My overall experience from this company is great. (Lukáš Vaško)



We worked in a Footprints bookshop on two places - Dun Laoghaire and Dolphin's Barn. Our supervisor was very nice, the last week she would bring us coffee or tea (what we chose) from the cafe opposite the bookstore. However the place in Dolphin's Barn was very dusty – we were cataloguing second hand books and it triggered my allergies. When I got to talk about it with my supervisor she absolutely understood it and she let us work in Dun Laoghaire for the rest of the internship. Never be afraid to talk, give new ideas or give an honest feedback to your supervisor, they may even appreciate it so they can change or get better at something for the next time. Some customers were very old, mumbled, their hearing was bad or they even had strong accents and it was quite hard to understand them, but after some time it wasn't as a big deal as it was during the first few days, you just get used to it, so don't worry. (Monika Hrdličková)



## Host family

I lived with my classmate Petr in a cozy house located 40 minutes from the city center. We shared a bedroom, but both had our own bed. There were a lot of closets, so we could easily unpack and put the clothes there. We lived with our host mum Roisin. She was really communicative, so she always talked to us when we came back from work. A little tip here - If you talk to your host for the first time, he/she will definitely give you some recommendations. Try to try most of them and tell him/her what you liked. He/she can then recommend you some more, so you can make the most of it. The food overall was great. We could choose from bread with cheese/ham or a few types of cereals for breakfast. That was great, but after ten days of eating the same, it began to be a bit stereotypical. The real gem was dinner. Roisin asked us what we like on the first day, so she cooked our favorite meals for dinner. (Petr Batůšek)



Your families will also vary. But the general rule is 1. No heating, 2. Weird showers. 3. Semi-finished food (factory). So be prepared to have a bit of survival. You are on your own, and in a foreign country after all. It is possible that the families will want to help you with exploring Dublin. Don't worry to ask them any questions, they will be more than happy to help you. Also mark their recommendations you never know when you will need them. Your host family provides you with breakfast, and a warm dinner and has to wash your clothes two times. Be careful with the washing. Our Host mom just gave us the detergent and the washing machine to do it ourselves. But some families just wash the clothes like rugs, and they can destroy them. Also, be careful with small kids, they can be spoilt and don't respect your privacy. So maybe don't have your candy and snacks out of drawers and suitcases. (Petr Dostál)

Our hosting family was nice. There was Barbara, she was taking care of me and Klara the most during our stay. Then there was Alan, her husband. He was really great at giving directions, so he helped us with getting around Dublin. And they had two kids, Emma and Jack, but we didn't really get to know them, since our schedules were different. Their house was extremely cute

although it was small, but that's just the way Irish houses are. You could tell the y're prepared for exchange students like us; we had our separate room with a bathroom, so we didn't interfere their personal space. It was clean and cute, and we really liked our room. (Adéla Drábková)

Our host family was really amazing. It was a single mother living alone with her two kids: a 17-year-old daughter and a 12-year-old son. They have been hosting students for a few years and they were all very friendly. I truly felt among friends, while staying there. They tried to include us in their conversations and asked us about our days and our travelling. Even though we didn't know each other well, we went along so well with each other during those two weeks: since the very beginning, they acted normally, as if we were not just some unknown students in an exchange programme. The food was nothing too special but it wasn't bad and I can't complain. Since we communicated efficiently, travelling was never a time problem for us. Teachers and ADC college workers always said to us that we had to be home at around 6-7 pm, and that if we had come later, it could have meant no dinner. We talked with our family and asked if it could have been a problem if we had come later: they just told us to chill and to come whenever we wanted, as the food could always be heated up, after all. (Adéla Dufková)



Our host family was family Kerns. There was Barbara and Alan and their children named Emma and Jack. They had a dog named Oscar and he was adorable. They were all super sweet. Barbara was taking care of me and Adela the most and Alan was really great at giving us directions, so we didn't get lost in the city. Their house was modern and everything was so cute. We had our room on a separate floor and we even had our bathroom, which was extremely great. We didn't spend a lot of time in the house, because we were either at work or we went sightseeing, but we had a little chat with the family in the morning or when we were eating dinner. Alan was always joking around. Barbara was cooking for us and the food tasted really nice. (Klára Hönigová)

Our host family was pretty fun and communicative. We were usually talking about our days during the dinner time. Ms Sinead Spillane was so nice, that when we arrived a bit later, she left our dinner on the table so we could just heat it up when we wanted to, which many families did not do automatically – You came later = you had no dinner. Don't forget to tell or text your host families that you may arrive later and respect their dinner time if possible, not all families may be as chill with it as our was. We also got our own keys and we got instructed on how to code the alarm so you better don't forget the password. Ms Spillane had two kids. Ava – 17



years old and Eoin – 13 years old. Once In the evening we played board game - Dungeons and Dragons with Eoin. It was very long, but also very fun! I suggest you playing something or just talk with your host families if they are open to it as much as you can, nice memories can come from that, or even new friendships. (Monika Hrdličková)

Our host family consisted of parents, three kids and two dogs. We lived a little bit far from city centre but after all it wasn't such a problem because we could experience interesting places out of city centre as well! When we arrived to our host family they greeted us and offered a tea, gave us few tips about what to do in Dublin and how to orientate in public transport which we found useful. In our host family there was one teacher named Alexandra from Poland staying with us as well and she was super nice. Even though we lived in a house full of people it was usually peacefull and calm. We had our own bedroom and we shared our bathroom with Alexandra. I really like how friendly our host family was and they always asked us about our day and made sure that we were enjoying our stay. Meals prepared by our host mom weren't bad but it was definitely something else than in Czechia because they rarely used seasonings. (Anna Kmínková)

We (me and Anna) were staying in Donabate. Even though it was a bit far from the city centre, it was still a beautiful place near the sea. The house we were staying in was nice and big. We had our own bedroom with two beds and bathroom to ourselves. The host family consisted of mom (Louise), dad (Brad) and two daughters (Thea Mae and Olivia Rose). Louise was an amazing cook and every dinner we had was delicious. Brad would sometimes take us to the train station by his car in the morning. Their daughters were both very young, so it was a bit difficult to have some meaningful conversations with them, but overall, they were very well behaved. They are wonderful family and we are both very grateful, that we met them. (Vendula Kršková)

Luckily, I wasn't alone in my homestay family. I was there with my friend. Our homestay family was really nice married couple with two little girls. For breakfast we always had cereals with milk and for dinner it was always hot food. I could say that our room was big but most importantly we had our own shower. For the future candidates I would recommend creating a chat group. You can write there when you want dinner or when you'll come home. Also, the family can text you when the dinner is ready. We had "whats up" group and it was useful. (Eva Máčková)

My classmates and I spent two weeks at the best host family. Our "Irish mom" Sharon was so kind and nice to us. She talked to us a lot. She asked us a lot of questions. The house was full of people. There were two students from Turkey and Sharon's brother and husband. Everyone was so nice and talkative. I really enjoyed my time there. I was really scared about food. But it wasn't the worst or the best. I think people from Dublin are used to semi-finished products. Most often we had pizza and fries. So don't expect food like from restaurants. I recommend you to talk to them as much as possible, you will improve your English and feel more confident. (Ngoc Anh Nguyen)



Our host family was better than I expected. Our host mother Sharon lives with her husband, brother, and another two students. Damla from Turkey and Alechandroo from Mexico. We also met her daughter with her husband and their child. They were really nice and kind and they



really tried to spend some time with us and talk about our lives in Czechia or anything else. My favorite person here was Andy (Sharon's brother) he was the talkative person here and almost every evening we met in the kitchen with the girls and talked. We had a movie night where we watched Borat and it was fun. The food here wasn't bad and we could use everything we wanted in the kitchen but we ate toasts almost every day. When we wanted to go out in the evening it wasn't a problem but we had to text Sharon when we were coming back. Our room has 3 comfy beds and a TV with Netflix and everything. (Natálie Polcarová)

Me and my classmate Tonda were in a family which consisted of only one member, and that was no one else, but Lubica. She is woman from Slovakia who came to Ireland about 15 years ago. She is living alone, but at the same she is the most travelling person I have ever met. She was very interesting and we always had some topic to talk about. Our accomodation was nothing but perfect, everything was clean. She also knew how to cook pretty good so every evening we had some food cooked by her. We always made a deal about what we are going to eat and when. She cooked us some of the Irish food but also lot of food from another countries so we could try a lot new things and luckily everything was like from a restaurant. She had no problem with us going out anytime we wanted, all we had to do was call or message her and make a deal about when we are going to be back so she could prepare food on that time or just let some food on table for us when we arrive. We could wash our clothes whenever we wanted. Also we had separate rooms with Tonda, that was very comfortable. In the end of our accommodation, there is nothing we could complain about. (Matyáš Polehla)

Me and my friend Vendy were in the Stevens family. The parents were called Brad and Louise and they also had two little kids - Thea Mae, who was 7 years old and Olivia Rose, who was only 2. They lived in a 3-storey family house. We had the 3rd floor all for ourselves - there was a room where we slept and also our own bathroom. The house looked simply amazing and what



was even better was the kindness of all the family members and also the taste of the food that our host mom made for us. We had a really great time there. (Anna Ptáčníková)

During our stay in Dublin Matyáš and I stayed with our host Ms Mieresova. She originally comes from Slovakia and has lived in Dublin for 15 years now. She was very nice and cooked really well. She would make us meals with eggs or meat despite the fact that she was a vegan, which was very nice of her. She worked from home most of the time so she was always there when we needed her. She owned a big house meaning that Matyáš and I could have separate rooms. They don't really turn on the heating in Irish houses, and Ms Mieresova's house was no different, so warm clothes were a must. The house also had a decently sized garden, but we didn't spend much time there due to the weather in Dublin. Conveniently there was a bus stop just across the road. It was about a 40 to 50 minute bus ride into the city centre. (Antonín Slezák)

This aspect of this internship in Dublin was pretty scary for me. Living in the house of people you have never met before doesn't really sound like a good time to me. I was worried we would have to live with some weird people or that they would have some really unusual habits, or that we just wouldn't get on with them. Although that might be the case for some people, from what I've heard from other students and from my own experience, the host families are used to having exchange students living with them, and are really nice to them. They tried to chat with us whenever they had time and they would make sure we had everything we needed. (Lenka Šedová)



A pleasant experience for me was also a stay in our host family. I shared the household with my classmate, with whom I also became closer thanks to this stay, three small children and their parents. They took care of us as best they could and we in turn followed the rules of the household. For example, the time of dinner, which we used to have together with a teacher from Poland, who was also there on an internship with her students. The food our family cooked for us for dinner was satisfying. We usually had meat with side dish and vegetables. I think we had a good relationship with our host family also because of the communication. We talked about the differences of our countries, work or personal life. There is no need to make unnecessary problems and spoil the trust of the family that will accommodate you in their home for two weeks. Thanks to these kind people who made our stay in a foreign country more pleasant, where we finally felt at home. (Tereza Tomanová)

Remember to ask about dinner, like when it is and if they are going to be willing to reheat it for you. Also don't forget to tell your family you won't be able to make it. Ask a lot. People who work in the Erasmus program want to learn about your country and your habits there. So if you ask them they will probably ask you back. If you don't like anything about the family, or you find it very strange don't be scared to mention it. (Šarlota Vojtěchová)

Together with Andy, Kate, Eli and Val we lived with our host family for two weeks in Shantalla Road, Beaumont. It was a small brick house with a very nice garden. The family consisted of our host mum Ms. Rosaleen Carroll who lived in the house with her son Brandon, her daughter Roisin, her boyfriend Conor and their son Sessan. The whole family was very nice, friendly and



everyone helped each other. Immediately upon arrival Ms. Rosaleen gave us the keys to the house, asked us about our work locations, and gave us transportation and security tips. There was also a big dog named Ace in the house, who just made our entire stay more pleasant, as he was very nice. The food was always great and tasty and there was plenty of it. As I am a vegetarian I asked the host family if it would be possible for me to receive portions without meat. I received complete understanding and I was pleasantly surprised, because instead of meat I was given substitutes in the form of vegetable patties or extra portions of vegetables, which I did not even expect. Our rooms were located on the first floor and were next to each other. We had a total of three rooms and each room had its own bathroom with toilet. The rooms were large, in my room there were two beds, two bedside tables, two wardrobes, an armchair and the already mentioned bathroom. The whole house was very nice and cosily furnished, everywhere were Christmas decorations such as Christmas lights and decorations of reindeers, owls and elves. The whole house was very clean and everywhere was a scent of candles. The only thing I'm not used to was the fact, that two people couldn't shower or flush the toilet at the same time in different bathrooms. Other than that, complete satisfaction from my side. (Karolína Andreevová)





Our host family consisted of an old lady and her dog. She was really kind and took care of us. During dinners we got the chance to talk to her about our day and we mostly had a laugh. Our rooms and the whole house were clean and there was everything we needed. The only problem was the temperature in the house. It was cold during nights but fortunately we were prepared for it. (Nikola Cinciová)



The biggest example of the life people lead in a foreign country is shown in your hostfamily. You get to eat their local food, see the house they live in... They provide you with the best view of their culture you could ever ask for. I lived with a kind elderly woman called Julie. She's been doing this for more than twenty years and let me tell you – it showed. She told us the very first day everything we needed to know in order to get by just fine; how the public transport works, where we can buy essential groceries or where is the best place to go for a walk when you need to clear your head. However, she had some ground rules as well, all of them were understandable though - e.g., only speaking in English when being around her. She was basically our grandmother who took care of us. (Sára Hrdá)



Me, Kája, Andy, Eliška and Valentýna were all staying in a family house on Shantalla Road in Beaumont. Our host, Ms Rosaleen Carroll was very kind, helpful and friendly woman. There were also other members of the family in the house. Ms Rosaleen lives in the house with her son Brian, daughter Roisin with her partner Conor and their son Senan and I cannot forget her dog that was called Ace but had a nickname “Big Baby”. I was happy with the food that Rosaleen cooked for us. For breakfast we always had toast with nutella, cheese, waffles or cereals and for dinner we always had meat and potatoes, vegetables or pasta or spaghetti. Garlic bread was also a very common side dish, which we all loved. The interior of the house was modern, cozy and clean. I stayed with Kája in one room, Andy and Eliška in the second room and Valentýna in the third room. Our room was very nice. Each of us had our own bed. Another room, where was a bathroom and a toilet, which was a bit smaller, but we didn't mind. We had two large wardrobes in the room, a mirror and a large window overlooking the street. The only disadvantage was that when someone went to take a shower, someone else couldn't take a shower at the same time and the same was true with flushing the toilet, you always had to wait.

The last few days before the flight, because it got very cold and snowing, so it was also cold in the morning in the house, but otherwise we were happy and enjoyed our stay with the family. (Kateřina Hyclová)

Our host family lived in the city part called Tallagh in the south of Dublin. It took us usually one and half hour by bus, to get home from our workplace. Our host family included our hostmom Julie and her dog Bella. We stayed in two separate bedrooms, one with two beds and bathroom, the other one with three beds. During the first week of our visit, there was with us another international student from Brazil. Our breakfast always consist of cornflakes with milk or toastbread with butter, strawberry jam. Then we could make cup of tea or coffee. We had diner at around seven o'clock, because that was usually the time when we all came back home from works. The diner was different every day. But it was always something warm such as rice with meat and some tomato-bean sauce, another day we had hamburgers which we could customise with vegetables or sauces as we'd like. After diner our hostmom made us a cup of tea and then we chatted with her for, sometimes, another hour. I really felt like home here. (Veronika Mildnerová)



Families are offering you a really good stay. My host family were Michael and Beth McCarthy, elderly couple from Dublin. They were very kind and communicative. And they did not even mind when we came home in the evening so it was really nice. The room was a bit small but it was not bad. The only negative thing is the cold. The room was really cold and sheets even colder but it was not a big deal. The food you get served is delicious. For example we got homemade burgers with fries, onion ring, or tortilla. And prepare for a garlic bread to almost every meal. Breakfast was mostly cornflakes or toast with jam or nutella. Classic breakfast. (Jakub Paluda)

I was in family with my two classmates Lukáš and Šimon. Our hosts were a retired couple, who has been hosting students for more than 40 years. Their names were Margaret and Colm. For about one week there was also their daughter, who is currently teacher in primary school. Another pleasure in the house was a cat called Roushin. It was very friendly and cuddly. The couple was extremely kind and cooked well. For breakfast we could choose between sweet (cereal with milk, toasts with marmalade) and salty (toasts with butter and cheese) and for drinks orange juice, coffee or tea. Dinner was always freshly made and warm. Me and the boys



were accommodated in a single room with 3 separate beds. Our room was first few days very cold, but then we got a heater which we later used every day. (Petr Skryja)

My experience with the host family was also positive. At first, I was a little worried because we were five girls coming to this host family and the house didn't look that spacious from the outside, but in reality it was otherwise. There were three rooms for us – I had my own rooms and the girls were two in each room, each with their own bathroom. The host moms name was Rosaleen, she was a middle aged lady with a lot of energy and a good sense of humor. Her son, daughter, her boyfriend and their son also lived in the house and they were all quite nice. They also had a big dog, Ace, whom we all adored. The food was very good in my opinion and at dinner we made it our tradition to watch the World Cup, because the host family loved football. We usually had potatoes with some sort of meat or pasta with for example garlic bread, onion rings, beans and vegetables. For breakfast we could grab whatever we wanted – for us it was usually waffles/toasts with nutella/jam or cereal. The house was also regularly cleaned and all of us had our own keys which was nice. The only thing with which I was really struggling was that we were there in winter and I was really cold all the time even though the heater was on, so it is better to bring really warm clothes. (Valentýna Špačková)

We flew from Bratislava to Dublin, then we took taxi and arrived in our host families. They welcomed us with open arms and in that moment, I knew they will be great people with family values. The hostmum is called Caroline, the housedad Dave and they have 3 kids Kayleigh, Ryan and another son that is already moved out. They also have two half babies - dogs Sparta and Ragnar. It was not that stressful for me because I lived there with one of my classmates. We were not the only ones from abroad in their family. They were accommodating one student from German for half of the year. Overall, they have many years of experience with students from different countries and it was very recognizable. They had a big house with a garden and shed which was remade into a gym. They were into physical health so every dinner was delicious and healthy which was a big plus for me. The breakfasts were delicious as well. We could choose from many types of cereal, toast with jam, fruit, fresh pastry or porridge. (Anežka Štorová)

Once I arrived it was clear I have nothing to be afraid of. First, we got to a host family. Be sure to be nice. First impression is everything. Our family was really nice and considerate. Most host families will be like that. Their houses are rather smaller, but cozy. Our house had 3 stories and we were accommodated at the top floor. Everything was fine. Breakfasts will be pretty much just toasts with butter and jam and cereal with milk. Dinners are, however, interesting. Not everyone would like them, but I think it was rather delicious. Usually, you will have some kind of meat (sausage,





pork, chicken etc.) with potatoes and cabbage. We even once got a burger with fries and lasagna another day. Just make sure to talk to the host family about dinner time and curfew. Curfew usually isn't a problem, but if you are getting home later because of work, you should tell them, because usually dinner is served at a set time every day. Some families will put it on a plate and let you heat it up when you get back home. The first morning you get to your family, there is usually an online meeting with the hosting organization (in our case, it was ADC College). They will tell you a lot of relevant and helpful information, so make sure you listen. Be prepared for a long time spent travelling. It is harder to place students near the very center, so it's normal that you will have to travel 1 – 1,5 hours to work and back. Make sure to search up the way before your first day. You can even ask your host family what the nearest bus stop is or how to get there. In your company, you should

get up to an hour break each day, so you can go to the nearest shop. There won't be many chances to get a proper lunch, so just buy a sandwich and anything you like in a supermarket. (Šimon Uřidil)

If we talk about accomodation, I can't say any wrong word about it. My family, the Nobles, were one of the greatest people that I have met. They always prepared for us packages of cereal,



milk, jams, bread and other in the kitchen for breakfast and after their dinners we always left room absolutely full after their delicious homecooked warm dish. If we had problem, they tried to help us and we really liked to spend time with them and just

have casual conversations, because that was the best thing of all them. (Natálie Vitulová)





## Free time

You can do a lot of things in Dublin. You can of course go sightseeing (Dublin castle, Trinity college, Phoenix park etc.), but my advice is to not just go sightseeing after work, but try to get to know the local culture. Do what you like - if you like sports, try joining a local sport team for their training session, if you like pubs, go for a pint of Guinness in an Irish pub, if you like meeting people, just talk to strangers etc. From my experience Irish people are friendly and almost always like to have a nice chat with new people. (Petr Batůšek)



When you first get to Dublin it will seem like you have a lot of time but that is not true! The time runs quickly and before you know it, you are back in your class, just thinking about what you could do in Dublin. So choose your activities wisely and have your things planned. It will really help you to get the most out of it. Some of Dublin's "must see" 1. Howth peninsula. 2. Trinity college. 3. Phoenix Park. 4. Temple bar – Temple Street 5. National Gallery 6. Dalkey. Also, the traffic in Dublin can be bad so when planning your trips be prepared that the bus can be up to 20 minutes late. This is important to know on your first workday. Because the people that work in Dublin don't care about the time either everything is "-ish" you will see. But on your first day, be careful to be there on time. Another thing is that many people in Dublin are foreigners and have English as their second language. I would say that this is good for you because people will not judge you by your accent or the mistakes that you make. Another thing is lunches. The food in Dublin is much more expensive than in Brno. If you eat at fast food, you can spend around 9 € per meal. I would recommend going to Tesco or Supervalu where they have "food corners" where you can find some cheaper good alternatives to get you through the day. (Petr Dostál)

We went on several trips on the weekend we stayed there. On Saturday morning we got on a bus and drove to Belfast where we decided to see the Titanic Museum. From there we drove to the Dunluce castle where we stayed for a bit and after that we continued to Giant's Causeway. This location was super lovely, I loved the British sea, the view, and the nature. On Sunday we visited the Dublin castle. There was a woman who guided us through it, so we got to know the history as well as the architecture. After that we took a walk and went to see the most famous Guinness Storehouse with the Gravity bar with a view on whole Dublin. It was wonderful, because the weather was really nice, so we could even see the sea. We visited a few famous places on our own when we had spare time after work. We went to the Trinity College, we saw the Oscar Wilde's statue, the Howth, many beautiful parks and shops of course. (Adéla Drábková)



We started travelling properly on Wednesday when we went to the Howth cliff walk. It was really stunning: I loved it so much. If you ever get chance to visit Howth, there's a small way to the tiny beach in the middle of the cliff walk - it's not dangerous. Go there! You can see seals there. I saw there seals myself on Sunday, and a second time on Thursday. On Friday we went to Bray. Both beaches in Grayingstones and Bray were really beautiful. After the Titanic museum, we went to the Giant Causeway. We didn't have as much time as I would have liked: the scenery is beautiful, but we walked a lot and saw as much as possible. On Sunday we visited Dublin's castle. We were there for a short time, but it was a surprisingly nice tour. After Dublin's Castle, we went to Guinness Storehouse, and that was really fun. I liked especially the art section. After that, we had a free afternoon, so we just went to get food and travelled to Howth again. (Adéla Dufková)



Dublin is a beautiful city. There are so many places to visit like local pubs, parks, city center, Dublin port and so on. What I do recommend is that if you're over 18 go to visit any local club, pub or something like that. You will get a unique chance to meet so many people from all over the world. People in Dublin were so nice to us, I will never forget when we went to the Phoenix park and saw deers, that was really magical. (Tereza Dvořáková)

We went to a plenty trips during the week. We visited National Gallery of Ireland the first day and there were some beautiful paintings. We visited a lot of parks – St Stephen's Green Park was my favourite, because it was in a centre of Dublin and it was nice to just sit on a grass and watch seagulls or squirrels. We visited Howth and I was fascinated by the sea. We went to many shops to buy some Irish candies or souvenirs for our friend and family or just for



ourselves. We also visited the Trinity Colledge or we went to see Oscar Wilde's statue. Early on a Saturday morning we got on a bus and we went to Belfast. We decided to see the Titanic Museum which I found really interesting. After that, we went to see a Dunluce castle and then we went to Giant's Causeway. I absolutely loved the view and everything there. The sea was marvelous and the nature too. (Klára Hönigová)

I recommend you visiting Howth and its magical scenery. You can see beautiful cliffs, lighthouse and beach a tone place and we even saw seals there! Another nice places we visited were for example Greystones, Bray or Phoenix Park – you could spot deers there! And if you love art I recommed you visiting the National Gallery! Entry is free! I even got lost there – that's how large the building is! Don't worry, I found my friends in the end as I sat in the drawing corner for kids, while I was drawing something down and I was waiting for my friends to apper from somewhere. We even had a chat with the gallery guard and we found out he visited the Czech Republic, he showed me his bracelet where was written – Ostrava, he even showed me some pictures of his favourite beer he had drank there and he seemed very excited to visit the Czech Republic again! We travelled by Dart and bus the most. Don't forget to wave at the bus to stop! It is weird, but during all two weeks I never waved at all, not even once. I passed it on my friends or people around, which is not a good idea, but I somehow managed to travel this way for the whole internship. (Monika Hrdličková)

In my free time I visited a lot of national monuments. My favorite trip was by train to a port town called Dun Laoghaire. We took a lovely walk along the east pier at sunset. (Ivana Jakešová)

In Dublin I made many new friends so in our free time we usually headed to city centre where we met and enjoyed our free time. We visited some Dublin's famous places. My favourite one was definitely National Art Gallery where we could see many art works from many artists such as Vincent van Gogh or Pablo Picasso! We also visited some traditional Irish bars where we got few pints of Guinness and listened to live music. I really loved it! The energy in those pubs was always awesome. We also met there few other students from Italy and other contries who were in Dublin for internships too! What I really disliked about Dublin was its public transport. Buses rarely arrived on time or sometimes didn't even come at all. Trains and trams were fine though! Unfortunately I couldn't use them too much because I had to get my work by bus. (Anna Kmínková) In our free time we would go on strolls around the city. Dublin surprised



me in a lot of ways ! It is a mesmerizing city with so many aesthetically pleasing places and delicious food. I took loads of pictures. My phone started glitching on the last day. I really enjoyed our Saturday trip to Belfast and the Giants Causeway. The whole day was filled with

breath taking sights. After the trip I was so tired, that I fell asleep as soon as we got home. Other fun activities were for example shopping. The shops there were bigger and stuff in them was better. To be honest I was bit scared to buy some things, because I had to keep in mind the luggage's weight. At the airport I found out that my luggage was not as heavy as I thought it would be. I got mad, because if knew beforehand I would definitely buy way more stuff. (Vendula Kršková)

We had a lot of free time in Dublin after work. Our only responsibility after work was coming home for dinner. I used this free time mostly for sightseeing or shopping. If I should give some advice, I would say that it's good to plan sightseeing at least one day before. Because when you're planning to visit for example Dun Laoghaire it isn't close to the town centre. It took me 40 minutes by bus to get to the town centre and to Dun Laoghaire it is another 30 minutes so it'll get dark before you'll arrive there and you won't see anything. To be honest, the buses in Dublin are horrible. You are lucky when the bus is only 10 minutes delayed. On the contrary sometimes it happens that the isn't coming at all, so you have to wait for another one. In Ireland every stop is signposted so it's not good to stare into you phone when you are waiting for the bus. (Eva Mácková)

Dublin is really a nice city but it can be really dangerous. There are a lot of pickpockets. So you have to be really careful with your things. Do not carry a phone in your back pocket. There are so many beautiful places in Dublin such as Phoenix park, Spire of Dublin, the city, shopping centres, local pubs and museums. I really liked cafes in Dublin, it was really nice and the coffee was really good. The local pub is so fun, there was live music. I recommend you to try cafes, local pubs with live music and the restaurant called KC Peaches, they have the best burger called Dubliner. And you must definitely visit Phoenix park. I really enjoyed my time in Dublin and I would like to go back as soon as possible.. (Ngoc Anh Nguyen)

The best part is coming. My free time in Dublin was great. I saw many things. Especially a lot of shopping centers, Cafes, Fast Food, and Zara's. One of the best things was Phoenix park where we could feed deers and be really close to them. If you are 18 the best part is probably the nightlife in Dublin. You can visit some local pubs, taste Irish beer or whisky and have a lot of fun with new people from different countries. (Natálie Polcarová)





First few days we were just walking around the town, exploring every corner in Dublin and met some people from our group. Dublin is a very interesting city and it's very different to what we are used to in Czech Republic. They have almost no flats and not many people live in the center of the city, most of the people live in houses on the edges of the city. The buses are the most common part of the transport in Dublin, they also have trams called Luas, but they have only two of them, red and green so its used to travel in the centre for a bit, but not that much. They also use a lot of train transport from center to other parts of Dublin and surroundings. Food in supermarkets is at the same price or cheaper, but food in restaurants or fast foods is more expensive so I recommend buying something in Tesco or any other supermarket. The clothing and all the other stuff is the same price as in Czech Republic. At the weekend we went on a trip all together. We took a bus at seven in the morning and went to Belfast. We could choose between Titanic exhibition or ride in taxis in Belfast with authentic comment from someone who was part of the „Troubles“ in Belfast which is still current topic for local people. After both parts finished we went back to our bus and travelled to Giant Causeway which is one of the most beautiful places I have ever seen. We had three hours of free time so we could eat something, look around and walk across the ocean. The weather couldn't be better. The whole day was sunny and wind was calm so the trip was one of the best. We also visited ruins of the Dunluce castle, that was very pretty place as well. (Matyáš Polehla)

On Saturday, we went on a trip to Northern Ireland - to Belfast, Dunluce castle and also to Giants Causeway. In Belfast, I chose to go to the Titanic museum, which was very interesting and then we continued to explore the beauty of the magnificent Dunluce castle. There were



breathtaking views of sea hitting enormous cliffs so we took many nice pictures there. Then we continued to the Giants Causeway, which had also amazing views of the sea and there were also very unusual stones that were created by a Giant...or at least the legend says that. On Sunday we went to Dublin Castle and also to the Guinness Brewery. So if you like trips that are connected with history and nature and good beer, this will be your ideal weekend. When it comes to my free time in Dublin, here are a few things that I would recommend to you to do and try during your visit. In Dublin, you can find many beautiful streets with amazing pubs, shops and houses with interesting architecture. So if you like spending time with your friends, you can get amazing food near the city center, especially near the Temple bar. If you're also a fan of shopping, Dublin is a city just for you. You can find many famous shops there so don't hesitate and buy yourself some nice clothes! But I would definitely recommend you to buy less pieces, because you could have trouble packing your suitcase, it also has to be under 20 kilograms due the flight rules. Maybe some of you will even get bored of Dublin and will want to visit some places near the big city. I visited one of them-Howth. It's a peninsula that can offer you views

of the cliffs and the sea, so you can go for a long walk there. There is also a port which has some traditional restaurants near it so you can try the iconic Fish and Chips in some of the restaurants. (Anna Ptáčníková)

The first travelling group activity was on Saturday and it was a planned trip to Belfast. We met at 6:45 am and got to Belfast at 9:30. Once there we had the option to choose between 2 activities, either go see a Titanic Exhibition or to take a cab ride along the wall that is separating the Catholics and Protestants, to see a real life exhibition of The Troubles. On Sunday we went to see the Dublin castle and got a guided tour of the Viking section and the State Apartments. Later that day, around 12 o'clock we went to the Guinness Storehouse, an exhibition showing how the beer Guinness is made. Besides the exhibition The Storehouse also had beer tasting and a bar all the way at the top floor, with a view overlooking the whole city centre. In our free time we would explore the city of Dublin, to find interesting places, places where we can eat or places where we can just sit down and talk. The pubs in Dublin were the most interesting with a great atmosphere and friendly people. One day we also decided to visit the peninsula of Howth. It was just a train ride away and we got to walk along the coastline, feed seagulls (it's banned so don't do it), visit the Howth lighthouse and some claim they've also seen seals in the sea, but I haven't seen one there, so I guess they're making it up. (Antonín Slezák)

The public transportation in Dublin is, I would say, really well thought through. It's quite easy to get oriented in it and get used to it. But you need to expect pretty bad delays and count with them. Especially the first day of work, me and few of the other students got to work late because of it. There are a lot of things to see or do in Dublin. Whether you prefer sightseeing in the city or spending time outside in nature, I'm sure that everyone will find something they like. For the more outdoorsy people, I can recommend visiting Howth, a lively little fishing village in North County Dublin. With its beautiful beaches and flower-covered cliffs, I'm sure many people will love spending time there. Another really nice place to spend time walking aimlessly would be the Phoenix park. One of the largest enclosed parks in Europe. And if you don't really enjoy spending time outside, you can visit for example the National Art Gallery of Ireland. I personally also enjoyed just aimlessly wandering around the city. Dublin is in my opinion a really beautiful city with a lot of interesting street art, so I think it's worth seeing too. (Lenka Šedová)



I spent all my time in Dublin discovering the beauty of the city, nature, culture, meeting new people and not idle for a moment. I quickly adapted to the transport possibilities and even liked the simplicity of transport in this city. A ride on a double-decker is a great experience if you don't go to the second floor just as the bus is starting. Driving along the coast by train was my favorite and most comfortable. There are plenty of free museums in Dublin that we visited and



couldn't regret it. The whole city felt like something out of a movie from a different century. Beautiful buildings, bridges, pubs and live music. Simply beautiful. I also visited some shops and restaurants with my friends. In my opinion, it is always better to travel around the city with someone. There are so many possibilities and sights in this city that even when I visit it next time, I will have a lot to do to catch them all. Dublin has become one of my favourite cities and I would not hesitate if I had the opportunity to visit it again in the future. I didn't even want to go home, but I was looking forward to telling everyone my experiences. (Tereza Tomanová)

Take an umbrella with you. It rains a lot there. Our teachers told us that it rains just for a short while, but when we arrived it rained almost the whole two days. And the umbrellas there are usually either ugly or expensive. Ask your host family about how to use some Dublin transport apps. I was pretty confused about how the buses work there for the first few days. Speaking about public transport, the delays are absolutely horrendous there. So be prepared for a 20 minute delay at the bare minimum. When you want to buy something go to either Euro giant or Supervalu they have better deals than Tesco or Lidl. And when you get little bit more familiar with the public transport don't forget to visit local beaches or an almost island called Howth, it has beautiful views. (Šarlota Vojtěchová)



After work, we often went to local parks, for example Saint Stephen's Green Park and Phoenix Park, we also visited cafes, our favourite was the Bestseller cafe on Dawson street, where there were plays in the evenings. I visited several shopping centres such as Stephen's Green Shopping Center and Dundrum Town Center. I was very excited to see Trinity College, because one of my favourite TV shows were shot there and it became one of my favourite buildings in the city centre, because of its absolutely gorgeous architecture. On Saturday, we all visited Howth Cliffs together, where there was one of the most beautiful views I've ever seen. Beautiful nature all around and lots of beautiful memories captured in photos and videos. On Sunday we visited Dublin Castle with a private tour and then went on a tour of the Guinness factory where we learnt all the information about beer making, there were products for sale

such as hoodies, cups, hats and so on, we saw historical posters of Guinness and at the end of the tour, it was possible to taste Guinness beer directly from the factory. At first, the transport was difficult from the point of view of a foreigner, but after two days I got the hang of it. On the way from work, I was near the O'Connell bridge, from which there was a beautiful view. (Karolína Andreevová)

After work, me and my friends mostly explored the city, we visited some local pubs, shops but also sightseeing's. At the weekend, we visited The Howth Cliffs, Dublin castle and Guinness Storehouse. Personally, I enjoyed Howth Cliffs the most because we do not have something like that in Czech Republic and the view was spectacular. After the walk we went on lunch and got fish and chips but because we had to sit outside a group of seagulls attacked us and ate our lunch. So, I definitely do not recommend eating your meals outside. We were worried about the city traffic, but it was not that horrible. It took me 50 minutes to get to my job and we spent most of the time in traffic jams, but it could be worse. We mostly used Dublin buses because it was easy, and we find most of the routes on Google Maps. So, there was nothing to be worried about. (Nikola Cinciová)

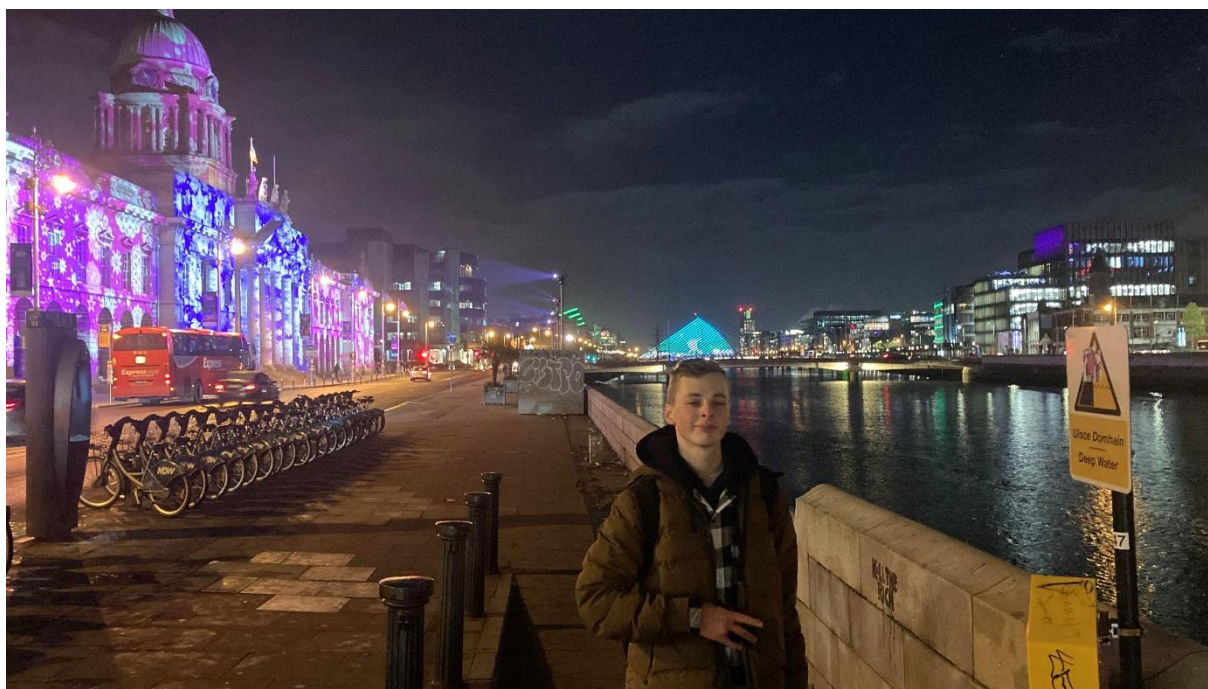


About my free time and trips, the first two days we made the most of it. We went to see Dublin city centre. We walked through the streets of Dublin, saw the most famous Temple Bar, visited the outdoor areas of Trinity College, listened to street singers and enjoyed the wonderful Christmas decorations on buildings or bridges such as The O'Connell Bridge or The Millennium Bridge. I visited Phoenix Park, where I had such a great and unforgettable opportunity to see reindeers. I really enjoyed this wildlife experience and the countryside was breathtaking. On Saturday, our whole group with teachers went to Howth Cliffs. This was an unreal experience for me, I felt like I was in a Lord of the Rings movie or Harry Potter movie because the nature... it was something for me, a lover of adrenaline and adventure. We ended our walk in the harbour, where we walked around the harbour and even saw seals. In the evening we visited a bar with



my friends and we really enjoyed it. Next day, on Sunday we went, again with our whole group, to Dublin Castle and Guinness Storehouse. It was an interesting educational morning and afternoon. I tasted Guinness beer, but I have to say that I didn't like it very much. Over the next few days, we went for example to the bar with our teacher Ms Lojdová and really enjoyed it, we visited The Stephen's Green Shopping Centre and The Stephen's Park, we visited the most famous shopping centre Penneys (Primark). We also visited Ireland's gift shop called Carrolls... you know to buy some souvenirs. Two days before our flight, we spent our evenings at home with girls, watching movies and fairy tales and enjoying our last days in Ireland. (Kateřina Hyclová)

Dublin has a lot to offer. Interesting sights, shops, restaurants, nature etc. Most interesting sights are probably Dublin Castle, Howth, and Guinness Storehouse. And if you like nature, you can visit Phoenix Park where there are wild living deer. On our internship we visited all of these sights and it was incredible. For me the best one was Howth, it was really beautiful. The centre is full of lights and the streets are beautifully decorated. And during December and Christmas it is even better. As you could expect, the centre is packed with pubs and bars. You could say that there is a pub on every corner. You can visit Jervis Shopping Centre where you can buy gifts, clothes, food, everything. And if you want some grocery shop you are used to, there is Tesco or Lidl on many places. The main transport is by bus, Dart or tram. If you have the Leap card, you can travel anywhere with just one beep. Expect that buses are not exactly on time, they are usually late or early, but I think that is a common thing everywhere. The Darts are usually on time and are probably the best option. If you decide to take a bus, prepare for a longer ride if you travel. Bus stations are almost everywhere and they are close to each other. So the bus takes a lot of time just standing at bus stops. (Jakub Paluda)



The adventures of our group around Dublin started the day we arrived since we just couldn't wait till Monday. Our first stop was the O'Connell Bridge which was our meeting point. Then we took a walk to the Temple bar and met two kind girls from Czechia (Pilsen), who we asked to take a picture of us. We wanted to visit the Trinity library, but sadly we discovered that the entry alone would cost us 13 € each. That made us sad but then we saw a laughing seagull making itty-bitty steps on place on the grass. That made us laugh too. In the evening we listened

to a few buskers on the Grafton Street. On Wednesday me and Elie visited the rainbow bridge (Millenium bridge) and took some cool photos there. The next day after work I was helping Dermot with an exhibition of Dimitry Diamond in the gallery. I served drinks to the visitors. Dermot invited a great musician and busker Candy Rojas, who was singing and making the atmosphere quite mystical. I was talking to Dimitry about his paintings and took a photo with him. On Saturday our whole group went to the Howth cliffs. It was a beautiful walk which took us to the Howth harbour where we took photos again and saw some cute seals splashing around. On the next Sunday we visited the Dublin castle and the Guinness brewery. It was an interesting educational day. Our teacher Ms Lojdová invited us to a bar where we had a lot of fun. We also visited a bar with our little group of four. I must say that the drinks were a bit expensive, but we enjoyed it anyway. Last day of work I went to the Butlers Chocolate Café to try an award-winning Butlers Hot Chocolate. I can recommend, it was worth the price. On Friday I went to the Phoenix Park to meet deer. It was really cold that day, but it was worthy. I took some really nice photos and enjoyed the experience. Later I went to the National Gallery and got lost there. I was enjoying the gallery anyway. With friends we went shopping many times. We went to Penneys (Primark), Carrolls, Tesco, Seasons of Ireland and so much more. (Andrea Skaláková)

After work, we had a lot of free time everyday. I used it to go shopping or just walk around the city, so I can learn something about the people or sights. My favourite place was St. Stephens shopping centre. I spend the most time in this mall. I visited maybe 6 shopping centres but this one was my favourite. I also visited so many fast foods and restaurants which we don't have here in Czech Republic. Travelling around the city was a bit difficult because the buses were usually really late but I always managed to get wherever I wanted to. (Lukáš Vaško)



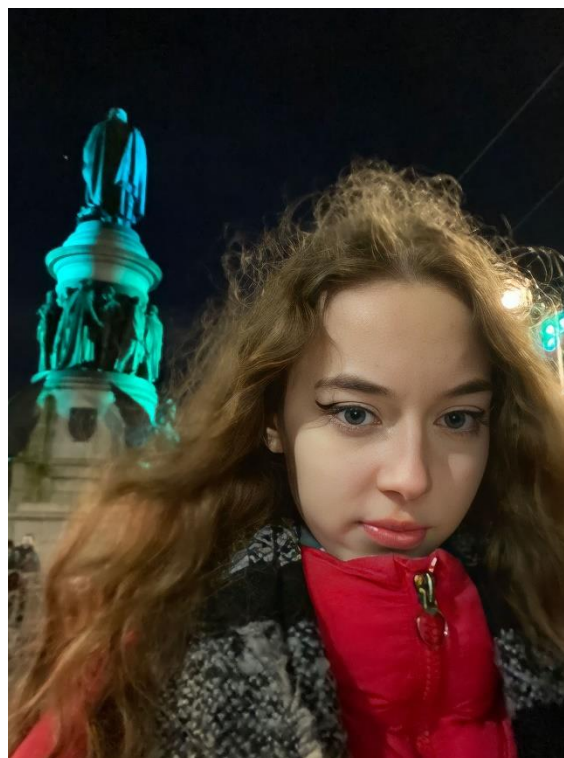
Our weekend programme was quite entertaining. On Saturday we went to the Cliffs, in a small village called Howth. We were travelling there by bus with our two teachers, who gave us little tour and told us some interesting information about the place. We had nice walk around the cliffs, also we took lot of pictures of the beautiful nature. We tasted popular fish and chips and enjoyed wonderful views. After all of this, the best moment of the day came at the end of our cliffs trip, when we saw four sea lions chilling in the water in the harbor. On the other day we met with everyone at Dublin Castle and the we got a tour in it. Dublin Castle was very pretty outside and also on the inside. Again, we found out something new about the Irish history and current political situation. After the tour we went to the Guinness Storehouse, which famous brewery. The building is very modern and huge. We tasted the



classic typical Irish beer Guinness, which lot of Czechs can't appreciate, because they have the opinion it doesn't taste as well as the Czech beer. It was fun going through the brewery, finding out something new about Ireland again and enjoying a view from the top of the building even though the weather wasn't perfect. Of course, when we didn't have programme, we used our time for shopping or visiting parks like Stephens Green Park and Phoenix Park. In the Phoenix Park we saw deers, who seemed lovely on the first sight, but be careful, you never know what they would do. We had a little attack from one deer on our friend, but she was ok after that, her jacket has now a hole from deer, but at least she has crazy story to talk about. (Natálie Vitulová)

I spent the majority of my free time wandering around Dublin with Adam and Jakub. We visited a lot of shopping centres and a few pubs. We were to 3 large shopping centres, one called Jervis another was Illac and the last one was called Stephens Green shopping centre, which was probably the biggest of those three. The atmosphere was amazing in all of them and the Christmas decorations were breathtaking. The pubs had a typical Irish vibe, but beer is very expensive there, like 150 Kč a pint. Also Guinness is not very good, but if I were you I wouldn't mention that to anybody in Ireland. I would recommend you to try Heineken or Fifty lamps (those two were the most drinkable of them all). Everyone was friendly and talkative and they wanted to know the most about Czech Republic. I also visited some Irish gyms and I will always prefer Czech gyms to Irish ones. (Patrik Vodička)

The free time was my favorite time in Dublin, because I could explore the city how I wanted and see some beautiful sights. After work I usually went shopping. I explored some Asian markets and shopping centers, walked through the busiest streets and tried a few restaurants. I love drinks – coffees, bubble teas, hot chocolates,.. so I've tried a lot of them. Because we were there in December, there was a big Christmas atmosphere and it was beautiful, I even saw Santa Claus with a sleigh on the street. From the weekend program I liked visiting Howth the most. The cliff walk was really beautiful and it's something you can't see in the Czech Republic. We also visited Dublin castle and the Guinness storehouse, where we could even taste the beer. I don't really like beer, but it could definitely be an amazing experience for someone who does, and I at least bought some nice souvenirs for my loved ones there. (Valentýna Špačková)



I was told that 50% of the people in Dublin are under 30. There is something for everyone, especially if you like to have fun and are not afraid to make new contacts. There are several shopping centres in the centre, and some have very interesting interiors. I would set aside 1 day for shopping because Dublin is a beautiful city with lots of interesting places and it's a shame to spend days in shopping malls. The two main shopping streets are Grafton Street and Henry Street. If you like nightlife, make sure to visit these streets - Wexford Street and Baggot Street Lower/Upper. Just beware, if you would like to go to any bar or pub, it is better to make a reservation. (Georgios Torlakidis)

## Conclusion

Dublin is a great place to visit and I'm really grateful for the opportunity to do so. The city is full of very kind people, and I was astonished how clean the city centre was. You could see the Irish people care about their environment, and that they are very proud to be Irish. I enjoyed my every second there and I wouldn't hesitate about returning there. (Adéla Drábková)

I totally loved our stay in Dublin and I would definitely love to go there again. I think it's a remarkable city and people there are super nice. (Klára Hönigová)

I'm very happy about how even though I was in different country and came there not knowing anybody, I left with new friends from different countries, new skills and experiences and I'm very delighted that I could be part of this project and I'll always have only good memories on my internship. (Anna Kmínková)

I recommend this internship to everyone. It was a great experience. I learned some new vocabulary, gained skills, meet wonderful people and explored a very beautiful city. (Vendula Kršková)

If you are thinking about trying to go there, do it, it was a lifetime experience and the school is nothing like this. (Matyáš Polehla)

I enjoyed my stay in Dublin so much and I hope that your experience will be even better! (Anna Ptáčníková)



I really enjoyed my time in Ireland and am very grateful for the opportunity to travel with Erasmus+. I would love to visit Ireland again in the future. (Karolína Andreevová)

I had a great time in Dublin, and it was an excellent experience for me. It made me think a lot about travelling and I would love to study or work abroad one day. I got the chance to practice my English and use it in real life which made me confident about my language skills. I hope this was not the last time I visited Dublin and I look forward to going back one day. (Nikola Cinciová)

For me, this whole trip was one big experience. I got to see myself work and live in a totally different environment without the comfort of everything I know around me. I highly recommend trying to find new places in the city. Don't visit just the places everyone does and look for something new. Go around the city and breathe in the atmosphere. Most importantly, don't be scared to talk. It doesn't matter if you pronounce something incorrectly, they will most likely understand you. If not, pantomime is your best friend. You will always get your point translated somehow. I hope this convinced or assured you to sign in your application for Erasmus. I know I don't regret it one bit. (Sára Hrdá)



I have to say that it was a truly unforgettable experience for me and an amazing life experience and opportunity for which I am very, very grateful. It was also a big step out of my comfort zone of being in a foreign country. I got to know a new country, new places, new people, new experiences, funny moments and I am really grateful for them. I will definitely visit Ireland again, because this country really engraved in my memory and heart. There are many places and monuments to see and especially nature, which is worth it. This internship convinced me that I don't have to be afraid to take the step and try being abroad for a while, whether it be another Erasmus, study or work. This experience has made me more courageous, confident and independent. What more to say? ... I will never forget. (Kateřina Hyclová)

Overallly it was a great experience. I got to visit another country, experienced real work in company and visited incredible sights. I think everyone should visit Dublin at least once in a life. (Jakub Paluda)

Our stay in Dublin was really a nice experience and I will remember it all my life. Thank you for this opportunity. (Kristýna Paulczyňská)

I really enjoyed our free time in Dublin. I just wish there would be more of it. I think I will definitely visit Ireland in the future and take my boyfriend with me. (Andrea Skaláková)



In conclusion, I gained a lot of experience and really enjoyed my stay in Dublin and I am open for more internships in foreign countries in the future. I would definitely recommend Erasmus+ Programme for everyone. (Petr Skryja)

Two weeks felt like two days and It was time to come back home. This whole “trip” gave me many unforgettable experiences and I enjoyed all of them. (Anežka Štorová)

I would say that I really enjoyed my staying in Dublin and I wouldn't do anything different because in was beautifull there. (Eliška Švandová)

Overall, the experience was enlightening, and I would definitely recommend it to anyone who wants to get better in English and explore a foreign country. (Šimon Uřídil)

I would really recommend you to try the Erasmus program, because it is a wonderful experience and a once in a lifetime opportunity. (Patrik Vodička)

My experience in Dublin was awesome. I will be remembering it for a long time. (Marie Medulánová)

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