

Nela Kratochvílová – 2019 – London, United Kingdom – I was working as an Assistant CzechTourism Officer – February–May



Traineeship at the CzechTourism office in London has definitely given me a lot in many ways. First of all you get to work with amazing people who really welcome you and make you feel part of the team. In general, I definitely improved my multi-tasking skills, critical thinking, I have become more flexible and learnt to evaluate quickly a situation and make decisions. One of my tasks was to do translations for the office which were usually 1 or 2-pages long but sometimes could run to 32-pages long. This taught me to work within tight deadlines and to improve my translating skills. I also got to go to a few events organised at the Embassy of the Czech Republic which was an amazing experience and opportunity to meet very interesting people from different parts of Britain and the world and to learn from them. These events and the translations were definitely the highlights of my stay in London but I also got to create invitations to events, itineraries for fam and press trips, create databases and maintain them or I also was a guide for a day in Greenwich. So even though you are working in the office, the work is never boring and it changes every day and you are surrounded with great colleagues, which is really important if you are to be satisfied at work.

TO DO TIPS

It is definitely better to find an apartment close to work, ideally close enough to walk or bike there. This way you save a lot of money which you would otherwise spend on a bus or underground.

If you are searching for an apartment on Spare Room or any other similar site, make sure you do the viewing of the apartment before you sign a contract or move in.

If you do not want to get an Oyster card for transport, you can easily pay with contactless credit card as well.

Try to visit as many places as you can, London definitely has a lot to offer!

If you want to visit Sky Garden, you can make a reservation online which guarantees you a free visit. But you have to make it in advance since the place is very popular.

If you want to relax, there are amazing walks alongside the river Thames where you can go jogging or just walk.

London also offers many amazing parks which are open to everybody and are often free of charge. A very beautiful example is the Royal Botanic Gardens Kew (although you need to pay an entry fee but you get a student discount if you show your ISIC card).

NOT TO DO TIPS

Do not get an apartment full of people who all speak language you do not understand, the best is to live either with English people or people of different nationalities who speak English.

If you are in a hurry, do not take the bus, it takes forever. On the other hand, it is really nice when you want to see the city and you have the time.