

IRELAND CLASSIC

14-18

AGE RANGE

1T

TERM

2T

TERM

S

SEMESTER

Y

YEAR

HF

HOST FAMILY

P

PUBLIC SCHOOL



COUNTRY INFORMATION

The island of Ireland consists of two countries - Northern Ireland, which is part of the United Kingdom, and the Republic of Ireland. The two countries are fully independent of each other and have different governments, money, education systems and immigration laws. The Republic of Ireland has a long and rich heritage. Visitors to Ireland will enjoy an array of historic places to visit, including: Christ Church Cathedral, St. Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin Castle, Malahide Castle, Ardgillan Castle and Demesne. Dublin, Ireland's capital city, lies on Dublin Bay and overlooks the Irish Sea that divides Ireland and Great Britain.

Country: Republic of Ireland (Eire)

Capital city: Dublin

Area: 27,130 square miles / 70,280 square km

Population: 3,900,000

Language: English and Irish (Gaelic)

COUNTRY MAP



Age criteria:
14-18 years old

Starting months: August/
January

Language requirements:
Good English Skills

Visa: Mandatory - Extra fees
apply

Preparation course: STS
Welcome Camp in London,
extra fee apply

School year: August-May

School day: 9:00 - 16:00

Subjects: Mandatory and
optional subjects

Optional trips: Weekend in
Dublin and Edinburgh

THE SCHOOL

The school year starts at the end of August and consists of three terms: Autumn, Spring and Summer. There is a two-week holiday at Christmas, and usually two weeks at Easter as well as a week holiday halfway through each term. The school year ends around the end of June. Most students do not take end of year exams and will go home when the exams start, as normal lessons cease for this period. This can mean returning home in May rather than June. Lessons are on Monday to Friday only. School uniform is recommended in most schools and compulsory in others.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

- Full Zapp application
- Good health
- Good grades (minimum C average)
- Good knowledge of English
- Skype interview before acceptance

THE CULTURE

The Irish culture has taken thousands of years to develop, so cherish every moment of your cultural discovery. The Irish love traditions. So much so, in fact, that the country is full of them - from eating colcannon (a mixture of cabbage and mashed potatoes) on Halloween, to wearing something green on St Patrick's Day.

HOST FAMILY

Our area representatives carefully select the host families. Host families are accepted on the basis of a careful procedure which, among other things, includes an interview, a home visit and local police checks. The student will be a new member of the host family and is therefore required to participate fully in family life. The student may have to share a room with a host sibling or another high school student. Our host families receive payment for board and lodgings.

SPORTS

Hurling, Gaelic football and Camogie are the national sports of Ireland. Gaelic football is best described as a mixture of soccer and rugby that produces a historic game unique to Ireland. Hurling can be described as Gaelic football, but played with sticks and a smaller ball. These sports have played an important role in maintaining Irish culture over many years, and it is as a result of this importance that they are played in one of the biggest and most modern stadia in Europe - Croke Park.

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Students will have the chance to spend an exciting weekend with other high school students in Dublin and Edinburgh. The weekends include three nights' accommodation in central locations with breakfast included, dinner in central restaurants and plenty of attractions and activities.