

WanderWork:

A Guide to Working and Traveling Abroad



Ireland Edition

The Benefits of Working and Traveling in Ireland as a Canadian



Are you ready for the adventure of a lifetime, but the thought of figuring out the visa process and finding a job abroad is making your head spin?

Do you have questions about where to go, how to get the work visa, how to get a job overseas?

Have you started to book your trip and need some travel suggestions and advice?

In this guide to Working abroad in Ireland you will find detailed information about jobs, housing, travel, safety and much more!

At GO International we understand what you are going through and we are here to help.

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An Introduction to International Experience Canada (IEC)

Are you ready to turn your travels into a life-changing experience? Did you know there's a government program that makes it possible for you to work in over 35 countries while you explore the world? It's true!

As a Recognized Organization (RO) of IEC, GO International has been designated a partner in raising awareness and providing support services to foreign national and Canadian youth. The Government of Canada works with key stakeholders like GO International in Canada and abroad to raise awareness of the program, promote the benefits of international experience, and to equip Canadian youth with information to successfully embark on international work and travel experiences through IEC.

What is International Experience Canada?

International Experience Canada (IEC) is the Government of Canada's flagship youth mobility program, facilitating work and travel opportunities for thousands of Canadian and foreign youth each year. Although Canadian citizens enjoy passports that provide visa-free access to many countries around the world, most do not allow easy access to labor markets, making it difficult to obtain international work experience without specialized, in-demand skills.

Through the negotiation of youth mobility arrangements, IEC facilitates international work experience opportunities for youth aged 18-35 in partner countries and territories around the world.

Originating in 1951 as a cultural youth exchange initiative following World War II, the program now has more than 30 active youth mobility arrangements with country and territory partners across Europe, East Asia, Oceania, and the Americas.

Its primary objectives include building the global competencies of Canadian and foreign national youth and leveraging youth mobility arrangements as a strategic tool in diplomatic relations to strengthen global relationships.



"Traveling allows you to become so many different versions of yourself."

How does it work?

IEC has three program streams through which foreign youth may work and travel in Canada:

Working Holiday

The Working Holiday stream facilitates work and travel through an open work permit that allows foreign youth to work for virtually any employer in any location in Canada.

International Co-op & Young Professionals

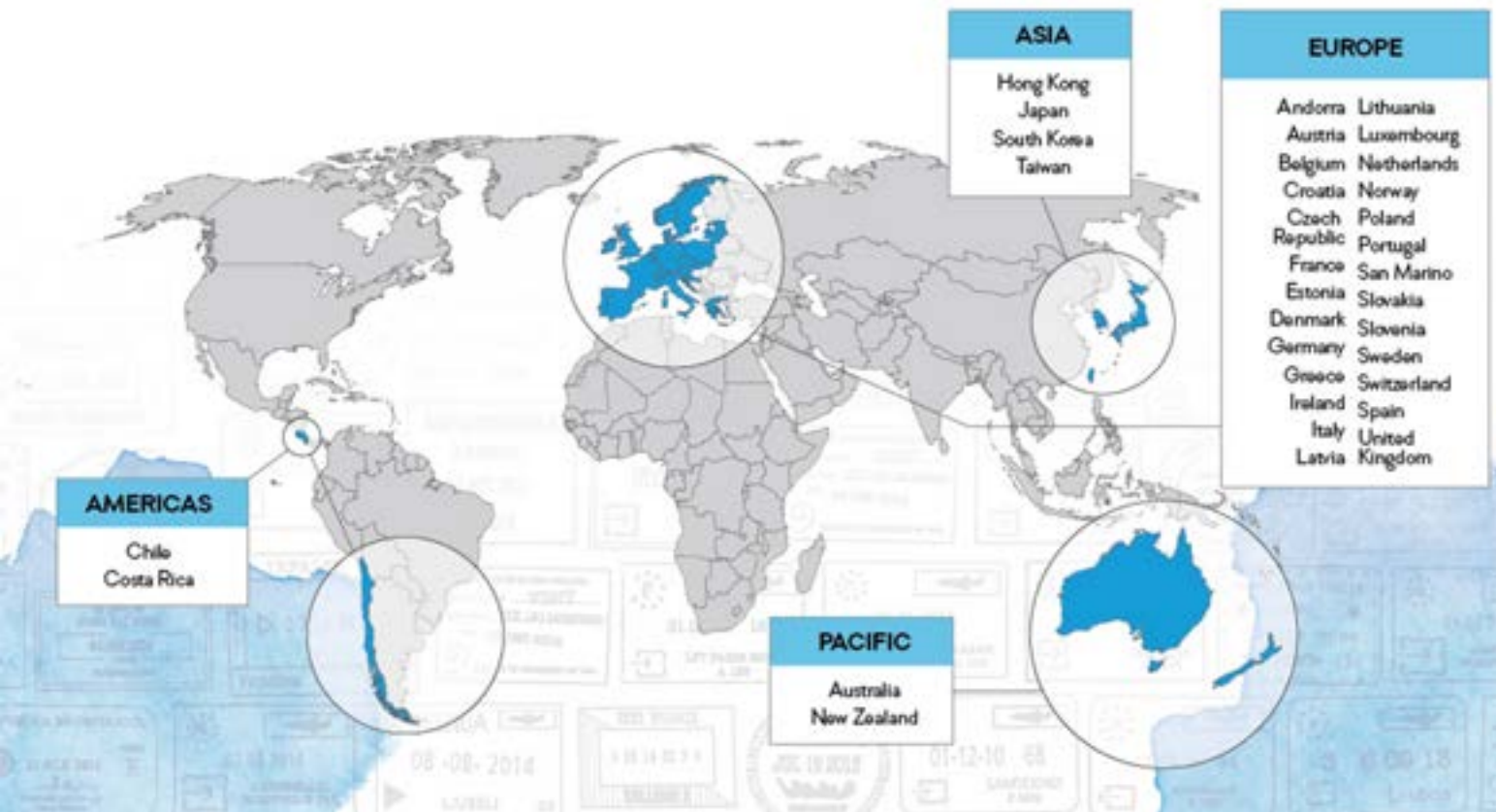
The International Co-op and Young Professionals streams facilitate internships and professional work experience through employer-specific work permits.

Similarly, Canadian youth can access a variety of work-travel program streams in partner countries and territories. Access to specific work permit streams depends on the negotiated arrangement between Canada and each of its partners.



IEC Partner Countries

The following countries have reciprocal Youth Mobility Agreements (YMA) with Canada. This means, that as a Canadian citizen, you can get a Youth Mobility visa / Working Holiday visa for any of these destinations - always depending on the agreement between Canada and the IEC country.



Planning Your Trip: How to Budget and Plan Your Itinerary for Ireland

Keep calm and travel to Ireland for your Working Holiday adventure!

Embarking on a working holiday in Ireland offers the thrill of exploration combined with earning a living abroad. With rolling green landscapes, rugged coastlines, and vibrant cities, Ireland's warm hospitality, cultural heritage, and captivating folklore entice adventurers.

As a primarily English-speaking country, Ireland is easy for most Canadians to navigate.

The country offers a diverse range of job opportunities and exciting travel experiences. Ireland has a strong economy and is home to many large corporations, making it an attractive destination for Canadian professionals looking to advance their careers.

Requirements for Traveling and Working in Ireland as a Canadian

TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR THE PROGRAM:

- You are a Canadian citizen residing in Canada
- You have a valid Canadian passport
- You must be between the ages of 18 and 35 (and must not turn 36 before Ireland issues you your Working Holiday visa)
- A clean police record
- Intermediate or better working knowledge of English
- Have never previously entered Ireland on a Working Holiday Visa
- A bank statement that certifies you have access to at least \$2,500 CAD in available funds
- Medical insurance for at least 12 months
- You must not have any dependent children

Note: With the Working Holiday Visa, you are allowed to stay in Ireland for up to 24 months. You will have to register with the [Garda National Immigration Bureau \(GNIB\)](#) and will be issued a Registration Card on payment of the appropriate fee; the current fee is €300 (this is subject to change).

"The journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step."

Must-See Travel Sites to Visit on Your Trip

Cliffs of Moher



Towering over the Atlantic Ocean on Ireland's west coast, the Cliffs of Moher are a breathtaking natural wonder. With dramatic views and rugged cliffs that stretch for about 8 kilometers, this iconic landmark offers awe-inspiring vistas and a chance to connect with nature's raw beauty.

Dublin



Ireland's vibrant capital city, Dublin, is a must-visit destination. Immerse yourself in its rich history and culture by exploring historic sites like Dublin Castle and Trinity College, or indulge in the lively atmosphere of Temple Bar with its traditional pubs, live music, and bustling markets.

Blarney Castle



Located near Cork, Blarney Castle is famous for the Blarney Stone. Legend has it that kissing this stone bestows the "gift of gab," or eloquence. Explore the castle's history, climb to the top to kiss the stone, and wander through its beautiful gardens.

Killarney National Park



Situated in County Kerry, Killarney National Park is a haven of natural beauty. Explore its enchanting forests, pristine lakes, and picturesque mountains, including the famous Three Lakes of Killarney. The park also boasts historical sites such as Muckross House and Gardens, adding to its allure.



5 MUST-HAVE EXPERIENCES IN IRELAND!

WALK ALONG THE CLIFFS OF MOHER

The Cliffs of Moher are a striking stretch of coastline on the East Coast of Ireland, located between Limerick and Galway. It's a must-see attraction for everyone visiting Ireland! Take the short walk from the visitor centre or walk the 14km long Cliff Trail if you want the full experience.



EXPERIENCE THE IRISH PUB CULTURE

Whether you want to taste Fish n Chips and a pint of the famous Guinness or listen to Irish live music... Visiting an Irish pub should definitely be on your to-do list! Even when having a quick stroll through Historic Dublin, you will find countless traditional pubs, such as the Long Hall, established in 1766.



HISTORIC IRELAND

Dating back thousands of years, Ireland's history is rich in folklore, arts, and legendary rivalries. Not surprisingly, Ireland is also known as the Saints of Scholars. Visit the seat of the ancient kings of Ireland, Rock of Cashel, as well as Hore Abbey – an old monastery dating back to the 13th century and located a short walk away.





5 MUST-HAVE EXPERIENCES IN IRELAND!

BEAUTY OF THE EMERALD ISLE

When visiting Ireland, it is instantly clear why the country is nicknamed “The Emerald Isle” with its lush green fields surrounded by spectacular coastal mountains. The Wild Atlantic Way snakes for 1,600 miles along the West Coast of Ireland and includes popular sights such as Ring of Kerry, Dingle Peninsula and Cliffs of Moher.

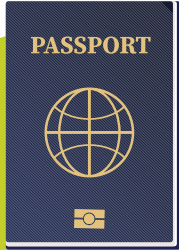


IRELAND'S CHARMING TOWNS & CITIES

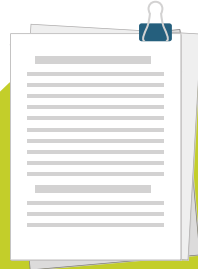
There are so many small Irish towns to pay a visit to Limerick, Cork, Galway, and Dingle, just to name a few. Discover the streets of quaint houses with colorful doors, pubs with live music spilling out, and fascinating history around every corner.



What to pack for your Carry-on Luggage



Passport



POE Letter



Health Insurance



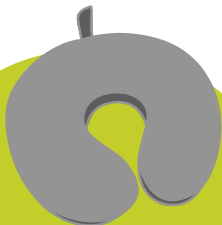
Credit or Debit Card



Cash



Emergency Contacts



Travel Pillow



Charger & Adapter



Important Documents



Electronics



Snacks & Water



Change of Clothes



Check the carry-on rules for your airline!

Travel Preparation Checklist



Travel Preparation

- Renew/Check passport
- Book medical insurance
- Change CAD to local currency
- Check flight status, online check-in, & seat reservation
- Download offline maps
- Print important documents
- Make copies to give to parents or someone you trust
- Get a credit card
- Write down important contact numbers
- Visit doctor (e.g. dentist)
- Apply for an international driving permit
- Check vaccination requirements
- Prepare a general resume
- Check that your cellphone is unlocked
- _____

Home Preparation

- Organize plant & pet care
- Empty the fridge of perishables
- Forward or hold mail
- Give keys to a relative/friend
- Cancel contracts/subscriptions



Packing Checklist

Clothing

- Shirts / T-shirts
- Pants / Jeans
- Shorts
- Socks
- Sweater
- Hat
- Underwear & Pajamas
- Bras
- Dress / Skirt
- Pantyhose
- Collar Shirt
- _____
- _____

Cold Weather Clothing

- Jacket (Wind breaker)
- Gloves
- Hat
- Scarf
- _____
- _____

Optional Clothing

- Belt
- Raincoat
- Umbrella
- Jewelry
- Glasses / Contact lens kit
- Smart interview outfit
- _____

Beach Gear

- Swimsuit
- Sunglasses
- Sunblock
- Beach towel
- _____
- _____

Shoes

- Runners / Walking shoes
- Sandals
- Dress shoes / Heels
- Shower shoes
- _____

Electronics

- Cellphone / Charger
- Extra batteries
- Power bank
- Laptop
- Watch
- Headphones
- Travel adapter
- _____

Luggage

- Backpack
- Carry-on bag
- Suitcase
- Safety pins
- _____

Personal Hygiene

- Toiletry bag
- Hair Brush / Comb
- Razor / Electric Shaver
- Toothbrush / Tooth Paste
- Dental floss
- Soap/ Cleansers
- Shampoo/ Conditioner
- Deodorant
- Moisturizer
- Lip Balm
- Quick-dry towel
- Make-up
- Feminine products
- _____
- _____

Health & Medications

- Prescription medicine
- Contraception/ Condoms
- Motion sickness pills
- Pain/ Aspirin medication
- Antibiotic ointment
- Laxative/ Diarrhea medicine
- First Aid Kit
- Insect repellent
- Band-aids
- _____

Quick Packing Tips

1 Don't overpack!

Pack only as if you'll be gone for 3 weeks and take just your favorites.

2 Pack smart

Use packing cubes or the rolling technique so you won't lose any suitcase space.

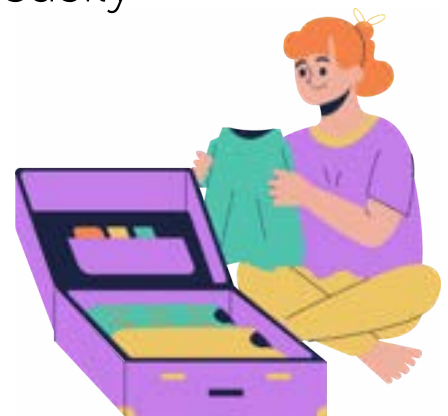
3 Be wise, carry travel size

Bring travel size items like shampoo, sunscreen, etc., and buy bigger packages at your destination.

4 Easily access certain items

Pack these items so they are easily accessible in your carry-on:

- Medication
- Change of clothing
- Important documents
- Liquids bag



Common Mistakes and How to Avoid Them

1) Supporting Documents

You don't prepare your supporting documents before starting your application. Make every effort to gather your documents well before the deadline.

2) Check Visa Application

You forget to check your visa application for mistakes before submitting it. Even better: Ask someone else to look over it once!

3) Expiring Passport

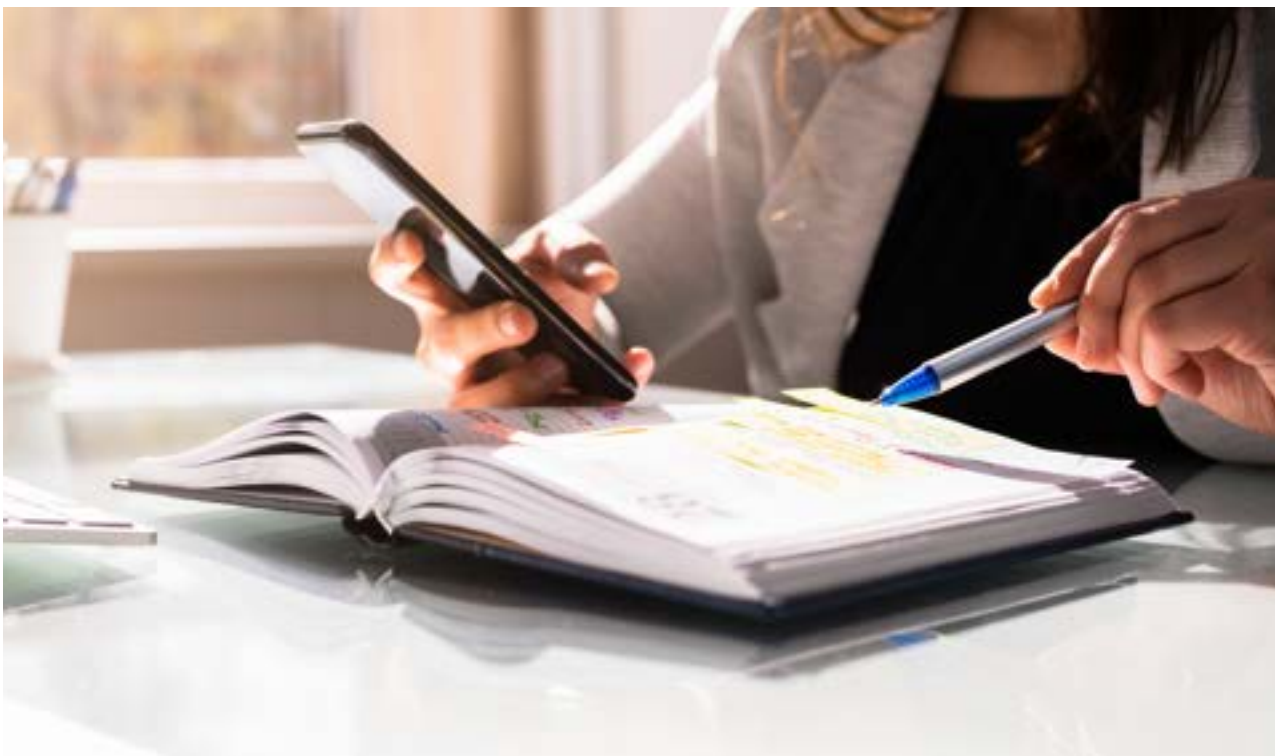
Your passport expiration is very close to the end of the working holiday term. Your passport should be valid for 30 months after your entry date.

4) Age Limit

You forget to apply for your Working Holiday visa before your 36th birthday. It is okay if you turn 36 while being in Ireland or before you travel.

5) Biometrics Appointment

You forget to plan your biometrics appointment with VFS Global to submit your visa application.



General Tips

Research your visa options

The first step in preparing to work and travel in Ireland is to research your visa options. The most common visa for Canadians is the Working Holiday Authorization visa, which allows you to work and travel in Ireland for up to 24 months. This visa is available to Canadians aged 18-35.

Get your paperwork in order

Once you have decided on your visa, you will need to gather the necessary paperwork. This typically includes a valid passport, proof of sufficient funds, and a completed visa application. Make sure to have all your documents ready and in order before your departure to avoid any delays.

Sort out your finances

Make sure you have sufficient funds to cover your expenses while in Ireland. This includes your airfare, accommodation, transportation, and daily expenses. It's also a good idea to research different banking options and compare fees and services, so you can choose the one that best suits your needs.

Register with GNIB upon arrival

Once you arrive in Ireland, you have one month to register with the Garda Nation Immigration Bureau, or GNIB. This registration certificate is required to receive your Irish Residence Permit (IRP) which allows you to legally stay and work in Ireland. You can open a bank account and get a job with this permit.

Prepare for the culture shock

Ireland may be an English-speaking country, but it is still a different culture. Research the country, customs, and social norms to get a better understanding of what to expect. Make sure to pack accordingly, and be open-minded to new experiences.

Create a budget

Create a budget and stick to it. Have a plan for how much you will spend each day, week, or month. This will help you keep your finances in check and make sure you don't overspend.

General Tips

Make a list

Make a list of the things you need to do before you leave, such as canceling your bills, changing your address, and so on. This will help you stay organized and ensure that you don't forget anything important.

Research job opportunities

Research job opportunities in Ireland before you leave. This will give you an idea of what types of jobs are available, and you can start applying for jobs even before you leave Canada.

Pack wisely

Pack only what you need and make sure you have enough space for souvenirs. Make sure to check the weather forecast for your destination and pack accordingly.

Enjoy your experience

The most important thing is to enjoy your experience. Ireland is an amazing country, full of beautiful landscapes and great culture. Make the most of your time there and create memories that will last a lifetime.

When to go

The best time to visit Ireland depends on what you want to see and do, as the weather and crowds can vary greatly throughout the year. Generally, the peak tourist season in Ireland is during the summer months, from June to August, when the weather is generally warmer and the days are longer. This is a great time to explore the countryside, visit the beaches, and attend outdoor events and festivals.

Other Key Things

- **Accommodation:** Finding a place to live can be one of the biggest challenges when moving to a new country. Research different options such as short-term rental accommodation, hostels, or long-term rentals. It's also a good idea to look into shared accommodation options to save on costs.
- **Transportation:** Research transportation options in your destination city and consider purchasing a car or bike if you plan on staying in one place for a longer period of time. Make sure to check if you need a special license to drive in Ireland.
- **Banking:** Setting up a bank account in Ireland will make it easier for you to manage your finances and get paid. Research different banking options and compare fees and services.
- **Health insurance:** It's important to have health insurance when working and traveling in Ireland. The duration of your insurance should cover your entire stay in Ireland.
- **Currency:** Get familiar with the currency used in Ireland and consider getting your money exchanged before you leave Canada or when you arrive in Ireland.
- **Visa regulations:** Make sure you understand the rules and regulations of your visa and ensure you comply with them during your stay in Ireland.
- **Taxes:** Make sure you are aware of your tax obligations in Ireland and how to file your taxes, including how to register for the PPS number.
- **Cultural differences:** Be aware of the cultural differences between Canada and Ireland. Research the customs and social norms of your destination and be prepared to adapt to the new culture.
- **Safety:** Research the safety situation in your destination city and take necessary precautions to ensure your safety while working and traveling in Ireland.
- **Networking:** Network with other Canadians and connect with local communities and organizations to learn more about the country and find job opportunities.

Emergency contact information

Make sure to keep emergency contact information, such as the contact information of your embassy and your insurance provider, on hand in case of an emergency.

Flight Booking Tips

Decide on where and when you want to fly - it's better to be flexible about the dates to find a cheaper rate and/or better connection.

Check flight comparison websites like Expedia, Skyscanner, Kayak, but if possible book directly through an reliable airline (e.g. Air Canada).

Sign up for price alerts by using flight search tools such as Google Flights, Kayak, Hopper, and Skyscanner.

You'll definitely want at least a 1.5 to 2-hour window for layovers. Make sure to have sufficient time to make your connection.

Decide if you want to book a one-way or return ticket. You will need to prove extra funds if you only book a one-way ticket. If it's a return ticket, make sure you can reschedule the return date.



Arrival in Ireland - Three Essential Tips

Once you arrive in Ireland, there are three essential things to do:

1 Obtain an Irish Residence Permit (IRP) Card

- Within 90 days of arriving in Ireland, you must register in-person with the GNIB. The GNIB will issue you with an IRP (Irish Residence Permit) card.
- You will need to bring the necessary documents: valid passport (with your working holiday visa stamp), letter of acceptance or confirmation of your working holiday, proof of residence in Ireland (rental agreement or utility bill), evidence of sufficient funds, passport-sized photographs, GNIB/IRP registration fee

2 PPS (Personal Public Service) Number

Once in Ireland, you must apply for a PPS Number as this is a unique identifier necessary for taxation and accessing public services.

3 Bank Account

It's essential to open a bank account to receive your salary and manage your finances. You'll need your passport, visa, and address details to open a bank account in Ireland.





Visa Applications for Canadians: A Detailed Guide on how to Apply for Different Types of Visas

Everything You Need to Know About Ireland Working Holiday visa

Are you planning to work and travel in Ireland? Then, it's essential to know everything about the Youth Mobility Scheme visa for Ireland.

The process of getting a visa, finding a job, and settling down in a new country can be a bit challenging, but it can be made simpler if you know what to do. In this article, we'll go through everything you need to do before and after arriving in Ireland to start your Working Holiday.

Ireland Working Holiday visa for Canadians

Ireland's Working Holiday agreement with Canada offers an exciting opportunity for young Canadians to experience living and working in Ireland. The program gives Canadian youth the chance to progress their career ambitions, connecting with leading global companies located in Ireland. The program also fits in with many work experience commitments as part of university curriculums.

Working Holiday Authorisation, valid for two years, is open to Canadian citizens aged 18-35 (inclusive). This open work visa allows young Canadians to work and travel in Ireland, or to progress their chosen careers through employment in Ireland that is related to their degree and/or professional experience.

APPLICATION DOCUMENTS

- Application form fully completed and signed and dated
- 2 passport size photos, the background must be white
- Passport - must be valid for 30 months from your date of entry into Ireland. You must submit your passport with your application. If you are a Canadian citizen applying from outside Canada, please enclose a copy of your passport stamped as "original seen" by your nearest Embassy of Ireland if abroad, or your local Garda Station if in Ireland.
- Proof of insurance for 12 months
- Signed and dated Insurance Declaration
- Signed and dated agreement to Terms and Conditions
- A bank letter showing at least \$2,500 CAD in support funds - must have original stamp or signature from the bank; photocopies or printouts will not be accepted.
- Payment
- Completed and signed Check List (attached)

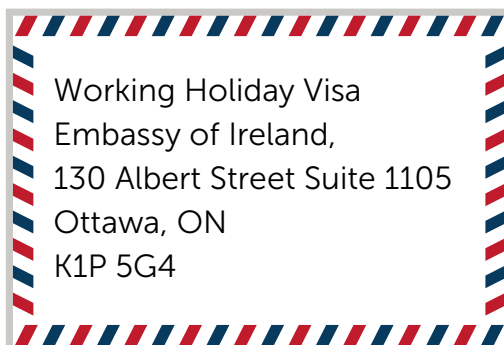


Ireland Working Holiday visa for Canadians

APPLICATION PROCESS

Once you have gathered all your documents, you can submit your application in one of two ways:

1. Applying in-person at the embassy in Ottawa: Make an appointment by emailing ottawaembassy@dfa.ie
2. By mailing the application to



Note: We strongly advise using a registered envelope for mailing your package, as it will provide you with a tracking number. This tracking number will prove valuable in ensuring the safe arrival of your package in Ottawa.

APPLICATION FEES

Working Holiday visa cost: \$150 CAD

Fee payable by:

- Canadian bank draft, money order, or certified cheque
- Payable to Embassy of Ireland in Canadian dollars; Euro not accepted.
- Credit card: Please include the name on card, card number, and expiry date. Please do not include the three or four digit security code.
- Debit cards are not accepted.

Please also include the return fee:

- For registered post: \$15
- For courier service: \$60
- International Courier Service: Confirmed based on destination



Ireland Working Holiday visa for Canadians

TRAVEL INSURANCE

All applicants for the Working Holiday Authorization must provide proof of having at least one year of comprehensive travel insurance to cover the first year of their stay in Ireland. Each applicant must also sign the declaration attached that states that they will purchase insurance once in Ireland to cover them for the full duration of the second year of the visa if they want to stay beyond the first year.

You will have to sign the declaration even if you decide to stay less than one year.

We have partnered with [StudyInsured](#) who provide customized insurance packages for travelers.

GNIB REGISTRATION CARD

- The Authorisation is activated by the arrival of the holder in Ireland. The Authorisation must be activated within twelve months of issue or it will lapse. The holder is subject to normal border immigration controls upon arrival in Ireland. Within one month of arrival in Ireland, holders of Authorisations must register with the Garda National Immigration Bureau (GNIB) and will be issued with a Irish Residence Permit (IRP) Card on payment of the appropriate fee; the fee is €300 (this is subject to change). Together, the Authorisation and IRP Card allow a participant to seek employment in Ireland.
- The GNIB Registration Card fee is €300 and has to be paid only once for the duration of your two-year working holiday visa.

PROCESSING TIME

It usually takes approximately six to eight weeks from the moment you submit your application until you receive your passport back. It is important to allocate this amount of time, along with some additional time for precautionary measures, before your scheduled flight to Ireland.

FINANCIAL PROOF

\$2,500 CAD (doesn't have to be spent)

Provide a recent bank statement (signed and stamped) showing the amount in your bank account.

WanderWork

Chapter 4

Finding a Job Abroad: Tips on Job Searching, Networking, and Preparing Your Resume for International Job Market



General Tips



- Choose the city where you want to live and work in Ireland, and identify the job platforms and job market that works better in that area to start your job research.
- Make a list of career options to decide the job field that you want to work in (e.g. hospitality), do research on the current demand, and check the qualifications for Ireland.
- Evaluate the possibilities for a foreign transfer (if you are working in an international company).
- Make sure you adapt or localize your resume to Ireland, extend your research to determine unique selling points in the field you want to work in.
- Use your network and meet new people in your field to create and learn about new opportunities.
- Use international job boards to extend your research and have more options when seeking for a job.

General Tips



- Write down the top 10 employers to narrow the options in your field and to get a clear idea of your goals in the job search.
- Build the right and specific mindset, goals, and priorities, and challenge yourself to succeed in your job search.
- Take a trip to Ireland (if possible) to apply while you are there as a tourist, and start networking during your vacation.
- Build your language skills if you are not a native English speaker and consider taking a language course before traveling.
- Tap into all types of job search (e.g. job boards, recruiters, network, cold calling/applying, networking/referrals, job fairs, company websites, LinkedIn, interning/volunteering).

A Guide to Finding Work in Ireland

If you're looking to find work in Ireland, here are some tips to help you:

- Create a strong CV: A well-written CV is essential to help you stand out from other job seekers. Your CV should highlight your skills, experience, and qualifications. Make sure to tailor your CV to the job you are applying for.
- Utilize online job search engines: There are several online job search engines such as [Indeed](#), [Glassdoor](#), and [Jobs](#), that list a wide range of job vacancies in Ireland. You can also search for jobs directly on the websites of companies that interest you.
- Use your networks: Leverage your personal and professional networks to help you find job opportunities. Let your friends, family, and colleagues know that you are looking for work. Join relevant professional groups on LinkedIn and other social media platforms to connect with people in your industry.
- Attend job fairs: Job fairs are a great way to meet employers face-to-face and learn about job opportunities. Check local newspapers and websites for information about upcoming job fairs in your area.
- Register with recruitment agencies: Recruitment agencies can help you find job opportunities that match your skills and experience. Many agencies specialize in specific industries or types of jobs.
- Prepare for interviews: Once you have secured an interview, make sure to prepare thoroughly. Research the company and the role, and practice your answers to common interview questions.
- Be persistent: Finding a job can take time, and you may face rejection along the way. Stay positive and keep applying for jobs that match your skills and experience.



A Guide to Finding Work in Ireland

Resources for Job Hunting

The following are the best job boards and resources you as a Canadian should access to find a job in Ireland when you get there or before you leave Canada.

- Jobs: Jobs.ie is Ireland's most popular and helpful e-recruitment platform. They offer customers and job seekers many choices with a global team of 4,000 recruitment experts.
- Indeed: Indeed is one of the most popular job search engines in Ireland. It lists thousands of job vacancies across various industries and allows you to filter your search based on location, job title, and salary.
- Glassdoor: Glassdoor is a job search engine that not only lists job vacancies but also provides company reviews, salaries, and interview questions. It's a useful resource for researching potential employers before applying for jobs.
- IrishJobs: IrishJobs is one of the world's leading job platforms. They help talent and companies connect. IrishJobs has 1.1 million registered career seekers and 694k active monthly users on their platform.
- LinkedIn: LinkedIn is a professional networking site that allows you to create a profile, connect with other professionals, and search for job opportunities. Many recruiters and hiring managers use LinkedIn to source candidates, so it's worth building a strong profile and actively networking.
- Monster: Monster is a job search engine that offers job vacancies across various industries and provides career advice and CV writing services.



A Guide to Finding Work in Ireland

Apply for PPS (Personal Public Service) Number

To get a PPS number in Ireland during your working holiday, follow these steps:

1. Schedule an appointment at an Intreo Centre or Social Welfare Branch Office.
2. Prepare the required documents: passport, proof of address in Ireland, and evidence of employment or intention to work.
3. Attend the appointment and complete the application form.
4. Submit the necessary documents and provide the requested information.
5. After submission, you'll receive a temporary PPS number confirmation letter.
6. Wait for your official PPS number card, which will be mailed to you.
7. Inform your employer and relevant parties of your PPS number once you receive the card.
8. Use your PPS number for tax and social welfare purposes during your working holiday in Ireland.

Please note that the process and requirements may vary, so it's advisable to consult the Department of Social Protection website or contact the relevant office for the most up-to-date information on obtaining a PPS number during your working holiday in Ireland.



A Guide to Finding Work in Ireland

Banking in Ireland

Banking in Ireland is a well-established and regulated system that offers a range of services to individuals and businesses. Here are some key things to know about banking in Ireland:

1. Major Banks: Ireland has several major banks, including Bank of Ireland, Allied Irish Banks (AIB), Ulster Bank, and Permanent TSB. These banks provide various banking services such as savings accounts, current accounts, loans, mortgages, and credit cards.

2. Online and Mobile Banking: Most banks in Ireland offer online and mobile banking services, allowing customers to conveniently manage their accounts, make transactions, and access services from their computers or mobile devices.

3. Current Accounts: A current account is the primary bank account used for day-to-day banking transactions. It provides features such as debit cards, ATM access, and the ability to make payments and transfers.

4. Savings and Investment: Irish banks offer savings accounts, fixed-term deposits, and investment options to help individuals grow their money. Interest rates and terms may vary, so it's advisable to compare options to find the best fit for your needs.

5. Credit Cards: Banks issue credit cards in Ireland, allowing individuals to make purchases and access credit. It's important to use credit cards responsibly and understand the terms and interest rates associated with them.

7. ATM Network: Ireland has a widespread network of ATMs where customers can withdraw cash, check balances, and perform other basic transactions. However, be aware of any associated fees, especially for using ATMs outside your bank's network.

When considering banking options in Ireland, it's recommended to compare services, fees, and interest rates across different banks to find the best fit for your financial needs and goals.



A Guide to Finding Work in Ireland

Banking in Ireland (continued)

Choosing the best bank in Ireland depends on your personal financial needs and preferences. Here are some of the best banks in Ireland based on their reputation, range of products, and customer service:

- Bank of Ireland: As one of the largest and oldest banks in Ireland, Bank of Ireland offers a comprehensive range of financial services including personal business banking, mortgages, loans, investments, and insurance.
- Allied Irish Bank (AIB): AIB is another major bank in Ireland, providing a broad spectrum of banking services such as current and savings accounts, mortgages, personal loans, credit cards, and corporate banking solutions.
- Ulster Bank: With a strong presence in Ireland, Ulster Bank offers a wide array of banking products and services, including current accounts, savings accounts, mortgages, loans, and a range of digital banking solutions.
- Permanent TSB: Permanent TSB is a leading retail bank in Ireland, offering various banking services such as current accounts, savings accounts, personal loans, mortgages, and credit cards, with a focus on delivering customer-friendly financial solutions.
- KBC Bank Ireland: KBC Bank Ireland provides a range of banking services, including current accounts, savings accounts, mortgages, personal loans, and digital banking solutions, with an emphasis on innovative and user-friendly products.

Overall, it's important to research different banks and their products to find the best option for your needs. Consider factors such as fees, interest rates, customer service, and digital banking services when choosing a bank.



Finding Accommodation in Ireland

Finding accommodation can be one of the most challenging aspects of planning a work and travel experience in Ireland. Here's a detailed guide to help you find a place to stay while on an IEC work permit. When looking for accommodation in Ireland, it's best to book a hostel for the first few days before you arrive in the country.

You should book in advance as places sell out in popular cities like Dublin. This will give you a place to stay and ensure that you feel safe. After you've found a job, you can consider more long-term accommodation options.

General Tips

* Research your options

The first step in finding accommodation is to research your options. There are a variety of options available, including hostels, hotels, motels, and short-term rentals. Make sure to research the pros and cons of each option to determine which one is best for your needs and budget.

* Use online platforms

There are many online platforms that can help you find an accommodation, such as Airbnb, Booking.com, and Hostelworld. These platforms allow you to search for properties by location, price, and amenities, making it easy to find a place that meets your needs.

* Join Facebook groups

Joining Facebook groups related to work and travel in Ireland can be a great way to find an accommodation. Many of these groups are dedicated to helping people find places to stay, and you can often find listings for affordable accommodation.

* Look for accommodation close to your work

If you have secured a job before arriving in Ireland, it would be best to look for accommodation close to your workplace. This will save you time and money on transportation and make it easier to get to and from work.

* Consider shared accommodation

Shared accommodation, such as house-sharing or flat-sharing, can be a great option for those on a budget. Not only is it often more affordable than other options, but it can also be a great way to meet new people and make friends.

* Use other resources

There are a number of other resources you can use to find accommodation in Ireland. Property websites such as [MyHome](#), [Property.ie](#), and rental apps like [Booking.com](#) and [Airbnb](#) are popular platforms for finding short-term rentals. You can use social media platforms such as Facebook and Twitter to search for accommodation. Additionally, you can reach out to local letting agents and property management companies for assistance in finding a place to stay.

* Be prepared to move around

Accommodation in Ireland can be competitive, especially in popular tourist destinations, so you may have to move around a bit before finding a place that suits your needs. Be prepared to be flexible and open to different types of accommodation, and don't be discouraged if you don't find something right away.

General Tips

* Consider staying in a backpackers hostel or a budget hotel

Backpackers hostels and budget hotels are a great option for travelers on a budget. They are often cheaper than other accommodation options and can be a great way to meet other travelers. Living in a hostel full-time can be an affordable option, especially if you work in the hostel and can get discounts.

* Check with your employer

Some companies may offer housing or housing assistance to their employees. If you have secured a job before arriving in Ireland, check with your employer to see if they have any accommodation options available.

* Be prepared to pay deposit and rent in advance

Keep in mind that many landlords in Ireland require tenants to pay a deposit and rent in advance, so make sure you have enough funds to cover these expenses.



Popular Hostel Companies in Ireland

- **Hostelling International Ireland**

HI Ireland is part of the Hostelling International network and offers a wide range of hostels across the country. They are known for their quality and budget-friendly accommodations.

- **Jacobs Inn Hostel**

Situated in Dublin, Jacobs Inn Hostel is centrally located and provides a comfortable stay for budget-conscious travelers. They also offer various amenities and a vibrant communal area.

- **Abbey Court Hostel**

Abbey Court Hostels operates in Dublin and offers budget accommodation with a focus on creating a fun and sociable atmosphere for travelers.

- **Generator Hostels**

Generator Hostels is a well-known chain of hostels with a stylish and modern design. They have hostels in several cities across Europe, including Dublin, Ireland.

- **Kinlay Hostel**

Located in Galway, Kinlay Hostel is known for its friendly staff and social environment. It's an excellent choice for backpackers looking to explore Galway's lively culture.



Working and Living in Different Cultures - an Overview of Cultural Differences and How to Navigate Them

Cultural differences can be both fascinating and challenging, especially when traveling to a new country for work or travel. As a Canadian visiting Ireland, you may encounter various cultural differences that can affect your social interactions, communication style, and work etiquette. Understanding these differences and how to navigate them can help you avoid misunderstandings, adapt more easily to your new environment, and enhance your overall experience in Ireland.

General Tips

Respect cultural norms:
Research and learn more about the country, culture, and the people before deciding on your Working Holiday destination.

Get in touch with locals (e.g. join groups, clubs, events) and maintain good communication with new friends.

It is essential to research and learn about the customs and traditions of Ireland to avoid any misunderstandings.

Talk with someone who has traveled to Ireland before and learn from previous experiences.

Be willing to learn about the local culture. This can help you better understand the differences and make you feel more comfortable.

Observe how locals behave and interact before you act. This can help you get a sense of the social norms and avoid offending anyone unintentionally.

The Ireland has a diverse population, and each culture has its own unique set of customs and traditions. Be mindful of these differences and show respect for them.

Visit art exhibits, museums, join walking tours, read literature and watch documentaries to find out more about Ireland.

The Ireland has a unique vocabulary and slang, so be mindful of the language you use. Avoid using offensive language and try to use the appropriate terms.

Try the local cuisine and be open to trying new foods and drinks and explore the variety of tastes offered.

Learn about culture shock and how to deal with it (5 stages of culture shock).

The Ireland is a melting pot of different cultures, and embracing this diversity can be a rewarding experience. Take the opportunity to learn from people of different backgrounds and customs.

Cultural Differences To Consider And Tips On How To Navigate Them

The Ireland is a country with a rich history and many unique customs and traditions. Here are some cultural differences in Ireland and tips on how to navigate them:

- **Language:** English is the official language of Ireland, but there are many regional dialects and accents that may be difficult to understand. If you're having trouble understanding someone, don't be afraid to ask them to repeat themselves or speak more slowly.
- **Humour:** Irish humour is often characterized by wit, sarcasm, and self-deprecation while Canadian humour can be friendly and light-hearted. Enjoy the humour of both cultures, but be mindful of cultural sensitivities.
- **Punctuality:** Irish timekeeping can be more relaxed in social settings and arriving a few minutes late may be considered acceptable. Canadians generally value punctuality and expect others to be on time.
- **Tipping:** Tipping is appreciated in Ireland but not as extensive as in Canada. A typical tip in restaurants is around 15% of the total bill. Tipping is a way to show appreciation for good service. When in doubt, you can ask locals.
- **Personal space:** Irish people are known for their friendliness and willingness to strike up a conversation with strangers. Personal space can be more intimate during interactions whereas Canadians observe a bit more personal space during conversations. Respect personal boundaries, and if unsure, follow the lead of those around you.



Cultural Differences To Consider And Tips On How To Navigate Them

- Drinking culture: Ireland has a stronger pub culture than Canada, and alcohol plays a significant role in socializing and everyday life. Buying rounds of drinks for friends is customary in Irish pubs. Feel free to experience the pub culture in Ireland but do so responsibly.
- Sports: While ice hockey is a beloved national sport in Canada, traditional Irish sports like Gaelic football, hurling, and rugby hold immense popularity in Ireland. Embrace the local sports and activities. Attend sports events to experience the passion and excitement shared by the locals.
- Work Culture: Irish work culture is known for its friendly and social atmosphere. Relationships and networking play a significant role in business interactions. Adapt to the work culture of Ireland, be respectful and open to building meaningful connections with colleagues and clients.



Staying Safe and Healthy - A Guide to Staying Safe and Healthy While Traveling Abroad

The Ireland is generally a safe country to travel in, but like any destination, it's important to take basic safety precautions. Some tips for staying safe while traveling in Ireland include keeping your valuables secure, staying aware of your surroundings, and avoiding poorly lit or unfamiliar areas at night.

Here are some further tips for staying safe and healthy while working and travelling in Ireland.

Tips for Staying Safe and Healthy



- Do your research about the destination, stay up to date on any travel advisories or warnings related to Ireland / the area.
- Inform yourself about water and food safety, and stay hydrated by drinking plenty of water, especially in hot weather.
- Consider registering your travel plans with your embassy or consultant, which can help provide assistance in case of an emergency.
- Visit a doctor for check-ups and vaccinations before traveling, and keep a list of emergency numbers handy in case you need medical assistance.
- Pack a first-aid kit, and be mindful of the risk of extreme weather events.
- Keep your important documents/valuables safe, and keep (digital) copies online.
- Keep your friends and family updated about your whereabouts, and carry emergency contacts with you.

Tips for Staying Safe and Healthy



- Make sure you book adequate health insurance coverage for your trip.
- Keep up to date with the current situation, news, events, and emergency alerts.
- Be smart about your money, and use local ATMs wisely.
- Have common sense and follow your gut feeling/ trust your instincts.
- Be cautious of unsolicited emails, phone calls, or text asking for personal information or money.
- Invest in a good travel bag/travel lock and rather splurge on extra safety.
- Know your skills, and limitations (e.g. when hiking), and wear sunscreen, a hat, and sunglasses.
- Ask locals for advice, and don't share too much information with strangers (e.g. exact location on social media).
- Avoid unsafe neighborhoods, especially alone at night, and travel in numbers.
- Stay up to date on any travel advisory or warning and be generally street smart (don't do dangerous things for photos!).

Tips for Staying Safe and Healthy

Staying healthy and safe while traveling in Ireland is important to ensure that you have an enjoyable and stress-free trip. Here are some tips to help you stay healthy and safe during your visit:

- Stay hydrated: Carry a reusable water bottle and drink plenty of water to stay hydrated, especially during hot summer months.
- Wash your hands: Frequent hand-washing is a simple and effective way to prevent the spread of germs and illnesses.
- Be aware of food hygiene: Choose reputable food vendors, wash your hands before eating, and avoid undercooked or raw foods to reduce the risk of foodborne illness.
- Stay safe on the roads: If you plan on driving in Ireland, make sure to familiarize yourself with local traffic laws and road signs. Always wear a seatbelt and avoid driving under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
- Protect yourself from the weather: The Ireland weather can be unpredictable, so pack appropriate clothing and footwear to protect yourself from rain and cold weather. Wear sunscreen to protect your skin from the sun's harmful rays on sunny days.
- Stay alert in crowded areas: Be aware of pickpockets and keep your valuables secure in crowded tourist areas and public transportation.
- Know emergency numbers: Keep a list of emergency numbers, including the local emergency services and your country's embassy or consulate.

By taking these simple precautions, you can help ensure that you stay healthy and safe during your visit to Ireland.



Tips for Staying Safe and Healthy

Medical Care and Expenses in Ireland

In Ireland, medical care is primarily provided through the public healthcare system known as the Health Service Executive (HSE). The HSE is funded through taxation, and its main objective is to ensure access to essential healthcare services for Irish residents. Medical care in public hospitals is generally available to all, including visitors, but the level of coverage may vary depending on residency status and applicable agreements with other countries.

General Practitioners (GPs) serve as the first point of contact for non-emergency medical care. Visiting a GP may require a fee, but medical card holders, who meet specific income criteria, are entitled to free GP visits, prescriptions, and other medical services.

For hospital care, public hospitals offer treatment at reduced costs for medical card holders. However, individuals without a medical card or private health insurance may be subject to charges for hospital services.

Apart from the public healthcare system, Ireland also has a private healthcare sector. Private healthcare providers offer services with shorter waiting times and additional amenities. However, opting for private healthcare entails higher expenses, and it's often used by those who have private health insurance coverage.

To protect against medical expenses, visitors to Ireland are strongly advised to have comprehensive travel health insurance. Travel insurance can cover emergency medical treatment, hospitalization, and potential medical evacuations if needed.



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Chapter 8

Returning Home - Tips on Re-Entry and How to Leverage Your International Experience



General Tips



- Arrange logistics for arrival home, for example where you will live and what do you want to do next.
- Prepare yourself for post-travel depression and reverse culture shock.
- Be patient with yourself and get some rest after returning home.
- Prepare emotionally for friendships that have changed.
- Avoid being a know-it-all about travel and your time abroad.
- Pre-plan your responses to popular questions.
- Make plans, so you have something to look forward to.
- Spend time with friends and family, but don't overwhelm yourself.
- Write down what you have learned and/or create a photo/scrapbook.
- Connect with other travelers.
- Find a new passion apart from traveling.
- Book a new trip - even if it's a short one. Reminder that you can still do other Working Holiday countries as long as you are under 36!

General Tips

As your time in Ireland comes to an end, it is important to prepare for your return to Canada. Here are some tips on re-entry and how to leverage your international experience.

Plan Ahead

Returning home can be overwhelming, particularly if you have been away for an extended period. It is essential to plan ahead by considering your accommodation, transportation, and finances. You may need to arrange temporary accommodation, sell or store your belongings, and make travel arrangements. It is also important to have a budget in place and understand any tax or customs regulations that may apply.

Stay Connected

Your time in Ireland has likely resulted in new friendships and professional connections. It is essential to maintain these connections by staying in touch and networking. Social media platforms such as LinkedIn, Facebook, and Instagram are great ways to keep in contact and share updates. You may also want to attend networking events or join professional organizations related to your industry.



General Tips

Reflect on Your Experience

Your time in Ireland has likely been a significant personal and professional growth opportunity. It is essential to reflect on your experience and identify the skills and knowledge you have gained. This can include language skills, cultural awareness, adaptability, and problem-solving skills. These skills are highly valued by employers and can be leveraged when seeking new opportunities.

Update Your Resume and Cover Letter

As you return to Canada and begin your job search, it is essential to update your resume and cover letter to reflect your international experience. This can include highlighting any volunteer work, internships, or projects you worked on while in Ireland. You may also want to include any language skills, certifications, or awards you received during your time abroad.

Be Patient

Returning home and settling back into your routine can take time. It is important to be patient and allow yourself time to adjust. You may experience reverse culture shock, which can include feelings of disorientation, frustration, and anxiety. This is a normal part of the re-entry process, and it is essential to seek support from family, friends, or a mental health professional if needed.



General Tips

Stay Open-Minded

Your international experience has likely broadened your perspective and challenged your assumptions. It is essential to stay open-minded and apply this mindset to your personal and professional life in Canada. You may want to explore new hobbies, volunteer opportunities, or career paths that align with your values and interests.

Returning to Canada after your time in Ireland requires planning, reflection, and a positive mindset. By leveraging your international experience, staying connected, and being patient, you can successfully navigate the re-entry process and embrace new opportunities.



GO International Work and Travel Program Destinations:



Australia



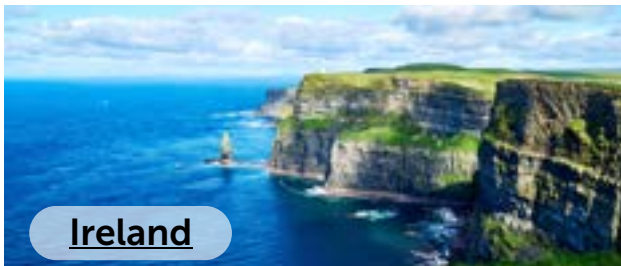
Costa Rica



France



Germany



Ireland



Japan



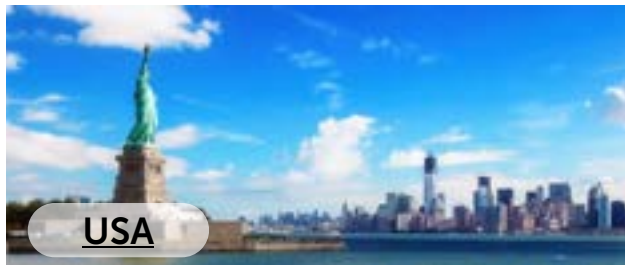
New Zealand



South Korea



UK



USA

Appendix - A List Of Helpful Resources





[Irish Embassy](#)

[Canadian Government info about Ireland](#)

[Ireland Customs](#)

[Irish Rail](#)

[Buy and Sell on Craigslist Ireland](#)

eBook

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