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AN AMERICAN
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Publisher's Note

Welcome to the Summer issue of Go Wild Dublin magazine, the title created to highlight the fair city of Dublin, the heart of Irish culture, business and tourism on the Emerald Isle.

This is the fifth title in the Go Wild magazine portfolio and joins Go Wild Tourism (for the Wild Atlantic Way), Go Wild Food Experience Magazine, Go Ancient East and Go Wild on the Lakes.

All of these titles can be viewed and downloaded for free from any of the following three links on your computer or mobile device:

- www.gowildmagazine.com
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Our ideas and plans at Go Wild HQ are always huge but the initial concept remains simple - we aim to produce a guide to all that is wonderful in Dublin, nudging you gently to the not-to-be-missed sights, the best eateries and, the secret gems.

We want you to share our amazing capital city with the world, so bring us home with you and show your friends how wonderful Dublin really is.

I hope that a flick through our publication will inspire you, so that Ireland may delight you.

Have an amazing holiday.

Do keep in touch www.gowildmagazine.com or issuu.com/gowildmagazines to download all of our magazines for free

Slán leat,

Bobby Power

Publisher

Go Wild Magazine titles

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To download all of our Go Wild Tourism, Go Ancient East, Go Wild On The Lakes, and two Go Wild Food Experience magazines titles directly to your device, please visit <http://www.issuu.com/gowildmagazine>



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For all the latest news, visit www.gowildmagazine.com – your official guide to the Wild Atlantic Way

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EPIC:

Irish museum crowned Europe's Leading Tourist Attraction

EPIC, the stunning Irish Emigration Museum in Dublin's Docklands, has been crowned Europe's Leading Tourist Attraction 2019.

Beating other world-famous attractions such as Spike Island, the Cliffs of Moher, Buckingham Palace, the Eiffel Tower and the Roman Colosseum, this unique museum experience scooped the coveted accolade at the prestigious World Travel Awards in Madeira, Portugal, on June 8th.

As the world's first, fully-digital museum, EPIC encompasses 1,500 years of Irish history in a slick, interactive, visually entertaining presentation on how, where and why the Irish emigrated.

EPIC is not your typical museum experience. Spread over 20 interactive galleries, it reveals the far-reaching influence of Irish history and the impact the 10-million Irish men and women who have left Ireland, have had on the world.

Each gallery tells a fascinating story of Irish people, past and present, reliving some of the greatest Irish achievements and accomplishments in the world of sport, music, art, culture, politics, food, fashion and science.

The strong link between the United States and Ireland is well represented, with an impressive array of Irish-American luminaries featured. They include US Presidents John F. Kennedy and Ronald Reagan, White House architect James Hoban, writer F. Scott Fitzgerald, singer John McCormack, dancers Gene Kelly and Michael Flatley, actors John Wayne, James Cagney

and Grace Kelly plus the film director John Ford, among many others.

With some 70-million people around the world claiming Irish heritage and ancestry, there are also tales from Britain, Australia, New Zealand, Canada, Continental Europe, Latin America and more. The museum's location, on the banks of the River Liffey, was the departure point for many Irish emigrants, when they left their homeland during the Great Famine of the 1800s. Nearby, there are haunting Famine memorial sculptures as well as the Jeanie Johnston Tall Ship to explore, both representing that tragic chapter of Irish history.

EPIC is located in the vaults of the beautifully restored CHQ building, originally a Georgian wine and tobacco warehouse but now an attractive recreation, retail, food and events hub, in Dublin's city centre. The Irish Emigration Museum also houses a state-of-the-art genealogy centre, which offers consultations with experts, access to Irish family history records and information to help anyone explore their Irish ancestry.





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You won't find leprechauns or pots of gold at EPIC, but you'll discover that what it means to be Irish expands far beyond the borders of Ireland. Discover Ireland from the outside in — through the stories of the men and women who left and the Irish culture they brought with them.

Don't just visit Ireland, understand it.
Search for **EPIC Museum**.

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EPIC The Irish
Emigration
Museum



EUROPEAN MUSEUM
OF THE YEAR 2018
SHORTLISTED



TRAVELER BEST OF
THE WORLD

Grace

A LOVE STORY



The love story of Joseph Plunkett and Grace Gifford is one of the most moving and memorable in Irish history, which has captured imaginations the world over.

It tells a tale of two star-crossed lovers who married just hours before Plunkett was executed for his part in the 1916 Easter Rising.

Grace Gifford was born to a Catholic father and a fiercely Protestant mother in 1888, and was raised Church of Ireland. A talented artist and cartoonist, she contributed to various republication publications and was passionate about Ireland's independence from the United Kingdom.

She met and fell in love with Joseph Plunkett, who was the editor of the Irish Review, in September 1915. He too was born into wealth; his father, Count Plunkett, was the director of the National Museum. Joseph himself was a poet, nationalist and was committed to armed revolution. He was one of the military strategists of the 1916, Easter Rising.

Though Grace's parents did not approve of the union, the pair became engaged in December 1915 and intended to marry, however, history would intervene in their plans.

By the end of Easter week 1916, the Irish rebels had surrendered and were placed in Kilmainham jail, the fate of its leaders decided. The fifteen men, including Joseph Plunkett, were to be executed by firing squad.

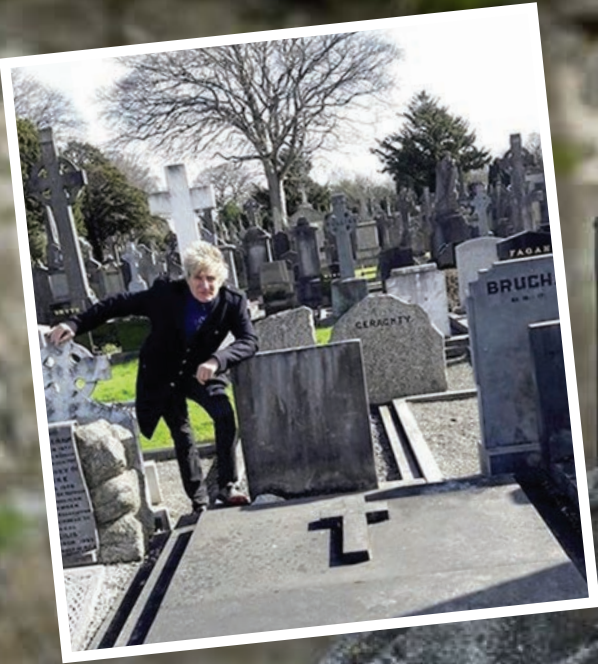
When he discovered that he would die, Joseph requested permission to be married to his sweetheart, Grace. On the night of May 3rd 1916, just hours before he was to be executed, she was brought to the jail. In 1949 she recalled that evening, saying: "When I saw him... he was so unselfish, he never thought of himself. He was not frightened, not in the slightest."

The couple were married before a priest and two witnesses in the jail's chapel. The following day, Joseph Plunkett was executed. Before facing the firing squad, he said: "I am very happy I am dying for the glory of God and the honour of Ireland."

In his will, Joseph left everything to his widow, but his parents refused to honour it. She remained resolutely nationalist after her husband's death and was imprisoned in Kilmainham jail for three months in 1923. She never remarried and outlived her husband by 39 years. Grace Gifford died on December 13, 1955, and was buried with full military honours in Glasnevin Cemetery.

The tragic tale of their love was immortalised in song in 1985 by Frank and Sean O'Meara. It tells the sad story of their doomed relationship. The lyrics include poignant lines that reference

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the couple's last moments together.
"Oh, Grace, just hold me in your arms
and let this moment linger,
They'll take me out at dawn and I will die.
With all my love, I place this wedding
ring upon your finger,
There won't be time to share our love
for we must say good-bye."

The song has been recorded by many musicians including The Wolfe Tones and The Dubliners and has proved to be very popular across the world. Most recently it left global superstar Rod Stewart bewitched, describing the ballad as "one of the greatest love songs ever written." He recorded a version of the track for his latest album 'Blood Red Roses'.

The legendary singer first came across the song when supporters of Celtic Football Club gave a rendition of it at a match and he became interested in discovering more about its origins.

Speaking to Ryan Tubridy, host of RTE's Late Late Show, in March of this year, he said: "I first heard the song when I went to the Scottish cup final four years ago, the fans were singing it and I couldn't get it out of my mind."

So captivated was he by the song and story that he decided to visit the chapel in the Kilmainham where Grace and Joseph wed. Talking about the experience, he explained: "I visited the jail and went into the chapel where it all happened. So, it means a lot to me, that one, it really does. There was no furniture in the jail apart from the jail bed, no table, no bed, no chair, nothing," Rod revealed that

he also visited Grace Gifford's grave in Glasnevin Cemetery in March of this year (pictured).

Rod's appearance on the Late Late Show became a celebration of the legendary love of Grace and Joseph and the beautiful, poignant ballad that was inspired by their story.

Ryan Tubridy presented the singer with a first edition collection of poetry by Joseph Plunkett which included a signature by Grace. Rod was moved to tears by the gesture and was taken aback by the generous gift. On the night Rod was also introduced to Frank and Sean O'Meara, the songsmiths who penned Grace.

One hundred years later, the love story of Grace Gifford and Joseph Plunkett continues to captivate the hearts and minds of both superstars and civilians alike.



As we gather in the chapel here in old Kilmainham Gaol,
I think about these past few days, oh, will they say we've failed?
From our school days, they have told us we must yearn for liberty,
Yet, all I want in this dark place is to have you here with me.

Oh, Grace, just hold me in your arms and let this moment linger,
They'll take me out at dawn and I will die.
With all my love, I place this wedding ring upon your finger,
There won't be time to share our love for we must say good-bye.

Now, I know it's hard for you, my love, to ever understand,
The love I bear for these brave men, my love for this dear land,
But when Pádraic called me to his side down in the G.P.O.,
I had to leave my own sick bed, to him I had to go.

Now, as the dawn is breaking, my heart is breaking, too,
On this May morn, as I walk out, my thoughts will be of you,
And I'll write some words upon the wall so everyone will know,
I love so much that I could see his blood upon the rose.

Songwriters: Sean O'Meara / Frank O'Meara

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60-seconds Chatting with Entrepreneur extraordinaire:



Rena Harrington

B: You've gone from CEO of a group of Radio stations, to matchmaker, to online child-protection start-up founder – not the most obvious career path?

R: I had a 10-year career in media but when the whole economy collapsed in 2010. My husband Feargal and I decided to start a business. It was a really good time to start a company. Rent, advertising, staff - it was all cheap, so we could keep our overheads low while we got off the ground. We set out to make 'Intro Matchmaking' the biggest face-to-face dating agency in Ireland within 2-years and, with a little help from our appearance on the 'Late Late Show', we became so big that we couldn't keep up with demand.

We expanded rapidly and moved from Dawson Street to bigger offices with more staff on Dublin's Grafton Street. We then decided to set up an online dating site for people that still wanted to date in a safe, secure way but perhaps couldn't afford the full 'Intro' experience. 'Arealkeeper.ie' was born and we were the first dating site in the world to use anti-fraud technology to give users an

opportunity to verify their identity in real-time, and in turn, choose only to communicate with others who were verified. I had never been a luddite but I'm not a technologist, so I was a little afraid of AI, Machine-Learning, IoT – all those buzz words you hear.

B: Which brings us to your latest venture - 'Cilter Child' - protection software for smartphones. How did this come about?

R: When I was pregnant with my son, I kept getting served the image of Alan Kurdi, the little Syrian boy that washed up on the beach in Turkey. I looked on Facebook for a filter but they didn't have any. I looked on the App store for one and none existed.

When my son Quinn was born, I became painfully aware of headlines of children having killed themselves after they were systematically cyberbullied or children being groomed by predators. The filter I had been looking for seemed a really natural fit for a parental control. There was nothing. Literally nothing. Parental controls for smartphones are all apps that operate on a peer-to-peer system so

they cannot access data within other apps. They are limited to monitoring and spying tools.

We developed a disruptive modification to the operating system of the smartphone that can access all data coming into and leaving the device. So if your child is sent a bullying message, we will detect it and block it. If your child tries to send a nude image of themselves, the image won't send or if your child tries to access self-harm material, you'll be sent an alert along with tips on how to deal with it.

We are hoping to be the machine-standard parental control across all smartphones, so that 'Cilter' is available to all parents, everywhere, so we can reduce cyberbullying, increase early detection and prosecution of predators and save lives, by notifying parents if there is an imminent threat to their child.

B: Best of luck with it, Rena, sounds like it will really make a difference to the lives and mental health of children and families.

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Major boost for tourism as Fáilte Ireland announces €150-million investment for attractions nationwide

Fáilte Ireland will invest €150-million into developing major new visitor attractions of scale, across the country

The Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport Shane Ross launched Fáilte Ireland's new Platforms for Growth initiative, which will "transform the tourism landscape across the country" according to CEO Paul Kelly.

The programme of investment is Fáilte Ireland's largest yet, and forms part of its Grants Scheme for Large Tourism Projects, which runs up to 2022.

Major new visitor attractions of scale will be developed and existing attractions greatly enhanced, through Platforms for Growth, with Fáilte Ireland making individual grants available for large-scale visitor attractions of €2.5-million upwards.

Platforms for Growth is funded under the Government's Project Ireland 2040 strategy, with the aim of driving sustainable growth in the Irish tourism sector and higher revenue and job creation around Ireland.

It is unlike any previous investment announced by Fáilte Ireland, as it specifically targets 'platforms' or projects that have the greatest potential to grow tourism across Ireland, and fill gaps in the Irish tourism offering, in order to meet changing visitor preferences.

Through this approach, Platforms for Growth will pave the way for large-scale and transformative attractions that will become key motivators to visit an area. In turn, this will step-change the economic value of tourism in the area through increased visitor numbers, revenue and job creation.

The first 'Platform' launched will focus on developing Immersive Heritage

and Cultural Attractions. Overseas visitors are increasingly seeking out more hands-on experiences, which bring local culture and heritage to life, and this platform will invest in projects that deliver innovative and interactive experiences for the visitor to 'immerse' themselves in. Further platforms will be announced over the course of the programme.

Minister Shane Ross joined Fáilte Ireland CEO Paul Kelly at the site of the new Museum of Literature Ireland (MoLI) in Dublin to launch Platforms for Growth. MoLI, which is due to open later this year, is an example of a world-class attraction that has been developed with capital investment from Fáilte Ireland.

Announcing the new programme Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport, Shane Ross T.D., said: "Tourism has experienced significant growth in recent years and having world-class attractions has been fundamental in attracting visitors from around the globe to Ireland. Platforms for Growth will deliver on the Government's Project Ireland 2040 objectives and it will do exactly as the name suggests – provide a platform that will contribute significantly to a growth in visitor numbers and the development of tourism nationwide. I look forward to visiting the world-class attractions that will be developed through this major investment programme. This will put Ireland on an even stronger footing in the international marketplace."

Minister of State for Tourism and Sport, Brendan Griffin T.D., said: "Tourism is a vital source of employment in Ireland and a key economic driver. It is an industry that is unique in its ability to spur local job creation and sustain rural communities. This announcement demonstrates the Government's commitment to

growing tourism and spreading the benefits regionally as well as ensuring that Ireland continues to have an incredibly strong and compelling offering for international visitors."

Fáilte Ireland's CEO Paul Kelly stated: "Driving growth in the regions through tourism is a core focus of our work at Fáilte Ireland and having top-class visitor attractions and experiences is an integral part of this. At Fáilte Ireland, we are currently working on over 50 large capital projects throughout Ireland that will significantly enhance the Irish tourism offering, as they open in the coming four years. Platforms for Growth builds on this work and takes a new approach to investment, as it will specifically seek out projects of scale that tap into exactly what overseas visitors are looking for. Creating a more regional spread of visitors is central to our capital investment strategy and through Platforms for Growth new attractions across the country will be developed and existing ones transformed."

There will be clear criteria governing investment under Platforms for Growth, which are based on strategic importance, potential for economic growth and job creation in communities across the country, as well as driving innovation and sustainability in the sector.

The 'Immersive Heritage and Cultural Attractions' Platform is now open for applications, with a submission deadline of 17th July for expressions of interest. A series of workshops will be held around the country and all details will be available on www.failteireland.ie/platformsforgrowth. Platforms for Growth is part of Fáilte Ireland's wider capital investment programme, which has already allocated over €125-million to tourism across the country since 2016.

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CITY CENTRE *what's hot*

There's so much to see and do in the heart of the capital and no visitor will ever leave unfulfilled. Well-known attractions such as The Guinness Storehouse have rightly earned their place at the top of the most visited list; but there are some hidden gems to look out for also.

So, when we went to compile a list of what's hot in the city centre – we asked Dubliners what they would do on a sunny Saturday - where do they go - and what the locals would recommend you don't miss during your stay! Here's a few of the favourites for you to check out during your stay in Dublin city centre.

The Little Museum of Dublin

Telling the story of the city over the last 100 years, the museum makes a big impact with small stuff – from a first edition of Ulysses to old bus scrolls and a statue of Bono. There's an exhibition downstairs that changes seasonally, and a special tour each Thursday focusing on women's history in Ireland.

Freemason's Hall

Despite the reputation for secrecy, Irish freemasonry has a long and proud tradition and anyone can dip in during a tour of Freemason's Hall on Molesworth Street. The Grand Lodge here is the second oldest in the world and it's full of dizzying details and set-pieces. Tours run at 2.30pm on weekdays from June to August, with private visits welcome by appointment outside of those times.

Powerscourt Centre

Dublin's not short of shopping centres but for a shopping experience, check out the Powerscourt Centre. Grandiose steps lead to the entrance on South William Street and there's a light-filled atrium within. It's bursting with Georgian heritage and dreamy shops that will steal both your heart and your money.

Trinity College

The Book of Kells always fascinates but, for many, the best part of Trinity College is its Old Library – an 18th-century, oak-shelved long room straight from the pages of Harry Potter. A rare copy of the 1916 Proclamation and a 15th century harp that inspired the emblem of Ireland, are just the start of its treasures. After the book and the library, head over to the Science Gallery, an art-meets-science space, the exhibitions of which are guaranteed to bend your brain!

Bog Bodies at National Museum

While the archaeology outpost of the National Museum is a literal treasure trove of gold and jewels, the bog bodies are the most captivating of its exhibits. Weave between the partitions to find bodies that date back to 2000BC, perfectly preserved with mahogany-toned skin. Eyelashes, fingernails and even hair are all intact, and some bodies bear the marks of their death.

Chester Beatty Library & Roof Garden

Can't face the line for the Book of Kells? Get your antique literary fix at

the Chester Beatty Library instead, home to a staggering collection of books and manuscripts. The texts on display are exquisite, including some of the earliest known biblical texts on papyrus. Afterwards, head up to the roof garden for some peace and enjoy the views over Dublin Castle.

Read Ulysses at Sweny's Chemist

James Joyce was Dublin's quintessential writer but his books are more admired than read. You can change that by joining a reading session at Sweny's, the 19th-century chemist that features in Ulysses and is today run as a literary curiosity shop by volunteers on Lincoln Place. Readings of Joyce's books take place at 1pm on weekdays and various times on weekends, with visitors invited to join in.

Croke Park

The GAA (Gaelic Athletic Association) is Ireland's largest sporting organisation. It represents our national games of hurling and Gaelic football and is celebrated as one of the world's greatest amateur sporting associations. If you really want to get under the skin of the Irish, a visit to Croke Park is a must. More than just a stadium, it's the home of Gaelic games and it holds a special place in the hearts and minds of Irish people. Here, you'll find passion and history pumping around every corner. The Croke Park Stadium Tour, Ericsson Skyline (how's your head for heights?) and GAA Museum are the perfect way to truly immerse yourself in Irish culture.

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Molly Malone

The Dubliners

In Dublin's fair city
Where the girls are so pretty
I first set my eyes on sweet Molly Malone
As she wheeled her wheelbarrow
Through the streets broad and narrow
Crying "cockles and mussels, alive, alive, oh"
Alive, alive, oh
Alive, alive, oh
Crying "cockles and mussels, alive, alive, oh"
She was a fishmonger
And sure, 'twas no wonder
For so were her mother and father before
And they wheeled their barrow
Through the streets broad and narrow
Crying "cockles and mussels, alive, alive, oh"

Alive, alive, oh
Alive, alive, oh
Crying "cockles and mussels, alive, alive, oh"
She died of a fever
And sure, so one could save her
And that was the end of sweet Molly Malone
Now her ghost wheels her barrow
Through the streets broad and narrow
Crying "cockles and mussels, alive, alive, oh"
Alive, alive, oh
Alive, alive, oh
Crying "cockles and mussels, alive, alive, oh"
Alive, alive, oh
Alive, alive, oh
Crying "cockles and mussels, alive, alive, oh"



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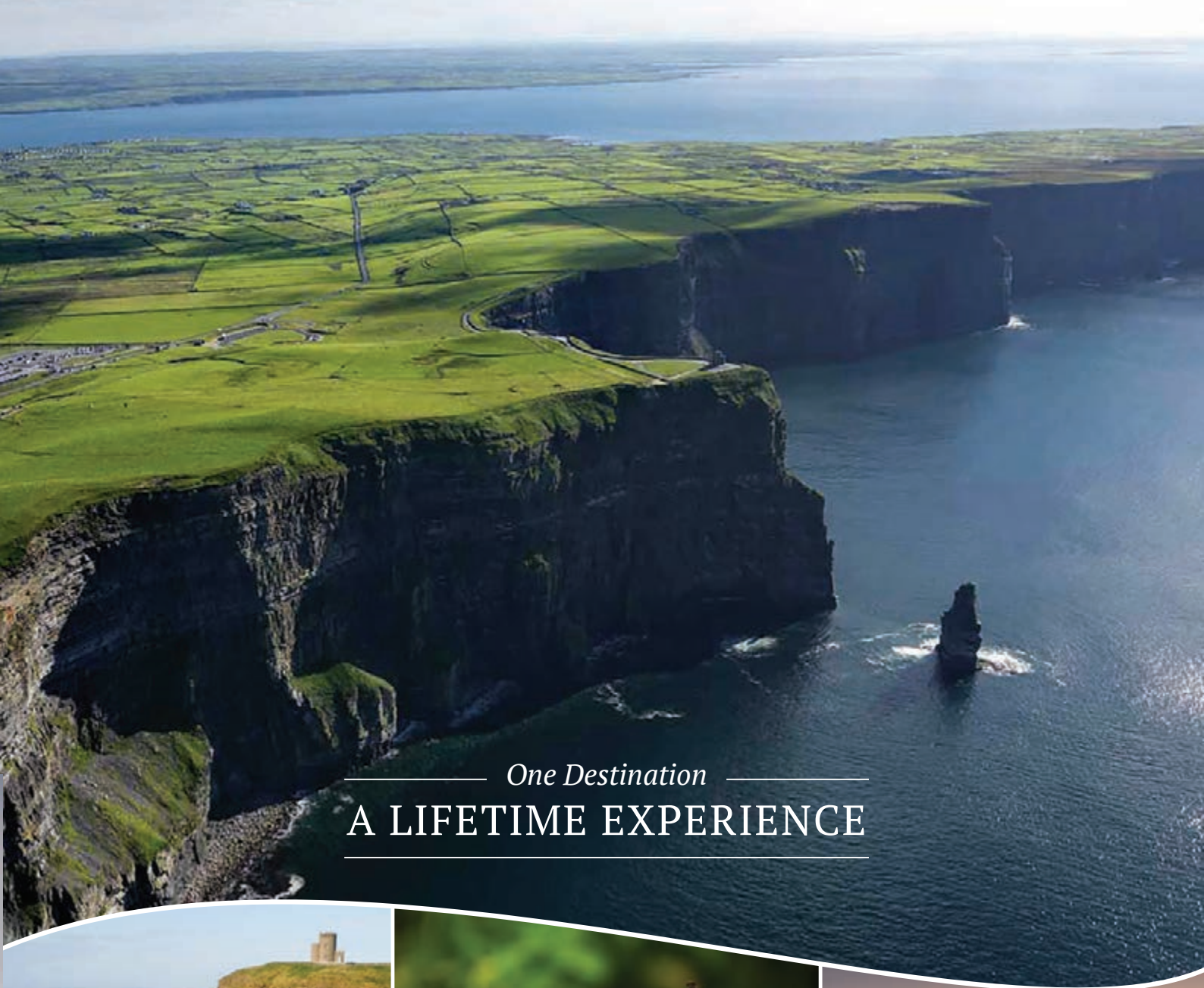
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10 Reasons to visit Dublin

Molly Malone

The song 'Cockles and Mussels' is the unofficial anthem of Dublin city. The song's tragic heroine Molly Malone and her barrow have come to stand as one of the most familiar symbols of the capital. The statue of Molly Malone is located on Suffolk Street, just a short walk from Trinity College and Grafton Street. Molly Malone worked as a fishmonger but also as a working girl and died in one of the outbreaks of Cholera that regularly used to sweep the city of Dublin. The statue of Molly and her cart is affectionately nicknamed 'The Tart with the Cart' by Dubliners.

Moore St Market

Moore Street Market is an open-air fruit and vegetable market, which is held from Mondays-Saturdays. This colourful and lively street is a must for visitors wishing to experience a slice of life and get a flavour of Dublin through the wit of its people. The Moore Street accent, with its typical Dublin street cries, is widely celebrated.

Stroll along Grafton Street

Running from Stephen's Green in the south to College Green in the north, Grafton Street is one of the busiest streets in Ireland and one of Dublin's most prominent shopping districts. It is full of high street and up-market shops, department stores and shopping centres and is the perfect place to stroll along as you window shop, or pause to watch one of the many buskers and street performers.

Many of Ireland's biggest music acts such as singer/ songwriter Damien Rice, Academy Award Winner Glen Hansard and Anglo-Irish band Keywest started out busking on Grafton Street.

Dublin Zoo

Located in Phoenix Park, in the heart of Dublin City, Dublin Zoo is Ireland's most popular family attraction, and welcomed over one million visitors last year. As one of the world's oldest zoos, the 28-hectare park is home to some 400 animals in an environment where education and conservation combine for an exciting and unforgettable experience.

Dublin Zoo is much more than a fun-filled, stimulating day out for all the family...it's a place to learn about wild animals, especially those which are endangered. The zoo is a registered charity – your visit will help maintain Dublin Zoo and contribute to conservation programmes.

Marvel at St Patrick's Cathedral

Saint Patrick's Cathedral is the national cathedral of the Church of Ireland. The building is a busy place that serves as a place of worship, a visitor attraction and as a host for many events. As the largest cathedral and one of the most important pilgrimage sites in Ireland, Saint Patrick's has been at the heart of Dublin and Ireland's history and culture for over 800 years.

Get a photo at the Spire

The huge, striking and innovative monument stands in the middle of O'Connell Street just across from the famous GPO. 120m high and 3m in diameter at the base, the Spire rises above O'Connell Street, breaking above the roof line with as slender and elegant a movement as is technically possible. The Spire is approximately

15cm in diameter at its apex. The upper part of the Spire sways gently when the wind blows, reflecting the character of the city's climate. The monument's tip can sway up to a maximum of 1.5m under extreme wind loading; don't be too alarmed if you're nearby when this happens!

Take a tour at the Jameson Distillery

The new look Jameson Distillery Bow St. offers three fully guided experiences: Bow St. Experience, The Whiskey Makers, and The Whiskey Shakers - all of which have a firm focus on immersive storytelling. You'll be invited to touch, smell and most importantly, taste Jameson in the original Bow St. Distillery buildings. An exciting part of their Whiskey Makers & Whiskey Shakers experiences is a visit to their live Maturation Warehouse, where you'll get to taste Jameson straight from the barrel.

Take a walk over Ha'penny Bridge

The Ha'penny Bridge is the best-known and most photographed of Dublin's bridges. It was built in 1816 and was the first iron bridge in Ireland. It is a single span structure with cast iron railings and decorative lamps. It was originally named the Liffey Bridge but is now called the Ha'penny because until 1919, to cross it there was a half-penny charge.

Explore Dublin Castle

Erected in the early 13th century on the site of a Viking settlement, Dublin Castle served for centuries as the headquarters of English, and later British, administration in Ireland. In 1922, following Ireland's independence, Dublin Castle was handed over to the new Irish government. It is now a major government complex and a key tourist attraction.

General Post Office

Located on O'Connell Street, The General Post Office (GPO) was the last of Dublin's prominent public Georgian buildings to be built. Completed in 1818, the GPO still serves Dublin as a post office and a notable landmark.

The GPO is one of Ireland's most famous buildings, given its role in the 1916 Easter Rising. The building served as the headquarters for the Easter Rising and got heavily damaged in the fighting. Heralded as a symbol of Irish independence, the GPO houses a small museum on the building's place in Irish life.



CLADDAGH JEWELLERS

The iconic symbol of love, loyalty and friendship, the Claddagh dates back hundreds of years and is intrinsically linked with Galway.

Claddagh Jewellers are makers of the authentic Claddagh Ring whose origins date back over three hundred years. This family-run business invites you to a unique visitor centre experience where you can discover the history of the Claddagh Ring and the legend behind how it is worn. Visit stores in Galway and Dublin to browse the most extensive collection of fine Irish and Celtic jewellery, where you can choose your own authentic Claddagh Ring and become a part of the tradition. Check out their website thecladdagh.com to click and collect your item before arrival or to browse their selection of Celtic & Claddagh Jewellery.

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Discover the heart of who we are

The GAA (Gaelic Athletic Association) is Ireland's largest sporting organisation. It represents our unique national games of hurling and Gaelic football and is celebrated as one of the world's greatest amateur sporting associations.

The GAA is at the heart of every community in Ireland and it's fair to say that there are no other sports in the world more intertwined with a country's identity, history and culture. The GAA is in our DNA. It's what we love. It's what we do.

If you really want to get under the skin of the Irish, a visit to Croke Park is a must. More than just a stadium, it's the home of Gaelic games and it holds a special place in the hearts and minds of Irish people. Here, you'll find passion and history pumping around every corner. Everything and everyone is brimming with pride, including our renowned Tour Guides who'll have you hanging on every word.

The GAA Museum & Tours are the perfect way to truly immerse yourself in Irish culture – so don't be surprised if you leave a little bit of your own heart behind in Croke Park! Choose from our trio of experiences.

Croke Park Stadium Tour The Backstage Pass

Croke Park has been at the heart of Irish sporting life for over 100 years. With a capacity of 82,300, this magnificent stadium is actually the third largest in Europe.

Its size is only part of its



greatness, however, as you'll discover on this eye-opening, access-all-areas tour. From quirky insights into why Croke Park's grass is always greener to learning about defining moments in Irish history, the passionate Tour Guides will take you on an inspiring journey around our national stadium.

Some of the highlights include taking a seat in the VIP area, getting a birds-eye view from the media centre, sneaking a peek inside the dressing rooms, and of course, walking in the footsteps of legends as you go pitchside through the players' tunnel!

Ericsson Skyline Tour The High Point

Are you ready for a 17-storey high? Then bring your adventurous spirit (and your camera!) to Croke Park's Skyline.

Located right in the heart of the city, this thrilling rooftop walkway is Dublin's highest open-viewing platform and offers breathtaking panoramic views of Ireland's vibrant capital from the mountains to the sea.

This Dublin City tour highlights all of the capital's main landmarks while giving you an insight into its



heartfelt history, told in a uniquely charming way by the charismatic Tour Guides. Then of course there's the sporting highlight – the incredible view from the platform that's suspended over the Croke Park pitch itself.

GAA Museum The Heart & Soul

A trip to Croke Park simply wouldn't be complete without experiencing the treasured GAA Museum. Get ready to immerse yourself in the spine-tingling and completely unique story of Gaelic games from ancient times to the present day.

This museum is like no other sporting museum you'll ever visit. It not only celebrates Ireland's national games, it also vividly brings to life how the GAA has contributed to our cultural, social and sporting heritage.

Featured exhibitions include the original Sam Maguire and Liam MacCarthy Cups, the rousing Hall of Fame, and a whole floor dedicated to the games as they are today. When you're done exploring, get a taste of the action in the popular Interactive Games Zone, where you can test your hurling and Gaelic football skills!



DISCOVER THE heart and home OF GAELIC GAMES



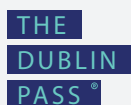
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Discover the unique story of Gaelic games from ancient times to the present day in the GAA Museum.

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DISCOVER THE heart OF WHO WE ARE

Things To Do In Howth

Howth Summit

Howth Summit (171m) has excellent views across Dublin Bay right down to County Wicklow. From the top of Howth hill, you can walk to the top of the Ben of Howth, a headland near the village, which has a cairn said to mark a 2000-year-old Celtic royal grave. The 1814 Baily Lighthouse, at the southeastern corner, is on the site of an old stone fort and can be reached by a dramatic clifftop walk.

Hurdy Gurdy Museum of Vintage Radio

The Ye Olde Hurdy-Gurdy Museum of Vintage Radio in Howth boasts many examples of early Morse equipment, gramophones, crystal sets, valve radios and other pieces of equipment. Pat Herbert, the curator, is always on hand to demonstrate some of the many working exhibits.

Fittingly, the Martello Tower has historic links with Marconi and Lee de Forest, two of the fathers of wireless, who conducted early experiments from the tower in the 1900s. It was also the site where the first communications cable from Holyhead in Wales to Ireland was laid in 1852.

Howth Market

Following a major revamp in summer 2013, Howth Market has become a permanent fixture standing proudly along the seafront of Howth. Welcoming both locals and tourists alike, Howth Market is a fantastic day out and offers a vast array of organic produce, freshly baked goods, jewellery, clothing, antiques and much more. The market itself takes place each weekend and also on bank holidays.

Howth Castle Gardens

The Howth Castle gardens are worth a visit; they're noted for their rhododendrons (which bloom in May and June), for their azaleas and for the long, 10m-high beech hedge planted in 1710.

The gardens were founded in the 19th century. The rich, turf soil was brought up to the cliffs and thrown into the gaps between rocks. Around 2,000 plant species were planted on the site, including quite exotic specimens like palm trees and tree ferns. Here, all the plants seem to grow wild beside a cliff wall and this gives this place a sort of an exotic touch. You can admire all the colours, varieties and shapes of flowers, while strolling along the narrow paths between the trees, and you won't believe you're actually in Ireland.

Claremont Beach

Howth's 'hidden' beach is Claremont; a small cove-like beach situated close to the harbour. It is a popular beach all year round and there are a number of pubs and restaurants located along the Harbour Road and in the village of Howth. Located on the other side of the railway, it's a lovely sandy strand, with perfect views of Ireland's Eye directly in front. To get here, go past the semi-industrial area by the West Pier.

Aqua Restaurant

Aqua, Howth's award-winning seafood restaurant, has been serving the community for over 15 years. Located at the very end of Howth's West Pier in a building with a long and apt history, Aqua has the best seat in town with legendary views across Howth Sound to the island of Ireland's Eye. Aqua sits proudly in a building which previously belonged to Howth Sailing Club, which was formed in 1895.

Aqua uses the best local ingredients in all dishes, a lot of fish served is caught locally and salads come from a local restaurant garden run on Howth Hill.

Ireland's Eye

A 15-minute boat ride from Howth on Dublin's northside lies Ireland's Eye, a beautiful and mostly untouched island. The only signs of human activity are a Martello Tower and the ruins of a church. It's a hive of activity otherwise; the wildlife on offer is incredible, notably the many species of nesting birds. The most spectacular natural feature is the huge freestanding rock called "the Stack", at the northeastern corner of the island, which plays host to a large variety of seabirds, including thousands of guillemots, razorbills, fulmars and gulls. There's even a few breeding pairs of puffins. Grey seals are abundant in the sea around the island too.

National Transport Museum

The Transport Museum Society of Ireland began with an abortive 1949 effort to preserve three Dublin trams. Totally voluntary, the Society became a limited company in 1971 and is now a registered charity, operating to international museum standards. Sixty out of the 100 vehicles currently in Howth are on display, and others can be inspected by prior arrangement. The oldest items date from 1883, the newest 1984.

AIRFIELD ESTATE:

A RURAL HAVEN NEAR DUBLIN'S BUSTLING CITY CENTRE

It's nice to get away from the hustle and bustle of the big city every once-in-a-while and Airfield Estate offers something different to everyone who visits. Based in Dundrum, it's a haven for gardening enthusiasts, animal lovers, food lovers, families and those seeking a taste of the Irish countryside, just 15-minutes from the city centre.

Visitors can catch sight of freshly laid eggs being collected, seasonal fruit and vegetables being harvested, get up close to the Jersey herd milking and you'll even get to taste the fresh, creamy milk, whilst discovering how milk converts from grass to glass.

You'll meet all the working farm animals on the Estate, including goats, chickens, pigs, cows and donkeys, to name but a few and, if you time your visit right, you can even help out at feeding time.

"There's plenty to do and take part in when you get here, such as morning nature trails, guided tours of the Overend family home and vintage car garage, storytelling, six acres of organic ornamental and food gardens to explore, old fashioned lawn games, a barn and mud kitchen for imaginative play and Naturescape – for the outdoor adventurer", said Shauna Morton of Airfield Estate.

It's guaranteed you'll spend hours at Airfield, so grab a table in Overend's Kitchen or a take away from the Stables Cafe and refuel with some freshly harvested food from the Estate.

"Home to the Overend family from 1894, Airfield was left in trust to the people of Ireland by Letitia and Naomi Overend in 1974. Their wishes were that the



Estate would be used for education and recreation. So, we work hard to honour their wishes and what visitors might not know is that their visit helps to fund the many food education programmes we deliver throughout the year to people of all ages and abilities. Airfield is not just a beautiful place with a remarkable history, it's a social and charitable hub, investing in people and initiatives that reach every corner of our community", explained Shauna.

Today, the 38-acre Estate in Dundrum offers visitors an insight into the sisters' lives at Airfield, an opportunity to learn more about Irish agriculture and the natural

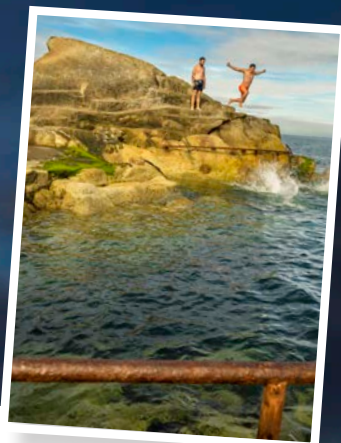
environment, a chance to taste their sustainable seasonal produce... It's a rural experience that's only a hop, skip and jump from Dublin's City Centre. Be part of it!

Airfield Estate is open daily from 9.30am to 6pm (July/August) and all activities are included in the cost of admission (€12 adults/€5 children. Under 3s go free). Last admission is one hour before closing.

Airfield Estate, Overend Way,
Dundrum, Dublin 14, Ireland,
D14 EE77

Web: www.airfield.ie
Phone: 01 969 6666

Things to Do in Dun Laoghaire



Get on your bike

To make the most of beautiful Dun Laoghaire, you must rent a bicycle and then your first port of call should be Dun Laoghaire Pier. The 2.6km return journey along the East Pier is extremely popular with locals and tourists alike. The perfect way to get fresh salty air into your lungs and leave your worries behind.

Ice-cream at Teddy's

Teddy's Ice cream was established in Dun Laoghaire since 1950 by Edward Jacob. Teddy's has become a household name on the southside of Dublin over the past 65 years and through three generations, people have been bringing their children to Teddy's for a treat; whether it be one of their famous ice-creams or a quarter of their favourite sweets from an old-fashioned jar measured out in front of them.

Have an ice-cream at Teddy's and if you have the Irish luck, you can get a clear day and see Howth!

National Maritime Museum

Ireland's National Maritime Museum is housed in Dun Laoghaire's 180-year-old Mariners Church. The museum's greatest artefact is probably the building itself as it is one of a few custom-built places of worship for seafarers remaining intact in the world to-day. Experienced guides will bring you on a voyage of discovery, enthraling you with stories of discovery, heroism, war and disasters at sea. You will learn about maritime history, exploration, navigation, radio, deep-sea cable technology, nature, wildlife and view art inspired by the sea.

See the 10-tonne revolving Baily Optic, try the electrified steam engine and pause to reflect at the Titanic exhibit, the re-created radio room, the Royal Navy prisoners docks and the war memorial.

Time for a swim!

Bring your swimming togs! You can't miss the Forty Foot, a favourite swimming spot for locals. For years, the Forty Foot was a men-only spot, where the male of the species could strip off in peace. Now, men and women, young and old, swim there, although there is a secluded part around the side where men still gather and women rarely venture. The great advantage of the Forty Foot is its depth, so you can always jump in even at low tide. It's a great place to swim, with its clean deep waters.

The Oratory

A treasure of Dun Laoghaire, the Oratory of the Sacred Heart was created to celebrate the end of World War

One. At the end of this war, a town in Northern France donated a statue of the Sacred Heart to the parish of Kingstown (now Dun Laoghaire) to commemorate the many local Irishmen who had fought and died in Flanders. In the beginning the statue was refused by the Christian Brothers and also the local parish church. Finally accepted by a sister in the Dominican Convent, the statue was placed in an Oratory. Sister M. Concepta Lynch hand-painted the wall behind the statue and the results were so impressive that she was asked to complete the rest of the Oratory, which she proceeded to do from 1920 until 1936 in the style of the Gaelic revival, using the symbols of Early Irish Christian Art. The stained glass windows were provided by the famous Harry Clarke Studio of Dublin. The oratory remains well preserved and has won numerous architectural awards. There is also peace garden on the grounds.

A bit of shopping

After an afternoon spent in the water, or in a museum, you might fancy a spot of shopping and hit some of the many shopping districts Dun Laoghaire has to offer. There are the two different shopping centres: Dun Laoghaire Shopping Centre and Bloomsfields Shopping Centre. With an endless supply of shopping options between the two, you'll be spoilt for choice. As well as that, there is also George's Street, filled with shops galore from big international companies, to smaller family-run businesses. There is something for every taste or style.

Pavilion Theatre

Pavilion Theatre was built in 2000 as a municipal theatre for the Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown area. It has since grown and established itself as a cultural hive of activity and entertainment for thousands of visitors each year. With a maximum capacity of 324 seats, Pavilion Theatre's diverse programme of events entertains audiences from all over Ireland and the world. The team here work to ensure a high standard of art and culture is presented at Pavilion Theatre, from international theatre, cinema, dance and music companies, as well as the best of local and national professional and amateur companies.

St Michael's Church

St Michael's was formerly a 19th-century Gothic church, which was almost entirely destroyed by a fire in 1965 (only the tower and Spire remained). Instead of rebuilding in the original style, it was rebuilt in the style of the time. It was finally unveiled in 1973 and is a beautiful building to behold both inside and out. With its beautiful stained-glass windows and the great tower which dominate the skyline in Dún Laoghaire, it's a sight to behold.



DAY TOURS

Cliffs of Moher / Wild Atlantic Way / Galway City day tour:

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Giants Causeway / Belfast Titanic Museum / Belfast City Black Taxi Political Tour / Carrick Rede Rope Bridge:

All attraction costs included in ticket to include admittance access the Giant's Causeway Heritage Centre & a guided walk with the Park Ranger.

Kilkenny City / Wicklow Mountains & Glendalough / Irish Sheep Dog Trials day tour:

Includes walking tours of Kilkenny City & Glendalough Monastic site. A visit to a working sheep farm with sheep dog trials and the opportunity with the farmer to handle the lambs (bred for us all year round). Photographic stop at the top of the Wicklow Mountains. Enjoy a guided walking tour of Medieval Kilkenny City with your Tour Guide is also included in the ticket price. 2 hours at Glendalough and 2 hours + 30 mins Kilkenny City

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An American Perspective

John Driscoll

of Frazer Capital and Frazer Ferries

BOSTON based businessman, John Driscoll, has travelled to Ireland 150 times to date for both business and leisure and jokingly describes himself as a 'plastic Paddy'.

Regularly catching a 9.30pm Aer Lingus flight from Boston to Dublin, the businessman who travels to Ireland up to 15 times per year - 60% of the time for work - says he prefers to fly by night, arriving in Dublin around 8.30 am the next morning, so he can travel on to Limerick or wherever his meetings may be, by midday.

The co-owner and director of multi-million dollar U.S private equity company, Frazer Capital, now also owns three car ferry services around Ireland with his business partner, Paul O'Sullivan, run and operated by their Limerick based company, Frazer Ferries.

It was a chance encounter at Doonbeg resort 13 years ago that brought the two businessmen together when a casual conversation revealed a shared interest in commercial real estate. The pair launched a small private equity company together in 20016, which has grown exponentially since then, and have been making waves in the car ferry business since founding Frazer Ferries together in 2010.

The foray into the ferry industry was

a natural move for Paul, whose father Donal O'Sullivan was one of the founding members of Shannon Ferries, but having business interests in Ireland is something that John, whose grandparents hailed from County Cork, is immensely proud of. "I'm a plastic Paddy!" John laughs out loud. "Both sets of my grandparents are from Ireland. The O'Driscolls, on my father's side are from Skibbereen and my cousins the Murrays, on my mother's side, are farmers in Macroom.

"Ireland has always been extremely important to me. It's the land of my father's father and it's important to me that my three kids and my eight grandsons know their cousins and understand where their great, great, grandfather was born."

For the Irish-American businessman, it's not just the idea of doing business in Ireland that keeps him motivated. It's the concept of what his businesses can do for the communities they're based in that makes him proud. Two of the three Frazer Ferries owned services – the Scenic Lough Foyle Ferry and the Carlingford Ferry – are cross-border services and this is something he views as hugely significant. The third facility, the Passage East Ferry, also links communities in Wexford and Waterford together.

"The cross-border ferries not only cut



commuter times and improve travel but they bring people from both sides of the community together to interact with one another and find new meaning to the word peace. That's something that I think is very important in today's society – enhancing the relationship between the Republic and Northern Ireland."

"The ferry journeys are also all absolutely stunning. There's beautiful scenery wherever you go in Ireland and I think the country has so much to offer visitors. It has a rich past and present and a bright future ahead and I'm proud to be part of it," he says.

For more details on Frazer Ferries services visit:

www.carlingfordferry.com

www.loughfoyleferry.com

www.passageferry.ie



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THE SAVOY RESTAURANT



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“Riverdance – A Cultural Tsunami”

Interview with Moya Doherty



By Brenda Woods

Moya Doherty sits on the top branch of the broadcasting tree in Ireland. Her creative vision brought Riverdance to our screens for the first time in 1994 and now she serves as Chairwoman of the national broadcaster - Radio Telefís Éireann (RTE).

How has your Irish heritage influenced you throughout your working life?

While the majority of my influences would be grounded in the culture of Ireland, I am also a product of other cultural influences. For example, world music or literature from other countries affects me. I also like to think that culture means our everyday lived experience.

How valuable is poetry in your day-to-day life? Which poets do you enjoy?

Poetry is probably the cultural form which I use most to make sense of the world. I can remember, as a child, growing up in County Donegal, having this wish that someone would one day write a poem just for me. Poetry has the capacity to make the ordinary strange and forces me to consider things in a

way I might not otherwise do.

Poets I enjoy: Bolan, McGuckian, Meehan, Cannon, Heaney, Montague, Mahon, Muldoon, Longley. But I also enjoy the poetry of Emily Dickinson, Sara Teasdale or Jane Kenyon.

Riverdance – at the idea stage – did you ever realise how far-reaching and successful it would become? What do you think is its most important success?

I would love to be able to say that I knew exactly what I was doing and that there was some kind of grand plan for Riverdance, which was rolled out in a measured and managed way. I would, of course, be lying. Riverdance was a cultural tsunami which took us all by surprise and most of the time we were riding that tsunami like surfers clinging to a runaway surfboard. However, with the value of hindsight, I think what I was doing - even if subconsciously - was bringing together the influences we all carried into a form which resonated with the cultural moment that was the so-called Celtic Tiger.

There was a moment early in Riverdance history when I did realise that I was witnessing the emergence of a unique

cultural production and experience and I have never since then lost the sense of privilege for having been at the heart of it. There are many things about Riverdance which have importance but, for me, the most important is helping to define, on a global scale, what a modern Ireland is culturally - by bringing together a past and future Ireland in a performance rooted in the present.

How did you feel after being awarded the RDS gold medal for enterprise in 2017? What does this mean to you on a personal level?

Receiving major awards is always a somewhat humbling experience. You look at those who have been given them before you and compare yourself to them, usually unfavourably. So, to be honoured by the Royal Dublin Society in Dublin was a great accolade, particularly as I was the first woman to be given such an accolade. For me, this is the most important aspect of such awards; the hope that it is an indication that women are no longer invisible in these important public arenas. So often receiving awards is representative of something more important than you being given individual recognition and it is important to be aware of this.

As Chairwoman of RTE, what responsibilities do you think you have towards maintaining the Irishness of this great country and also promoting us internationally?

If 'Irishness' means, all that is involved in being a citizen in Ireland at this time, then RTÉ, indeed any public service broadcaster, has a massive responsibility to represent what it is that makes Ireland 'Irish'. Often - and this can lead to major criticism - this means representing what is bad about the country as well as what is good but RTÉ has a responsibility to establish an agenda (politics, culture, news, sport) for discussion; not to dictate that agenda, or direct public thinking, but to open these issues for debate at a national level.

Advice to anyone trying to make their dreams come true in the Irish environment?

My advice is not to have dreams, but to have goals. Dreams suggest fantasy, a nebulous connection with reality. Goals can be planned, designed and worked on. But do not have rigid goals and be prepared to shift and negotiate

with yourself as to the best way forward.

Do not be afraid to act on intuition, since often the first feeling about an issue or opportunity is the most telling. Do not be coerced into a career you do not want. This takes courage but is better than a miserable daily existence, which pays a 'good' salary.

Be self-motivated and do not wait for others to offer opportunities. Ireland offers much for creative thinkers and practitioners, but the work will not come to you. Find it.

Remember that at some point you will not be rejected. And rejection is not the same as failure. Beckett said to "fail well". For me, this means not ever getting comfortable with failure. Most importantly, be your own harshest critic - while occasionally being kind enough to yourself to buy the odd glass of bubbles, for success or failure.

How has the image of old Ireland been changed to keep pace with a more dynamic multicultural Ireland?

The Abortion Referendum was, for me, the greatest example to-date of the old Ireland

keeping pace with the new Ireland.

What a glorious day to see that the voting figures showed a country at peace with itself and, more importantly, at one with the women in that country. What this illustrated for me was the importance of always filtering history and 'traditional' values through the prism of contemporary thinking and ideas.

More than two decades on, Riverdance is still touring theatres worldwide. Some fun facts:

- There have been more than 11,000 performances of *Riverdance*.
- It has been seen by over 25 million people, in over 465 venues worldwide.
- It has played in 46 countries across six continents.
- The show has travelled 700,000 miles (or to the moon and back and back again!)
- It has played to a global television audience of three billion people.

BOOK TICKETS

www.ticketmaster.ie/Riverdance

Riverdance

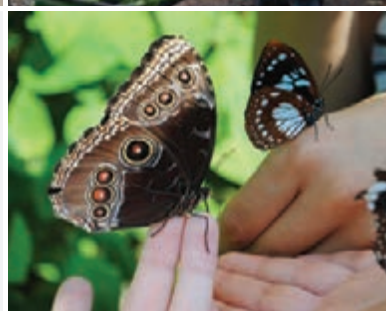


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Things To Do in Glasnevin

The National Botanic Gardens

The National Botanic Gardens are located in Glasnevin, situated between Prospect Cemetery and the River Tolka, where it forms part of that river's floodplain. The gardens were founded in 1795 by the Dublin Society (later the Royal Dublin Society) and are today in State ownership through the Office of Public Works. They hold 20,000 living plants, many millions of dried plant specimens and there are several architecturally notable greenhouses. The gardens participate in national and international initiatives for biodiversity conservation and sustainable development.

Dublin City University

Take a visit to Dublin City University, a relatively new and modern campus. Created as the National Institute for Higher Education, Dublin, in 1975, it enrolled its first students in 1980 and was elevated to university status in September 1989. In September 2016, DCU completed the process of incorporating three other Dublin-based educational institutions: the Church of Ireland College of Education, Mater Dei Institute of Education and St Patrick's College.

The Pyramid Church

Glasnevin is served by the Church of Lady of Dolours. A timber church, which originally stood on Berkeley Road, was moved to a riverside site on Botanic Avenue early in the 20th century. The altar in this church was from Newgate prison in Dublin. It served as the parish church until it was replaced, in 1972, by a structure resembling a pyramid when viewed from Botanic Avenue. The previous church was known locally as "The Woodener" or "The Wooden" and the new building is still known to older residents as "The new Woodener" or "The Wigwam".

John Kavanagh's The Gravediggers

John Kavanagh's pub lays claim to being the oldest family pub in Dublin – it was established in 1833 and the

current family are the 6th generation in the business. Also known as 'The Gravediggers' because of its location next to the Glasnevin cemetery and its attached folk history, this is a genuine Victorian bar, totally unspoilt – and it has a reputation for serving one of the best pints in Dublin. No music, "piped or otherwise".

Experience Gaelic Games

When you visit Ireland don't leave without experiencing the wonder of our greatest and most unique modern cultural activity – Gaelic Games. A visit to Experience Gaelic Games will give you a chance to play games whose history extends back over 3,000 years into an ancient Irish civilisation. These are some of the oldest games in the world; they're also great fun for people of all ages. Experience Gaelic Games is all about your participation regardless of age, gender or skill level.

Grand Canal walk

Take a stroll along this revamped section of the Grand Canal; a nice, quiet, watery oasis (with plenty of seats) on a good day. Traditionally used as a method of transportation, the canal itself is a lot more leisure-based nowadays, with barges of private parties easing their way down the waters during the summer months. It's also a great spot for exercise enthusiasts with walkers, joggers and cyclists getting great use of the flat, straight track.

Mountjoy Square

Mountjoy Square is one of five Georgian squares in Dublin, planned and developed in the late 18th century. It is Dublin's only true Georgian square, each of its sides being exactly 140 metres in length.

It has been home to many of Dublin's most prominent people: The writer James Joyce lived around the square during some of his formative years, playwright Seán O'Casey wrote and set some of his most famous plays on the square while living there, W.B. Yeats stayed there with his friend John O'Leary, and more recently, much of the Oscar-winning film 'Once' was made in the square. Historic meetings have taken place there, including planning for the Easter Rising and some of the earliest Dáil meetings.

Glasnevin Cemetery Museum

Located 2.5-km from Dublin's City Centre, Glasnevin is a peaceful oasis in the middle of Ireland's vibrant Capital City. Opened in 1832, the cemetery is one of monumental national importance, encapsulating the history of Ireland. It is the burial place of over 1.6-million people. Passionate guides take visitors on a journey through Ireland's fascinating past, visiting the gravesides of Ireland's heroes and heroines, rogues, rebels and revolutionaries. Glasnevin offers a window into Irish history. The daily guided tours are filled with enjoyable anecdotes and wry stories that bring it to life. Not convinced? Go and see for yourself.



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View of the Liffey from Liberty Hall



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ALL THAT SPARKLES...

The world's finest crystal continues to be made by skilled craftsmen at the House of Waterford Crystal factory, situated in the heart of Waterford City, in Ireland's Ancient East.

The House of Waterford Crystal scooped the Best Ireland's Ancient East Tourism Experience (greater than 50,000 visitors) at the Irish Tourism Industry Awards 2019, at a recent awards ceremony in Dublin.

The awards, organised by the Irish Tourism Industry Confederation (ITIC), Fáilte Ireland and Tourism Ireland, gathered the crème de la crème of the Irish tourism industry together, announcing 15 winning companies as best in their category, from 75 shortlisted finalists.

David McCoy, Director of Sales & Marketing at the House of Waterford Crystal, expressed delight with winning the award for Best Ireland's Ancient East Tourism Experience: "This is a great achievement for us and we are delighted to be recognised as winner – tourism is vital for the national and regional economy and we are so pleased to play our part in such a key sector," he said.

A significant tourist attraction, the House of Waterford Crystal welcomes 200,000 visitors annually from across the world. The factory on the Mall is now a major tourist attraction as well as a crucial business for the Irish economy.

"We have a manufacturing plant and brand experience in Waterford, where we produce crystal and give visitors an opportunity to tour the factory and see how we make our products," explains David.

The factory in Waterford contains a brand new continuous melt tank furnace that has been tailor-made for Waterford Crystal's specifications and produces two tonnes of molten crystal every day. It uses leading edge technology to deliver molten crystal of the highest quality for skilled master blowers to hand-shape and hand-blow Waterford Crystal's range of premium products.

"We have a 12,000 sq ft showroom which represents everything we do in crystal, including a whole section on golf and sport, where we are heavily involved," says David. "Even though our audience is beyond Ireland in the US, Australia and the UK, everyone at home wants to be part of something that is part of the fabric of Ireland and our heritage. "A lot of thought goes into our products, which are inspired by Irish heritage, by our landscape, our music and the arts. It is not just about the shape or the design of the products, but the stories behind those designs. In many cases, those designs reflect Irish culture in terms of castles,

music and art. If you want to recognise a special achievement or give a special gift for a celebration, Waterford is one of the first places people look. In the same way, Waterford is present in so many homes around the world – some are very famous homes – in lighting and chandeliers."

Waterford Crystal continues to provide some of the most prestigious trophies to the world's great sporting events, all made at the facility. The list of famous trophies produced by Waterford Crystal for the sports industry alone is simply staggering; the Irish Open Trophy, the Honda Classic and the Masters Snooker trophy, to name just a few.

Waterford Crystal also designed the spectacular Times Square Ball – a crystal ball which forms a prominent part of a New Year's Eve celebration in Times Square in New York, colloquially known as the ball drop.



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Things To Do In Malahide

Malahide Castle

Set on 250-acres of parkland, Malahide Castle was both a fortress and a private home for nearly 800 years and is an interesting mix of architectural styles.

The Talbot family lived here from 1185 to 1973, when the last Talbot died. The house is furnished with beautiful period furniture, together with an extensive collection of Irish portrait paintings, mainly from the National Gallery. Within the visitor centre in the courtyard, a new interpretation and exhibition area tells visitors the story of the walled gardens as seen through the eyes of 'Lord Milo Talbot', the creator of the gardens and grounds as seen today.

Malahide Marina

Sitting just inside the sheltered broadmeadow estuary, Malahide Marina is the ideal location from which to enjoy sailing the waters of the Irish Sea. This seaside village is the jewel in the crown of this scenic stretch of Ireland's magnificent eastern coastline. There are 350 fully serviced berths in the Marina, located in a well-protected inlet, and vessels of up to 75m can be accommodated.

On the marina itself, Geisha Restaurant (Thai and Asian fusion), with a 280-seater bar and restaurant is ideal for groups with sailing activities in mind. Dublin International Airport is a mere four miles from the marina.

Oscar Taylor's Restaurant

Oscar Taylor's is one of the most popular eating establishments in the Fingal and Malahide area. With a seating capacity of 170, it is the most spacious, with more than ample room for the discerning diner. Planned and built on the top of the Island View Hotel, with an excellent sea view and a fantastic atmosphere, the extensive menu caters for all tastes.

Grab a pint in Gibney's

Nestled in the gorgeous seaside town of Malahide, Gibney's celebrates the spirit of the Irish pub; a local mixing pot and social hub. Patrons of all ages and backgrounds gather here to enjoy hearty fare, a cold pint, live music, sporting events, or to simply savour the warm hospitality and friendly banter.

Café Provence for breakfast

Café Provence is a family-run business, established in 2002 by Lucy and Simon Higgins. Café Provence is situated in the heart of Malahide village and during the day, it is a great place to have breakfast, a delicious lunch or a coffee and scone. From 5pm, they offer early evening, early bird and a la carte menus.

Malahide Beach

Malahide has a 2km beach which, following an attractive coastal walk, leads into the neighbouring Portmarnock beach. This beach is lifeguarded during the summer months and has facilities for the disabled.

If you're lucky enough (go on a weekday, or evening) you might even get the entire beach to yourself. There's nothing more enthralling than being alone with a vast expanse of beach in front of you, and being free to skip, dance, sing or scream.

Malahide Beach is also good for a sit down. It offers a lovely vista out to Lambay Island, Howth and Ireland's Eye (depending on how far you walk, that is). Also, take a look on the ground; there are some lovely shells to be found if you look hard enough.

Irish Centre for Cycling

Irish Centre for Cycling live and breathe to cycle and want to share their passion with you. Their bike tours have been created from their own cycling experiences and they have bike tours and bike rentals to suit everyone's needs. Why not catch a train to Malahide with the family, hire some bikes and take a spin towards Portmarnock for a picnic, the kids will love it! You can hire bikes for an hour, a half day, a full day or as many days as you like at their base at Malahide Castle.

Fowler's Pub

Fowler's pub and eating house has a relaxing atmosphere with a contrasting blend of styles. Curious furnishings and interesting elements give Fowler's a special identity. They are the only establishment country-wide to have a specially designed cold room. Patrons can view the inner workings of their establishment where crisp, cold beverages are stored and refrigerated before being dispensed to the bar. There's also a three-tiered outdoor area for those wonderful Irish summer months. Take in the local sea breeze and relax in this leafy well-spaced area.




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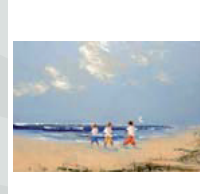
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48 hours in Temple Bar

Temple Bar Food Market

The Temple Bar Food Market at Meeting House Square, is a foodie's paradise on a Saturday afternoon. Local producers offer a wide range of organic food, home baking, low food miles, seasonal produce, delicious ingredients, food to go and a wide range of produce in all weights and portion sizes. It runs from 10am-6pm every Saturday.

Temple Bar Designer Mart at Cow's Lane

Designer Mart at Cow's Lane showcases 30 artists and designers from around the country and offers an exciting and broad range of original handmade jewellery, fashion, furniture design, visual art and photography. The Old City, Temple Bar is an ideal location to pick up a one-off unique piece from the creator, or an art piece for that special gift. It runs every Saturday 10am-5pm.

Smock Alley Theatre

Smock Alley was the first Theatre Royal built in Dublin. John Ogilby opened it in 1662 as part of the Restoration of the British monarchy and King Charles II in 1660, along with the London's Drury Lane (1662) and the Lincoln's Inn Fields (1661). It was the first custom-built theatre in the city and still remains in substantially the same form, making it one of the most important sites in European theatre history.

Darkey Kelly's Bar & Restaurant

One of the best-known pubs in Dublin for traditional Irish music, Darkey Kelly's is located in one of the oldest parts of Dublin City. For generations, Darkey Kelly was known in Dublin's folk memory as the woman who was burned at the stake for witchcraft, but new uncovered evidence suggests that although she was innocent of witchcraft, she still had a dark side to her character. The discovery of bodies under the floorboards of the brothel she ran in 1761 suggests she may have been Ireland's first serial killer! Fishamble Street is also one of the oldest streets in the City. Handel's 'Messiah' was first performed here in 1742 and every year on the 13th of April the Messiah is performed free of charge to a public audience.

Dublinia: Experience Viking & Medieval Dublin

Dublinia is a not-for-profit heritage centre located at Christ Church, the crossroads of Dublin's medieval city. Meet the Vikings face-to-face, learn about life during the medieval period in Dublin, explore the world of archaeology and see a medieval view of a modern city from their tower. At Dublinia, you will see Dublin from a new perspective and a new archaeology exhibition is due to open soon.

Icon Factory

The Icon Factory is an artist's co-operative, not-for-profit collective run entirely by artists and volunteers. It is dedicated to celebrating Ireland's cultural heritage through the artistic creation of Icons and through displaying these on their sister project, The Icon Walk. These artworks - representing rock stars, sporting heroes, writers and television stars - are reproduced and available in various forms in The Icon Factory.

Elephant & Castle chicken wings

This Temple Bar institution has been going for 27 years and claims to be the home of Ireland's original basket of chicken wings. The hot, spicy chicken wings are an iconic dish - you just can't go there and not order them. Colin Farrell used to work in the restaurant, and Eva Longoria even popped in to sample their wares when she was visiting for the 2014 Web Summit. For years, diners have been trying to coax the recipe for the dark red, hot and savoury sauce from the restaurant wait staff, but to no avail.

Workman's Club live music

From a riotous Cillian Murphy DJ set and Villagers live album recording, to a Jimi Hendrix film shoot with Andre 3000 and Royal Blood's barnstorming first Irish gig, they've seen a whole heap of rock 'n' roll action at the Workman's Club since opening the Wellington Quay doors in 2010. Run by people passionate about music, the venue welcomes performers of all flavours. Alongside the headline gigs, The Workman's Club is home to some of the capital's finest club, comedy, acoustic and new band showcase nights.



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Ice-Cream Meltdown!

Ice-cream sales have gone into meltdown in Ireland with members of the public eating an ice-cream every second.

The Irish take some licking when it comes to ice-cream. We all have our flavours and our favourites. There's nothing quite as refreshing as sitting back on a glorious summer's day and indulging in the taste of mint, chocolate chip, or smooth vanilla ice-cream. In the middle of a Summer heatwave, it comes as no surprise that the Irish public are eating an ice-cream every second.

A recent report claimed that Dubliners favour vanilla for first and second spots on their top ten list.

Others are more adventurous with flavours like Fruit with Mascarpone Lime Ice-cream, a Mint Aero, and a Ferrero Rocher Ice-cream Cake also in the mix.

Ice-cream maker HB have reported that nearly two million ice-creams were consumed during the 2018 heatwave in Ireland, and that more than 11 ice creams are being eaten per second. The Iceberger is the standout favourite, with more than one being enjoyed every second. This is followed by Brunch, of which 50 are consumed every minute.

Top Meltdowns:

1. Scrumdiddlys: One of the best ice-cream parlours in the country. Home of the Scummy Tub to be filled with as many chocolate delights and ice-cream flavours as possible.

Fill it, stick it and drip it. They have over 2,400 combinations. Get there early as there are queues out the door. Available at Main Street, Donabate and Crofton Road, Dun Laoghaire.

2. Teddy's: Dun Laoghaire: as traditional an experience as a walk on the pier. Established since 1950 and well-known for their famous vanilla whip ice-cream and old-style boiled sweets.

3. Ginoss: Dublin City Centre: They have three locations in the city centre and have ice-cream down to a fine art – making people smile for three generations. They also have a number of awards – the Best Producer in Wicklow from Blás na hÉireann in 2016 and the Silver Award for Pistachio Gelato.

4. Murphy's: Produced in Dingle, Co. Kerry with shops on Strand Street and also in Killarney and in Dublin's Wicklow Street. Their trademark is the innovative combinations and their blue tubs. The company was founded in 2000 and they break every egg by hand. They enhance the taste by not using any colouring or flavouring, artificial or otherwise. They even

make their own chocolate chips and boil down Dingle sea water to make their own salt.

5. Londis Batterstown: The County Meath garage has become well-known for their delicious ice-creams and recently for their triple size 99s, which do very well on social media with lots of followers!

Dublin Live www.dublinlive.ie provide a full list of Ireland's most popular ice-cream selections via the popular delivery platform was:

1. Vanilla Ice-cream from Devilicious Desserts (Dublin)
2. Nutella & Vanilla Ice-cream Crepe from Anderson's Creperie (Dublin)
3. Fruit with Mascarpone Lime Ice-cream from Klaw (Dublin)
4. Ice-cream Cookie Sambo from Sweet Republic (Dublin)
5. Mint Aero Ice-cream from Teddy's Dun Laoghaire, available at Luigi Malone's (Dublin)
6. Toffee Ice-cream from the Embassy Grill (Dublin)
7. Ice-cream Sundae from the Camden Rotisserie (Dublin)
8. Ben & Jerry's Ice-cream from A Slice of Heaven (Dublin)
9. Oreo Sundae from Sun of a Bun (Cork)
10. Ferrero Rocher Ice-cream Cake from Cafe Bliss (Dublin)



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Dublin's Best Beaches

Dublin is a swimmer's paradise and there are many excellent idyllic and safe places to take a dip. Dublin also boasts Blue Flag Beaches at Portmarnock, Seapoint, Portrane and Killiney.

Dollymount Strand

Take a stroll along this wonderful stretch of sand – a favourite haunt of walkers, cyclists and runners. The Strand also takes in amazing views of Dublin Bay. It hosts a nature reserve and also allows for a bit of kitesurfing.

Bull Island

A sandbar island, which is within a short reach of any city centre location. This beach is also a dream for anyone who loves water sports.

Forty Foot - Sandycove

An exciting promontory on the southern tip of Dublin Bay at Sandycove. It's one of the county's most popular bathing spots with a 250-year tradition among swimmers. There are plenty of handrails to help swimmers have a safe and easy access to the emerald sea. This Dublin institution was male-only and used to be popular with nudists.

Tower Bay, Portrane

Near the Forty Foot, you can view the Tower Bay which is also near to Lambay Island. Overlooking this idyllic nook is one of the many Martello towers dotted around the coastline.

The Great South Wall

A haven for swimmers near Ringsend and the Grand Canal Dock. Close to the famous Poolbeg towers and you can also take in the chance to view the busy workings of Dublin Port.

Killiney - White Rock

This is a cool hideaway at low tide. The beach can be stony but between the White Rock Beach and the beautiful Vico Baths, this area is popular. The water depth is good and the views are spectacular as far as the Sugarloaf Mountain.

Bullock Harbour

If you wish to jump from high viewpoints, then this is the place for you. Near the Forty Foot, it is a haven for thrill-seekers. The harbour is also home to a wonderful scuba diving school.

Skerries

A Blue Flag beach on the northside, peppered with picturesque villages.

Burrow Beach

Also known as the 'Hole In The Wall' in Sutton and a good stretch of about 1.3km in one of the country's most scenic area.

The Velvet Strand

This Portmarnock flat sands beach has been kissed by fame when in 1930, aviator Charles Kindgford Smith used the sand as a runway. This brave man's flight to Newfoundland began in a calm Irish azure setting.

Flying the Blue Flag

Four of the beaches along the coast are of Blue Flag quality.

1. Seapoint – Dun Laoghaire/Rathdown
2. Portmarnock/Velvet Strand
3. Bray South Promenade
4. Greystones

These beaches have achieved the Blue Flag standard – which is an international award of the highest accolade. It recognises outstanding compliance with bathing water quality.

The programme aims to raise environmental awareness and promote sound environmental management of beaches, marinas and inland bathing waters around the world.

The beaches and marinas that have achieved this accolade have complied with strict criteria relating to water quality, safety, facilities for visitors, beach management, environmental education and the provision of information.

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The Grace and Elegance of Georgian Dublin

By Nicky Sullivan

Seven years after the kingdoms of England and Scotland were joined in the historic 1707 Acts of Union, the first British king, King George, ascended to the throne. King George I was the first of four kings named George who would occupy the throne for the next 123 years, marking a period that has left a defining mark on Dublin's landscape.

Ireland, at the time, was firmly under British control and harsh Penal Laws governed the country's Catholic population. In Dublin though, the Protestant Ascendancy was thriving and the population had reached 60,000 by 1700. The buildings of Trinity College were already established, as was the Theatre Royal, now the Smock Alley Theatre. For the rest,

Dublin was still a medieval city, similar to Paris but over the course of the next 100-odd years, it would undergo a major rebuilding.

The Georgian period saw the creation of the Wide Streets Commission, which demolished many of the narrow medieval lanes, replacing them with graceful, wide, sweeping thoroughfares, including O'Connell Street, Dame Street, Westmoreland and D'Olier Streets.

Each of these streets featured the finest examples of Georgian architecture, typically consisting of terraced, three-storey townhouses, with distinctive arched window frames above the sturdy, wood-panelled front doors, high ceilings, elaborate marble chimney places

and sumptuously adorned walls and ceilings. Georgian squares are also a feature of the time and for a spell Mountjoy Square was the most sought-after address to be had. But when the Earl of Kildare built his palace — now Leinster House, the seat of Ireland's parliament — to the south of the Liffey, the fashionable soon flooded to the other side of the river.

Merrion and Fitzwilliam Squares and St Stephen's Green were soon laid out and similarly adorned with elegant homes, while the houses to the north were abandoned to Dublin's poor.

By the end of the 18th century, Dublin was still booming and the population had tripled to 180,000. For many, this was a splendid,



cosmopolitan city, whose markets were stuffed with spices, cheeses and fruits from all over the world. There were figs from Marseille, hams from Bayonne, Parmesan cheese, West Indian sweetmeats, ginger, truffles and olives all to be found alongside domestic produce such as oysters (long considered only fit for the poor), fish, fresh herbs and creamy butter.

For others, it was a place of darkness, squalor and disease. Lighting was still very poor and it was noted in 1812 that St Stephen's Green only benefitted from the illumination of only 26 lamps, some 100 metres apart. The turn of the 19th century marked the beginning of a new period of decline for Dublin, as the seat of government was moved to Westminster following the passing of the Acts of Union 1800, which added Ireland to Great Britain.

To savour some of the best examples of Dublin's architecture of the period, take a meander along the city's Grand Canal before turning over the Leeson Street Bridge (towards the city centre). From here, take the second right onto Fitzwilliam Place, and you'll soon come to Fitzwilliam Square, one of the last and smaller of the great Georgian squares to be developed. The park here is still private, reserved for the exclusive use of residents.

Continuing straight on Fitzwilliam Street Upper, cross Lower Baggot Street to reach Fitzwilliam Street Lower. This will lead you directly to Merrion Square and also the address for Number Twenty-Nine, a beautiful museum showcasing how a Georgian house would have looked in the earliest days of its occupancy. The museum is currently closed

for reconstruction until 2020, though you can still take a virtual tour through their website: www.numbertwenty-nine.ie.

Laid out in the 1760s, Merrion Square is considered the best preserved, and grandest, remnant of Georgian Dublin. Walking around the square and its public gardens you will find plaques commemorating former residents such as Daniel O'Connell (No. 50), William Butler Yeats (No. 82), Oscar Wilde (No. 1), and George Russell (No. 84).

To the west of here, you'll find a number of key buildings including the National Gallery of Ireland (1864), Leinster House, the Natural History Museum, St Stephen's Green and, of course, the Shelbourne Hotel, where the weary have been soothing their troubles since 1824.

Top places to visit along Dublin Bay

Get out on the water

It's one thing admiring Dublin Bay from a DART carriage, or the heights of a cliff walk; it's quite another to get out on the water itself. Options are plentiful here – Dublin Bay Cruises sails between Howth and Dun Laoghaire, Go Sailing offers sailing trips on a 54-foot yacht, and it's possible to get paddling with kayaking.ie too. Looking back on the cityscape, taking in views stretching from Howth to Dun Laoghaire and Poolbeg Lighthouse to the flagship Pigeon House towers, you're bang in the middle of the Biosphere!

Take a trip on the DART

Locals take the DART for granted, but the 53km suburban rail service offers some of the best views in the city for less than the price of a drink. From the cliffs of Howth to the River Liffey's bridges and coastal villages crammed with heritage gems and delicious seafood, this is Dublin Bay's hottest ticket. Ride the railway right around Killiney Bay and make it a daytrip by continuing all the way to Bray, Co. Wicklow.

James Joyce Tower & Museum

Dublin Bay is overlooked by several Martello Towers – granite, pepperpot-like fortifications dating back to Napoleonic times. One of the most intriguing is the tower overlooking Sandycove, just south of Dun Laoghaire. It hosts the James Joyce Museum, a trove of letters and artefacts associated with Dublin's defining author. It's also the opening location in 'Ulysses'. On Wednesdays, there are readings of Ulysses in Fitzgerald's pub – or if you're feeling frisky, join the locals in a bracing dip in the Forty Foot, Sandycove's famous bathing place.

Outdoor climbing

A 30-minute DART ride from the city centre will land you in Dalkey Quarry, which offers some sensational rock climbing. Offering a maze of narrow paths leading to a huge variety of routes (from beginner friendly to super advanced), even the most regular of visitors to this place never tire of it. The quarry itself has been split into three areas, West Valley, East Valley and Upper Tier, each offering a huge variety of routes – slabs, cracks, chimneys and steep blocky overhangs. You name it, it's probably there somewhere. The views over Dalkey town and across Dublin Bay to Howth also make climbing here all the sweeter.

Dalkey Castle & Heritage Centre

Ten miles south of Dublin City, Dalkey is famed as a coastal village jam-packed with restaurants, culture and seaside walks. It's got heritage too. Dalkey Island bears the picturesque ruins of St Beignet's Church, and archaeologists have traced artefacts like arrowheads, axes and pottery back to the Stone Age (boat trips can be booked locally for the short crossing). In the village itself, Dalkey Castle and Heritage Centre bundles a townhouse, 15th century castle, Early Christian church and heritage centre in one tidy campus. Guided tours include a live theatre performance with costumed actors bringing the past to life.

Dublin Kite Festival

A jam-packed day of exhilarating fun for all the family takes place in North Bull Island, Clontarf on Sunday 9th June 2019. The Dublin Kite Festival attracts attendees from around the country, brandishing an array of kites ready to take to the skies and beautify the Dublin skyline with a jumble of colour.

Whether attendees are brilliant kite fliers, or failing kite triers, there are plenty of kiting experts ready to lend a hand. The day also boasts lively music, exciting games, kite making workshops and a kite flying competition!

Cliff walks in Howth

Just a 28-minute DART ride from Dublin lies the fishing village of Howth – home to a castle, several sizzling seafood restaurants and a series of looped walks. The Cliff Path is a local favourite, taking walkers exhilaratingly close to the edge before reaching a summit that moved The New York Times to evoke H.G. Wells's description of "one of the most beautiful views in the world." From here, cast your eye over the entire sweep of the UNESCO Dublin Bay Biosphere. Afterwards, make your way back to the village for a seafood feast at one of the tasty restaurants lining the West Pier.

Climb Killiney Hill

Want a view to savour? Take a hike up Killiney Hill, one of the handsome humps bounding Dublin Bay to the south. It's topped by an obelisk that looks like a white wizard's hat and you'll often see hang-gliders floating overhead. This is a terrific spot for a 360-degree take on Dublin – stretching from the Wicklow Mountains to the south via the city sprawl to Howth Peninsula further north.

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NEWBRIDGE HOUSE

Given a fresh lease of life

Step into a world of Downton Abbey-esque grace, splendour and beauty at Newbridge House & Farm in north County Dublin.

The setting is a stunning example of 18th century architecture and one of the last intact Georgian mansions in Ireland outside of the cities.

Recently acquired by Shannon Heritage, one of country's leading tourism and heritage companies, the house has been renewed so that it sparkles with fresh new life and visitors can truly "live" the history.

Built in 1747 for the then Archbishop of Dublin, Charles Cobbe, Newbridge House and Farm remained in Cobbe family hands until 1985 when it was bought by the local council. The house's original architect, James Gibbs, was one of the most influential of his time and also designed the church of St Martin in the Fields in London (which became a prototype for many churches in New England) and the extraordinary Radcliffe Camera in Oxford.

Three hundred years of Cobbe family history can be traced through exploring the house and its exhibits, including the intriguing Cabinet of Curiosities and the extensive art collection to be found

in the Red Drawing Room. Cabinets of Curiosities, also known as 'wonder rooms', were small collections of extraordinary objects which attempted to categorise and tell stories about the wonders and oddities of the natural world. They were a particular feature of the Georgian period, when Britain's explorer-traders were expanding their reach throughout the world, and the one at Newbridge is one of the only ones to be found in Ireland.

Earlier this year, the nearby Donabate Historical Society decided to house its own collection of historical artefacts in Newbridge House, which will be housed in a permanent display area.



“We have so much to see here, it’s clear how it will appeal to people from all over the world,” said Niall O’Callaghan, managing director of Shannon Heritage. “You can really feel how life was lived when the house was first occupied. It was a very ‘upstairs-downstairs’ world and Newbridge House is the only intact Georgian mansion in Ireland outside of the big towns. To me, the interiors and its history are mind-blowing. It’s like walking on to a set of Downton Abbey, really quite a unique feeling.”

Outside of the main house and its exhibits, visitors will find all of the working buildings that would have

attended the life of a traditional grand Georgian household. “Everything is as close to how it would have been as possible,” said Mr O’Callaghan. “The landscaping is Georgian and around the courtyard you’ll find the blacksmith’s forge, stables, the threshing barn, weigh house, hay barn and the chicken house; all the various buildings that you would expect to find on a Georgian farm are arranged around the main house.”

Moving slightly further afield, visitors can take in meandering woodland walks, a play area for kids, and a gorgeous farm populated by many rare pig and pony breeds as well as

donkeys, sheep, Irish draught horses, Kerry cows, birds, goats and deer.

If visitors want to combine an 18th century state house experience with a 15th century castle experience, they could spend several hours at Newbridge House & Farm before wandering down to Malahide Castle & Gardens, just a ten-minute drive away. One of the oldest castles standing in Ireland, Malahide Castle can be traced all the way back to the 12th century, though the towers and main hall were around between 1600 and 1650. This is another member of the Shannon Heritage property family, so keep an eye out for special deals on combined tickets.

Things To Do In Skerries

Newbridge House and Farm

Newbridge House and Demesne is the most complete Anglo Irish estate in Ireland. The House and estate were purchased from the Cobbe family in 1985 and opened as a County Dublin Regional Park in 1986. Consisting of approximately 370 acres of gently undulating pastureland, woodland walks, wild flower meadows, traditional farm, ruins of Lanistown Castle, a deer park and at its heart, the fine Georgian house designed by the renowned architect James Gibbs. Newbridge Farm is home to a vast array of animals ranging from the Shetland and Connemara ponies of the paddock, to the piglets, goats and chickens of the farmyard. It is one of the few working farms where children can see pigs, and many other animals, reared in an environment where they can move about freely and express normal patterns of behaviour.

Rockabill Restaurant

Rockabill aims to bring fresh, locally-sourced, great food to Skerries, with long opening hours covering breakfast, lunch, and dinner – with a beer and wine licence, great chicken wings and most amazing fish dishes. Where Rockabill Restaurant now stands was once the house named 'Mirimar', rented in July 1917, by the National Aid Association, for widows of the 1916 leaders. The group staying here included Muriel MacDonagh, widow of Thomas MacDonagh, who died while swimming not far from this house, attempting to reach Shenick Island. It has been thought that Muriel wanted to place a tricolour on the island out of reach of the local Royal Irish Constabulary who had removed one from the beach. One hundred years later to the day, a tricolour was planted on the island in her honour.

Skerries Mills

Skerries Mills is a unique collection of two windmills and a watermill with associated mill pond, mill races, wetlands and is an ideal place to visit on a day trip. The Mill complex also houses the Watermill Café and the Craft Shop. Since the 12th century, flour has been milled at this unique location. The fully restored complex brings to life the authentic workings of a five sail windmill, four sail windmill, water mill and bakery of the 1800s. This provides the visitor with examples of how wind and water energies were harnessed by our ancestors.

Ardgillan Castle

Set in spectacular parklands overlooking the Irish Sea with a magnificent view of the Mourne Mountains, Ardgillan Castle and Demesne is Ireland's hidden gem. As well as the castle, the demesne features a walled and rose garden. The park consists of 194 acres of rolling open grassland, mixed woodland and gardens, overlooking the Irish Sea with views

of Mourne Mountains to the north and Lambay to the south-east. Ardgillan is a sanctuary for many species of animals, mammals and birds for which the wooded areas provide a safe retreat from surrounding agricultural land.

Di Vinos tapas

DiVino, a family-run Italian restaurant, situated in the heart of Skerries, serves modern and authentic Italian food and wine in a cosy and friendly atmosphere. DiVino was established in March 2012 in order to introduce Skerries to the Mediterranean cooking style which has been recognised by UNESCO as a healthy way of eating. The menu is famous for its representation of many aspects of regional Italian cooking – it showcases over 20 regional Italian dishes. The restaurant also has an extensive wine and beer menu, exclusively devoted to Italy, with over 30 varieties of Italian wine.

Skerries Sea Tours

Skerries Sea Tours runs two passenger trips daily; to Lambay Island and Rockabill Lighthouse (2.5 hours) and Lambay Island Walking Tour (4.5 hours). The trips are run by local RNLI crewman Eoin Grimes, aboard an 11 metre Redbay Rib with twin engines. The boat can carry 12 passengers and three crew members, is fully insured and carries the required P3 license from the Department of Transport.

Red Island

The headland Red Island was once, as the name suggests, an offshore island. The former island is a popular excursion destination with a large playground and direct connection to the harbour and beach. There is also a Martello Tower from Napoleonic times on Red Island: Its massive walls are two and-a-half metres thick and a parapet surrounds the stone roof. This tower has been altered since its military days. Doors were added on the ground floor and windows on both floors. The tower has been used as a private dwelling, as tearooms and as part of a holiday camp.

Baldongan Church

This National Monument, with its 21-metre-high fortified tower, resembles a tower house and is known locally as Baldongan castle. But it is a fortified church whose later tower dates to the 15th century. The church or nave may be 14th century. An earlier church at the site was granted to the Priory of St Mary at Kilixby in 1190 AD. Around this time, the Knights Templar built a fortress in the field north of the old church. This castle was the residence of the de Berminghams and Barnwalls until it was besieged by Cromwellian forces in 1642 and the 200 strong garrison were put to the sword. The site offers superb extensive views of the north Dublin countryside.



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Roe & Co Distillery

Decades after the original Roe & Co Distillery closed its gates, one of Irish whiskey's most influential names is inspiring a whiskey for a new generation. Listed in Lonely Planet's best new openings for 2019, the Roe & Co Distillery is located in the buzzing Liberties and is a fully operational urban distillery and world-class whiskey experience. Step inside the reimagined Guinness Power station for an immersive journey into flavour. We promise a Distillery experience like no other – the only rules here are fun and flavour. Join us on a journey that will fire your imagination and your taste buds.





RICHELLA BOGGAN

Changing the conversation for business people everywhere

You've been making waves within the business landscape lately. What's your back story?

I'd say my story is a familiar one to many people. I was raised as a 'doer' and climbed to being a C-staff executive within Global FMCG companies over a 25-year career. I had the cars, house, money, titles and holidays to Dubai. I was focused and relentlessly target driven and hugely successful at putting together winning business strategies. I had a strong respected voice in the company and I thought that that was what success was supposed to look like and, from the outside in, it certainly seemed that way. The reality was quite different. I had a niggling feeling deep in my gut that, at the time I could only articulate as: "Something's not quite right..." I had been so busy meeting business objectives that I had narrowed my perspective and created a tiny fishbowl, which had become my life. So, in true high achiever fashion, I decided it was time to wake up, refocus and create a new agenda, one where I could create a wider map for my life that included my wellbeing, as well as the high-performance results I had built a reputation for. I set about truly understanding what I wanted and then made a plan to skill up on the things that would help me create it. Here we are, years later, having this conversation!

Where did your wake-up call come from?

I remember speaking to a mentor of mine, really successful guy with a fantastic reputation within his industry and as our conversation unfolded, I was telling him that despite my achievements, I still had this void of unfulfillment. To this day, I remember how he looked at me, took a noticeable breath and asked: "Why are you on the run all the time? Is there somebody chasing you? What do you want?" That moment still stands out to me as clear as day because up until that conversation, I didn't realise I was being driven by goals, targets, people and business needs. None of which, I had chosen and none of which had my personal wellbeing in mind. I was a cog in the machine and yet had still managed to 'succeed'...to a degree. The difference I learned, was that the void I felt was a need for a more internal agenda. I wanted to discover what I could do to actualise the other potentials I had as a human being, not just shift a few extra units of product.

A lot of leaders talk about those kinds of wake-up moments. What did you do to transform your perspective?

Tons! It was a real process of un-learning and re-education for sure. Some of the things I skilled up on really changed how I was driving myself to succeed. The biggest and most fundamental thing I learned was really

how backwards we are in terms of resourcing our energy as human beings to be successful and not get burnout. We look outward for things to do and achieve and have. Really, that way of driving success has a finite lifespan. It plays havoc with our nervous system and we are letting ourselves be hijacked by our limbic system. Where we are most effective, is when we assess our executive centre and allow our thinking to dictate our feelings, and not our feelings to dictate our thinking. When you look into the neuroscience and biochemistry of peak performers you realise that success is something they create an ecosystem for. It's not just a technique or a trend, it's an environment built up of many factors that all feed into the performer's agenda. That's what I do now. I coach and mentor peak performers and leaders to create and sustain an ecosystem that supports their vision and their agenda.

What advice would you give to executives and leaders reading this?

We're already data rich, so I don't think executives and leaders need more data or knowing to be honest. I'm more interested in asking the right questions that will help them activate the knowledge, data and resources already available to them. Other than that, it's really about working together to creating an ecosystem that enables long term success and that's as unique to each person as a fingerprint or retinal scan.

Richella is a fully licensed Life & Executive Coach with clients all around the globe. You can contact her at richella@positivesuccessgroup.com



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Howth to Greystones

Take the DART (irishrail.ie) from Connolly Station and head out onto a track which will give you wide-sweeping views of the north inner-city. Heading out to the home of rugby in the Aviva Stadium, savour the sweeping sea and the views of the coast from passing through the breath-taking views of Killiney Bay and down to Bray and Greystones.

Dublin to Rosslare

For one of the best coastal sweeping views, you cannot beat the glory that is the line from Dublin to Rosslare. Once out past beautiful Killiney Bay, you can savour the thoughts of travelling past The Avoca viaduct and then disembark at Rosslare Europort.

Dublin to Belfast

Heading north into legendary Cu Chullainn country, you can take in the coastal views in the shape of the Cooley Mountains and the further on, the Mourne Mountains. Your journey will first pass through the ancient town of Drogheda over the viaduct at the River Boyne – setting you up for the Craigmore Viaduct, which stretches a quarter-mile through County Armagh.

Dublin to Galway

Travel over the 168-year-old iron railway bridge over the River Shannon and through the midlands, passing Athlone. Once you get to Oranmore, the rail hits a coastal stretch along Galway Bay and the views of the hills of the Burren entice.

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Dublin Mountain Walks **TAKE A HIKE!**

How about putting your best foot forward and taking that well deserved hike?

Start with the Dublin Mountains Way (DMW) – it's named one of the most scenic routes in the world.

You know you are on the right road when you hear it was listed in the 2015 edition of *1001 Walks You Must Experience Before You Die*.

The walk is 43km of trail from moderate to challenging. Begin at Shankill and end at Tallaght. The DMW can be divided into three sections: Shankill to Threerock, Threerock to Hellfire and Hellfire to Tallaght.

The first thing you'll see is Bohernabreena Reservoir - where most of South Dublin city's water comes from. If you look really hard you will also be able to make out the legendary Hellfire Club, the nickname given to Montpelier Hill.

It's a very safe walk with a number of volunteer groups patrolling the mountains to make sure everyone feels comfortable. That includes the volunteer rangers and the Mountain Meithel Group.

The Mountain Meithel Group have recently been building tracks near Ticknock, Massey's Wood, The Scalp, Cruagh and Fairy Castle.

The high point is at the landmark lead mines at Carrigollogan, with spectacular views. The entire route is now fully waymarked with the standard yellow walking man symbol. The sections where the Wicklow Way and the Dublin Mountains Way run alongside are signed 'DMW' and 'WW'.

Dublin Mountains Loop Trail

This is a 19.6km loop trail near Woodtown, South Dublin. It's a favourite for its great forest setting and it works well for most levels of fitness.

The trail is a real step back in time where you can walk in the footprints of the Neolithic (late Stone Age) and Bronze Ages. The trail also takes in the circular route around the northern fringes of the mountains.

If you keep an eye out you might get a chance to see the wedge tombs, which because of their shape – wide at the entrance and then narrowing and sloping towards the back – are unique in the culture of Ireland.

The Wicklow Way

This is around 130km long and crosses the Wicklow Mountains from Marley Park in Dublin, to Clonegal in County Carlow. It is one of the most popular walks in Ireland and is usually split in seven sections.

The scenery is stunning and includes the Powerscourt Waterfall and Lough Tay – also known as the Guinness Lake, or Glendalough.

The Cliff Walk Bray

If you like to be beside the seaside, then get to Bray and take in the magnificent 7km Cliff Walk stretching to Greystones. Its attraction is in the magnificent views and in its suitability for all walkers. You begin your walk on the bandstand on the Bray Promenade and follow through up to Bray Head, and step into a wonderland totally brimming with wildlife and colourful flowers. You can also begin your journey at Raheen Park, taking a kilometre off your walk.

Keep an eye on the surfaces which can vary in places. If you are lucky you will see the well camouflaged common lizard. If you are even luckier you will see dolphins, black harbour porpoises and basking sharks.

The DMW is one of 14 Irish trails listed by Fáilte Ireland including the Antrim Hills Way, the Burren Way, the Causeway Coast Way, Croagh Patrick Heritage Trail, the Dingle Way, Grand Canal Way, Great Southern Trail, Keenagh Loop Walk, the Arigna Miner's Way, St. Finbarr's Pilgrim Walk, the Táin Way, the Tipperary Heritage Way, the Wicklow Ways and the Kerry Way.

GoWild Magazine

The July Wild Atlantic Way issue is publishing on July 12th



Book your space now

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EPIC The Irish Emigration Museum not to be missed

At EPIC The Irish Emigration Museum, you won't see leprechauns or pots of gold here, but you'll discover that what it means to be Irish expands far beyond the borders of Ireland through the stories of Irish emigrants who became scientists, politicians, poets, artists and even outlaws all over the world.

Discover Ireland from the outside in and find out why saying "I'm Irish" is one of the biggest conversation starters, no matter where you are.

See www.epichq.com



Shannon Ferries

From early morning, as the mist descends the Shannon Estuary to the Wild Atlantic Sea, to the setting of the sun in the late of the evening, Shannon Ferry will take you and your vehicle on this memorable 20 minute journey across the estuary; linking the iconic tourist destinations of the Banner County of Clare to the Kingdom of Kerry.

This is a lovely experience for visitors who would like a short break in their journey to relax as they sail across the majestic Shannon Estuary. And if you're lucky, you might even catch a glimpse of the dolphins, which in the summer, can sometimes swim so near the ferry, as if just to entertain you.

As the only vehicle ferry trip on the main spine of the Wild Atlantic Way, this invigorating journey allows you experience the rugged nature of land and sea as you breathe in the fresh salty sea air that encapsulates Ireland's Wild Atlantic Way.

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Malahide Castle & Gardens

Malahide Castle was home to the Talbot family for nearly 800 years and with a history dating back to 1185, there are plenty of stories to be told.

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For more visit www.malahidecastleandgardens.ie



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The Cliffs of Moher

Visit the awe-inspiring Cliffs of Moher for the ultimate family day out with free admission for children under 16. The Cliffs of Moher are a Signature Discovery Point at the heart of Ireland's Wild Atlantic Way, stretching for 8kms/5 miles and rising 214 metres/700 feet above the Atlantic Ocean.

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Fáilte Ireland's Global Irish Festival Series

Returns to Limerick and Donegal this Autumn

Festival series to harness diaspora links for the benefit of local and community tourism

Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport, Shane Ross, has announced that Fáilte Ireland's Global Irish Festival Series, which aims to encourage our diaspora to return home to visit Ireland, will once again take place along the Wild Atlantic Way in Limerick and Donegal this year.

Announcing the 2019 Global Irish Festival Series, Minister Ross said: "It's great to see the Global Irish Festival Series return this year. The festival series enables local communities to further build upon diaspora networks and deepen connections around the world."

Speaking about the return of the festival series, Minister of State for Tourism and Sport, Brendan Griffin, said: "Following the success of the initiative last year, the Global Irish Festival Series will take place again this year in Limerick and Donegal, to encourage those abroad to return home to enjoy these great festivals."

The festival series was launched as a pilot initiative in 2018. It provides funding and support, through the relevant local authorities, for events which tap into international diaspora networks to increase overseas visitors.

Speaking about the festival series, Fáilte Ireland's Head of Festivals, Ciara Sugrue, said: "The development of tourism festivals is part of Fáilte Ireland's strategy to encourage domestic and international visitors to visit areas outside of traditional tourism hotspots and outside of peak times, to spread the benefits of

tourism to communities throughout Ireland. The Global Irish Festival Series aims to motivate diaspora, to reconnect by visiting their home county and drive visitors to less visited tourism locations, creating new economic benefits for those local communities. As these events take place in the 'shoulder season', they will also help tourism operators to trade for longer."

In Limerick, the Global Irish Festival Series will support Global Limerick, featuring I.N.Y (Irish in New York), which runs from 12th to 20th October and explores the deep connection between Ireland and New York City and the Richard Harris International Film Festival, which takes place from 22nd to 28th October and marks the life and works of Limerick's most famous actor. Welcoming the festival series' return to Limerick, Pat Daly, Director of Services at Limerick City and County Council, said: "Limerick City and County Council is delighted to support the Global Irish Festival Series again in 2019. We look forward to working with Fáilte Ireland, I.N.Y, and the Richard Harris International Film Festival, to build the series into a must see/ do event in Limerick this Autumn.

The programmes being hosted are very exciting and will draw interest from near and far, for what promises to be a great October in Limerick."

In Donegal, the initiative will support Donegal Connect, which runs from 27th September to 6th October and offers a rich itinerary of food, culture, music and heritage experiences, genealogy classes, sport, business and education, to entice the Irish Diaspora to explore the county.

Welcoming the festival series' return to Donegal, Garry Martin, Director of Economic Development & Global Engagement at Donegal County Council, said: "We are delighted to see the Global Irish Festival Series return to Donegal this Autumn. With support from Fáilte Ireland, Donegal County Council has worked with key stakeholders and local communities to build a fantastic programme of events for Donegal Connect and we're hoping the festival will be even bigger and better this year. Donegal has so much to offer and our aim is to encourage our diaspora to come home and experience the county at its best."

To find out more about the Global Irish Festival Series, see: www.wildatlanticway.com/globalirish.





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