



INTERNSHIPS IN IRELAND- A CULTURAL EXPERIENCE.

www.adventure-ireland.com

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Our vision:

To facilitate the adventure of a cultural experience that is beyond that of the tourist, and to encourage the development of personal self-confidence, understanding and awareness of our visitors.

Our mission:

We aim to provide excellent internship opportunities which benefit both our visiting student and our host business, and allow our participants to experience Irish culture in a meaningful and positive way.

Our values:

We are a professional and supportive team, offering a friendly and hospitable welcome to students who want to spend time in Ireland. We will provide help and assistance to our participants and their family in the arrangement and delivery of the best possible experience.

SECTION 1: INTRODUCTION TO IRELAND.

Introduction to Bundoran, Ireland.

The Adventure Ireland Internship is an eleven-week placement program for students and adults interested in spending some time in Ireland. We will find a placement for you, suitable to your needs, and also arrange your accommodation.

This is a great way to enjoy Ireland and Irish culture, to experience something completely different, and to take some time out from school/college/work.

The location is Bundoran, Ireland's most famous surf town, in County Donegal, Ireland. The scenery is amazingly beautiful, and the county of Donegal is steeped in Irish culture & history. Close by, you have the counties of Sligo, Leitrim & Galway, and this is the part of Ireland that is famous for its warm welcome and truly remarkable culture. The town also has a vibrant music culture, with live music of all genres thriving. It is a friendly and welcoming place for visitors, with truly awesome sights and experiences all around.

Your first week on the program will be a cultural introduction to beautiful Ireland. You will enjoy a relaxing week seeing the sights and learning about the history and culture that will surround you for this trip. We will treat you to wonderful field trips and experiences of local culture with the other visitors taking this program, so that by the end of the week you will know your way around, have made friends and are ready to enjoy this great program

For the next 10 week period, you will be working with a host provider in the area chosen by you. We aim to give you 2-5 days per week with your provider, but this depends on your choices and the availability of providers in your field. It is possible, and not unusual to choose two providers, and enjoy two different experiences and work placements. You will always have two days per week which are your own time.

Who is 'Adventure Ireland'?

Adventure Ireland was founded in 1996, to make Ireland experiences available for high school, college, gap-year and taking-a-break students from USA, Canada and beyond. Adventure Ireland was formally launched by U.S.A ambassador Jean Kennedy-Smith, and over the last 15 years, hundreds of students have participated in high school, college and gap programs. Adventure Ireland is approved, and works closely with Tourism Ireland (The Irish Tourist Board) and Failte Ireland. We also deliver programs for many U.S. and European Colleges, Universities, Language Schools, Agents and associations, including The Irish- American Cultural Institute and The Centre for Interim Programs. Adventure Ireland is located at the Donegal Adventure Centre, Ireland's largest outdoor education centre. Adventure Ireland is a very well established organization and the only

Ireland-USA educational programs that are approved and supported by Tourism Ireland. See below for further references.

Why should I choose Adventure Ireland?

If you are searching for an experience in Ireland, with an educational /cultural /experiential dimension, we are the experts. We live, work and do this all year round, and we have sixteen years + of experience working with parents, students, kids, teenagers, faculty, teachers & independent adults. We know the best of Ireland, and we know how to offer it to you. We offer authenticity, value for money, courtesy, genuine enthusiasm about what we do, professionalism, efficiency and friendliness. We will treat you as the individual you are, and you will become part of a large family of Adventure Ireland visitors. Parents can be confident that their babies (hey, even if you're 30 years old, you're still your parents' baby!) will be cared for as we would take care of our own. We are the best choice you can make, if it's Ireland you want.

Who will I be talking to about this?

Intern program director is Niamh (it's pronounced "Neeve"...it's Irish...) Hamill. Niamh travels between the U.S. and Ireland, working with parents, agencies, schools and faculty that are interested in educational opportunities in Ireland. Please feel free to contact Niamh at Niamh@adventure-ireland.com, on US phone 973 610 5125 or Irish phone 011 353 87 2941232. Niamh will be liaising directly between the internship provider and you; she will be looking for the kind of experience you want, and looking to provide the hosts with high-caliber interns.

SECTION TWO: THE INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

Internship Program Structure:

Your first week is a cultural induction week, to introduce you to Ireland, make friends & settle in.

Weeks 2-11

We place you with a local business, company, enterprise or establishment for a minimum of 16 hours per week. We aim to provide you with an experience that will help you understand Irish culture and Irish people, and contribute to an interest or passion you have for a particular area of work.

You have weekends to live, explore, tour... you will make friends with the local people and your fellow students, and there is usually great fun at the weekends- many students arrange weekend trips to visit places like Galway, Killarney ,Dublin, London..... the experience is designed to allow you to live as a local, and immerse yourself in Ireland, as opposed to being a tourist

We provide accommodation for you – you share a campus (modern, all facilities) with other students. You are within easy walking distance of the Adventure School, and the town & beaches.

The fees for the eleven week internship course is 3,500 USD which, includes your bus transfers to and from Irish Airports, your accommodation and utilities including light, heat, wifi and electricity. During the period of your internship, we will be available and interested in liaising with you and your host company to make sure everything works well.

ESTABLISHED INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Bundoran is a small, friendly town in Ireland. Businesses and industries are small-sized and sometimes seasonal. Many businesses are tourism or surf-related, and their opening hours are connected to tourism demand. In most of our offered internships, you will be working directly with the manager or owner of the business. You will be expected to treat your position as a job, with respect and professionalism.

In many instances, we have **sought out specific internships** as required by our clients. Please let us know what you would ideally choose as a placement, and we will respond with options. We also have established opportunities (see below) which are available to one student per program. Please be aware that while we will do our best to accommodate your choice, some options may not be available due to previous student selection.

TOURISM & HOSPITALITY

Bundoran is famous for its surf, and the town has many hotels, hostels and surf schools. A number of the local businesses will accept interns to assist with office work, indoor equipment maintenance and outdoor grounds and building. For keen surfers, this is an ideal position with perfect surf conditions nearby. Some hotels and restaurants open only on weekends between November-January, please note that intern hours may have to be during these periods only.

- * Hostel Management
- * Surfing School Intern (Office position.)
- * Surfing School Intern (Stores, repair and maintenance of Surfing equipment.)
- * Surfing School Groundskeeper (Outside maintenance of grounds, gardens, buildings)
- * Restaurant: Waitressing position

RESTAURANTS/ CHEF

Bundoran is also full of restaurants ,eateries and pubs, and many chefs are willing to accept interns for a variety of positions. Pubs and clubs are busy at weekends, and there is no better way to get a sense of the fun youth culture than to work in the bars or restaurants of the town

- *Restaurant: Chef, Pastry Cook or general Kitchen Hand.
- * Barpersons

EDUCATION

Bundoran has a daycare nursery, an elementary school and a high school. Provision may be made for suitable persons to assist with teachers in the classroom and school offices at each level.

- Teacher's assistant – playgroup/daycare
- Teacher's assistant – elementary school (ages 5-12)
- Teacher's assistant – high school (ages 13-18)

CINEMA

Bundoran is home to a multi-plex cinema. Interns are invited to apply to experience all aspects of the running of a busy cinema.

Testimonials from past Adventure Ireland Clients:

"How can I describe one of the most moving and mind-blowing/boggling experiences of my life? I'll attempt but I doubt I can completely capture the extent to which my time at Adventure Ireland has altered and affected me... it was absolutely awesome! Best thing I have ever done in my life. The minute I am thousands of kilometers away from my hardy and hearty Irish friends and family, I'll weep.

Erin Elliot Gap Year Spring 2012.

I think I got out of this what I wanted and had a great time and that's all I really cared about. Met some brilliant people and had memorable nights together. I think the thing I'm most going to take away from Ireland is people's spirit and lively personality. Just seems to be a lot of people here with that Happy Go Lucky attitude. I'm very glad I did this because I think I grew up a lot here which I know I really needed to do before going to college. That is what I'm most proud of myself at the end of this trip. Thanks for helping me become a better me as well by teaching me to take more responsibility for myself and my actions.

Matt Roache Gap Year 2011

Dear Niamh & Collie

We, as parents, are very pleased with the opportunities afforded Daniel in Adventure Ireland. It was his first experience being away from home for an extended period and it was well worth it. It was important for Daniel to get "out on his own", experience new surroundings and meet some new friends. We were very pleased with the program and the people involved with his development. Daniel has been in Clearwater Florida since January at Players School of Music. He will wrap up his tenure there in December and hopes to pursue a performance major at an accredited school. Adventure Ireland was the launching pad to his development and has given him the confidence to pursue his passions. He appears to be genuinely content and motivated to take the next step in his education. We appreciate what your program has done for Daniel. We would encourage other parents to consider this option for their adult children who may need to expand their horizons in an alternative educational setting.

Best Wishes, Randy & Carrie Stary (Daniel, 2010).

As a parent I can say with 100% assurance not only is this program well thought out but I also felt my child was safe and under excellent common sense supervision at all times. I sent him there to learn the kinds of things not taught in an academic setting, such as self assurance and self confidence in his own judgment. I think he got those qualities and so much more. I would send him again.

Alex Hinton, parent, 2009.

Fees for program: 3,500 USD.

To be accepted as an intern, you need to complete an application form, and send us a deposit. Please **request** the application form.

There is no upper age limit, but the average age is between 18 and 40 years. There are no academic pre requisites- but we will ask you to provide some character references from your last school or workplace.

For further information, please email me at info@adventure-ireland.com and tell me what you need to know.

FALL INTERNSHIPS

September-December 2012 Dates September 23- December 15

September –December 2013 (Dates to be confirmed)

SPRING INTERNSHIPS

January-March 2013 Jan 12-March 30 2013.

January-March 2014 (Dates to be confirmed)

SUMMER INTERNSHIPS

April 2013-June 2013. April 8 -June 24th 2013.

April 2014-June 2014 (Dates to be confirmed)

Flights to Ireland: We recommend www.aerlingus.com for travelling to Ireland- it is the national Irish airline & also does good low fares. Prices can vary according to dates, and we are flexible on your arrival & departure dates, so you can book the best deal, & we will work around it.

You do NOT need a visa to travel to Ireland from USA/Canada, Europe & most parts of the world. You are participating in an unpaid internship, therefore you do not need a work visa.

For further info on this, you should contact your nearest Irish embassy or consulate – use this link <http://foreignaffairs.gov.ie/home/index.aspx?id=285>

FEES AND SCHEDULES

A deposit of 1000 USD is required to register for this Program. No places will be held for candidates without payment of USD 1000 deposit. Deposits will not be refunded to candidates who withdraw from the Program. Enrolment is rolling and will continue until the Program is full.

A second payment of USD 2500 is required on the start date of the Internship Program

There are a few unbendable rules, and you should know what they are. We expect you to respect the town, the people who live here and their values and property. We expect you to be tolerant of all others, and be a team player – friendly, enthusiastic and cooperative. We do not tolerate bullying or bad manners. You have to be 18 years to participate. The legal age for alcohol in Ireland is 18 – if you are between 18 & 21, your parents make the call on whether you are allowed to go to the pubs or not. We advocate responsible socialising – anyone who cannot do this will be asked to leave the programme.

This programme is for curious, interested persons who want to see a culture different to their own. We don't want people to come here and complain that it's different from home, and we don't want people coming here if they cannot exercise a moderate and reasonably mature attitude when it comes to taking care of themselves! Sorry to be negative, but we want to put our energy into making this experience wonderful; not babysitting! Ireland is a fascinating & beautiful place, there is music and surf and culture and fun, we want to share it with those who will appreciate it. Bundoran is a small town, in a small country. What we lack in cutting-edge technology, we make up for in community, friendliness and good humor. Make sure this is what you want!

To be accepted on this programme, you need to complete an application form, and send us a deposit. There is no upper age limit, but the average age is between 18 and 40 years. There are no academic pre requisites- but we will ask you to provide some character references from your last school or workplace. For some positions, host providers may require previous experience.

For further information, please email me at info@adventure-ireland.com and tell me what you need to know. See also the www.adventure-ireland.com site for application forms and further info.

REFERENCES:

Adventure Ireland has been running programs for USA/Euro students since 1996. We work with many reputable agents, colleges and universities to provide excellent opportunities for visitors. Below are two of the institutions for whom we have provided programs: please feel free to contact re your decision to choose a program here if you require some reference. We also have many individual students and parents who will be happy to discuss their experiences with you, please contact us and we will share email addresses.

The Center for Interim Programs

LLC • Princeton, NJ

(609) 683-4300

Contact: Kate Warren

Irish American Cultural Institute

1 Lackawanna Place

Morristown, NJ 07960

Phone: 973-605-1991

Contact: Carol Buck

Tourism Ireland (U.S.A.)

345 Park Avenue,

17th Floor, New York, USA, NY 10154

Telephone: +1 212 418 0800

Contact: Fiona Monaghan.

