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A Day in the City of Limerick, Ireland

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Rebecca Kimball

Galway, Ireland

February 12, 2017

A Day in the City of Limerick, Ireland



Exploring King John's Castle, Limerick, Ireland

We have finally adjusted to being in a completely different country and are still attending classes and exploring the city as much as we can. There has been some beautiful weather here in Ireland. Every day I continue to fall even more in love with the beauty of Ireland and its culture. The last few weeks have flown by. I can't believe we are halfway through the semester here at the National University of Ireland, Galway (NUIG). Due dates for essays and other assignments, as well as exams, are fast approaching.

This past weekend, on Saturday, a few of us from Linfield, along with my roommate, took the bus to Limerick and explored the city for the day. It was only about an hour and a half bus ride there and back. So, we left as early as we could, about 8:30 am and took the last bus back at about 8:30 pm to get the most out of what Limerick had to offer.

It was absolutely a BEAUTIFUL and GORGEOUS day. We couldn't have asked for nicer weather. After stepping off the bus, we stopped for some brunch as most of us were hungry. We stopped in at a café that had wonderful coffee and delicious breakfast choices, with a wide range of portion sizes for those who didn't want to eat as much during that time. It was perfect. After brunch, we decided to go explore the city of Limerick, after all, that's what we were there for, right? The city had so much to offer with its lively culture and features. There was even a small Saturday market happening in the streets as we were exploring the city center. One of the best and most amazing things that we explored was a castle known as King John's Castle.

King John's Castle was unbelievable to be able to see something that has been around for centuries and is pretty much still intact to this day (with a few renovations to make it safe for tourists, of course). Before being able to walk into the castle itself, we had the opportunity to learn a little bit about the history and why the castle was built and the wars and arguments that took place over the castle. I was in

awe that a castle could cause so much uprising with a massive death toll following the wars and fights. An interesting fact that I learned was that King John ordered the castle to be built, but six years later he died, never having the opportunity to see it actually finished. However, while it was being built, he never went and visited it, not even once. The castle was extraordinary to see, and the views from the tops of the towers made me fall even more in love with Ireland. I wish I could post all the pictures I took, but it would be impossible to choose which ones, as there was so much to see and capture.

After exploring the castle, we walked around the city center for a while and stopped in a few shops to look around. While walking through the city center, we came across a gelato café, which sounded so good, so we stopped. We also stopped to give our feet some time to rest. The gelato was one of the best I have ever had. We then came across the Limerick City Museum of Art, which provided free admission, so we decided to go check it out. I very much enjoyed the artwork being displayed inside the museum as my major is Electronic Arts and I have grown up to enjoy and look at art in the most interesting and distinctive ways. I find art to be so relaxing and so interesting at the same time because there are so many ways and perspectives you can have on just one art piece. After spending quite a while at the art museum, it was time to look for a place where we could enjoy dinner before heading back to Galway. The place had delicious food and a wide variety of options to choose from. There were so many places we wanted to try, but we didn't have the opportunity to eat at all of them.

By the end of the day, we were absolutely exhausted. I felt like I definitely didn't need any more exercise after the amount of walking we did. The bus ride back was enjoyable, as it gave our feet time to rest before having to walk back to the apartments from the bus station in Galway. It was a very productive day on Saturday, February 11, 2017. We can't wait for the adventures that are to come. Stay tuned, as next weekend, February 17, 2017 to February 19, 2017, a few of us will be exploring the city of beautiful London. I can't wait. Until next time...

Sincerely,

Rebecca Kimball
Ireland Study Abroad 2017