

Welcome to the first Newsletter from the Irish EURES Network. EURES is a network of the Employment Services in the 31 Member States of the European Union (EU) and the European Economic Area (EEA). The main purpose of EURES is to facilitate mobile workers from any part of Europe (EU/EEA) to find a job in another Member State. Consequently the principle activities of EURES are:

- Exchange of labour market information between Member States*
- Sharing vacancies between Member States. EURES makes close to a million job vacancies in the EU/EEA available to all European citizens*
- Developing Living & Working information on every region in Europe to assist mobile workers in their choice of destination.*

We plan to issue 3 Newsletters per year which will be aimed at giving information and relevant developments in EURES Ireland & Europe. We also plan to feature a European Member State in each issue and for this Newsletter we have selected Norway. EURES Ireland Newsletter can be also downloaded from www.fas.ie

We will warmly welcome any suggestions or inputs you may have with regards to this Newsletter and any future Newsletters.

Kevin Quinn, EURES Manager Ireland

EURES = Your search for a job in Europe

EURES is the European job mobility portal which gives access to all Public Employment Service vacancies throughout EU/ EEA. EURES has a network of highly trained EURES Advisers based in the Public Employment Offices in every city and town in EU/EEA. Its role is to **help jobseekers to find work in 31 European Countries and help employers to recruit workers from Europe.**

EURES - European Employment Services - created in 1994 is coordinated by the European Commission. Partners in the network include Public Employment Services, Trade Unions and Employers' Organisations.

EURES has a human network of more than 800 EURES Advisers that are in daily contact with jobseekers and employers across Europe.

EURES for Jobseekers:

EURES is a perfect source of information and advice for everyone thinking about moving to another European country.

EURES portal: www.eures.europa.eu gives access to:

- Hundreds of thousands of job vacancies in Europe
- CV search facility
- Information about Living and Working in another European country
- Information on labour markets shortages in the European countries (where jobs are available)
- Expert advice and individual help in the search for employment in Europe.

EURES for Employers:

EURES provides a free recruitment service for all employers interested in recruiting from Europe.

A Network of EURES Advisers can assist Irish and European employers by offering:

- Expert advice on recruiting in Europe
- Expert advice on how to recruit specialised, or hard-to-fill vacancies
- Specially tailored European recruitment projects
- To advertise the vacancies in any or all EU/EEA countries
- Trade and branch specific job exchanges
- Access to a database of European jobseekers (CV search facility).

The EURES job mobility portal – connecting European labour markets

www.eures.europa.eu

EURES Ireland International Employment Services



FÁS International Employment Services have the dual responsibility: **promoting available worthwhile work opportunities in the EU/EEA** to Irish or Non-Irish workers and also to attract workers from

abroad to satisfy the labour market shortages where they exist. Specially trained EURES Advisers - of which FÁS has 15, **give advice and counselling on job search in Europe (EU/EEA) and provide an international recruitment service** to Irish and European employers. They also have access to detailed Living & Working information in every European region, which they use to advise and counsel potential mobile workers.

Wherever the jobseeker goes, preparation is the key to success. **EURES Ireland is responsible for preparing mobile workers interested in coming to Ireland or workers from Ireland who wish to take up employment opportunities in other Member States of the EU/EEA.** A number of initiatives were introduced to help mobile workers and prepare them before they move. The **'Know Before You Go' campaign, aimed at preparing European job seekers, interested in working in Ireland,** before they leave home, gives practical information and advice about living and working in Ireland e.g. where to find accommodation, how to find a job, what to do in case of emergency and many other issues relevant to making a successful move. It consists of a suite of DVDs, posters and information brochures in 17 languages; this information is also available on www.fas.ie

For those considering moving from Ireland or returning home EURES Ireland provides **information and advice on the preparations required and how to search for employment in Europe.** An individual can obtain advice by contacting one of the Irish EURES Advisers. The nearest EURES Adviser can be found on the FÁS website. Additionally you can access relevant information on www.fas.ie (see Jobseeker Section).

A number of International Jobs and Information Events are held every year in various regions of Ireland to provide **information, advice and job opportunities to those interested in the European labour market.** EURES Advisers from Europe, European and Irish Employers are invited to participate and bring European opportunities to Irish people and Irish based workers.

EURES Ireland also takes an active role in the **support and integration of immigrant workers** and helps create relevant networks to address any labour market related issues facing Non-Irish workers in Ireland (e.g. through the DIALOG platform (www.fas.ie/dialog.htm), FÁS Language Line, EURES Open Days for migrant workers).

For more information contact:

FÁS Training and Employment Authority
International Employment Services
27-33 Upper Baggot Street, Dublin 4
e-mail: ures@fas.ie

Tel. Office: 01 607 0700

Or visit: www.fas.ie or www.eures.europa.eu



Looking for a job in Norway



Norway, known for its beautiful fjords and contemporary lifestyle, may be a dream place to live for many Europeans. With an unemployment rate of 2.7%, widely spoken English and many job opportunities it can be an attractive place for job hunting and staying.

Like Ireland, Norway has a small and open economy and its development is dependent on international economic trends. However, despite the international recession Norway has performed extremely well.

According to NAV (Employment Service in Norway) there is a number of sectors where jobs are and will be available; these include: Public Sector (schools, kindergartens), Health and Nursing Sector, and the Hospitality Industry. Norway also needs engineers, IT specialists and seasonal workers. There are fewer jobs in the Building and Construction Sector available. The majority of Norwegian employers require that you speak the Norwegian language but in many cases English and a willingness to learn Norwegian would be accepted.

The average wage in Norway is among the highest in Europe. According to the statistics the average monthly salary in 2009 was NOK 35,200 (about €4300) before taxes. The salaries for Engineers will range from NOK 350,000 to 750,000 (€43,000 to €92,000) per year, before taxes.

EU/ EEA citizens need no longer apply for residence permits to work in Norway (special transitional rules apply for Romanian and Bulgarian citizens). You need, however, to contact the police to register the fact that you are living in Norway. You can also register on-line. The registration certificate is valid for an unlimited period and does not have to be renewed. Further information www.udi.no

When looking for a job in Norway you can register with private recruitment agencies or contact companies directly. To locate these, see Yellow Pages on the internet: www.gulesider.no

Many jobs are advertised in Norwegian. You can use however the free Google translation facility www.translate.google.com to get them translated.

Jobs in Norway:

www.eures.europa.eu

www.nav.no

www.finnjobb.no

For further information about job-seeking and living and working conditions in Norway, see www.eures.no/english

You can get professional advice on job search and Living and Working in Norway by contacting one of the Norwegian EURES Advisers (contact details can be found on www.eures.europa.eu)



Experiences of an Irish job-hunter in Norway

Eoin Robson, living and working in Norway since October 2008

Living in Norway:

Norway is a very peaceful and beautiful place and was voted the best place to live by the United Nations Annual Report in 2009. However, Ireland not being far behind, it would seem that such a difference would not be so notable, but going around town observing unlocked bicycles, no shutters on shop windows after-hours, together with their Social Welfare system, it seems no wonder Norway has got this wonderful distinction.

Job hunting & Working:

Job-hunting in Norway is just like job hunting in Ireland. Some knowledge of Norwegian is usually required. In the offshore and IT sectors, this requirement is relaxed but many positions are advertised in Norwegian. Specialised Recruiters include Manpower.no (many occupations including medical, engineering, scientific etc), Elanit.no for IT specialists. NAV Employment call centres will give you information about job vacancies over the phone; Tel. +47 800 33 166, or see www.nav.no/English

Proof of education is always asked for and an application without these would probably not be considered. Wearing a suit for an interview is not usually necessary in the same way as it would be for Ireland. On wearing a suit to one interview, I was advised that it was not required should I be accepted for the second round.

Workplaces tend to be informal and relaxed, the working week is 37.5 hours generally. Holidays are 25 days per year and in many industries you are expected to take 2-3 weeks off in the summer period. Lunch is 30 minutes, taken between 11:00 to 12:00.

What an Irish person should know about living in Norway:

- Norwegians speak very good English and you will have no difficulties with communicating in any part of Norway.
- It is expensive - anything that requires service from cafes to car servicing will cost you at least 50% more than in Ireland. Examples include:
 - €50 for a man's haircut
 - €3-4 for a cup of tea in a cafe
 - €13 for a bowl of soup in a supermarket cafe
 - €20-60 for a full meal in restaurant
 - €8 for 400ml glass of beer in a pub
 - Food from a supermarket however is the same as Ireland.

● Accommodation

House sharing is more popular with students rather than workers and an unfurnished apartment in Oslo, Bergen or Stavanger may set you back €1,000 a month or more. Outside of the main towns, better deals may be had. Also look around and do not assume that because the price is high, the place is good as this is not always the case.

● Social Life:

- Owing to the price of alcoholic drink, Norwegians do not 'hit the town' until midnight. It's more common to meet at a friend's place beforehand and start an evening there
- Dining - it's more common for people to invite their friends to their house for a meal, party or barbecue rather than eat out
- Norwegians dress down for work but often dress up to go out
- Norwegians seem to be very self-reliant and weekends/holidays often mean a trip to their mountain cabin (which may have no electricity) in order to go hiking, skiing, tobogganing, kayaking etc.

● Travelling:

Towns in Norway are far away from each other and if you're planning a road trip to go from one town to another, do not assume that there will be plenty of places to stop for a meal or snack on the way.

Some Norwegian useful phrases (with an attempt of a pronunciation guide):

Hallo (Halloo) - Hello

God Morgen (Goo Mawren) - Good Morning

Hyggelig å se deg (higgelee aw say day) - Nice to meet you

Hvordan går det (voordan gawr day) - How's it going?

Takk (Tack) - Thank you

Vær så snill (vaar saw sneel) - Please

Jeg heter ... (yay hyeter ...) - My name is ...

Lykke til! Good luck!