

## **The Irish's way of doing things**

**1.** I love them. Honestly. I could write pages about how great they are. But! Irish people are terrible drivers. No offense, but I got hit by a car almost ten times during my stay and none of these was my fault. Twice it was so close I felt the blow of the car. I told my Irish friends these and they agreed so I think writing this won't hurt anyone. The traffic rules are a little different and you have to check the other side of the road first. You have to think inverted, I guess. People got used to it pretty fast. It was harder to switch back after I moved home.

**2.** They drink a lot, but nothing strong. Yeah. People say they are heavy drinkers, but they couldn't drink strong alcohol like Palinka (which I brought them from home and it wasn't even the best of bests). But I had a chance to taste so many good beers and some whiskey as well. My Boyfriend showed me the Guinness and ever since that moment I couldn't wait to taste the real one. I wasn't disappointed. I am not a drinker, but I like to experience different things.

**3.** Shoes and gloves everywhere around the city. If you need a new pair of shoes or gloves just walk around the town. You probably find one or two... or more. Even for children. I found a perfect pair of River Ireland high heels. They were almost new!

**4.** No pork or it is rare to find. No tejföl. No zsemlemorzsa. No búzadara. They barely eat pork. On the other hand, you can easily find chicken, beef, and fish. They are not as healthy as I first thought about a western country. Nor they are that environmentally friendly. To be honest I didn't really experience any differences between Hungary and Ireland when it comes to environmental consciousness.

I have to warn everyone who likes főzelék. You can make one using French sour cream, but it won't be the same. I tried. Twice. But you can have fish every day if you want because they are not expensive. There are also a lot of ingredients for Mexican and Indian dishes. I tried traditional dishes as well but they weren't to my liking. They are like a hardcore version of ours.

**5.** It rains. A lot. Especially during the cold seasons. Without a raincoat and umbrella, you are lost. I am not exaggerating this. I brought two umbrellas during my stay because the strong wind broke one. But you know, you can leave your umbrellas light-heartedly next to the doors when you go into the school, a restaurant or a pub, because no one will take them. Nor your coat.