

**OBCHODNÁ AKADÉMIA DUŠANA METODA JANOTU**

**WORK EXPERIENCE AS A NEW WAY TO SUCCESSFUL CAREER  
AND SELF-KNOWLEDGE**

**PROGRAM ERASMUS +**

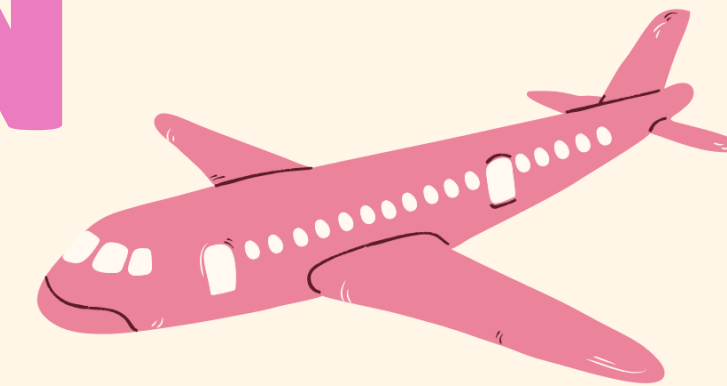
**02. 04. 2023 – 15. 04. 2023 Dublin, Ireland**

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# MY FIRST DAY IN IRELAND



The first day consisted of mainly travelling to Ireland. An 11 hour journey after which we were escorted by workers from ADC College to taxis. Before taking us to the host families, they gave us leap cards and explained the most important informations. Then after sorting us out we were finally taken to our host families. We were welcomed by the host who warmly welcomed us in their house. Asked us about our journey and helped us with the luggage. After an exhausting day we took a rest. Later we decided to try to travel to the center of the city. Our host explained us how to travel, which bus we should take and where we can find the bus stop. On the next day we had the induction meeting. This is where most of the important information was explained to us. How to behave in work, how to travel and what ways of travelling are possible, contact information in case of emergency and much more. We were welcomed to ask anything we wanted to. The worker who had been responsible for our group was very kind and friendly. She encouraged us and wished a pleasant stay. In the afternoon we tried how to get to our workplacements so that we wouldn't be confused on the first day of practise.

# MY WORK EXPERIENCE

The company I have worked for is called ReCreate Ireland. It is social enterprise and it's main goal is to make art material and other supplies affordable and available for everyone. They collect unwanted or surplus material from local businesses. The customers pay yearly membership. After becoming members they can just come into the shop and take anything they want without further payment. ReCreate also organizes various events. The members can also use a special room, which is part of the building, for any kind of occasion.



# MY WORK EXPERIENCE



The people in my company were very friendly from the first encounter. After my arrival other interns, who were also there for practise, showed me around. After that I met with my supervisor who was very helpful and cheerful. The overall first impression was very good. As everyone I met was friendly and ready to help with anything I needed.

Most of the time I was working at the reception where I was helping the customers with any requests they had. I was also given a task to research and make a list with all necessary information about companies within the area. Later on I was taught how to help customers who want to become members. What forms they have to fill in and how they can pay for membership.

# MY WORK EXPERIENCE

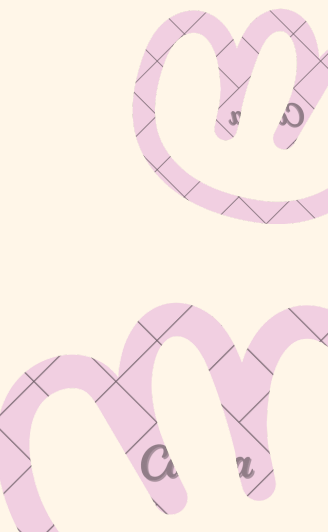
This was my first work experience. Thus there were many new things for me to learn but also to gain new skills. I suppose that the greatest skill I have gained in the company and which I can use further in my life are social skills. And especially communication in working environment. I would also add I have learned how to quickly respond to customers. At first I was a bit worried as I have never really used my English in practice. But this experience assured me I can easily communicate with native speakers with no problem. The main skill in administration I have gained is my experience with market research. I have been assigned a task of doing a research on similar creative businesses as my company.



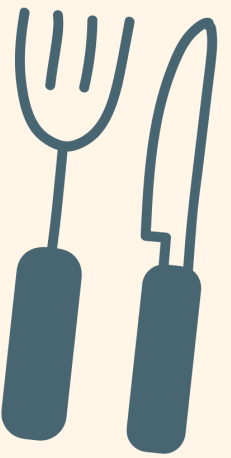
# CONTRIBUTION FOR MY FUTURE CAREER AND STUDY



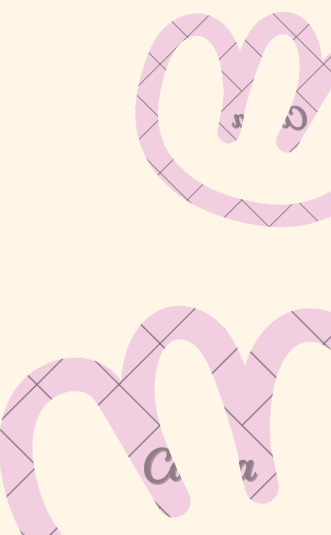
It was a great experience for me to try to work abroad and compare it with the lifestyle in our country. In my next year I will seriously consider the option of studying and working abroad. As I could finally try out this different culture on my own skin. For the contribution to my future work life I have gained the ability to be responsible for myself. To be by myself in an unknown culture and act accordingly. I have always been an introvert, but being on my own in a completely new environment has taught me that I can easily talk with my colleagues. And that I don't have to be afraid of the communication in a foreign language.



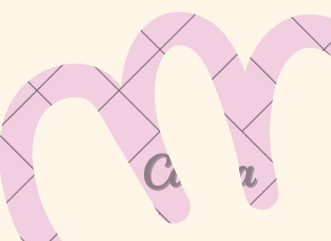
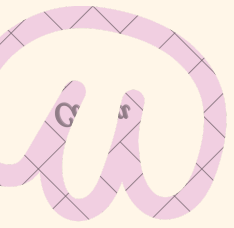
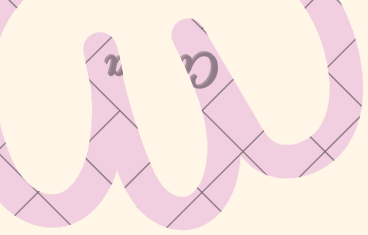
# DIVERSITY



Irish people compared to slovaks are more talkative and very friendly. They enjoy small talks. When they say hello to you they like to add: "How are you?" But they don't expect you to answer it. For them it's just polite. Before I was a bit worried about their accent but I soon found out that most people comprehendible english. Very little of irish people have accents that are so strong you don't understand them. They aren't really foodies as their normal, daily meals consist of the same breakfast everyday (which are cereals and toasts) and a frozen meal for dinner. The other thing that was different was the travelling. Dublin is a big city and the public transport is very important because most of the people use it. Normally people use leap cards instead of paying by cash. It is very rare that somebody would want to pay that way. And if you do then you need to have the exact sum of money because the driver won't give you a change.



If you have the opportunity to go and try this experience definitely use it. You can only gain from it. Meet new people, try different things and work abroad is not something that occurs to you everyday. Don't be afraid that you're going to fail something. People there will always help you and if they see it's too much for you they'll let you do something different. Don't be disappointed if not everything is going to be according to your imagination. The best thing you can do is not to have expectations that way you will never be disappointed by the outcome. Don't be reckless and remember that you will be given two leap cards in the beginning. Don't use both of them in the first week as once you use it, it will be available for only seven days and won't work afterwards. Also don't lose them because if you do you will have to buy a new one for your money. Be cautious when being in the public transport and don't get lost in thoughts because once you will have to get off you don't want to run down the stairs and lose something behind. Once you do it is forever lost as the means of transport in Dublin are so busy you won't get on the same bus(train, tram) twice. This is from my personal experience. However, most important part is to enjoy your stay to the fullest.





It is a great opportunity for anyone who is not afraid to try new things and experience diversity of cultures on their own skin. It is not an everyday chance to be offered to work abroad as a student. It will improve your communication and help you be more comfortable in communication with foreigners. It is a great experience from which you can draw in your future career or your further studies. And a great way to meet new people and possibly even friends. And if not this then it is an amazing way how to enjoy the citylife in Dublin.





# THANK YOU

A big thanks to everyone who participated in this great journey. Program Erasmus + that gave us this chance. ADC College that has been helping us from the start to the end. And of course our teachers who prepared this project and helped us with all the preparations.

