

I spent the second semester of 2010 abroad at the University College Dublin. I had an amazing time and have nothing but great memories of my experience. I left for Europe as soon as our first semester had finished at UQ, and spent the 2 months before my UCD semester began exploring many places around Europe with a group of friends. I had a fantastic time, but was very ready to settle into my semester at UCD.

UCD is a great university, and the 4 months I spent there flew by. In comparison to UQ's 4 required subjects per semester, you will have to take 6 subjects at UCD. I was worried about this at first, but it turned out that the workload was much less than the workload I have at UQ each semester. This was great as it gave me plenty of time to travel during semester.

Dublin is a very lively city, and there are plenty of things to keep you entertained. You should definitely check out the traditional Irish Pubs, and take the time to head out to the bay areas at Howth (where you can feed the seals) and Dún-Laoghaire, both of which have nice markets on the weekends. Also take the time to explore the rest of Ireland while you are there. It is quite a small country so it's easy to get



Glendalough in County Wicklow- one of Irelands' oldest monastic sites

around and transport is fairly cheap. Some of the most interesting places were Galway, Killarney and Belfast.

In terms of money, Dublin is quite an expensive city compared to other European countries. It is however easy for students to save money. All of the clubs offer student nights and many places offer student discounts. One thing to get used to however is that most of the Irish students leave Dublin on the weekends to go back to their hometowns. This means that the weekends are fairly quiet compared to the weekdays.

All in all Dublin was a fantastic place to go on exchange! The Irish are incredibly friendly and outgoing and you are guaranteed to have a great time with them!