



Service Learning in Ireland

Sponsored by the Division of University Engagement

Program Dates: May 14-29, 2024

Location: Our community partner is the Irish Heritage School, an award winning organization that has worked within Irish Heritage Towns for years to help maximize the benefits of heritage for the local community. The location is Birr in County Offaly. Students will stay with local host families.

Service Activities: We will be working with the community on the rehabilitation of John's Hall and the surrounding grounds. John's Hall is a historic building of architectural interest that will be used as an educational and cultural space. The work that we complete will be featured in a community-wide event that we organize for the local residents. This multi-faceted program will not only expose you to the extremely rewarding environment of Service Learning within an extremely closely-knit community, but also immerses you in the uniquely rich culture of Ireland – in a less visited location, which will give you a sense of 'Real Ireland'

About Birr: Birr is a quintessentially classic, small, friendly, and safe Irish town located in the center of the country. The community dates to the 6th century when Saint Brendan of Birr founded a monastery. Birr Castle is 400 years old and has been home to the same family for 14 generations. Birr is a designated Irish Heritage Town due to the abundance of Georgian architecture and is home to many shops, pubs, and restaurants.

Excursions: Possible group excursions include visits to Clonmacnoise and other medieval sites and a trip to the Wild Atlantic Way in the Burren including the Cliffs of Moher.

Cost: \$3000 (includes food, lodging, excursions and airfare).

Eligible students can apply for a \$3,000 ISU Advantage Experience Grant.

Go to <https://www.indstate.edu/financial-aid/experience> for more information

Trip Leaders: Dr. Linda Maule, Associate Professor, Political Science, and Dr. Nancy Rogers, Vice President of University Engagement.

For more information, contact Stefanie Knott at Stefanie.Knott@indstate.edu

