

Welcome to the Institute of Study Abroad Ireland. We are an Ireland-based institute of education, open all year round, providing excellent study abroad programs to schools, colleges and universities. We have many partner organizations in the U.S. including AFS, CCID, and many universities, state colleges, community colleges and high schools all over the U.S.

For 21 years, we have been providing American teens with the best possible summer camps in Ireland. We began our work in 1996, and since then, hundreds of very happy teens have had a great experience with us.

Each summer, our groups enjoy a safe, friendly and happy atmosphere, great teaching, travel and experiences all around Ireland's beautiful Wild Atlantic Way.

We welcome teenagers, aged between 13 and 17 years who really want to experience travel abroad, and who will enjoy meeting other teenagers from different cultures and backgrounds.

We make a very special effort to make sure that each of our guests is happy and feels secure and welcome. We keep in contact with parents throughout the booking process and the trip itself, and we put up a daily blog each day so parents, family and friends can tune in.

Irish Culture & Adventure Summer Camp

The Irish Culture & Adventure Summer Camp was established in 1996, for teens aged between 13-17 years to experience an authentic and fun trip to Ireland.

This program is an ideal summer camp for students who would like to make friends with teens from all over the world, learn about Irish Culture, enjoy activities such as surfing, horse-riding, hiking and climbing, and enjoy themselves in a safe and friendly environment.

Program Highlights

- > The study abroad experience- acquiring a passport, negotiating transatlantic travel, meeting peers from around the US, from Ireland and other European countries, residing on campus with fellow students from all over the world
- > A fun mix of Irish culture classes, field trips, activities, sports and outdoor adventure
- Personal development and self-esteem. Social engagement, service projects and group work will enhance self-confidence, improve social skills, encourage teamwork and expand each student's comfort zone in a context of balanced and supported challenges.



Our Location

We are located in County Donegal, on the Atlantic Coast (Wild Atlantic Way).

This area of Ireland is famous for breath-taking scenery, wonderful history and the friendliest people in Ireland. Although we are based in Donegal, we travel to many other parts of Ireland, including Dublin City and the counties of Sligo, Fermanagh, Leitrim and Derry Institute of Study Abroad Ireland Summer Camp USA

The Program Director is Niamh Hamill, Ph.D. (pronounced Neeve) and Niamh is one of the original founders of the Institute of Study Abroad. Niamh is an associate Professor of History at the Caspersen School of Graduate Studies at Drew University, NJ, and is resident director of all our cultural study abroad programs, including college and university study abroad. Our team include teachers, lecturers, tour guides, instructors, and the best possible people to introduce your teen to a safe, happy Ireland. We have many testimonials from happy parents over our twenty-one years of summer camp, and will be happy to put you in direct contact with these parents by request.



Who's there?

Our English-speaking students from the USA and Canada will be meeting teenagers from Ireland, UK and all around Europe.

We also have programs that include English-language learning, for teens from France, Spain, Italy, Germany, and many other countries. Making friends with teens from around the world is one of the highlights of this experience. Students must be proficient in English to participate in this program.





Why we do it: our mission statement

We are Irish, and very proud of our culture, heritage and beautiful country.

It is a country that has had many dark days, but it is now peaceful and welcoming. We know that there are millions of people in the USA and Canada who celebrate their Irish descent, and we want to encourage the ancestors of those who left to come back and renew their heritage, experience this unique culture and tap back into their roots.

Many of our students are the first family members to return to Ireland since their ancestors were forced to emigrate, and their return here, healthy, educated and curious is the very happy conclusion to the story of the emigrants. We want to provide a very happy experience, and encourage those who are Irish, or appreciate Irish Culture to come here when they are young, and make friends here, get to know and understand this lovely little Island. Everybody wins. Many of our alumni have returned here with family and friends, many parents have visited, and we know and remember every one of our families. Many of us have visited our alumni when we have travelled to America. The Institute of Study Abroad Ireland is a large, extended network of friends, and we run our camps with an unmatched passion and enthusiasm for what we do.

We are committed to three things:

- Delivering a safe and happy experience to our young visitors, ensuring that they enjoy the summer camp, that they feel safe, secure, confident and excited. Our primary concern is that everyone goes home happy.
- 2. We want to engage our students with Ireland and Irish culture in an authentic and integrated way. We are not interested in the promotion of stereotypes, (Irish or American!) and we have no political or religious agenda. We are interested in encouraging the love affair that most people feel when they connect with Ireland. We want to expose our visitors to all aspects of Irish culture so that they can feel at home here, and understand the Irish people and their history and culture.
- Encouraging a real sense of tolerance and understanding among young people from different backgrounds, counties, states and countries. This will be a life-changing experience.

Travel Information

Prices are in USD and do not include airfare. Airfares are not included in the fees, because of the many locations from which our students travel, and the many travel options.

Many airlines fly into Dublin City from the USA, including American Airways, Aer Lingus, Continental, Delta and USAir. We recommend the Irish Airline, www.aerlingus.com which has excellent fares, and connects with JetBlue to many US cities.

We are happy to help you with your flight arrangements, but we strongly advise that you book a direct flight from the USA/Canada into Dublin. We will let you know if other students are travelling from your area, and always endeavour to have students travel in groups, if possible. We do not recommend connecting through European cities, as you need to be sure that in the event of a flight cancellation or delay, someone can go and meet your child. Please keep this in mind when connecting through US cities, and either accompany your student to a Gateway city (with a direct flight to Dublin) or ensure that there is someone who can travel quickly to the airport in case of emergency. Parents may prefer to use air miles or other incentives for flights. We will be

happy to assist you in planning your flight plans, and all students will be met at Dublin Airport immediately on arrival from USA. We can recommend a good flight travel agent for you if you request it.

We will meet every student at the airport. We check all flights, and we know if there are delays or early arrivals. We will contact you several times before departure to check details. On occasion, when there are several flights arriving, we will wait with students at the airport until everyone is in. Our campus is 3.5 hours outside Dublin, so it is not always practical to whisk each student away as they arrive. We know that students arriving after a long flight are tired, and we try to minimize waits as much as possible. It can be a great opportunity for us to have breakfast and get to know our new arrival.

To book, please go to the website www.isaireland.com and you can pay a deposit online. Once you have paid a deposit, you are enrolled.



Approval and Accreditation

The Institute of Study Abroad Ireland is a fulltime working educational campus, and each year, US Universities, Colleges and Schools send their faculty and students for study abroad programs.

As you would expect, every visiting college and school carefully vets all of our accommodation, our teachers, instructors and facilities.

The Institute of Study Abroad Ireland are partners with US organisations including AFS, Say Yes to Education, CCID, and many colleges and universities, including Drew University NJ, Northeastern University MA, Florida Southern University, Washington State Consortium of Community Colleges, (to name but a few).

Our July pre-college global scholars program is accredited by Drew University. Drew University, a Phi Beta Kappa liberal arts university founded in 1867, is located on a beautiful, wooded, 186-acre campus in Madison, New Jersey, a thriving small town 45 minutes by train to New York City. Drew is dedicated to exceptional faculty mentorship, a commitment to connecting the campus with the community and a focus on experiential learning. Particularly noteworthy opportunities for undergraduates include the Research Institute for Scientists Emeriti (RISE: home of 2015 Nobel Prize Winner for Medicine and Drew Fellow William Campbell), the Drew Summer Science Institute (DSSI), the Center for Civic Engagement, as well as New York City semesters focusing on Wall Street, the United Nations, Contemporary Art, Theatre, Social Entrepreneurship and Communications and Media in New York City and several international semester programs, including the pre-college summer course in Ireland in partnership with the Institute of Study Abroad Ireland.

Just as Drew accepts transfer credit from other universities, so too will other universities accept transfer credit from Drew courses. Each college art university will have slightly different criteria for awarding credit, so you should submit your Drew transcript to the appropriate college official in the Admissions Office for guidance.

Our Campus

The Campus of Institute of Study Abroad Ireland includes the campus at Donegal Adventure Centre, and Homefield House. Both premises are approved by the Irish Tourist Board, and inspected annually.

Students are allocated rooms according to gender, and there is 24-hour supervision. Most of our student rooms are ensuite, and students share rooms which vary from 2-bed rooms to larger 6-bed rooms. Our campus accommodation includes large recreation rooms, kitchens, and many outdoor and indoor facilities for games

The relevant governing bodies approve all outdoor activities, and all instructor staff are fully qualified in their activities. Every staff member is trained in Child Protection, and are all carefully vetted.

Strict accommodation rules apply, including a code of conduct appropriate to a teen summer camp.

We are the only summer camp to Ireland based in Ireland and administered by Irish staff on a fulltime basis.

Past Summer Camps

You can review our past summer camps on a daily basis on our social media sites:







