

DUBLIN CITY VISITOR GUIDE

Bringing this diverse city to life for
visitors to enjoy its hidden gems

2025 | 2026



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Welcome to our Dublin Visitor Guide

Keep our comprehensive guide for the duration of your stay in Dublin City, we have a deep passion for Ireland and have crafted this guide to share the hidden gems and unforgettable experiences to be had in the city. Then, if you are moving around Ireland, please pick up or download our other guides for Cork County & City, West Cork, Co Kerry and Co Clare.

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SILVER WORKS

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4 South Great Georges Street, Dublin 2

Temple Bar

When you think of Dublin City, you would probably have heard of Temple Bar, which is an area near the river, with many independent shops, bars, restaurants and services. It is colourful with street art adorning building fronts and is always a bustling part of the city.

Great entertainment, and something I'd love to hear is a new event, Battle of the Buskers at Buskers Bar, Temple Bar. This involves seven rising acts every Wednesday from mid-October to the end of November, competing for a cash prize. How amazing to have somewhere they can go and be heard, some of the best musicians haven't been 'found' yet, who knows how far they could go. See more on our "Dublin Nights – Sorted" pages.



There are a great many traditional pubs in the area as well as entertainment venues, late night bars, and cultural quarter and is a very popular tourist destination, with Temple Bar, the Button Factory, Porterhouse, The Old Storehouse Bar and Restaurant and The Quays.



MEAL HAPPY HOUR

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Pints for €6

Shots 3x €15

Wine Bottle €25

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Thunder Beer Tower €36



LIVE MUSIC

Live Music
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tradition!

SUNDAY FUNDAY

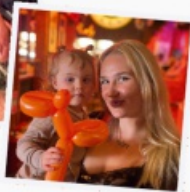
2pm - 5pm

Kids Activities

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Face Painting

Ballons & More!



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Scan me!

In the 17th century, there was a marshy area leading from the river but this was progressively reclaimed, allowing dwellings to be built on it and in the 19th century, Wellington Quay was built where the gardens led down to the river shore.

The area may have taken its name from Sir William Temple, who built a house and gardens here in the 1600s, or from Temple Bar street in London.

Between the 1970s and 1990s, the area was regenerated, as it had become rundown and a planned new bus station and underground carpark plans were quashed by local residents and traders, who had taken the low-rent properties, which had attracted galleries, artists, theatres, cafés and small shops to the area. In 1991, a not-for-profit company was set up by the government to oversee the regeneration of this cultural quarter.



You will also see cultural institutions, such as the National Photographic Archive, the Irish Photography Centre, the Irish Film Archive and the Ark Children's Cultural Centre, the Gaiety School of Acting, New Theatre and the Irish Stock Exchange to name but a few.

Explore over 70 illusions and interactive exhibits designed to challenge your perception, including a gravity-defying room, infinity mirrors, and a vortex tunnel. Mind bending puzzles and where the impossible comes to life at World of Illusion, Dame Street – perfect for a day of entertainment come rain or shine.



SCAN ME

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2 Central Plaza, Dame Street, Dublin 2 www.worldofillusion.ie

World of Illusions is one of those places where both kids and grown-ups end up wide-eyed and laughing. It's full of interactive exhibits that play tricks on your eyes and brain - rooms that tilt, mirrors that stretch you out, and puzzles that get everyone involved. You can take your time, snap loads of fun photos, and enjoy watching the kids try to figure out how it all works. It's a great way to break up a day in the city and do something a bit different together.

There are two squares, Meetinghouse Square is used for outdoor film screenings in summer and Temple Bar Food Market on Saturdays. Temple Bar Square is home to a Book Market at weekends. Cow's Lane Market on Saturdays sells fashion and design.

The National Museum of Ireland on Kildare Street, is Ireland's premier cultural institution and home to the greatest collections. Uncover gold treasure, ancient history and Vikings with their Archaeology Collection, in the heart of Dublin city. They have fascinating tours all through the year, please check out their website for details



www.museum.ie/en-ie/museums/archaeology/events

At The National Museum's Collins Barracks, at any one time approximately 1,300 objects will be on public display spanning entomology, geology, mammals, birds, amphibians and reptiles, and a wide variety of marine life. The National Museum of Ireland has the world's largest collection of Blaschka glass models of marine life. These beautiful, delicate glass models were created in the 19th century by world renowned glass artisan father and son team, Leopold and Rudolf Blaschka, using intricate techniques.



**The Knowth Macehead,
c. 3300-2800 BC**



A selection of these treasures, some of which have not been on display for generations, are also on display now at the Dead Zoo Lab at Collins Barracks.



Admission is free, and opening hours are
Tuesday to Saturday,
 10am to 5pm;
Sunday and Monday
 1pm - 5pm;
Thursdays from 4th July
to 12th September,
 10am- 8pm and
 closed Christmas Day,
 St. Stephen's Day and
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Evenings Sorted!

The Gaiety Theatre has given the people of Dublin opera, musicals, drama, revues, comedy, concerts, dance, festivals and pantomime since 1871, built in just 25 weeks and designed by theatre architect C. J. Phipps.

Buzzing with exciting new performances, which change through the year, check out their website for What's On now!

www.gaietytheatre.ie



The Gate Theatre was founded in 1928 and aimed to introduce European and American theatre to Dublin audiences with Irish and modern classics.



The vividly memorable world premiere of *Poor*, by Katriona O'Sullivan opens from March 2026 by The Gate Theatre and Belgrade Theatre Coventry.

See more at:

gatetheatre.ie



Smock Alley Theatre

Located in the oldest part of Dublin, Smock Alley Theatre has entertained locals and visitors alike as far back as 1662.

Reopened in 2012, the former Theatre Royal offers a busy and varied programme of shows year-round, across theatre, music, comedy, dance and much more.



Admire its unique architecture, showing evidence of the building's rich history and various uses through the years, while enjoying the best of the vibrant cultural scene on offer in Dublin.

Please visit their website:

smockalley.com

to see what is on!



Photo credit: Smock Alley Theatre

An exciting happening this year, is the **Battle of the Buskers**,
Live in Buskers Bar, Temple Bar - Starting This October!

Dublin's famous street performers are stepping off the pavements and onto the stage at **Buskers Bar, Temple Bar**, for a 7-week live music showdown.

Every Wednesday from **Oct 15 – Nov 26 (7–11pm)**, seven rising acts compete with live audience voting, hosted by comedian **Eric Lalor** and sponsored by Hop House & Total Entertainment. Expect electric performances, comedy breaks, and a DJ between sets. Winners advance through heats, with a **€5,000 cash prize** and studio time up for grabs.

The Grand Final crowns the 2025 Champion in a confetti-filled finale.

Experience raw talent, big energy, and unforgettable Dublin nights!



The Liberties

So called, from land ownership back in the 12th century, when the lands were connected to the city but still preserving their own jurisdiction, Liberties were a feature of many walled cities and there were also Liberties in Cork and London. The Liberty of St Sepulchre was attached to the palace, home to the Archbishops and which is now a police station! The Liberties range from St Patrick's Cathedral, to St James hospital to the west and Warrenmount to the south.



In the 17th century, parts of The Liberties became quite wealthy when weaving crafts enjoyed a healthy export trade and development started when weavers moved into the area, requiring housing – the Huguenots, who were

immigrants from France, designed the Dutch Billies, their own style of houses, with gable ends which faced the street. Unfortunately, in 1699, the English government passed the 'Wool Act' which prevented export to any country, as they had felt threatened, and it put a stop to the industry of The Liberties and over the centuries following, the area saw wool and silk production enterprises thwarted, and the people of the tenements became poverty-stricken. These slums were wiped out in the twentieth century.

Quick Facts

- A fire broke out in 1875 in a malt house, which sent whiskey flowing out into the streets, which in turn caused 13 casualties from alcohol poisoning! The first place to catch fire that day was a pigsty, and the freed screeching pigs raised the fire warning which saved lives!
- Thomas and James Streets were marched by pilgrims and once linked all the way to the Camino de Santiago!
- During conservation works carried out in 2017, it was discovered that a house on Thomas Street dated back to the 17th century, and is reputed to be the oldest house in Dublin, with beams carbon-dating to the 15th century!
- Johns Lane Church has the highest steeple in Dublin, at over 67metres high.

Walking along the roads down one street from and parallel to the River Liffey from the west, there are some interesting sights along the way. First you'll see the Pearse Lyons Whiskey Distillery, a glass fronted modern building, sited next to a wonderful church building, which houses displays of whiskeys and clothing beside huge copper and stainless stills. Next to this is their Gin School, offering a gin experience and is family-owned. Opposite these are a couple of cafés, one opening in the morning, one from noon. A little further on is St James Church, a magnificent building with beautiful stained glass, and the starting point of the Camino de Santiago, which backs onto the huge area of the Guinness Storehouse Brewery. Stop for refreshment at one of the two pubs alongside, then stop for Italian cuisine or a takeaway style, amongst yet more bars.

Vicar Street has a wealth of live entertainment in a small venue, with concerts, comedy and drama. Along from this is the fabulous Johns Lane church, towering above you between the lovely NCAD Gallery (which has too much to see in a day!) and a blocky pink building.

Running from where Guinness is brewed at Saint James Gate Brewery to Cornmarket, Thomas Street has restaurants, cafés and bars, mainly towards Cornmarket, where you will find Madame Pho on the corner.

Quick Facts

- The National College of Art and Design, was formally a fire station, built in 1909, beautiful with its large doors.
- Prominent physician Dominic Corrigan, known for his observations on heart disease was born on Thomas Street.
- Thomas Street is one of only four streets where street trading is permitted in Dublin.



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Opposite, you can see the 19th century arch to the 'City Saw Mills' which saw a big clean in 2016 and once the entry to Kelly's Timber yard and sawmill. It was built on the site of a former graveyard and may have a medieval influence. Turning slightly right, another church, St Audoen's, stands back from the street and is open for mass 7-8pm on weekdays.



Join the spooky
Ghost Bus Tour booked
 through thegravedigger.ie
 which travels along these
 streets and includes
 Glasnevin Cemetery!

The cultural centres of the National College of Art and Design and private art galleries can be visited in The Liberties. Also entertainment venues for music, concerts and theatres. There are whiskey distilleries in the area, Pearse Lyons and Roe & Co and of course the Guinness Storehouse and brewery.

Among these are the bars and nightclubs, especially in Thomas Street and The Thomas House, which accommodates 1,500, particularly for anyone with an eclectic taste in reggae, punk and rock music.

The Liberties hold one of Ireland's oldest festivals every summer since 1970, with tours (booking required), live music and community events, hosted by The Liberties Community Project. Scan here for all you need to know for the summer and book those tours in advance!



The Liberties Festival, first run in the early 1970s, includes sporting and community events as well as a multi-cultural and arts programme encompassing visual art, film, dance, comedy, literature and music.

Many of the events held during the festival are free. The festival is a South Inner City Community Development Association (SICCCA) project and is supported by Dublin City Council, the local community, and several private sponsors including Diageo.

Quick Facts

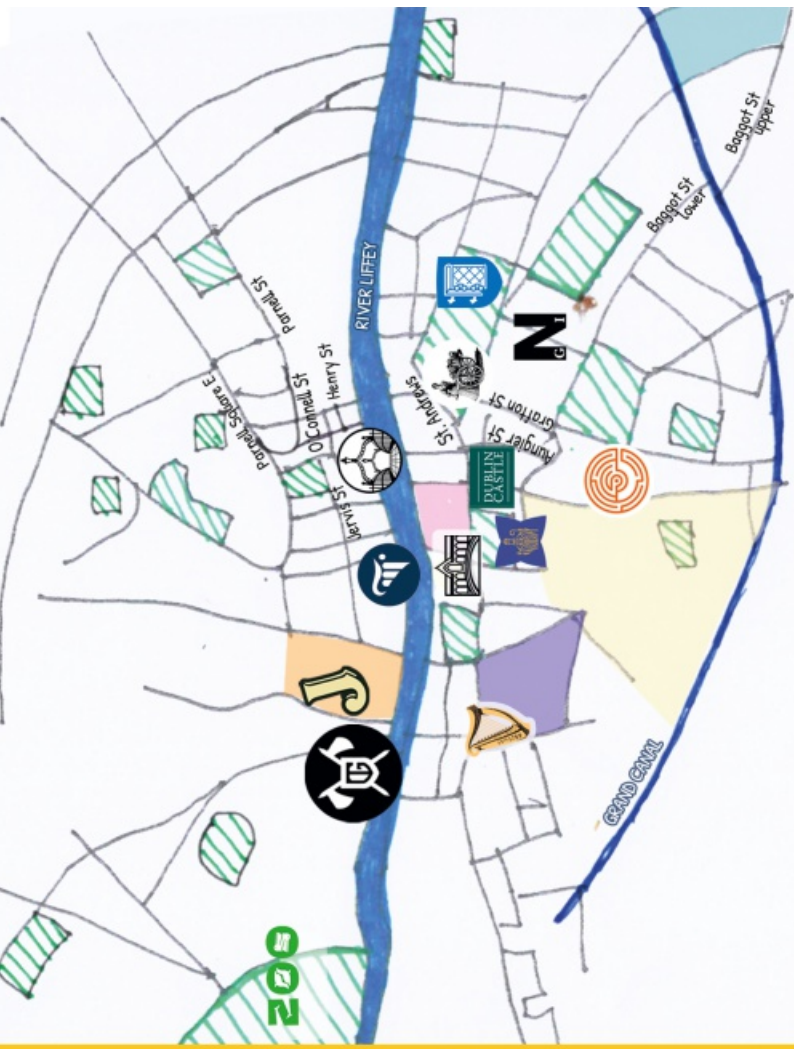
- James Joyce, Oscar Wilde and Samuel Beckett were all born in Ireland.
- There are around 30,000 castles and ruins in Ireland.
- More people of Irish descent live outside Ireland than there are actually living on the island.

REFERENCES:

-  1) St. Patrick's Cathedral
-  2) Four Courts
-  3) Ha'penny Bridge
-  4) Book of Kells, Trinity College
-  5) Molly Malone statue
-  6) Guinness Storehouse
-  7) Dublin Zoo
-  8) Dublinia
-  9) Dublin castle
-  10) National Gallery of Ireland

AREAS:

-  a) Ballsbridge
-  b) Smithfield
-  c) The Liberties
-  d) Portobello
-  e) Temple Bar



Wake up to Breakfasts in the city

Up early, ready to explore the city and ready for breakfast? An all day breakfast?...now we're talking!

Pancakes, rashers and cappuccino? Try The Bakehouse on Bachelors Walk, just a minute away from the Ha'penny Bridge. Open from 7.30am, Jay Kays Café on the Millenium Walkway serves a huge Irish breakfast.

Fancy a crêpe with strawberries & cream?



Lemon Crêpe and Coffee on William street opens from 8am to satisfy that craving. Full Irish or pastries are both delicious at Panem Café on Ormond Quay Lower.

Of course, delicious breakfasts are served at BoBo's Burgers, from free-range egg omelettes to a full Irish, they are open from 9am at weekends and 10am weekdays.



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46/49 Dame Street, Temple Bar, Dublin 2

Step inside the heart of Dublin and experience the story of Ireland's most iconic beer at the Guinness Storehouse. Housed in the historic St. James's Gate Brewery, this world-famous attraction takes you on an unforgettable journey through over 265 years of brewing history.



Explore seven floors of interactive exhibits that bring the craft of Guinness to life — from the ingredients and brewing process to the brand's legendary advertising and global legacy.

Learn how to pour your own pint in the Guinness Academy, or enjoy exclusive tasting experiences that celebrate the rich flavours and heritage of Guinness.



Your visit culminates at the Gravity Bar, where you can savour a perfectly poured pint while taking in spectacular 360° views of Dublin's skyline — a must-see moment on any trip to Ireland's capital.

Whether you're discovering Guinness for the first time or returning to a favourite Dublin landmark, the Guinness Storehouse offers a warm Irish welcome and an experience like no other.



Dublin's Architecture

Four Courts has quite a history, it used to stand on the opposite bank of the Liffey in the late 1770s, but in order to access it, any visitors had to go through a warren of alleyways and narrow lanes, one called "Hell", named after an underground cellar, which had a large wooden statue of the devil on the alley's archway! By now, the building was in ruins (I think this was the third build, it kept swapping sides of the river) and a rebuild in its present form started in 1776.



Four Courts

It is still used as a court of Appeal, Supreme Court, Dublin Circuit Court and primarily for civil matters in the High Court today. After security checks, the public may observe cases in the courts.

The National Gallery is open 7 days a week 09.15 – 17.30 (11.00 opening on Sundays and Mondays) and late night Thursdays, and the permanent exhibition is free to view with no booking required. Wheelchairs are available to hire, and it has a shop and café with similar opening hours, and activities for children.



The National Gallery

Visit the Atrium Creative Space during your visit and create your own artwork!

Check out their website for temporary exhibitions, which may have a fee to visit.

www.nationalgallery.ie

Drimnagh Castle is a superbly restored Norman building, in the heart of South Dublin, with guided tours around the castle and wonderful 17th century gardens. The castle is even available for hire for a film location, photo shoots or school projects.



Drimnagh Castle

Open on weekdays only, tours must be pre-booked and cost €9 (euro cash only, no cards) for an adult, less for children, the elderly and students. Book by calling +353 (0)1 450 2530

Visit **Trinity College Dublin**, home to the Book of Kells Experience, and explore the 47-acre city centre campus. Watch this lovely video produced by Trinity College

Credit: By Ann Marie Kennon



Trinity College



Trinity College

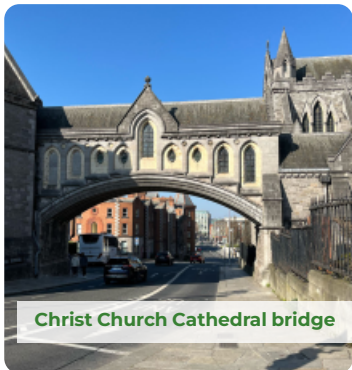
St Stephen's Green Shopping Centre has amazing architecture inside, just look up as you enter! But be quick, rumours say it may be turned into large stores and offices soon!



St Stephen's Green Shopping Centre

Buildings of Faith

Christ Church Cathedral built almost 1,000 years ago, welcomes pilgrims to come on a journey of prayer and reflection. It has many activities for you to plan and book, self-guided tours, Yoga in the Nave, Bell-Ringing demos, many tours, including Crypt Walking tours and Historic tours. The interesting sounding Monks tour and Norman Foundation tour. Check out their website for more info



Christ Church Cathedral bridge

www.christchurchcathedral.ie

St Patrick's Cathedral, over 800 years old, is the largest in Dublin.

Fun facts: • Jonathon Swift, author of Gulliver's Travels is buried here

- Their school choir have sung services 12 times a week since 1482
- St Patrick baptised on this ground 1500 years ago

Open daily, it costs around €11 per adult for a self-guided tour. Book here

www.stpatrickscathedral.ie/visit/



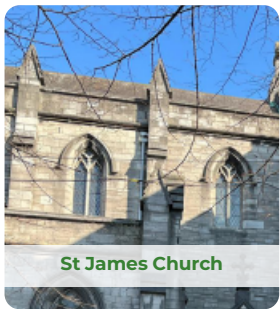
St Patrick's Cathedral

St Paul's Church, built almost 200 years ago on the north side of the Liffey river, is well maintained inside and out. A statue of St Paul stands above the portico, with Saints Peter and Patrick either side. The church is now used by a Catholic youth group.



St Pauls Church

The building of **St James' Church** started in 1842, and Daniel O'Connell, the Liberator laid the first blessed stone on April 4th 1844, and donated £25 towards its erection. Work halted as the famine and later cholera struck the city, so was not completed until 1852. Mass is held Monday to Wednesday and Sundays at 10am.



St James Church

Ballsbridge

Originally marshland and mud flats, Ballsbridge, a rural area back then and so named after the well-known, Ball family (Ball's Bridge is still on the bridge sign), who were merchants in the 16th and 17th centuries, consisted of a small village with several roads around the bridge of the River Dodder. The current bridge was built in 1791 and was extensively modernised and widened by about 7 metres in 1900.

The Earl of Pembroke who owned most of this area, developed the lands into suburban residential housing in the late 1800s. Two hotels now stand on the site of land originally leased to Trinity College by the Earl until 1960, who had created a botanical garden there. Trinity College since opened a new garden in Dartry.

Herbert Park was 40 acres of land given to the city, by Lord Pembroke – his surname was Herbert. Nowadays, you can book tennis in advance at one of the courts here, phone 01 667 6398. There is a food market at the park, open on Sundays 11am – 4pm. This park is lovely, with many mature trees and a lake.

Quick Facts

- The events of James Joyces' novel Ulysses took place on 16th June 1904, now called Bloomsday after Leopold Bloom, a character in the novel and this date is celebrated annually by Dubliners and elsewhere.
- Patrick Kavanagh, poet and Brendan Behan, writer, both lived in Ballsbridge and busts of these two men can be seen at Searson's and The Wellington along Pembroke Road
- The Irish version of Monopoly features Shrewsbury Road and Ailesbury Road in Ballsbridge, two of the most affluent properties in Dublin.
- The British, American, Italian, Spanish, Dutch and Israeli embassies are all located in the Ballsbridge.
- Aviva Stadium, also known as Dublin Arena is a sports stadium with a seated capacity for over fifty one thousand, has as chief tenants, the Republic of Ireland football team and the Irish Rugby Union team

Avoco is a restaurant and food market in the area, on Shelbourne Road, with a gym nearby and 'ONE Ballsbridge' restaurant just down the road. Further towards the arena, are a couple of large hotels, the train station and a few cafés and bars.

Schoolhouse

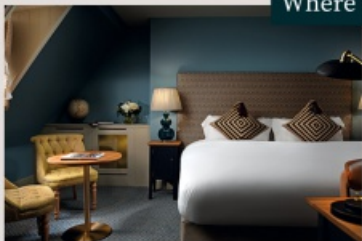
HOTEL & GASTROBAR

Your private pocket of *calm*,
tucked away in *leafy* Ballsbridge.

Nestled along the picturesque Grand Canal in Ballsbridge, one of Dublin's most vibrant and upscale neighbourhoods, the hotel provides a serene escape within walking distance from the lively city centre. Schoolhouse boasts a captivating history dating back to its origins in the 19th century. Originally built in 1859, it served as a school for the nearby St. Stephen's Church. With its distinctive architecture and red-brick façade, the structure exudes an air of timeless elegance.



Where *modern comfort* meets *eclectic charm* in a most unusual setting.



The Schoolhouse Hotel offers 31 deluxe en-suite rooms, recently refurbished with modern, eclectic and tastefully designed interiors. Each room is meticulously furnished to provide the utmost comfort and relaxation.

The *perfect spot* to
wine, dine & unwind.

Schoolhouse Gastrobar counts with cosy indoor dining spaces, serves seasonally inspired eats to locals and visitors alike. Set amidst a leafy green outdoor garden area, the Gastrobar is perfect for informal gatherings, private celebrations, special corporate and social events.



FIND OUT MORE





St Bartholomew's Church

Close to the US Embassy, and Herbert Park, is St Bartholomew's Church, designed by Thomas Henry Wyatt, built in the Gothic revival style with sandstone facings and Dublin granite.

The stairway to the clock tower is in the shape of an Irish round tower, the influence of the Celtic Romantic period. It is also known for its fine music and the choir of boys and men is the only remaining

all-male parish church choir in the Church of Ireland. Formed in 2003, the girls choir also plays a prominent role.

Grafton Street

Grafton Street took its name from the grandson of King Charles II, the 2nd Duke of Grafton. One of the main shopping streets in Dublin, Grafton Street was developed from a small country lane, which linked St Stephens Green to College Green in the early 18th century and the curves of the street matched the curves of the, now culverted, River Steyne. It became very run-down through the 19th century but by the next century, it became a popular place for buskers, up-market shopping and Bewley's coffee house, still very much present here after almost 100 years – though in November 2017, Bewley's Grafton Street was reopened after the "1000 day" multimillion-euro refurbishment, which had seen it closed for nearly three years!

Most of Grafton Street became pedestrianised in 1982, as the street was becoming congested with buses and cars, causing serious pollution.

Molly Mallone's statue rested in Grafton Street until it was moved as the Luas Tram would pass along where it stood. The bronze, life sized statue of Phil Lynott, leader of Thin Lizzy was unveiled here in 2005, he's been repaired from truck damage but is a well known tourist attraction.

Grafton Street is really well known for Buskers since the 1980s, most days their music will accompany you as you walk down the street, all genres of artists, musicians, mime artists, performers, who pay up to €90 per year if they use amplification, for an hour a day in a specific place and they cannot return within a 100 metre distance of the same place the next day – which does make it a fair system when some places will be more lucrative than others. Many famous people have played here, the frontman of Coldplay

in August 2024 along with others for a promo video of “We Pray”

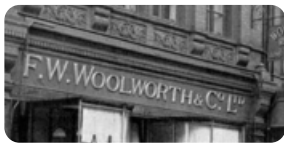
On Christmas Eve, the “Big Busk” raises money for homeless charities. Bono has performed for this. Other Buskers can be seen around Temple Bar, where a Battle of the Buskers took place in October this year.



There are several mentions of Grafton Street in poems, novels and songs: James Joyce’s “Dubliners”; “On Raglan Road” a poem by Patrick Kavanagh; “On Grafton Street” a song by Nanci Griffith; Dido’s “Safe Trip Home” – a tribute to her late father. It is on the board game of the Irish version of Monopoly. More recently, Ed Sheeran mentioned Grafton Street in his song “Galway Girl”

Grafton Street is filled with numerous cafés, restaurants, clothing shops, shoe stores, Irish gift shops, and well-known branded stores and super stores, from Disney to United Colours of Benetton, Alo Yoga clothing to the LEGO store.

You just need to grab your wallet/phone, build up the muscles in your shopping arms and go and explore!



Quick Facts

- In the 1750s and 60s, first-floor apartments on the street were advertised to include a closet, dining room and chamber. Surely fairly up-market in those days!
- The family of novelist Charles Robert Maturin, a writer of Gothic plays and books lived on the street.
- Weirs the jewellers opened on Grafton Street in 1869
- Hugh Brown opened its doors in 1848 – and subsequently, with James Thomas the next year expanded next door, then they expanded on the other side. It was bought by Selfridge Provincial Stores in 1919. Brown Thomas reputedly sold its original store to Marks & Spencer for £28 million and took a lease for the M&S store at 28/29 Grafton Street.
- Woolworth’s opened in Grafton Street in 1914, then enlarged the store in 1939 – we all miss Woolworth’s! Those of my age will all have childhood memories of ‘pick ‘n mix’ sweets and school socks! Waiting for the next ‘Top of the Pops’ vinyl LP that featured unknown bands doing covers of those in the charts and purchased for 37p – moving up to 75p in the late 70s!

Sipping the Perfect Amber

Dublin whiskeys are a diverse category encompassing various Irish whiskey styles. Many are characterized by triple distillation and aged in sherry casks, featuring traditional notes of vanilla, caramel, and fruit, while some modern expressions, like Roe & Co Distillery, add complexity with notes of nuts, chocolate, and spice. From the smooth, fruity, and honeyed notes of blends like Glasnevin Whiskey to the rich, sherry-influenced flavours of single malts.



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Founder of Glasnevin Irish Whiskey, Mihai is passionate about Irish whiskey and fell in love with the warm Irish welcome of the city, and then with the whiskeys produced. Named one of the most picturesque neighbourhoods in Dublin 9, Glasnevin Irish Whiskey stands on a commitment to quality and history, spreading both with every sip. On Baggot Street Upper, you must visit Searson's, home to over 150 Whiskeys, and really great food.



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WHISKEY IRISH
MUSEUM

If you're in Dublin and even a little curious about Irish whiskey, the **Irish Whiskey Museum** is well worth a visit. It's not run by any one brand, so you get the full story - warts and all - about how Irish whiskey rose, fell, and came roaring back.

The guided tours are relaxed, full of good stories, and end with a tasting (or a soft drink if whiskey's not your thing). It's a great way to spend an hour in the city centre, especially if you're looking to learn something new without it feeling like a history lesson.



Visit us at Jameson Distillery Bow St., Dublin for tours, tastings, cocktails and more!

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Founded by John Jameson in 1780, today the former factory stands as a monument to Irish Whiskey.

St. Andrews Street

Named after its church, built in 1670. In the same area, a Church of St Andrew was built in 1172, which may have been preceded by a Viking temple. The current Church of St Andrew was built in 1862.

From the southern end of the street, leading on from William Street south, there are a few eateries and a bar – Lisboa Pastelaria is the one which stands out for me, I just love a pastel de nata!



There are a couple of beauty parlours and several more eateries, including a Thai restaurant Red Torch Ginger, open from 12.30 to 9.30pm, and Trocadero which serves European food, their food looks really mouthwatering!



Then a couple of luggage storage facilities at Radical Storage or Bounce, book online. If you're into hiking and the outdoors, Cotswold Outdoor has great knowledge of all their products and can give

you recommendations for what you need from backpacks to boots, climbing to camping.

Salamanca

Tapas Bar & Restaurant

Salamanca chefs work closely with suppliers to produce the freshest tastes of the Mediterranean, serving Spanish Tapas and Wines in a warm and welcoming environment in a building which dates back to the late 1800s.



1 St. Andrew's Street, Dublin 2 | Phone: 01 677 4799



Salamanca's Tapas Bar and Restaurant is next to the church, with a fabulous selection of Tapas and Spanish wines, their selection of Tapas look so tasty, and churros – go on, you'll have been walking round shops and museums all day, we all deserve a churro!



Heading towards the north end of the street, you will pass An Post, which is housed in an impressive four storey art deco style building, with a granite façade. This An Post is one of Dublin's busiest, with a Foreign Exchange, opposite St Andrew's Church. The Molly Malone statue is at the north end of the street, where Experience Dublin and Senza Meta Tours are situated.

Harry Street

A short street, starting from the impressive red brick building of the Corkscrew Wine & Spirit Merchants, you pass a café bar with covered outdoor seating and find the iconic statue of Phil Lynott just before Boodles jewellery store.



Credit: Painting by Chris McMorrow

Anne's Street

Home to John Brereton Jewellers, which has five star reviews for their excellent customer service and help with choosing from their unique pieces of diamond jewellery.

The street has pharmacies, several cafés one of which is Dolce Sicily, serving showstopping delights from poached cod with orange and fennel salad to pistachio tiramisu, delicious!



Sheridan's Cheesemongers, which is a rustic shop selling a huge array of cheeses, and accompaniments, who teamed up with the Centre of Food Culture and Samhain Festival to create a mouth-watering festival every November.

The imposing St Ann's Church faces you, known for its concerts, recitals and stained glass windows.



Photo: By Patrick Comerford

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Drury Street

With origins tracing back to the early 1600s, Drury Street was originally outside the city walls and was named Little Boater Lane in the 17th and 18th centuries. Primarily trading in butchers and abattoirs two hundred years ago, these were closed and demolished in the late 1800s to make way for the construction of George's Street Arcade.

Powers Distillery established a bottling hall and produced the world's first miniature spirit bottle named "Baby Powers". Jameson's and Roe's also used the street in the 19th century.

By the 20th century, Drury Street became known for its garment industry, with clothing factories – one now the venue of Drury Buildings, with its brick and street art frontage, serving Mediterranean food and with a cocktail bar. Another named "The Rag Trader" as a nod to the street's former days. Helen McAlinden designs fabulous quality garments, a very stylish ladies boutique, offering sensational garments from Donegal Tweed, cashmere and Irish linen. With 5* ratings for the tailoring, quality and helpful advice, it is well worth a visit.

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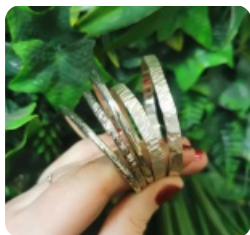
From the necessity for outside dining in the pandemic year, Drury Street had a trial run of pedestrianization, and in May 2021, sections of it were made a traffic-free zone after 11am, which has had mixed reviews, but does make it a more sociable street and it had overwhelming public support.

There are several cafés along Drury Street, serving Brazilian food, Pizza and Seafood. Also a few jewellers, or try your hand at actually designing your own jewellery at the exciting Silver Works.



Workshops
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Silver Works host an exciting selection of vibrant, engaging jewellery-making workshops for beginner and intermediate levels. You can learn how to design and hand-make rings, charms, pendants and bangles and work with gorgeous silver and metal clay and gemstones.

Take a look at one of the workshop videos:



St Stephen's Green

A public park and garden square re-opened to the public in 1880, it was originally a marshy common of about 60 acres, used for grazing but the Dublin Corporation raised revenue by enclosing 27 acres in the middle of it and land for 96 housing plots round it. By the end of the 18th century, the Georgian buildings were upmarket for the area and can still be seen today. Railings now surround the green instead of the original wall when it was redesigned by local householders in 1814.

Credit: Chris Mcmorrow



Queen Victoria suggested it be renamed Albert Green, with a statue of her late husband Prince Albert in the middle, but this idea was quickly quashed by Dublin Corporation! In 1880, it was formerly re-opened to the public by Lord Ardilaun who gifted it to the public.

Now operated by the OPW, it received a Green Flag Award in 2024 – this award is an international scheme which promotes the highest standard in parks and green areas.

The park is open daily from 7.30am on weekdays and Saturdays, 9.30am on Sundays, closing around sunset, from 5.30pm in the winter to 9pm in the summer. You cannot use a drone around the park.

There are good separate playparks for young and older children, with slides, swings and roundabouts.

There is also a bog garden and a sensory garden for the vision impaired with signs in Braille and aromatic plants which may be handled. It boasts over 3.5 kilometres of accessible pathways, with the waterfall and Pulham rockwork on the western side of the green and the ornamental lake, which provides a home for waterfowl. Over 750 trees are planted in the park, with heavy planting near the perimeter, to keep out traffic noise and pollution.

An audio guide to the park is available free here:



Sometimes a band plays in the park in the summer. There are several sculptures in the park, the James Joyce Memorial, one by Henry Moore and Sir A.E. Guinness of the Guinness family, later

known as Lord Ardilaun, feature too in commemoration for his part in gifting the park to the people and opening the park again in 1880, after relandscaping in just about the way it is laid out nowadays.

The Little Museum of Dublin, open daily from 9.30am to 4.30pm is on the north side of the green and shows the social side of Dublin's history. Book a guided tour at littlemuseum.ie

On the opposite side is MoLI, the Museum of Irish Literature, which has a small café, an outdoor area and special architecture to compliment the installations of exhibits.

The Irish Famine Exhibition, showing emigration to Australia, Canada and the US, with wonderful old photos and exhibits, is on the northwest corner, along with various coffee shops and eateries, to sit and enjoy the day.

The east side of the green houses colleges, finance agencies and the Australian embassy. On nearby St Stephen Street, is Mercer's Hospital, formerly a leper hospital.



Stephen's Green shopping centre

Photo: By nadja-golitschek

Stephen's Green Shopping Centre is wonderful, just look up as you enter! But be quick, rumours say it may be turned into large stores and offices soon!

Near to the shopping centre is The Donegal Shop, who sell beautiful Irish tweeds and woollens and have great reviews for the helpfulness of staff. This is where to buy the Irish woollen wear you've been looking for.



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Sculptures and Statues of Dublin

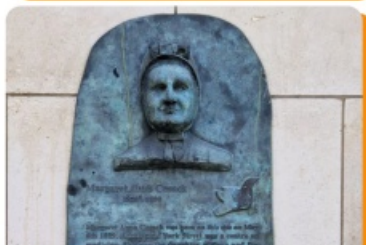
At almost every turn of a street and in parks and green areas, at unexpected corners and near classic and modern buildings, you will come across fabulous sculptures, old and new, of people and iconic representations. Here are just a few, there are plenty more to find and photograph.



**Sphere within a Sphere by
Arnaldo Pomodoro**



**Charles Stewart Parnell,
O'Connell St**



**Margaret Anna Cusack
The Nun of Kenmare**



**Liffey Lower St statues,
official meeting place**



**Kildare street club
monkeys playing billiards**



Eire by Jerome O'Connor



The Linesman



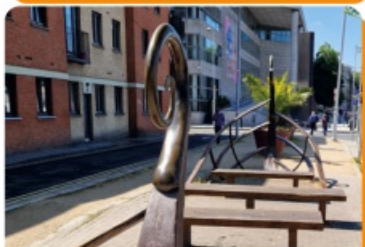
**The tree of gold,
Temple Bar**



**Constance,
the wife of Oscar Wilde**



**4th Baron Plunket and
Archbishop of Dublin**



**Viking Longboat
Temple Bar**



**Michael Collins,
Merrion Square**



**Suzanne Walking
by Julian Opie, O'Connell St**



**The Joker's Chair, a tribute to
Dermot Morgan. Father Ted Crilly,
Merrion Square**



Jim Larkin, O'Connell St



**George William Russell, Irish
writer, Merrion square**

If you send your photos of Dublin street art, buildings or sculptures to us, we will pick the very best and publish them with your name in our next guide. Please send them to:

votemart365@gmail.com

Aungier street

There are dozens of eateries and bars along Aungier Street, and an ice cream shop! There is also luggage storage here, [radicalstorage.ie](https://www.radicalstorage.ie)



Escape Dublin, which has brilliant reviews for Escape Rooms such as Contagion, Witchcraft and Wizardry, Baker Street – is great for children and adults alike! See below for contact details.



Escape Dublin

6 Whitefriars, Aungier Street, Dublin 2

Phone: 087 449 6702

Email: bookings@escape.game



Quick Facts

- Named after the family of Francis Aungier, 1st Baron Aungier of Longford, the area used to be waste ground near the Dublin Carmelite Friary but was granted to the Augier family after the dissolution of the monasteries in the 16th century.
- Aungier's name was French but Dubliners pronounce the street to rhyme with "manger"
- Thomas Moore, the poet, was born in Aungier Street in 1779
- Simon Donnelly, the Irish republican was born on this street in 1891
- "An Account of Some Strange Disturbances in Aungier Street" was a ghost story, written in 1851 by Sheridan Le Fanu, who later had an influence on vampire and horror fictions such as Bram Stoker's Dracula
- James Joyce also mentions Aungier Street in his works.
- A theatre was built in 1734 and merged with Smock Alley Theatre in 1743 on Aungier Street – the current theatre named Smock Alley is in Temple Bar, converted from a 19th century church.

Baggot Street Upper and Lower

In the 18th century, Baggot Street Lower was named Gallows Road – and as the Archbishop of Cashel, Dermot O’Hurley who was running the - then - illegal Catholic Church of Ireland was hanged here in 1584 (Though the Archbishop was beatified as one of the 24 officially recognized Irish Catholic martyrs by Pope John Paul II in 1992) and Darkey Kelly, an alleged serial killer and madam was hanged here in 1761, you can see why!

Split in two by the Grand Canal, Baggot Street is a long road, known as Upper and Lower. Named after Baggotrath, a manor given to Robert Bagod in the 13th century, who also built the now demolished Baggotrath Castle.

The architecture of the two streets is different, mainly Georgian on Baggot Street Lower and Victorian in Baggot Street Upper.

An office block built in 1978 for Bord na Mona, won the Buildings in Context award from An Taisce. In the process of the demolition of nearby housing for the office block, the back and side walls of the house next door collapsed and two nurses luckily escaped.

There are numerous eateries along the Upper part of the street, Chinese, Thai, Japanese, Sushi, burgers, gorgeous salads in Sprout & Co, and healthy meals in Lean Bean, where food is made from scratch using quality ingredients with no additives or preservatives



Bloom Brasserie is an intimate restaurant, serving venison to chateaubriand, hake to Wicklow lamb. Open at 7.30am for early risers, Eathos has a menu of healthy options like an acai bowl as well as chorizo scramble. Edisons (just tucked around the corner on Eastmoreland Place), has very interesting sounding cocktails to accompany goats cheese, scallops or duck.

Quick Facts

- Nun, Catherine McAuley, founded the Sisters of Mercy and built what is now the Mercy International Centre on Lower Baggot Street
- County Cork-born, May O'Flaherty owned Parsons Bookshop on Baggot Street Bridge for forty years.
- The Young Ireland movement organiser, Thomas Davis lived on Baggot Street
- Painter, Francis Bacon, known for portraits of Popes, was born on this street in 1909
- In a poem by Patrick Kavanagh, is the line "inquire for me in Baggot Street" and said it was his favourite place in Dublin.



Searsons, recognisable by its bright red canopies, serves breakfast, lunch and dinner with really well prepared Irish fare like shepherds pie and fish and chips, or traditional roast beef dinner with a great pint of Guinness. Or choose from their huge selection whiskeys.



Crossing the Grand Canal into Lower Baggot street, there are a fair number of offices until you reach Chai-Yo Teppanyaki restaurant, a tastefully decorated, contemporary pan-Asian restaurant,



if you fancy an immersive experience as chefs slice and cook up a culinary theatre at the grill right in front of you, with amazing Cantonese duck, seafood, noodles or a tasting menu. It has great reports and 4.6 stars from over 1,500 reviews!



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📍 Chai Yo, 100 Lower Baggot Street, Dublin 2

Glance in at the plaza to your right after Chai Yo to see a large red sculpture by the Bank of Ireland, then pass another Eathos café, a couple of pubs and a few cafés. Munchies sounds fun, a great place for a delicious sandwich and coffee. With Bambino, a pizza takeaway, maybe to eat in nearby St Stephen's Green, you are really spoilt for choice of menu on Baggot Street!



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Bar menu**

Tom Ramyan Noodle Soup: Choice of meats (chicken, beef, pork, duck, prawn or tofu), mixed vegetables in egg noodle broth

Chicken Satay/Gai Satay: Deep fried tender marinated chicken fillet or tofu on bamboo skewers served with homemade peanut sauce. Gluten free



Pad Thai: Stir fried rice noodles with choice of meats (beef, chicken, pork, duck prawn or tofu), carrots, scallions and pak choi in our special Pad Thai sauce. Gluten free

16 Pad Gratiem Prig Thai / Black Pepper Crispy Chicken: Stir fried crispy chicken with carrots, mushrooms, onions, garlic, green beans, black peppers fresh coriander in light soy sauce.

Portobello

Portobello is steeped in history and interesting facts.

In the 1640s, the Battle of Rathmines took place in the neighbourhood. The Duke of Ormonde, head of the Royalists was defeated by the Roundheads, the area known as the “Bloody Fields”. And the Bleeding Horse Pub, reputedly called so after a wounded horse from the battle wandered to St Kevin’s Port (now Camden Street), is said to be the oldest pub in Dublin, and it has reputedly been licensed since 1649. The writers James Joyce and Oliver St. John Gogerty frequented this tavern.

Quick Facts

- In 1817 a hot air balloon was successfully flown from Portobello Barracks to Holyhead on Anglesea, North Wales by William Windham Sandler.
- A certain Mrs Marshall (married) was found not guilty for the murder of Gunner Colin Donaldson, who was found slumped across her bed in her marital apartment, with hydrogen cyanide poisoning in 1873 – they must have had good lawyers then as it must have been quite a sensation!
- In 1812, the City Basin, as it is now called, was opened to provide water for the south side of Dublin – but high levels of sulphuric acid were found in the water. The new Vartry Reservoir was completed 50 years later, albeit reluctantly, by Rathmines public representatives.
- The Grand Canal Hotel at the harbour was taken over by nuns in 1858 who ran it as a school for blind girls – it cost £10 per year to keep each girl! Not many years later, the building was bought and renovated back to a hotel to accommodate 100 people. The owner was asked to provide meals, as in those days, there was a lack of restaurants in the area, so you could buy a two course meal with beer and punch for two shillings. The building is now a nursing home.
- In the 1800s, County Sligo had the largest telescope in the world – it was made by Thomas Grubb, who founded the Grubb Telescope Company, and who erected a public observatory at No.1 Upper Charlemont Street.
- A group of students stole the head of Lord Nelson's Pillar in 1966 – it had been stored in a shed after the pillar had been blown up that year. It made appearances later on the set of a Dubliners concert and in a London antique shop!

Portobello, meaning “beautiful harbour” in Irish, came to be in the 18th century.

So folks say...

In 1861 there was a terrible tragedy on Portobello Bridge. Horses pulling a horse-drawn bus reared up and broke through the bridge railings and plunged the bus down into the canal lock. All but the driver and conductor drowned. One was the father of the Gunne brothers who opened the Gaiety Theatre and one was the niece of Daniel O’Connell. It is said this was the work of the vindictive ghost of the lock keeper, who himself drowned after being sacked for drunkenness. All passengers had to alight before crossing the bridge and walk over after the incident.

In the 1800s, the land round Portobello was part of the Kingsland estate with parkland and fountains before the developers built housing on it, and many entertainers performed there. One of which was Charles Blondin -who had previously crossed the Niagra Falls on a tightrope and cooked omelettes on a stove on the tightrope, which he distributed to lookers-on . His performance in Dublin though, ended in disaster, when his tightrope broke, leading to the scaffolding collapsing which killed two workers, who fell.

In 1858, the Portobello Gardens was leased and while a band played, acrobats entertained and fireworks were set off.

In the mid 1900s, Ever-Ready Batteries was the main employer for the area at Portobello Harbour. When the factory closed, small businesses took over the area and the remainder of the harbour was drained and mainly filled in.



During the late 1900s, many Ashkenazi Jews, fleeing Russia and Eastern Europe settled in Portobello, which was given the nickname “Little Jerusalem”

The area is vibrant with many walls covered in street art, this one of David Attenborough



Or this on the side of a Chinese restaurant



You must visit the fabulous **Bretzel Bakery**, who strongly believe in the nutritional goodness of sourdough bread.

The Bretzel Bakery & Cafe serves award winning breads, pastries, cakes, sandwiches & coffee until 4pm everyday of the week on Lennox Street, Portobello.

Along the western edge of Portobello, you will find cafés and bars along Clanbrassil Street Lower and dozens on the eastern side at St Kevins Camden Street Lower and Harcourt Street.



Quick Folklore

- Fact, Folklore or complete Fiction? One of the most haunted places in Dublin is said to be St Michan's Church, along from the National Leprechaun Museum. The Crusader", believed to have been a knight, is in mummy form and his spirit lives on in the crypt. If someone touches his hand, which was severed and put on his chest, it is said it will bring them luck! The crypts date back to Viking times, and this 6'6" Crusader fought in the Holy War. Ghostly whispers have been heard in the church too.
- If you step into a field in Ireland, and it has a fairy tree in it, be respectful, ask permission and never touch the (usually) hawthorn trees. These are purported to be magical, silent guardians of ancient traditions with mystical powers and are interwoven with Ireland's culture. Leave them undisturbed, but ask them for a blessing by leaving a gift at the tree. These are such a part of Ireland's culture that planning permission has been refused because it would involve a fairy tree being chopped down, you may see them in incongruous places because of this.

The Famous of Dublin

Oscar Wilde, a name known world-wide for his plays, like *The Importance of Being Earnest* and his poems and novels, is made from colourful, exotic stones, on this impressive rock. Rumours have it, that his first place of work was here, in Kennedy's Bar, stacking shelves



Oscar Wilde Memorial



Oscar Wilde 1st place he worked

Rory Gallagher
Corner honours the accomplished Irish blues rock musician, songwriter and producer.



Rory Gallagher guitar

O'Donoghue's
on Merrion Row, near Stephen's Green, built originally as a grocer store in 1789, is now a famous bar; The Dubliners began performing here in the 1960s and shaped the course of Irish music.



O'Donoghue's. Merrion row near St Stephen's Green

Phil Lynott

of Thin Lizzy has a life size statue to commemorate him on Harry Street. Raised in Crumlin, he was buried in St Fintan's cemetery in Sutton, Co Dublin in 1986.



Harry Street Phil Lynott,
Thin Lizzy



King St South, Luke Kelly

Luke Kelly,

a founding member of The Dubliners and Dublin born, is commemorated by this life sized statue on King Street in Dublin City Dublin. He was a famous singer, folk musician and actor.

Molly Malone,

probably the most famous of all, was not an actual person. The song "Molly Malone", or "Cockles and Mussels" or "In Dublin's Fair City" has become the city's unofficial anthem and the statue representing her, designed by Dublin artist Jeanne Rynhart was unveiled in 1988. It was relocated to Suffolk Street, in front of the Tourist Information centre in 2014.



Molly Mallone

Golden WINNER of the ST365 awards

Dublin's Dish of the Day 2025/2026

Italian



amuri



No strangers to awards, Amuri was voted Winner in the Irish Food Awards 2024 and also has Trip Advisors Travelers Choice award 2024. Now, they may officially claim another, our coveted Smart Traveller 365 - Dublin Dish of the Day – Italian restaurant Winner!



We are Amuri (Love), we are a celebration of fresh, delicious traditional Mediterranean cuisine which has been inspired by authentic Sicilian flavours. We are proud of our roots and can't wait to welcome you and showcase our array of seasonal dishes that will be regularly updated by our Chefs.

The two brothers can't wait to welcome you to this little corner of Sicily.



We are more than a restaurant, we are a sensory experience located in the heart of Dublin City Centre on Chatham St.

www.amuri.ie



Golden WINNER of the ST365 awards

Dublin's Dish of the Day 2025/2026

Asian



We couldn't help being so impressed with the quality and flavours offered by **Boss Stop**. Although there are many fabulous Asian restaurants in Dublin, we felt there was just an edge more in taste, presentation and ambiance here. Congratulations Boss Stop!



“Boss Stop is our Dublin home for bold, flavour-driven Asian cuisine. Guided by our Head Chef Zhen, who brings over 35 years of culinary expertise rooted in traditional Chinese training, we blend authentic flavours with a modern, creative touch.

Our young and passionate team combines precise wok techniques and innovative ideas with prime, locally sourced ingredients, ensuring every dish is freshly cooked to order.

From handcrafted dumplings to sizzling stir-fries, we aim to deliver an exotic yet casual dining experience that's full of character and flavour. We also take pride in our carefully curated wine list and premium Japanese sake, both selected to complement our dishes perfectly.

This award truly means the world to us and inspires our team to continue raising the bar in quality, flavour, and service”

Golden WINNER of the ST365 awards
 Dublin's Dish of the Day 2025/2026
 Irish Food



BROOKWOOD

DUBLIN



For our 3rd Golden award for Dublin's Best Irish food, a fabulous Steakhouse took first place! Brookwood Baggot Restaurant had really fresh, delicious oysters and the steaks were so tender, and cooked to perfection.

They also have a good selection of wines and great cocktails on their extensive menus.

The ambiance of the restaurant won us over, the energy of the manager, and the way it was run efficiently really added to our enjoyment, as did the cosy, intimate dining experience, which gave it a homely feel. A well deserved award, we wish you all success for 2026.

Ph. (01) 661 9366
brookwoodbaggot@gmail.com

141 Baggot Street Lower
 Dublin 2 | D02 KP64





Runners-up in our “Dublin Dish of the Day” competition



These were judged by reviews, friendliness on the phone when called, efficiency, atmosphere and most of all, flavours!

Italian category

Rosa Madre, Temple Bar. Joint **Silver award** –

“The host was great and a lovely atmosphere with great food!”

DiFontaine’s Pizzaria, Temple Bar. Joint **Silver award** –

“The biggest pizzas, and such kind staff”

Toscana City Centre Italian Restaurant, Temple Bar –

“Fabulous Pizzas”

Il Vicoletto, Temple Bar – *“Superb Ravioli”*

Da Mimmo, N Strand Road – *“Really good home-made pasta”*

Borgo, Phibsborough – *“Exceptional flavours”*

Little Pyg, William ST South –

“Amazing modern décor, with tasty pizzas”

Asian Category

Mongolian Barbeque, Temple Bar – **Silver award** in this category. *“Watching them prepare the food on the grill was magical!”*

Ka Shing (Chinese), Wicklow St – *“Lovely Cantonese food!”*

Hunan Spicy, Westmoreland St – *“Authentic Chinese food”*

Yum Thai Noodle Bar, Baggot Street Lower –

“Lovely fresh food and really friendly”

Zakura – Japanese Tapas, Baggot Street Lower –

“Wonderful presentation, and gorgeous sushi”

Yamamori Izakaya – Japanese food, S Great George’s St – *“Another great Sushi and Tapas bar, accompanied by great cocktails”*

Irish-European category

Salamanca, St Andrew’s St. **Silver award**, very well deserved
“Such authentic Spanish food, I thought I was in the Iberian Peninsula!”

Gallaghers Boxty House, Temple Bar –

“Really friendly staff”

Glas Restaurant, Chatham St –

“The most delicious vegan food I’ve tasted”

The Grayson, St Stephen’s Green –

“Rib-eye steaks were melt in the mouth”

Sophie’s Rooftop Restaurant, Harcourt St –

“Great food with magnificent views across Dublin”

BoBo’s Burgers, Dame St –

“Good Irish breakfast and chunky, tasty burgers!”

Pichet, Trinity St –

“A combination of Irish and French, beautifully presented”

Transport around the city

There are many many buses, trains and trams to take you all around Dublin. You can catch a train from Dublin Airport to Dublin City.

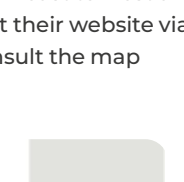
National Express run from Terminal 2, Zone 21 every 15 minutes from 05.20, they also run through the night but not as regularly. The journey takes 15 minutes to The Point, which is just north of the river.



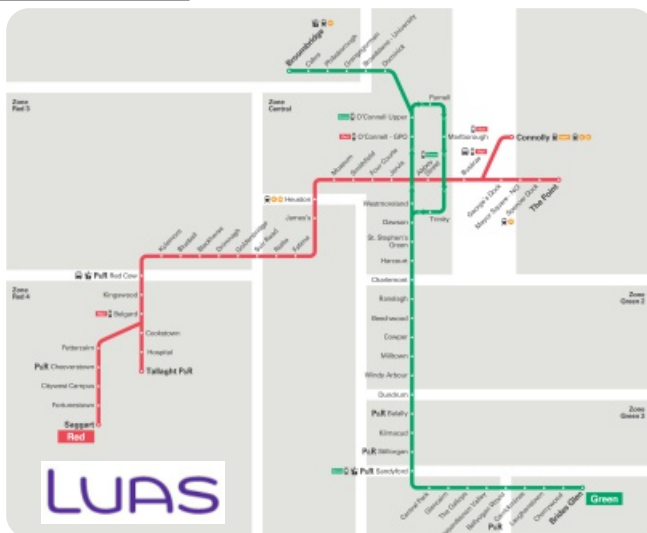
Dublin Express buses run every 20 minutes to City Centre/Temple Bar and take about 25 minutes.



Dublin Bus run every 10 minutes and the journey takes 39 minutes. Bus journeys vary from €2 (Dublin Bus) to €12 (National Express) per person, depending on the company.



The Luas Trams are amazing too and take you all around the city from east to west and north to south. Please visit their website via the QR code here and consult the map below of the tram lines.





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CHARM IN THE HEART OF
DUBLIN.



THE CASTLE HOTEL



www.castlehotel.com

Bridges over the Liffey

The Samuel Beckett Bridge

arrived to Dublin in 2009. A moving bridge – it rotates 90° with a span of 123 metres and a height of 48 metres, it crosses the river at right angles. It has sleek lines, a modern looking bridge, reminiscent of a harp.

Credit: By BrianbBrady on pixabay



Samuel Beckett Bridge

The Ha'penny Bridge – so called as there was a toll of a halfpenny charged until 1919, is a cast iron structure for pedestrians, built in 1816 – it is officially known as the Liffey Bridge.



Ha'Penny Bridge



Chris McMorrow Artist

Paintings & Art Prints

*Welcome to the world of Chris Mc Morrow,
an artist based in Dublin.*

*Specializing in vibrant oil and acrylic
paintings of street scenes, cafes and pubs.*



Chris' work captures the nostalgic romanticism of the city's evening and nighttime atmosphere.

Often featuring a couple as the focal point, his paintings evoke a sense of warmth and intimacy that resonates with viewers.

His museum quality art prints use archival inks created from his original canvas oil and acrylic paintings



The Huband Bridge, built in 1791 is humpbacked and spans the Grand Canal from Percy Place to Mount Street Crescent. It is beautifully constructed, with ornamentation and was funded by Joseph Huband who was a director of the Grand Canal Company. It was built for road traffic and is a testament to the skill of the engineers and masons that it is still in continuous use.



Quays of the Liffey

Streets and roadways run along the River Liffey both on the south and north sides, historically linking the cities commercial and developing housing from the Viking era to the 18th and 19th centuries, with many historic merchant buildings still present such as Custom House and Four Courts (see 'Dublin's Architecture' feature)



Nowadays, modern buildings are mixed with the old and the Dublin Quays are home to restaurants, pubs, cultural attractions and present day businesses. Since 2017, the Dublin Quays Festival has

been held in the summer and has hosted exciting music and top quality established acts in multiple venues along the area.

Walking, Fun & Historic Tours

Dark Dublin: Step into the shadows with their award-winning Dark Dublin walking tour, where the city's most disturbing stories come to life. This is not your typical sightseeing stroll, you will hear tales of killers who stalked the streets, medieval punishments and a castle whose walls have witnessed centuries of strange and sinister events.

Haunted Dublin, Temple Bar: This tour includes: Bram Stoker's Dublin & some of the real-life inspirations for Dracula, grave robbing & body snatching, witchcraft in Irish History, serial killers, poltergeists and headless horsemen

Dublin Book of Kells: Including entry to the Old Library and the digital exhibition in the Red Pavilion, experience the wonder of Ireland's greatest cultural treasure.



1916 Rebellion Walking Tour: With colleagues, Lorcan Collins will take you to the relevant sites of the battles in Dublin as the complexities of Irish history are explained in an accessible and concise fashion.

Dublin Literary Pub Crawl: Rambling the streets since 1988, professional actors tell you stories in a form of street theatre.

Jamesons Distillery: Visit Jameson Distillery Dublin for a distillery tour, choosing cocktail-making classes, premium whiskey tasting sessions or to learn how to blend your own whiskey.

Dublin Ghost Bus Tour: A ghost bus tour from Do Dublin discovering theatrical experiences. Your Ghostbus ordeal begins as soon as you get on board. First make your way through a series of sinister, maze like chambers, and then mount the steps to the Victorian theatre above, the scene of the night's events.

The Ghostbus Tour Storytellers are professional actors who strike a perfect balance between comedy and horror. They throw themselves into their dark roles to the point that it's sometimes hard to know if they are still acting! Kids Ghost Tours also available!

Secret Food Tours Dublin: Five star reviews for this tour. "Cathy was phenomenal!!! Come HUNGRY because you WILL get fed! Such a great variety of locations and tastings of different foods coupled with fantastic history of Ireland and Dublin specifically"

Your tour starts with a pleasant stroll around town with the backdrop of the historic Trinity College. You'll dine and sample traditional Irish food in local eateries with the locals, relax in historic restaurants, and enjoy classic home-cooked Irish dishes. They will also introduce you to some secret hidden gems along the way.

With Locals

Verified local, private guides create a 100% personalized tour to match your wishes.



Viking Splash Tours

You will travel around Dublin in an amphibious DUKW, on land and water!

This is a totally different tour, fun and informative through Georgian Dublin, then splashing into the Grand Canal for a short cruise!



Paddy Wagon Tours

If you want to leave the city for a while, these tours can take you to the Cliffs of Moher, Blarney Castle, the Giant's Causeway or Belfast

Dublin en Francais

Personalised or small group tours of Dublin, in French.

Dublin Castle

Dublin Castle was constructed on the site of a Viking settlement in the thirteenth century and was the headquarters of first the English, then British administration in Ireland. In 1922, it was handed over to the new Irish Government when Ireland became independent.



It is a popular tourist attraction as well as being a major government complex with the Coach House, State Apartments, Gardens and the Chapel Royal being accessible by all. Stairs to the Viking Excavation may not be suitable for everyone.

Open all year round,
there are self-guided tours available
from €8 for an adult, which last about 30 minutes,
and a guided tour for €12 which lasts about an hour.

Tickets may be purchased on their website
www.dublincastle.ie

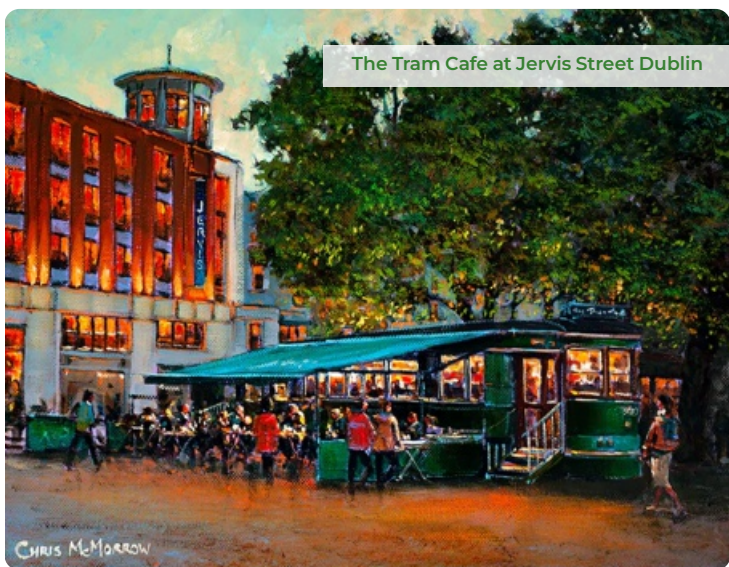
You can listen to some wonderful
audios with history and information
about **Dublin Castle**,
by scanning the QR code here,
provided by the OPW



Jervis Street

Running south from Parnell Street, is Jervis Street, developed by Humphrey Jervis after 1674. He acquired some of St Mary's Abbey estate on which he developed this street. In 1913, photos were taken of the housing conditions on the street as part of a report from the NSPCC to the Dublin Housing Inquiry. But the original pre-Georgian and Georgian housing was demolished in the early 20th century as it became unstable.

The headquarters of the popular, inexpensive clothes store, Penneys, now has the building of Todd Burns department store on the corner of Jervis and Mary Street.



Credit: Chris McMorow

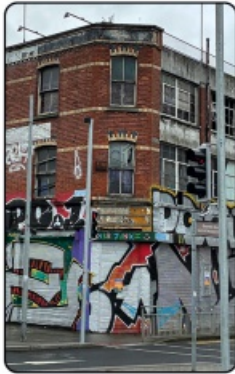
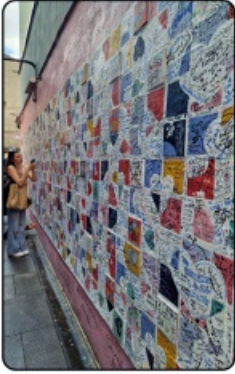
Jervis Shopping Centre, whose entrance is actually on Mary Street, but parking is from Jervis Street, houses New look, Holland and Barrett, Tesco Metro and a really good food hall. It was the first place in Ireland where some major UK stores first appeared in the country, Boots, Dixons, Debenhams, Next and Argos. Opened in 1996, the centre was once the location of the Jervis Street Hospital.

You can reach the shopping centre using the Luas Red Line tram service which stops right outside the building, and runs from west to east. Wolfe Tone Square is between Jervis and Wolfe Tone Street.

Dublin Street Art

The streets of Dublin are a paradise for those who love vibrancy and a distraction from the beautiful stone and architecture of the city. Everywhere you look, there are wonderfully painted pictures, company signs and just, well colour!

From hastily scrawled 'tags' to wonderful artworks, some there for too short a time, you will see these drawings, paintings, artfully crafted designs and the umbrellas on Anne's Street to brighten your day, whatever the weather.





As these designs are constantly changing, painted over, removed, please do send in your photos to be included in next years guide, as you never know, they could be the last time they will be seen before they are replaced.

Pulling the Perfect pint

We have all heard of Guinness, maybe watched and enjoyed the recent drama, which was loosely based on this iconic brewery, but with a lot of artistic license, all in the name of a great story!

In 1759, Arthur Guinness was the first of the Guinness Master Brewers at St James Gate Brewery, which has a 9,000 year lease! He was an innovative entrepreneur who fought for the right to an unlimited water supply to create the delicious black stuff for many years.

A fabulous looking place I came across is Urban Brewing, what a fantastic looking underground experience, with brewery tours and beer tasting, then tapas and craft beer pairings. Also available is a Table D'Hote with Beer-Malt Crusted Calamari followed by 14-Hour Cooked Irish Beef Cheek, Roast Garlic Hummus, Sherry Jus, Crispy Sage then topped off by Double Cream Delice de Bourgogne Cheese, Beer Malt Crackers, Plum Chutney - mouth-watering!



The Turk's Head pub is unlike any other, with reflective mosaic work from the centre of the bar across to the pillars. An interesting idea is that it was named after a knot, worn by Turkish natives, used to lure sailors into pubs near the sea, not sure if this is true, but sounds plausible!



Turk's Head mosaics

With a choice of macro beers and iconic pints, always served with a smile in this very special venue. Open 24 hours, free.



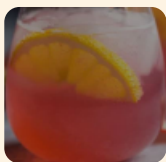
Shake & Stir

An evening out with friends or loved ones, there's nothing like starting, or finishing, the evening off with a great cocktail. Whether it is a sharing jug (remember your college and uni days?!) or taken in a sophisticated, delicate stemmed glass, there are so many flavours and endless concoctions to choose from.

Here are a couple of great recipes to try

MOCKTAIL: Rhubarb & Ginger Fizz

- *Rhubarb syrup*
- *A tin of rhubarb or stewed fresh rhubarb*
- *1" fresh ginger*
- *2 tbsp sugar*
- *To finish 1 lime*
- *Alcohol-free sparkling wine*



...Make a rhubarb syrup by stewing together the first three ingredients. Leave for an hour to allow the flavours to evolve. Strain through a cloth. Put a tablespoon of the syrup in a glass with a teaspoon of lime juice and pour on the sparkling wine or nosecco, give it a gentle stir.

COCKTAIL: Bloody Mary

- *vodka*
- *tomato juice*
- *garlic*
- *tobacco sauce*
- *Worcestershire sauce*
- *celery (and/or celery salt)*
- *black pepper and salt*
- *lemon and lime juice.*



Mix vodka, tomato juice, Worcestershire sauce, garlic, tobacco sauce, celery (and/or celery salt), black pepper, salt, lemon and lime juice. This is great the morning after the night before too, as a virgin (no vodka) or bloody Mary.

Here are some ideas to ask your bar tender for:

Moscow Mule: vodka, ginger beer & lime

Tom Collins: gin, syrup, lemon juice and soda

Strawberry Limoncello Spritz: prosecco, limoncello, elderflower gin, soda, strawberry syrup, fresh strawberries

Casino: gin, maraschino liqueur, orange bitters and lemon juice

Manhattan: whiskey, sweet vermouth, bitters

Mary Pickford: white rum, pineapple juice, grenadine and maraschino liqueur

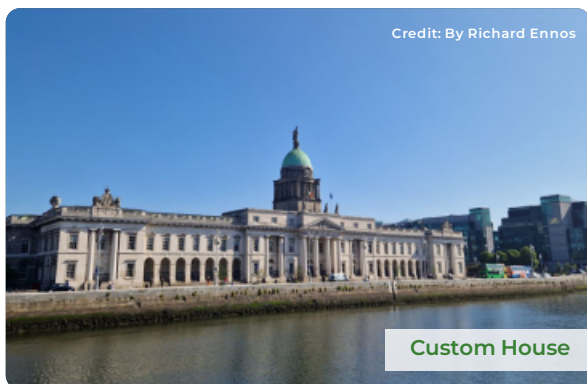
Bellini: Prosecco, peach purée

Turk's Head on the corner of Parliament Street and Essex Street in the Temple Bar district, is definitely the place to go for cocktails, they have dozens of signature and classic cocktails on their menu, as well as a small food menu to keep your energy levels up!



Abbey Street

This kilometre-long street runs from Customs House to Capel Street and is divided into Upper, Middle and Lower and is named after the former St Mary's Abbey, the remains of which are accessible on Meetinghouse Lane.

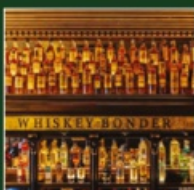


Credit: By Richard Ennos

Custom House

Abbey Street is easy to reach by tram, from Jervis Luas Stop. Along Abbey Street Lower, there is a lovely fountain with “The Chariot of Life” statue at the centre, a Wetherspoons, the National Theatre of Ireland, the Abbey Theatre. Plenty of eateries and a bakery along here and Comedy Vault Dublin is on the corner of O’Connell Street Lower.

On Abbey Street Middle, you’ll find The Oval Bar, an authentic Irish bar, which has a very impressive array of Whiskeys, an all day menu and snacks. It was established in 1820 and rebuilt after the 1916 rising. This is a charming pub, in a lovely building, set over three floors, with Irish stew to sustain you while you watch a match!



THE OVAL BAR
 ESTABLISHED IN 1820 - REBUILT
 AFTER THE 1916 RISING - HISTORIC
 DUBLIN PUB - IRISH FOOD SERVED DAILY
 78 Abbey Street Middle Dublin 1 D01 RW24
 (01) 872 1264



Also BoBo’s Burgers, a great place for a quick lunch, serving a huge range of gourmet burgers, breakfasts, craft beers and wines. A shoe shop, so many more places to eat and Motel-One.

Just off Abbey Street, is Jervis Shopping Centre, a huge place which has a Tesco, Diesel, Art & Hobby, Vans shoe store, Bershka, Dubai Perfume, Boots, VR Link virtual reality arcade, The Grafton Barber, Pandora and many more places to eat.

Parnell Square

Formerly Rutland Square, it was renamed in the 18th century after Charles Stewart Parnell, an Irish Nationalist politician. Rotunda Hospital takes up some of the centre and the Garden of Remembrance is along the northern side.

The beautiful Gate Theatre ran into financial difficulties in 1930 but was saved by Lord Longford. Today, it shows the best work of Irish and International playwrights, tickets can be booked here www.gatetheatre.ie/whats-on/

The grandest and original mansion on the square, Charlemont House, built in 1783, is home to the Hugh Lane Gallery and café. Their Explore and Learn team create dynamic, innovative and inspiring programmes of creativity and art appreciation for people of all ages and interests.

Parnell Street

In the 18th century, you would have seen the Rotunda Hospital, which was built in 1748, also the Ambassador Theatre and Gate Theatre, wonderful Georgian buildings. It continued to be developed in the late 19th century, with St Peter's Bakery and Mooney's Pub, when it became a mainly commercial area. Unfortunately, in the 1970s, road plans from the Dublin Corporation demolished many of the original Georgian and Victorian architecture on the western end of the street, making way for a dual-carriageway and apartment buildings!



Photo: By Jason Swaby

The eastern end is now home to a thriving immigrant community, with Chinese and Korean restaurants and European and African businesses.

The Green Tram line runs through Parnell Street

The oldest shopping centre in the city, the Ilac Centre has an entrance onto Parnell street, and the largest cinema in Ireland, having 17 screens can also be found here.

The Offbeat Itinerary

Pitch Dublin

Elevate your Dublin experience at Pitch, located at 60 Dawson Street - where world-class golf meets premium hospitality. Play iconic Irish and international courses on Trackman simulators, take on exclusive golf challenges like closest-to-the-pin, or unwind with boutique arcade games and premium shuffleboard.

Whether you're a seasoned golfer or just here for the fun, their full-service bar, kitchen and stunning space in the heart of the city can make for an unforgettable visit.



Open 7 days a week

Book a bay from
€25 per session.

www.pitchgolf.ie

Eircode: D02K330



The Great South Wall

Here's one for those who love a fresh decent walk. Try the Great South Wall, which, when built, was the longest seawall in the world at 4km. Still one of the longest in Europe, it is one of those bucket-list things to do!

Poolbeg lighthouse stands at the end and Ordnance Survey Ireland, until the 1950s, used the low water mark of the spring tide at the lighthouse as standard height data from the 1830s.

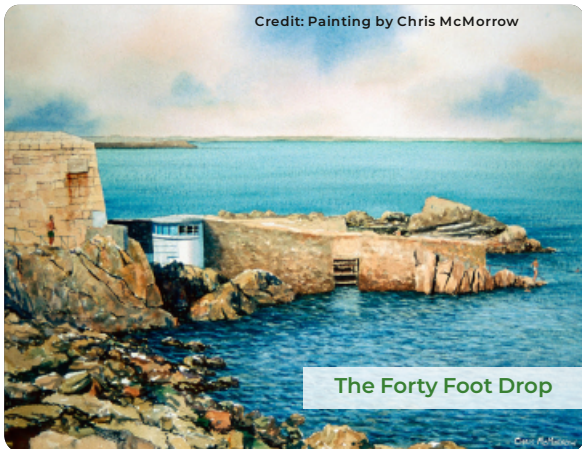
City Kayak

Operating from the Liffey boardwalk between the Ha'peeny Bridge and O'Connell Street, you can actually paddle beneath the rivers' bridges. A lovely way for adults and children alike to view the city from a different perspective, as the river is nice and calm.

National Botanic Gardens

Free to visit are these gardens, just a few kilometres outside the city. They have over fifteen thousand different species of plants, in peaceful surroundings. Glasshouses contain many different species, cacti, orchids, palms, alpine. Open from 9am weekdays and 10am weekends.

Forty Foot, Sandy Cove



This seawater, open-air pool is mentioned in "Ulysses", when Buck Mulligan heads there for a morning swim. It used to be for men only but if you love sea swimming, head here yourself for a dip, women welcome of course!!

Francis Bacon Studio at the Hugh Lane Gallery

Mentioned as this is a crazy insight into an artist's mind, you will return to your hotel bedroom and see the calm tidiness after!!

National Leprechaun Museum

I couldn't leave this out of my list, something unseen outside Ireland! Full of myths, legends, magic and nothing is quite how it seems!

Game of Throwing

Throw real axes after being expertly guided in the art of throwing!

World of Illusion

Explore three floors of mind-mending interactive exhibits and illusions for all the family.



Explorium

Dublin? Rain? Never ! Ok, well yes, it does sometimes! But, we have good news...there is a place that will keep you occupied the whole day! It's fun, full of different, interesting aspects and suitable for all the family.

It is called Explorium and you will find it in Sandyford. They have AR Experience, in Europe's only Augmented-Reality dinosaur experience, where you will walk among life-sized dinosaurs and discover Jurassic secrets!



VR Experience which is a fabulous rollercoaster ride, diving into the ocean and special exploration! As well as various sports, such as motor racing, sky diving, trekking through the Amazon jungle or water slides.



For the **more adventurous**, try their Speed Walls where you will defy gravity or fly through the air on a trapeze or climb like a ninja!



Climb with the experts, who will make you feel safe as they guide you through routes and climbs in **Urban Climb**



www.explorium.ie | info@explorium.ie

Blackglenn Rd, Sandyford, Dublin 18 | D18 N1F2.

Conquer Your Fears. Urban Climb

Picnic in the Parks

Just a couple of minutes walk to Pearse Square Park, is Bite Box, the perfect place to stock up on a delicious lunch to enjoy in the peaceful grassy park. Bitebox is not your average fast-food spot, but it's where bold flavours meet a conscience. Located on Pearse Street, Dublin 2, this vibrant fusion eatery serves up fast food made with fresh, homemade, and organic ingredients that taste as good as they make you feel. With a mission to make your pizzas affordable, kebabs exciting, and burgers guilt-free, Bitebox brings creativity and care to every meal. It's fast, fresh, and full of flavour with purpose in every bite.



Spice up your event with Bitebox Catering Fresh, flavourful, and fuss-free. From parties to office lunches of any size, we serve bold fusion dishes made to impress. Easy to order, hard to forget.

You plan the party, Bitebox brings the flavour to you!

Bitebox

(We deliver every day)

66B Pearse Street, Dublin 2,

D02DE68 | 01 616 5877

WWW.BITEBOX.IE



Not far away from Iveagh Gardens is The Bretzel Bakery on Lennox Street, which is already mentioned in the guide for having exceptional products.

Try Dolce Sicily for your goodies when going to St Stephen's Green, or Cookie Boy for cookies straight from the oven! 2210 Patisserie on William Street serve delicious gluten free products, also near St Stephen's Green as is The Cake Café on Pleasants Place.

For a sophisticated cake, try Hansel and Gretel Bakery on Clare Street and for a very flaky croissant, go to the artisan organic sourdough bakery Bread 41.



Bread 41

The Mad Hatter can provide a good takeaway breakfast or lunch if you're spending the day at Pheonix Park, and ED3N Café on Main Street, west of the park has a fabulous menu and bubble teas!

Relaxing Parks, Gardens and Squares

Wolfe Tone Square

Wolfe Tone Street has some impressive apartment buildings and the well known Wolfe Tone Square is on the site of a deconsecrated graveyard which has been regenerated and reopened in 2022 as an Urban Plaza. There was a lovely bronze statue of a relaxing cow as its focal point, “Ag Crú na Gréine” which means “Enjoying the sun”

Mountjoy Square Park

Mountjoy Square Park is a small oasis surrounded by Georgian houses, with tree-lined paths, grass and a children’s playpark. It has a soccer field and tennis court also and a 19th century granite sundial.

Blessington Street Basin

Heading left along Blessington Street at the north end of Mountjoy St, you will find this wonderful hidden park, with a massive water basin, which used to be a city reservoir until 1885.

You can walk round this lake, see the fountains, feed the ducks, picnic on one of the benches. Exotic ferns and palms are dotted around, as well as art and a lovely Tudor house.

Parnell Square Garden of Remembrance

The Garden of Remembrance is along the northern side of the square, with a cross shape water feature and lovely statue called Children of Lir. It is decorated with troughs of flowers and benches to rest and contemplate.



The Children of Lir, Garden of remembrance



Garden of Remembrance

St Kevin’s Park

Known for abundant wildlife such as foxes, grey squirrels and hedgehogs and 19 species of birds including ducks, this park is found on Camden Row off Wexford St. It contains the ruins of

a church and graveyard and is open from 10am until 10pm in winter, closing earlier in the winter.

Pheonix Park

A huge 708 hectare park, one of the largest enclosed parks in a capital city in Europe and home to Dublin Zoo, there are miles of paths, with deer, birds, and trees. Furry Glen looks picturesque with blackthorn, firs, deciduous trees and fauna, surrounding a quarry lake. Ashtown Castle is open to the public with a walled kitchen garden.

A café and tea rooms, a Biodiversity Information Centre, Victorian flower gardens and a Park Information Centre with playground, are all within this massive space. With walking and cycle tracks, and the space to play polo, cricket and hurling, you could spend many a day here, open every day from 7am until late.

Drones, BBQs and Camping are not allowed in the park.

Credit: Painting by Chris McMorrow

St Stephen's Green

The park is large and features a beautiful lake.

You can find a large number of important sculptural monuments to Irish history. There are

a playground and a garden for the visually impaired. Many species of fauna and fauna live here too. Opening at

7.30 am, 9.30 on

Sundays and BH, and closing at 9pm, earlier in the off season.



Autumn in Stephens Green



St Stephen's Green

Mount Bernard Park

This is a really pretty park, with wooden sculptures, tennis courts, exercise machines, basketball and playground. Well-kept and even has a chess board!

Albert College Park

Lovely place for a walk, with a good playground for children and football grounds. The paths are lined with leafy tall trees and is a great place to take a dog.

Tolka Valley Park

This is an absolute gem for running and cycling, on a smooth surfaced track. Full of flowers and with a central fountain, swans and ducks and occasionally a heron on the pool and river, it is a huge oasis of tranquility on the north side of Dublin, beyond Pheonix Park.



Tolka Park

Credit: By Chris Mc Morrow

Bushy Park

This is a riverside park with a pond, woodlands, playground for children, tennis courts and football pitches. Lots of good paths, great for a picnic and with tree identity plaques. A skatepark is on the eastern side south of the city.

King's Inns Park

This park is wrapped round the wonderful building of the King's Inns, established in 1541, it is Ireland's oldest school of law and one of Ireland's significant historical environments. The Hungry Tree is a Plane tree, about 21 metres in height and between 80 and 120 years old. It is a tourist attraction and is so-called because it has been 'consuming' a park bench!



The Greedy Tree

William Pearse Park

A large grassed area, with good paths for exercise, a small playground for children, and a boxing club and swimming pool on the Windmill Road side of the park, southwest of the city.

Ringsend Park

Right by the estuary of the Liffey, this park is great for walks and running and has many adult exercise machines.

With a children's playground and an athletic field, also a basketball court, tennis courts, cricket ground and pitches.



The Victims, Merrion Park



Map References:

- 1** | Phoenix Park & Dublin Zoo
- 2** | Trinity College
- 3** | Merrion Square Park
- 4** | St Stephen's Green
- 5** | St Patrick's Cathedral
- 6** | St. Audoen's Park
- 7** | Iveagh Gardens
- 8** | Garden of remembrance

- 9** | King's Inns Park
- 10** | Wolfe Tone Park
- 11** | Blessington Street Basin
- 12** | St Kevins Park
- 13** | Mountjoy Square Park
- 14** | Albert College Park
- 15** | Tolka Valley Park
- 16** | Ringsend Park
- 17** | Mount Bernard

While looking for a hotel to stay at for my research for this guide, I happened across this gem! I thought I knew what it would look like, but I was so pleasantly surprised by the bright seating, eating and workspace areas.



BY IHG HOTEL
DUBLIN CITY CENTRE



This modern layout followed through to the bedrooms, with crisp white linen and bold splashes of colour. Immaculate bathroom with a large, powerful shower.



I had a look round the hotel, and discovered this amazing meeting space, right in the centre of Dublin!



All amenities were available, and it was so easy to book.

Scan here for a virtual tour of this modern, bright hotel



View Holiday Inn Express here:



When making a booking, **always** quote ST365 in the extras comments box or by phone, so I can see how many enjoyed it as much as I did!



Book here

O'Connell Street

Found on the North side of the city, O'Connell Street was known as Drogheda Street in the 17th century and this narrow road has grown over the years. It was widened in the late 18th century and has seen plenty of history including, in 1913, the Dublin lock-out gatherings, which was a major dispute between 300 employers and 20,000 industrial workers mainly over the workers right to unionise. Next, the street saw the Easter Rising of 1916, then the Civil War of 1922.

Renamed in 1924, after Daniel O'Connell, you would now never know the street had such a hand in Irish history, as in 1998 there was a multi-million euro plan to tidy up the street, asking shop-owners to remove tacky plastic signs, making it part-pedestrianised and diverting most of the traffic away by reducing lanes. It is bustling with shoppers and you cannot miss the Spire of Dublin, a towering needle rising 121 metres, completed in 2003. The top is lit at night by light emitting diodes shone through 11,884 holes.

The Spire was shown to New Yorkers through The Portal, which is a visual bridge connecting the city with New York with a live videostream.



Other iconic statues, all depicting people of note from Irish history can be seen along the street, tick them off as you find them! Daniel O'Connell (a dedicated Irish Nationalist), Charles Stewart Parnell (a political leader), Jim Larkin (who fought for workers rights), Sir John Grey (a journalist with a passion for social reform), William Smith O'Brien (an Irish Nationalist leader) and Father Theobald Mathew (who was dedicated to promoting temperance and sobriety)

Along here, you will find some excellent eateries, including Beshoff Restaurant, which, amongst their extensive menu, you will find amazing fish and chips, perfect to recharge the batteries on a busy shopping day!



GPO (General Post Office) Museum

Explore the 1916 Easter Rising and Modern Irish History
This famous and award-winning building is a must see on any visit to Dublin. Witness Ireland's history from revolution to modern times dramatically unfold before your eyes! Key moments that shaped Ireland's history are brought to life through electronic touch screens, film, video, audio visual booths, sound and authentic artefacts.

Originally known as 'GPO Witness History', it was officially opened in 2016, marking the centenary of the 1916 Easter Rising. It was one of the flagship projects as part of the Ireland 2016 Centenary programme. This is a culturally significant project in one of Dublin's most iconic buildings and it was created by An Post with State support.

The General Post Office (GPO) is on O'Connell Street and opened in 1818, designed by Francis Johnston, who wanted to build a handsome, distinguished building which would add to Dublin's architectural beauty.



The GPO was the communications hub of Ireland and headquarters of the men and women who took part in the 1916 Easter Rising. The historic and tumultuous Easter Rising set in motion an unstoppable chain of events which would ultimately lead to the creation of the Irish Republic. The building was destroyed by fire during the Easter Rising and the rebuilt and expanded building was officially re-opened in July 1929.

Dublin Zoo

Opened in Pheonix Park in 1831, and the thatched entrance built two years later, the zoo had collections of bears, lions, leopards, monkeys and parrots in rudimentary confinement, then renting a rhino and elephant in the summer months a few years later.



Entrance cost sixpence and one penny on a Sunday. They first bred lions, which became a lucrative industry in 1857, the animals were healthy and strong and it is thought the first MGM lion may have come from the zoo.

Permanent structures were built in the 1860s with the aid of capital grants and the zoo extended its

boundaries to include the lake and its collections grew.

Exotic animals were sent over from the British colonies at the beginning of the 20th century and it flourished between the start of WWI and the 1950 and 60s, with chimp's tea parties and busloads coming to view the animals.

Nowadays, Dublin Zoo saves wildlife and inspires a passion for nature. Grown from its initial four acres of land to twenty eight hectares, you can discover the habitats and see the world's precious wildlife, who live and breed in the park with natural surroundings, adhering to strict codes of practice in animal welfare. Financially supporting conservation projects run, such as the welfare of great apes, rhinos, tigers and golden lion tamarins.



Henry Street

Running from The Spire, Henry Street has almost 200 independent traders and two large shopping centres. The street was developed and given its name in 1614 by Henry Moore, 1st Earl of Drogheda and in 1760, shops and properties were first developed from land which used to be part of the estate of St Mary's Abbey. None of the original Georgian properties remain and it is now pedestrianized, allowing buskers, street artists and musicians to perform to the crowds of shoppers.



Credit: By Chris McMorrow

Quick Folklore

- The Dagda was a god of huge power and wisdom, known for playing his magical harp, with which he could change the seasons (hmm, so that's why we have cold downpours in the summer!) The harp also had the ability to make one sleep, cry or laugh – just like Irish music still.
- The Pooka is known for its shape-shifting abilities, it could be a goblin, or some may see a strange dog or horse but nearly all invoke terror on the viewer. It plays pranks on folk at night and roams the streets looking for mischief. Occasionally this mysterious creature will be kind, guiding the lost and warning of dangers.

Quick Facts

- Founded by a group of Trinity and UCD students in 1969, who began by providing much-needed soup and sandwiches to people who were sleeping rough in Dublin city centre, the Dublin Simon Community works to prevent and address homelessness in Dublin and surrounding areas. They provide services at all stages of homelessness and enable people to move to a place they can call home.
- The Ha'penny Bridge was constructed in 1816 and Dublin Castle was founded by King John in 1204.
- Trinity College was founded by Queen Elizabeth I in 1592
- By 1800, Dublin was the 2nd largest city in the British Empire and 6th largest in Europe.
- Founded as a Viking settlement in the 9th century and known as Dubh Linn, Dublin became the capital of English Lordship of Ireland after the Norman invasion in the 12th century. In Easter week of 1916, the Irish Republican Brotherhood organised a rebellion against British rule in Ireland and aimed to establish an independent Irish Republic, this was the Easter Rising and lasted 6 days. Ireland gained their independence in 1922, over a hundred years ago.
- The "Celtic Tiger" is a phrase which covers Ireland's rapid economic growth from the mid-1990s to 2007, which ended with the global financial crisis and collapse of property development, leading to a severe recession as property prices were much inflated, along with spending. Hard-hit home-owners were unable to claw back the cost of over-priced housing they had bought in the boom.
- O'Connell Bridge is the only bridge in Europe that is the same length and width.
- Dublin is home to one of the oldest pubs in Ireland, the Brazen Head built in 1198
- Dublin has the youngest population in Europe.
- The national symbol of Ireland is the harp, not the shamrock.

Herbert Park Hotel

AND PARK RESIDENCE



UNDERSTATED LUXURY WITH A PERSONAL TOUCH IN THE HEART OF DUBLIN

Overlooking the tranquil Herbert Park, the Hotel offers a peaceful city retreat, ideal for romantic weekends, family getaways, or long-overdue catch-ups with friends. With the Aviva Stadium and RDS just a short stroll away, and Dublin City Centre within minutes, it provides an excellent base for experiencing Dublin's charm in the heart of Ballsbridge.

Guests can unwind in spacious, light-filled rooms or enjoy the convenience of fully equipped studio apartments at Park Residence, designed for longer stays and offering all the comforts of home. The Terrace Lounge provides a relaxed setting with freshly prepared dishes, while the Pavilion Restaurant serves a delicious breakfast buffet with beautiful park views.

This award-winning property is recognised on TripAdvisor for excellent service and guest satisfaction, offering a warm welcome, thoughtful hospitality, and the perfect balance of city energy and calm retreat.

Ballsbridge Terrace, Dublin 4, Ireland, D04 R2T2

+353 1 667 2200 | reservations@herbertparkhotel.ie | herbertparkhotel.ie



Smithfield

A fabulous square is at the heart of this area, formerly the market and a common, it is still known as Smithfield Market, though officially it is Smithfield Plaza, laid with four hundred thousand smooth cobblestones, lovingly lifted, cleaned by hand and re-laid. Up until this century, the square was lined with city farmyards with livestock. Now the plaza is a huge open, modern area, with gas lighting masts, over twenty five metres high with a two metre flame, which are lit in different colours on special occasions.

With real axes, expert guiding and loads of fun, try different lanes for different games in Game of Throwing or their brilliant Escape Rooms, on Queen's Street, just along from the top rated Mi Casa.



Game Of Throwing

84 Queen St, Smithfield, Dublin 7, D07 C5P0

Phone: 087 487 7711

Email: info@got-axe.com

Jamesons Distillery is in Bow Street, Smithfield, join them for a Tasting Experience. The Light House Cinema, which shows up to the minute films is opposite, with plenty of eateries in the plaza, and The Cobblestone Pub, which has traditional Irish music sessions everyday. It sounds like a great afternoon and evening sorted for you!

Richard Burton and Elizabeth Taylor spent time here in the 1960s while Richard worked on the film set of "The Spy Who Came in from the Cold" when Smithfield featured as Checkpoint Charlie in the film.

On the first Sunday of September, expect the square to be packed, as the horse fair is held here, with a huge turnout. It is unofficially held on other Sundays but there is a bit of a tussle going on between the officials and the attendees.

Festivals in Dublin 2026

On now, until...

NYF Dublin: December 30, 2025 -January 1, 2026

(City centre/Dublin Castle/Dún Laoghaire/Howth)

Picasso: From the Studio exhibition: until February 2026

(National Gallery of Ireland)

Artistic Islands: until March 26, 2026 (Dublin Castle)

The Irish Food Trail: until January 31

(Powerscourt Townhouse centre)

Wild Lights: until January 31 (Dublin Zoo)

Whiskey & Warmth Experience: until January 30

(Pearse Lyons Whiskey Distillery)

Food on Foot: until January 31 (The Liberties)

Dublin Pottery Painting: until January 31 (Dublin Pottery)

Discover Ireland's Dark History: until January 31

(The Jeanie Johnston)

Ice Skating: until February 1 (Blanchardstown)



January

Turner as Inspiration: January 1-31 (The National Gallery)

Tradfest.com: January 21-25, 2026 (various venues)

Irish Traditional Music Tour, a walking tour: January 22-23

(outside the Palace Bar)

Dublin Racing Festival: January 31-February 1, 2026

(Leopardstown, D18)



February

St Brigid's Day: February 2, many places may close early.

Specialised Daily Tours: February 2-6

(EPIC – The Irish Immigration Museum)

March

St Patricks Day: March 17, 2026

Expect fun and parades all over Dublin!



Photo credit: by Fun on St Patrick's Day

April

Gorillaz concert: April 1 (3Arena)

Easter Festival: April 4–6, 2026 (at Fairyhouse, County Meath)

New Music Dublin: April 16-19, 2026 (various venues)

Dublin Coffee Festival: April 10-12 (RDS, Ballsbridge)

May

Metallica concert: May 19 and 21 (Aviva Stadium)

Wigwam Rumbullion: May 29-31

(Rum festival. Wigwam, Middle Abbey St)

Bord na Bloom: May 28 – June 1, 2026 (Pheonix Park)

Snow Patrol concert: May 31 (St Anne's Park)



June

Beyond The Pale Festival: June 12–14, 2026

(at Glendalough Estate)

Bloomsday: June 16, 2026 (celebrates James Joyce)

Lewis Capaldi Concert: June 23-24 (Marlay Park)

The Cure concert: June 26 (Marlay Park)

Tasteofdublin.ie: June, see website for up to date information
(Inveagh Gardens)



July

Take That concert: July 4 (Aviva Stadium)

Longitude Festival: July 4–5, 2026

(unconfirmed dates, Marlay Park)

Forest Fest: July 24–26, 2026

(at Emo Village, County Laois)



August

Wine & Cheese: August 7 @5pm

(The Shaw, Glasnevin)

Big Grill BBQ & Food festival: August 13-16

(Herbert Park, Ballsbridge)

The Weeknd: After Hours Til Dawn Tour: August 22–23, 2026

The Crisp Festival: August 28-30 (The Shaw, Glasnevin)



Visit here for many artists in different venues:

www.songkick.com/metro-areas/29314-ireland-dublin/2026

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Weddings in the capital

The question has been popped and the answer was a resounding YES! Now you have to decide where the best day of your life is going to be held, where might be romantic, where would you have a wonderful background for your photos?

Might it be in Dublin, the capital of the Emerald Isle? These are just some of the wonderful settings you could choose from for your very special day.



The Shelbourne, lovely building for a wedding



Weddings at Fallon & Byrne



Clayton Hotel, Charlemont



The Schoolhouse Hotel & Gastrobar offers a private, exclusive setting just 400m from the Registry Office, ensuring a seamless transition from ceremony to an intimate wedding lunch or cosy rehearsal dinner for up to 50 guests. Enjoy a warm, sophisticated atmosphere with fine food and drinks. Please note that full wedding coordination is not provided.



The Schoolhouse a beautiful, boutique hotel for intimate weddings



Our hand crafted Crackers are not just for Christmas, but for any Parties...

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Dublin 1, D01 ESP4

Phone: +353 1 804 9100
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Web: www.arlington.ie

Whatever the mood, there's a Dublin for that

You have disembarked your plane, parked your car or alighted from the train, tram or bus, found your accommodation and got changed out of your travel clothes.

Now what?

Maybe it's dinner time, you'll be discussing tomorrow's itinerary or maybe it's early morning and you have the whole day stretching ahead.

What is the mood today? Are you upbeat, ready for hours of walking or shopping? Maybe you're a little tired but don't want to waste the day. Or perhaps you need an adventure, or something to inspire you? Whatever the mood, there will be something in our ideas below that will appeal!

Or maybe you should just read this guide from cover to cover, we haven't missed much out!

Relaxed, chilled mood...

- **Courtyard of the National Art Gallery**
- **Grotto House**, Tyrconnell road in Inchicore, a very weird and wonderful structure
- **CHQ Custom House Quay**, usually space to just sit and people watch
- **St Stephen's Green**, plenty of space to watch the world go by here on a dry day.
- **Jameson Distillery tour**, Bow Street – tastings too!



Visit us at Jameson Distillery
Bow St., Dublin for tours,
tastings, cocktails and
more!

WWW.JAMESONWHISKEY.COM



Feeding your inspiration mood...

- **Viking Theatre**, The Sheds, 198 Clontarf Street
- **Dublinia**, Viking and Medieval Museum
- **Stella Cinema**, Dublin 6 – a 1920s inspired, glamorous cinema

Full of energy, let me at it mood...

- **Incognito Escape rooms** – indoor climbing and bouldering
- **Awesome Walls**, Dublin 11 – climb to your hearts content, beginners welcome too.
- **Gravity Climbing Centre**, Inchicore –
- **HowthAdventures.ie** can take you on a coastal hike, or how about a panoramic e-bike tour?

Putting your feet up for a while mood...

- Other than reading this guide...
- Any of **Dublin's libraries**, there are 22 throughout Dublin!
- Any of the magnificent churches about the city, some are open until late afternoon.

Fun, I need FUN mood...

- **Splash Tours Dublin** – plenty of laughs and splashes on this amphibian vehicle!
- **Escape Boats**, Charlotte Quay Dock – a floating Escape Boat!!
- **Adventure Rooms Dublin**, Green Street - plenty of puzzles to keep you occupied!

Feeling arty mood...

- **National Art Gallery** open until 20.30

Just need a pint and enjoy the craic mood...

- **Craic Den Comedy Club**, Temple Bar – comedians every night!
- **Laughter Lounge**, Eden Key D1 - Irish comedy Fridays and Saturdays
- **The Brazen Head**, Bridge Street Lower – Ireland's oldest pub
- **The Cobblestone**, King St north – Irish music
- **Kehoe's**, just off Grafton St – great Guinness and popular
- **McDaid's**, Harry St – a Victorian pub with a history!

Sightseeing Dublin mood...

- **Viking Tours Dublin** – experience this Viking boat tour
- **Dublin sightseeing Cruise** on River Liffey with a local, see Dublin from the water.
- How about treating yourself to a wonderful helicopter flight over the city and surrounding areas?! **Adventure 001** offers exactly that.

Credit: By Adventure101.ie



Dublin's Finest Fare

Walk along the city streets and you can't fail to notice the delicious aromas as you pass all the eateries. Much of this is produced from local, independent suppliers, who craft wonderful homemade delicacies, such as Sheridans Cheesemongers, who produce cheese towers and cheese boards to raise your culinary skills to the highest level. They can deliver monthly, or visit their cheese counter in any of their stores across Dublin.



What about a **Dublin Coddle**, made with Irish 'spuds', vegetables and using delicious butcher rashers and sausages made by Whelan's gourmet foods range, which include sage and black pudding or chilli & jalapenos?

Spice Bag is a relatively new invention, now all over Dublin in takeaways. Allegedly originating from The Sunflower Chinese restaurant in Templeogue, Dublin, and is battered chicken with chips, mixed with fried onions and peppers, shaken in a bag with 5-spice, salt and chilli chips!

Of course, you can find **Beef and Guinness pie** in many Irish restaurants, which is always tasty and filling. Old favourites, like Irish Stew, made from lamb (my mum used to use neck of lamb for the flavour) or Bacon and Cabbage (bacon being the boiled joint) which is really filling and hearty.

You may have heard of **Dublin Bay prawns**? They are actually fished for in the Irish Sea, Celtic Sea and off the West coast – also called Langoustines or Norwegian Lobster, but first come across when landed in Dublin regularly. They are small, slim lobsters, delicious when boiled or grilled.

Boxty are Irish potato cakes and Champ is mashed floury potatoes (spuds) with scallions and buttermilk.

You cannot be in Ireland and not taste traditional **Irish Soda Bread**!

A non-yeast loaf, made with flour, oats and buttermilk – I came across a version which used treacle and Guinness – oh my word, it was the best bread I've tasted!!



Pet Friendly Dublin



There are so many families who include their dogs in everything they do. We have four small dogs, they are part of our family and come on holiday with us wherever we go. So, wouldn't it be nice to know just what establishments welcome dogs, and which parks to walk them in and where great, long walks are? Here are just a few of these such places.



We welcome dogs in our restaurants, cafés and bars

- The Fumbally, Liberties. Serving lunches. Dogs allowed to curl up on the sofa!
- The Old Spot, Ballsbridge. A gastro pub. Dogs allowed in the front bar.
- Two Pups Coffee, Liberties. Coffee and Brunch, dogs welcome inside or out.
- Brewdog Dublin Outpost, Grand Canal Dock. Craft beers and fire pit. Dogs welcome everywhere.
- The Orange Goat, Ballsbridge. Coffee and Breakfast rolls. Fresh chicken for your pup.
- Isabelle's, South Anne Street. Great food, dogs allowed outside under their covered area.
- Little Bird, Portobello. Vegetarian healthy lunches. Casual seating welcoming dogs.
- Dog House & Blue, Howth. Extensive menu. Dogs have their own bed provided!
- Urbanity, Smithfield. All-day breakfasts. They have doggy treats.
- Dash Counter, Phoenix Park truck. Sandwiches and a puppuccino for your furry friend on Thursdays.
- Barbers Bar, Stoneybatter. Famous for doggy birthday parties!
- Angelina's, Baggot Street. Italian food. Dogs allowed on the terraces.
- The Bath, Bath Avenue D4. Big screens for sports. They welcome your pup to cheer along to the game!
- Bonobo, Smithfield. Draft beers and cocktails. Dogs allowed inside or by the outside fireplace.

Stay with your pooch here

- Motel One, Middle Abbey Street. Pets welcome in their lovely clean rooms.
- Pembroke Townhouse, Pembroke Road, Ballsbridge in a lovely Georgian street.
- Zanzibar Locke, Ormond Quay Lower, near iconic Ha'penny bridge.

Walking the streets

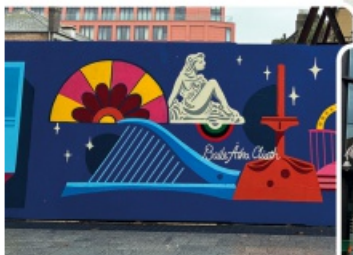
- Secret Street Tours allow four legged friends, just mention when booking.
- Cliff walks at Howth just outside of the city.

St Anne's Park, Merrion Square, Marlay Park (Rathfarnham), St Patrick's Park, Iveagh Gardens, St Stephen's Green and Phoenix Park (in some areas) all allow dogs, most on leads but some off-lead, see signs for information.

A Sign of the Times

Whether it is for an advertising gimmick, to catch the eye, to draw you in, or just to look exciting and bright, you can't help but notice that Dublin City is a very colourful place.

Here are just some we captured.



We would love to see all your captures for our next guide, we will include and credit the best ones! votemart365@gmail.com

Sightseeing Tours by Bus

You have so many modes of transport to move around Dublin, as shown on page 52. You will also see several open-top, hop on – hop off buses, great for sightseeing on non-umbrella days!

All offering 24hrs, 48hrs or 72hrs tickets.

The Big Bus will take you to local landmarks, hidden gems, distilleries, from Parnell Square, Merrion Square and across to Phoenix Park with all things interesting in between.



Do Dublin have two routes earmarked for their hop on – hop off green buses, and offer meal deals with each ticket.

City Sightseeing Tours, the red buses also do Cycle Tours, Boat Tours and Walking Tours.



There are fascinating tours in an old 1960s vintage bus, called **Vintage Tea Trips** which will tell you stories of Dublin and serve you a delicious afternoon tea. Add to the style

by wearing your best mini, headscarf, beehive or Go Go boots!

Thank you

To those of you who contributed to the making of this first Visitor Guide to Dublin, we thank you, your input has made it the comprehensive guide it became. It took several months longer than anticipated to create, Dublin has so much to offer, it was difficult to fit it all in!

Thank you for your continuing support with your incredible knowledge (of the world!) and help in allowing me to use your photos Patrick Comerford | www.patrickcomerford.com

Thank you to Chris McMorrow, who was, thankfully, delighted to allow me to use his wonderful paintings in the guide www.chrismcmorrow.net



Thank you to Brian Foley, who braved a cold and dreary weekend in Dublin, taking shots of lots of the exciting street art, signs and monuments used in the guide.

Also a big thank you to my friend Antje, who walked 20km in Dublin (getting her steps in!) taking photos for me!

Anabel deserves a huge mention here, for her dedication in putting all my scribbles and ideas into decipherable pages! "teamwork is the dreamwork" as they say!

And to all our advertising partners, without whose essential support, we would not be able to produce these guides. If you have any suggestions or are a company who would love to be in the guide next year, please do contact us, we would love to hear from you. | sally@smart365.org

Unexpected Urban Gems

As you wander the streets, you'll come across some really interesting buildings and urban gems, from gorgeous Georgian doors



Hugh Lane Gallery door



GPO door



Door Entrance to former Jervis Street hospital



Georgian door



Georgian door

An Post has a lovely postbox in the wall in the general post office.



Charles Stewart Parnell



An Post

The artwork under the Charles Stewart Parnell statue, or the Garden of Remembrance, full of statues and artwork

If you aren't feeling so energetic, you can pick up a horse and carriage from outside St Stephens Green opposite Grafton Street. The carriages queue up on a first come, first served basis and are available from April to October and recently during the festive season.



Horse drawn carriage



Garden of Remembrance



Or walk along the lovely Royal Canal Way, (which spans 130km if you want a good cycle) and see all the locks

Then of course, you have wonderful buildings to admire, Dublinia, Fusilier's Arch, Dublin Castle among many others.



The Lock



Fusilier's Arch, Stephen's Green



Dublinia



Dublin castle



Dublinia

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 THE LIBERTIES | THE OVAL | THUNDER ROAD CAFE | TURKS HEAD | URBAN GEMS |
 WALKING FOOD TOURS | ZOO

SMART SUDOKU

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R	G	E	R	D	S	N	F	X	A	R	Z	R	Y	F	U	R	I	O	I	N	H
S	P	O	T	L	T	C	G	Z	I	F	I	A	D	E	N	L	S	O	N	S	T
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G	A	R	R	O	P	E	E	C	O	I	I	R	M	V	R	T	B	A	P	W	E
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