

ERASMUS+: MY IRELAND EXPERIENCE

Hi, my name is Sophia, and I spent the last four months in Carlow, a town an hour from Dublin in Ireland. I got to live with a loving host family and their two dogs. They were always helpful and gave me a lot of freedom. Besides that, they taught me a lot about Rugby.

In Tyndall College, my Irish school, I got to make friends and got to know a new school system. Different to Italy I wore a school uniform and switches rooms for every class. I tried out a few new subjects like music and learned lots about Irish culture and history in all my lessons.

I deepened that knowledge on my weekend trips, where I visited towns near Carlow using public transport. I visited Kilkenny, which gave me a lot of insight into Irelands history from thousand years ago till today, Galway, which seemed like Irelands cultural capital to me, and many others. My favourite was Dublin still, because I experienced big city life and was fascinated by the sea near Dublin. Thanks to this experience I could improve my independence: I had to travel on my own and plan my trips mostly alone. I improved my English language skills, as I spoke and wrote in English all day long.

It was the first time I spent such a long time without seeing family, and I had to adapt to a whole new family and their routine. I now have more trust in myself and that I am okay on my own. Thank you, Erasmus+ for taking a lot of pressure of me, as you made the organisational process a lot easier, thank you for the financial help as well. Lastly, I want to thank you for the experience, one that I will never forget.