

INTERNSHIP ABROAD

-Dublin, Ireland-

Dublin – General information

- Population : About 1,200,000
- Expanse : 115km²
- Capital and largest city of Ireland
- Located on the **east coast**
- River “**Liffey**” divides Dublin into south and north
 - Northside was generally seen as *working class to middle class*
 - Southside was seen as *middle class to upper-middle class*
- Inner Dublin splits up into a number of quarters
 - Medieval Quarter
 - Georgian Quarter
 - Docklands Quarter
 - Cultural Quarter
 - Creative Quarter



Accommodation

- By Air BnB:
 - Own bedroom and own bathroom
 - Shared kitchen and living rooms with hosts and guests
- Common activities like barbecue and dinner
- Always a contact person but **no force** to spend time together
- Friendly, socioable and helpful people

Host Company - General information

- Company: **Debenhams, Henry Street 54-62, Ireland**
 - Large department store
 - Sells mainly clothes
- 26,000 colleagues worldwide
- 34 sourcing countries
- 475 suppliers



(Giant's Causeway)



Host Company – Exercises

Retail sales assistant:

- Welcomes customers by greeting them; offering them assistance
- Directs customers by escorting them to racks and counters; suggesting items
- Advises customers by providing information on products
- Hanging, sorting, folding clothes
- Assists with product deliveries
- Really **good relations** to the staff
- Staff were *more than pleased* with my work



Cultural differences

- For the most part **overfriendly**
- Very helpful
- **Familiar atmosphere** because of the *size*; people know each other
- A lot of expressions like:
 - “How’s the crack?” (“Have you any news?”, “How are you?”)
 - “Heyya, how is it going?” (“Hello, how you doing?”)
 - “Grand” (“Brilliant”, “Great”, “Awesome”)
- Not as punctual as Germans
- Bad recycling system:
 - No good segregation of trash
 - No paper bags; mainly plastic



Benefits/ Difficulties

Benefits	Difficulties
Improved language skill	Strong accent to some extent
Better dealing with customers	Felt really uncomfortable the first few days
Getting to know another culture	
Improved confidence	
Work experience in practice	