

Hey everybody!

Have you ever thought about leaving your family and your life behind and moving to another country for a while? Yes? Well, that's my life right now. My name is Vanessa, I'm 19 years old and I'm one of eleven KV students from Switzerland which all do the KV+.

Since 31st August 2023 I live in Ireland in a small town called Tralee. I can say I'm very lucky with my host family, Rose is a curtain maker and Eamon is retired. They have five children, all grown up already, and many grandchildren. One son of them, Martin, lives temporarily also here. All of them are really lovely and I already had many great discussions with them. Eamon has a strong Irish accent when he talks and in the first few weeks I hardly ever understood him well. Now I can say I understand him most of the time.

I supposed be working in a tourism office but there was a problem so the school had to find me a new place. Now I'm working in a small cloths shop called "Effigy". My Boss is self-employed and very lovely and the shop is gorgeous. My main activity is helping customers and dealing with the new cloths we get in. I really like my job, I can basically talk the whole day with my boss and customers, that how I can practice my pronunciation in English.

Twice in the week we have after work school to be prepared for our Cambridge exam we'll have in the beginning of December. In my free time I do my homework, go to the gym, go out with friends and read a lot. The weekends always look different, depending on what our plans are.

We try to do and to see so many things and places as possible. October was actually very busy, at first my mother and two friends of her were here to visit me. Together we went to Killarney and saw the beautiful landscape and the town. I also went horse riding at the beach in Castlegregory. This was insane. The next weekend some from our group and I went to Galway for a few days. This city is definitely busier than Tralee. The following weekend my best friend visited me and together we went to Dingle and did a boats tour. In the last October weekend Nina and I went to Cork for shopping a little bit. Cork is the second biggest city in whole Ireland. In this weekend there was a Jazz festival. We didn't have tickets to go one of the concert but there were a few groups on the street who were playing instruments. The vibes were awesome.

Ireland is a beautiful country, the landscape is just breath-taking and the people here are very friendly as well. There is of course some things I didn't expect before I got here, at first would be the accent. Some people have a strong accent and you can hardly understand them and every county has a different accent. You can imagine that like Swiss German, someone from Zurich uses different words for the same thing as someone from Fribourg. The weather here can be very moody. The sun could shine the whole day but ten seconds later it could have a heavy rain shower. I learned fast to always take an umbrella with me. The traditional Irish names can be difficult as well. For an example my boss has a typical Irish name "Niamh" and the right pronunciation is "Niev". One grandson of my host family is called "Oisin". But there are so many more names which the writing and the pronunciation is so different.

It is really crazy when I think about all the things I already had seen and had done and all the things I'll see and do in the time I'm here in Ireland. I'm really thankful for all this to KV+ and of course to Movetia. Thank you all very much!



Horse riding in Castlegregory



Trip to Galway



Rosecastle in Killarney



Boats tour in Dingle