

## Irish Global Immersion 2022

After several months of planning, this March, we were able to resume our Global Immersion Program to Ireland. The Ireland group traveled with 15 students from both the sophomore class and the freshman class to Connemara and Dublin Ireland for nine days. On this trip scholars explored themes such as global citizenship, our interconnected human history, and the difference between being a traveler and a tourist. Our hosts were thrilled to have us back.

We spent the first five days exploring the Connemara region and west coast of Ireland. We were blessed with several sunny days, fresh air, and a much needed break from the hustle and bustle of campus life. Scholars got their hands (and feet) dirty, hiking with world renowned



archaeologist Professor Michael Gibbons where he guided us through historical sites such as the Dun Aonghasa Heritage Site. The quiet space and slower pace made for beautiful nightly reflections and new friendships across the two cohorts. We were blessed to be able to use both of Notre Dame's Irish Global Gateways at Kylemore Abbey and in Dublin.





In Dublin, the pace was noticeably different from our time out west with so many things to see and do. We were warmly welcomed by the staff at the Maldron Hotel who remembered our scholars from 2019. They were so thrilled to have us back, one of the employees became teary eyed when greeting us. We see this as a true testament to how respectful and thoughtful our scholars are.

We were thrilled to meet up with one of our scholars studying abroad at Trinity College this semester, Miguel Coste, who talked to the students about his experience abroad so far.

Jasmine Mitchell, one of our sophomores on the trip, was able to meet with staff in Dublin who will assist her in her research that she will conduct in Dublin this summer.

While in the city we visited the National Gallery, the National Library, the Writers Museum, Museum of Literature, Ireland, Epic Museum on Immigration and Emigration, and the Chester Beatty Museum all in the span of three days. We think it is safe to say that we left our scholars wanting more and look forward to seeing who applies to study abroad next fall. Below you'll find a picture of a server, Collin, at the Maldron Hotel who changed his shift to work when he found out that the Notre Dame AnBryce "kids" were coming back after a three year hiatus. We gifted him with an ND Ireland sweatshirt as a token of our appreciation.



Finally, we should mention that while traveling our beloved Writing and Rhetoric teacher Professor Patrick Clauss lost his mother. Her death was imminent which he shared with our community prior to our departure and yet he chose to travel with us knowing this. His commitment to be with the scholars on this trip, in spite of his grief displayed a generosity and love for our program that can't be put into words adequately.

