European Transformations Quarter Program

VISAS
and

Travel in Europe After Your Program

Students who are US citizens are NOT required to obtain a visa for the European Transformations Quarter program. In fact, you cannot obtain one – see below.

The semester students are required to obtain a visa. Do not be confused by this.

Many students want to take advantage of the opportunity to travel in Europe after the quarter program ends in June. This is the perfect opportunity for you to be able to do this, but there are some laws that you need to be aware of.

Most of the European Union nations are part of what is called the “Schengen Area.” (Google “Schengen Countries” to get a full list.) U.S. citizens are allowed to travel in the Schengen Area for up to 90 days as tourists, without a visa. After 90 days, you are required to leave the Schengen Area. **You will not be able to obtain any kind of visa that would allow you to stay longer.** We have thoroughly researched this. Unfortunately, this is the law, and there is nothing that we can do about it.

Your program lasts 77 days. Depending on exactly when you enter Europe, you will have approximately 13 days after your program to travel freely throughout the Schengen Area. Then you need to leave the area. (If you arrive prior to your program start date, March 29, you will have less time for travel at the end of your program.) We must warn you against staying past the 90-day period. You may or may not get caught, but if you do, the consequences are high; possibly including, but not limited to, deportation, fines, and a ban from returning to the Schengen area for several years.

Ireland and the United Kingdom are not part of the Schengen Area. These are good options for continuing your travels after the initial 90-day period. You may find that there are other non-Schengen areas to which you would like to travel.

We wish you the best of luck with this and hope that you will be able to extend your stay as long as possible.

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