

My experiences in Ireland

Hi! My name is Jil Christen and I decided one year ago that I would like to participate in the project called "KV plus". Now I nearly live abroad for 3 months and I am really happy here.

All of the students are living in a host family in the admirable town Tralee. It is in the west part of Ireland. I am living with another student by a lovely woman called Noreen and her dog Millie. She cooks us really good food and we have a lot of good conversations with her.

"John Dowling Shoes & Sports" is my workplace. On the first floor, we sell all kind of shoes. That is where I am working until January. Sportswear, especially Kerry jerseys and runners, are on the second floor. The two floors are managed separately. All the people are really kind and there is always time for a good laugh with them.

One of my tasks is to serve customers. From a simple question to selling the shoes – I can do it all. Another task of mine is social media. As soon as new shoes arrive, I put them on and pose for a photo. Afterwards, I upload it on Instagram, Facebook and on our online shop. A lot of customers come into the store and want to buy shoes we put online. This always makes us happy. The contact with the customers and the employees helps me a lot to learn the language.

On Tuesday and Thursday evening we have classes. Our aim is to complete a Cambridge exam at the end of the year. The school helps us to prepare. Our KV plus group is splitted into two smaller groups. This way the teachers can help us more individually.

On the weekends we usually do trips. A great trip we did in September was to the famous Cliffs of Moher. These cliffs are enormous. I have never experienced such a strong wind! It was a long journey so we did a few stops. One was in the city Limerick. There we had our lunch and time to visit the city. Another little stop was in Lahinch, a little village at the sea.

I am very thankful that I can be a part of the KV plus group. It is a once in a lifetime chance and I really appreciate it. It helps me to learn the language, to be more independent and to get to know new people and new cultures. I am really looking forward for the next few months. Thank you so much!

