



Ireland Veterinary Technology Spring Break 2026

Travel Dates: March 12 – 22, 2026

Day 1 - March 12

- Leave home airport for an overnight flight to Dublin.

Day 2 - March 13 -Dublin

- Arrive in Dublin, Ireland
- Airport Transfer
- Hotel check-in, Relax & Refresh
- Orientation Walking Tour - We will become oriented with their neighborhood, the public transportation systems, nearby pharmacies, markets, ATMs, etc. Additionally, an in-depth safety briefing will be provided on what to do in case of an emergency.
- Welcome Dinner at a Traditional Irish Music Pub - The group will be taken for an authentic dinner with a variety of menu options to cater all diets

Meals Provided:

- Welcome Dinner

Day 3 - March 14 - Dublin

- Breakfast & Day Briefing
- Dublin Zoo - Guided tour of the zoo and lectures on the following:
 - **Big Cats, Wild Dogs and Conservation** -This outdoor module involves visiting wild dog and big cat species at Dublin Zoo to explore their behavior and care in zoos and compare them to domestic species in human care. We will use our prior knowledge and research to look at animals without forming anthropomorphic views.
 - **Conservation** - Focusing on endangered species within Dublin Zoo, this outdoor module will explore the conservation challenges faced by these species and the conservation work being undertaken to protect them. We will discover how everyone can play a role in protecting endangered species and will generate ideas about actions they can take at an individual, school or community level.
- Cultural Time & Cultural Immersion

Meals Provided:

- Breakfast

Day 4 - March 15 - Derry

- Breakfast & Day Briefing
- **Dublin Walking Tour** – We will go on a walking tour of the south of the city. Our tour will include the following sites.
 - **Trinity College and the Book of Kells** –The Book of Kells, Long Room and Gaia in the Old Library, and enjoy an immersive journey in the new digital exhibition. The Experience takes place in two buildings: the Old Library and Red Pavilion.
 - **Temple Bar** - The iconic Temple Bar Pub is famous for its lively atmosphere and traditional Irish music sessions.
 - **Dublin Castle** - Constructed in the early thirteenth century on the site of a Viking settlement, Dublin Castle served for centuries as the headquarters of English, and later British, administration in Ireland. In 1922, following Ireland's independence, Dublin Castle was handed over to the new Irish government. It is now a major government complex and a key tourist attraction.
 - **Christchurch** - The cathedral was founded in the early 11th century under the Viking king Sitrick Silken beard. It was rebuilt in stone in the late 12th century under the Norman potentate Strongbow, and considerably enlarged in the early 13th century, using Somerset stones and craftsmen. A partial collapse in the 16th century left it in poor shape and the building was extensively renovated and rebuilt in the late 19th century, giving it the form it has today, including the tower, flying buttresses, and distinctive covered footbridge.
 - **Cathedral and St. Patrick's Cathedral**. As the largest cathedral and one of the most important pilgrimage sites in Ireland, Saint Patrick's has been at the heart of Dublin and Ireland's history and culture for over 800 years.
- We will then travel on a private coach to Derry (approx. 3 hours).
- Hotel Check-in, Relax & Refresh

Meals Provided:

- Breakfast

Day 5 - March 16 - Derry

- Breakfast & Day Briefing
- Welcome to **North West Regional College** and Introductions
- Presentation – Overview of NWRC
- Careers Academy Workshop
- We will then take a walking tour of the Historical city walls.
- Meet and Greet with the Mayor of Derry and Strabane District Council.
- **Tour of Guildhall and Tower Museum Built** - Originally in 1890 (rebuilt after fire in 1908)
Location: In the heart of Derry/Londonderry city Purpose: Historically used for city council meetings; now also a cultural and tourist center Architecture: Neo-Gothic with stained glass windows representing the guilds of the city
- **Potentially Industry tour of Wild Ireland** - Step back in time into an ancient woodland and immerse yourself in the world of Ireland's lost wildlife. Walk under a canopy of trees in the Celtic Rainforest and encounter brown bears, wolves, lynx, and wild boar—animals that once roamed this land. Through hunting and habitat destruction, much of Ireland's biodiversity has

vanished, posing a serious challenge to our planet's future. Wild Ireland, a Wildlife Park, is on a mission to change this through Education, Conservation, and Rescue, inspiring the children of today to become the conservationists of tomorrow.

Meals Provided:

- Breakfast

Day 6 - March 17 - Derry

- All day cultural activities – Celebration and Parade

Meals Provided:

- Breakfast

Day 7 - March 18 - Limavady

- Transfer to Limavady
- Attend class/workshop with NWRC Veterinary Nursing students and Gillian Morrow (Lecturer)
- Industry visit - Visit to Veterinary Practices
- Visit to Local Farm
- Volunteering Rescue and Rehoming Animal Shelter

Meals Provided:

- Breakfast

Day 8 - March 19 - Limavady

- Limavady at NWRC
- Visit to CAFRE – The College of Agriculture Food & Rural Enterprise is for students aspiring to and staff working within the agri-food and land-based sectors.
- Industry visits

Meals Provided:

- Breakfast

Day 9 - March 20 - Belfast

- Breakfast & Day Briefing
- Transfer to Belfast
- **Stop at Giant's Causeway** - The Giant's Causeway formed just under 60 million years ago, and at that time Ireland was still attached to North America. Europe was starting to rip away from North America, and as it did so it created huge rifts in the earth's surface. Those rifts produced cracks, and up through those cracks came lots of molten rock and lava. Much later, erosion then caused rivers to form in the basalt. Then more lava came, which flowed through the river valleys. In this river valley, the Giant's Causeway we think of today was formed.
- **Carrick-A-Rede Bridge Excursion** involves crossing a bridge suspended high above the rocks, connecting the mainland to Carrick Island in County Antrim, Northern Ireland. It's a popular tourist attraction known for its stunning coastal views and the thrill of crossing the bridge.
- **Dunluce Castle** now-ruined medieval castle in Northern Ireland, the seat of Clan MacDonnell. It is located on the edge of a basalt outcropping in County Antrim (between Portballintrae and Portrush), and is accessible via a bridge connecting it to the mainland. The castle is surrounded

by extremely steep drops on either side, which may have been an important factor to the early Christians and Vikings who were drawn to this place where an early Irish fort once stood.

- Continue to Belfast
- Check- in, Refresh and Relax

Meals Provided:

- Breakfast

Day 10 - March 21 - Belfast

- Breakfast & Day Briefing
- **Belfast City Tour** - We will hear of the colorful history that has shaped this part of the Island of the Island over 9,000 years. We will discover some of the famous local People and what they are remembered for.
- **Titanic Museum**- The Titanic Experience is the world's most authentic retelling of the iconic story. The self-guided tour extends over nine interactive galleries where we discover the sights, sounds, smells and stories of the ship.
- We will end our night with a Farewell Dinner and Program Closing.

Meals Provided:

- Breakfast
- Farewell Dinner

Day 11 - March 22 – Return Home

- Breakfast & Day Briefing
- We will take a private shuttle to Dublin to depart for home.

Meals Provided:

- Breakfast