

# Ireland

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## THE BEST OF IRELAND

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UNCOVER THE SECRETS  
OF IRELAND'S ANCIENT EAST

ESCAPE INTO THE EXTRAORDINARY  
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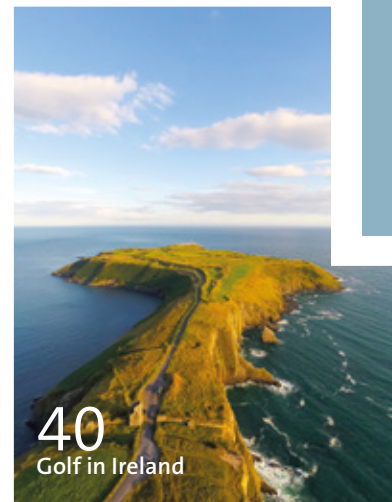
7  
This is Ireland



28  
Ireland's Ancient East



15  
Food in Ireland



40  
Golf in Ireland

## Ireland Welcome

The scenery is enchanting, the culture is captivating, and the people will give you a welcome that will warm your heart. Ireland is unique, and a trip here will make memories that last a lifetime. Delve into Ireland's Ancient East, where history flows through the landscape; feel the ocean's blast on the Wild Atlantic Way as you travel a coastline like no other; or experience the drama of the Causeway Coastal Route. The time is right...



9  
Historic Places to Stay

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## CONTENTS

- 4 **PICTURE THIS**  
Explore one of Ireland's most picturesque landscapes
- 7 **THIS IS IRELAND**  
A round-up of the best Ireland experiences
- 9 **HISTORIC PLACES TO STAY**  
Step into the past with accommodation around the island
- 10 **YOUR WELCOME AWAITS...**  
Feel like one of the family at a cozy B&B
- 13 **DISCOVER ALL ABOUT...**  
Ireland on the big screen
- 15 **FOOD IN IRELAND**  
Fire up your tastebuds with Ireland's best food
- 17 **A JOURNEY INTO THE PAST**  
How to trace your ancestry
- 18 **IRELAND'S CITIES**  
What to see, where to eat, what to do
- 24 **TOWNS AND VILLAGES**  
From music hubs to seafood favorites, here are some of Ireland's best towns and villages
- 28 **IRELAND'S ANCIENT EAST**  
Explore 5,000 years of fascinating stories
- 32 **THE NORTHERN SCENE**  
From fabulous food to coastal gems in Northern Ireland
- 36 **SEVEN WONDERS OF THE WILD ATLANTIC WAY**  
Discover one of the world's best touring routes
- 40 **GOLF IN IRELAND**  
Embark on a golfing adventure with spectacularly located courses
- 44 **THE LAST WORD ON...**  
Traditional music around the island of Ireland
- 48 **GENERAL INFORMATION**  
Everything you need to know about organizing a vacation to Ireland

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## PICTURE THIS

### Bantry House County Cork

Stand at the top of the 100 stone steps in the gardens of Bantry House, and you are treated to a view that can only be described as magnificent. Set in an idyllic corner of West Cork on the edge of Bantry town, Bantry House has been in the same family since the 1700s. As well as enjoying the elegant interior and uncovering its fascinating history, visitors can enjoy the gorgeous tearoom, with a selection of great local food, or can relax with afternoon tea in the esteemed surroundings of the library. If it sounds perfect, that may be because it is.

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01



Ireland This is Ireland

02

## THIS IS IRELAND

A small island with a big heart, Ireland is a soul-stirring destination – a world unto itself, with wave-lashed cliffs, rolling green hills, and historic, story-filled castles. It's a land of vibrant cities bursting with top restaurants, hip cafés, and friendly locals; and a destination dotted with isolated islands where traditions still define daily life. You'll come across secrets, too, buried in silent monastic villages, winding along coastal roads, and written in our libraries' ancient manuscripts. But here's the thing: you'll find the people on the island of Ireland have little interest in keeping secrets. They are storytellers at heart, after all.

So make your way to a place that pulses with wonderful, toe-tapping music, to traditional old pubs where chatter and laughter ring in your ears, and to majestic, ancient tombs where you can connect with Stone Age man.

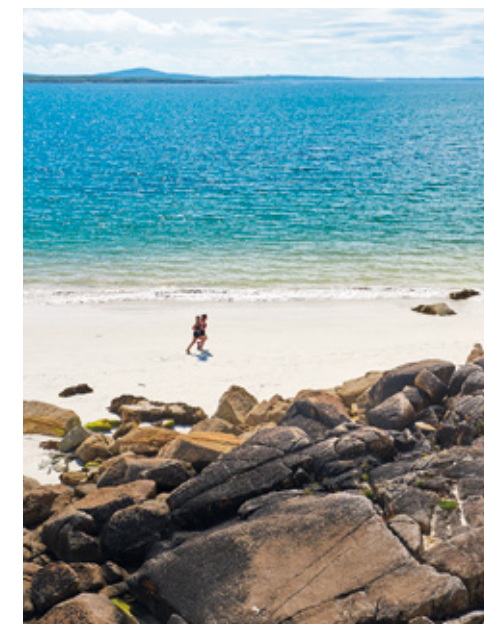
Whether you're traveling along the awe-inspiring Wild Atlantic Way, uncovering primitive history and compelling tales in Ireland's Ancient East, or taking it to the edge on the Causeway Coastal Route, this is an island where memories are created and stories are retold for years to come. Ireland is a place of adventures both big and small. It's time to discover them for yourself. 🍀



03



04



05



07



06

- 01 Giant's Causeway County Antrim
- 02 Dunquin Harbour County Kerry
- 03 Passing time in the local pub
- 04 Carrick-a-Rede rope bridge County Antrim
- 05 Fresh seafood straight from the sea
- 06 Gurteen Beach County Galway
- 07 Tranarossan Bay County Donegal

# Unforgettable vacations start in a Bed and Breakfast in Ireland



Ireland offers inspiring beauty and magical charm. The best way to experience this is through a Bed and Breakfast holiday. Our premier collection of over 800 independently owned, quality assured Bed and Breakfast homes located in town, city, country and farm locations, offers you the perfect way to see and capture the true spirit of Ireland, and the Irish people.

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## HISTORIC PLACES TO STAY

From decadent drawing rooms to secret little libraries, explore an elegant side to Ireland with some of the island's historic places to stay

### The Shelbourne Dublin city

With a beautiful location overlooking the urban oasis of St Stephen's Green park, The Shelbourne is a Dublin institution and is packed with 200 years of history. Step inside this grande dame of hotels and you're enveloped in 5-star luxury with plush furnishings, stately rooms, and fine dining. Don't miss the hotel's jewel-like Horseshoe Bar, – it's famed for its rich red walls, cozy feel, and interesting artifacts. [marriott.com](http://marriott.com)

### The Bushmills Inn County Antrim

If you like the idea of a warming whiskey beside an open fire after a day exploring the majestic Causeway Coastal Route, then The Bushmills Inn could be for you. In days of old, visitors to the coast would use the inn as a stopover, and the oldest part of the building is thought to date back to 1608. A gas-lit bar, nooks and crannies, and a secret library create an atmosphere of heritage in a village that's famous for its whiskey. [bushmillsinn.com](http://bushmillsinn.com)

### Killiane Castle County Wexford

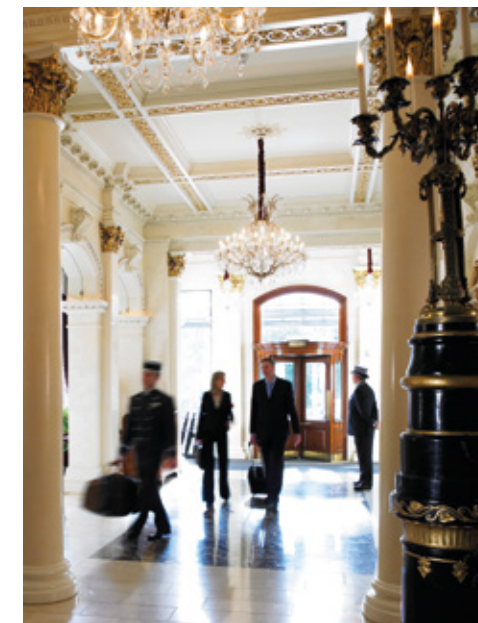
Located in a delightfully tranquil part of the southeast, Killiane Castle was named Farmhouse of the Year in 2017 by the Georgina Campbell Guide for good reason. Set on a narrow, leafy road in County Wexford only 3 miles from Wexford town, this 17<sup>th</sup> century house offers beautiful accommodation next to a 15<sup>th</sup> century castle. Play croquet on the lawn, read by the fire, or ramble through the historic grounds. [killianecastle.com](http://killianecastle.com)

### Rayanne House Belfast

Rayanne House offers boutique accommodation with a view over Belfast Lough, where the Titanic was constructed. Dating back to 1883, the house mixes period and modern features, and is perfect for accessing Belfast city, as well as coastal and forest walks. Book a table in the restaurant and you can enjoy the Titanic Menu, a recreation of the last menu service for first-class passengers aboard the "Ship of Dreams". [rayannehouse.com](http://rayannehouse.com)

### Cnoc Suain County Galway

Wild heather, bogland, hedgerows, and craggy stone surround these exceptional thatched cottages, one of which dates back to 1691. This is simple, authentic accommodation with a very Irish soul – local stone, salvaged timbers, handcrafted furniture, and cast iron beds add comfort and character, while outside the Connemara countryside is waiting to charm. [cnocsuain.com](http://cnocsuain.com)



01



Ireland Accommodation

02

- 01 The Shelbourne Dublin
- 02 The Bushmills Inn County Antrim
- 03 Killiane Castle County Wexford
- 04 Rayanne House Belfast
- 05 Cnoc Suain County Galway



03

AT KILLIANE IN COUNTY WEXFORD, YOU CAN PLAY CROQUET ON THE LAWN, READ BY THE FIRE, OR RAMBLE THROUGH THE HISTORIC GROUNDS



04



05



# YOUR WELCOME AWAITS...

They're in towns and villages. Some are at the foot of mountains, some overlook lakes and others are steps from beaches and golf clubs. They're even on farms, and they can turn a good holiday into a great one...

Places linger in the memory for a number of reasons: beautiful landscapes, heavenly food, surprising experiences. But one aspect of a holiday that often remains long after everything else slowly fades, and that's the people. It is said that people make a place, and nowhere is this truer than in a B&B on the island of Ireland.

Tucked away in picturesque corners of the coast, languishing in lush green meadows, and sitting at the heart of rural farms – B&Bs in Ireland are entirely unique. You'll find cozy rooms, incredible locations and a breakfast that could sustain a whole army, but you'll also find a friendly welcome that keeps going throughout your entire stay.

B&Bs are family homes, and the people that run them are hives of local knowledge – offering cheerful, inside information on the places to go, things to do, and hidden gems to uncover in the surrounding area. That little pub on the edge of the ocean that only the locals know about; a secret beach off the beaten track that will take your breath away; and local tales, folklore and stories that bring a place to life. Step into a B&B and it's all yours.

Throw in a natural talent for welcoming guests, a sumptuous home-cooked breakfast, and an easygoing warmth that makes you feel like one of the family, and

it's easy to see why B&Bs on the island of Ireland are famous the world over.

B&B host Olive O'Gorman of Glasha B&B in County Waterford puts it best when she says, "I am delighted to meet and welcome guests into my home from so many different parts of the world. It gives me great pleasure to see that they trust my local knowledge and expertise to show them the hidden gems in my area."

## Great places

Whether you're after an extraordinary adventure on the Wild Atlantic Way, an unforgettable tour through Northern Ireland, or a farm stay in the historic heartlands of Ireland's Ancient East, you're guaranteed to find a B&B to suit your needs. B&Bs on the island really do spring up everywhere – in remote headlands that nudge out into the ocean, on the edge of vast beaches, and in cosmopolitan cities including Dublin and Belfast, where everything is right on your doorstep.

B&B accommodation can be as rustic or as indulgent as you like, from Victorian townhouses to elegant farmhouse stays. Seek out a special B&B and you'll enter a world of interiors laden with antiques and picture-lined walls, beautiful landscaped gardens, and breakfasts served in elegant dining rooms or plant-laden conservatories.



## SIX TO TRY

### Cahergal Farmhouse

Shannon, County Clare

Cahergal Farmhouse run by Michael and Noreen McInerney is a beautifully restored farmhouse surrounded by rich farmland in the historic town of Newmarket-on-Fergus, County Clare. All rooms are decorated to the highest standards with spacious ensembles, and offer magnificent views of the farm and surrounding countryside. Breakfast here really is a memorable experience, with delicious home-cooking in the sunny dining room overlooking the rose garden and ancient stone walls. Cahergal is the perfect place to discover the thrill of exploring the lush, green Irish countryside, while Bunratty Castle and Folk Park is only a short drive away. Host Noreen offers a daily morning walk around their working farm, so you can experience country life up close.

[bandbireland.com/us](http://bandbireland.com/us)

### Anna's House

Newtownards, County Down

A warm cup of tea, a stunning view over a glassy lake, and a feeling of glorious comfort – this is Anna's House, a charming B&B in the heart of the County Down countryside. And while the rural peace, truly excellent breakfasts and wonderfully cozy rooms are a real draw, nothing can quite beat the views from the

reception room, where vast panoramic windows frame the countryside to perfection. Perfect for accessing the Mourne Mountains and the Glens of Antrim, the house also makes a great base to explore Mount Stewart Gardens, Rowallane Gardens and Castle Ward.

[annashouse.com](http://annashouse.com)

### Arranmore House

Drumcondra, Dublin

Set within a historic Georgian townhouse, Arranmore is a great B&B boasting comfortable and spacious rooms just over a mile from Dublin city center. With a wonderful host in Anne, guests are warmly welcomed and it's an enduring favorite thanks to its close proximity to pubs, restaurants and the National Botanic Gardens, an oasis of calm and beauty in the city. Conveniently located only 5 miles from the airport, Arranmore House also boasts great public transport links, which make it a perfect spot for accessing the urban buzz that Dublin's famous for.

[arranmorehouse.com](http://arranmorehouse.com)

### Glasha B&B

Ballymacarby, County Waterford

An exceptionally elegant 5-star farmhouse in breathtaking County Waterford, guests can relax in sheer decadence at Glasha. At this multi award-winning bed and breakfast nestled in the stunning surrounds of the Nire Valley, guests can enjoy king-size beds, spacious rooms, the impressive mountain landscape and delicious home-cooked breakfasts, courtesy of host Olive O'Gorman. Only 1.8 miles from the picturesque village of Ballymacarby, Glasha boasts a truly great location while genial host Olive offers the best of home-cooking, with Irish hospitality most definitely the main ingredient!

[bandbireland.com/us](http://bandbireland.com/us)

### Gallan Mór

West Cork

Set within the stunning surrounds of the Sheep's Head Peninsula, Gallan Mór has it all: beauty, style and a great location in one of Ireland's foodie heartlands. Rooms are luxuriously and individually designed, and host Lorna has a particular skill for excellent home-baking, with lavender shortbread, home-made jams and granola some of the treats on offer. Overlooking the Atlantic Ocean, Gallan Mór's location is a real delight and is perfect for accessing the wilds of West Cork and the Sheep's Head Peninsula, as well as the lively town of Bantry, with the beautiful Bantry House and Gardens. Relaxed, well-located and with a boutique feel, this is a gem that you won't forget in a hurry.

[gallanmor.com](http://gallanmor.com)



01



02



03



04



05



06

- 01 Cahergal Farmhouse County Clare
- 02 Anna's House County Down
- 03 Arranmore House Dublin
- 04 Irelands Premier Collection Glasha, County Waterford
- 05 Valley View Country House County Antrim
- 06 Gallan Mor West Cork

### Valley View Country House

Bushmills, County Antrim

Unwind in a pretty rural residence boasting stunning views of the County Antrim scenery at Valley View Country House. With spacious, modern rooms and king-size beds, relaxing after a day's sightseeing is a given. Guests can enjoy complimentary tea and delicious home baking on arrival courtesy of your host Valerie McFall. Superbly located close to the stunning Giant's Causeway, the Carrick-a-Rede Rope Bridge and the Old Bushmills Distillery in the scenic town of Bushmills, visitors are well placed to explore the area's rich heritage and enjoy its unique charm.

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The Dubliner's Guide to Dublin [dodublin.ie](http://dodublin.ie)



# DISCOVER ALL ABOUT... IRELAND ON SCREEN

Lights, camera, action! There's a good reason that Ireland is a star of the screen – from romantic castles to the mysterious beauty of the landscape, the island has a cinematic sense of style

The cliffs, the green fields, the quaint thatched cottages – it's no wonder Ireland has long been a favorite of filmmakers. This is an island tailor-made for big-screen stardom, from the thrilling drama of Mel Gibson's *Braveheart*, starring Trim Castle in County Meath, to the vast sands of Wexford's beaches, perfectly pictured in *The Quiet Man*; climb Killiney Hill in County Dublin, which wowed in Oscar-winning *Once*; or be awed by the Cliffs of Moher in County Clare, stars of *Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince*.

Riding the swirling waves out to Skellig Michael off the coast of County Kerry is cinematic enough in itself. But once you step onto this island, originally home to a community of monks from the 6<sup>th</sup> to the 13<sup>th</sup> century, it's hard not to feel like you've walked onto a movie set. And that may be because you have: in addition to the compelling history of this remote Atlantic monastic site, Skellig Michael made its on-screen debut at the end of *Star Wars: Episode VII – The Force Awakens*. This stunning Atlantic island is not the only part of Ireland to feature in Star Wars, either – the location scouts were so taken with the Wild Atlantic Way, they also picked the coastal promontory of Malin Head at the tip of County Donegal to star in *Episode VIII*, as well as Loop Head in County Clare and Brow Head, near Crookhaven, County Cork, at the southwestern tip of the island.

With more Seven Kingdoms locations than anywhere else in the world – Northern Ireland has certainly earned its title as *Game of Thrones* Territory. This epic medieval fantasy series employs bewitched forests, mysterious caves, and otherworldly backdrops to deliver big-time drama and in Northern Ireland, they certainly found it. Just look at Tollymore Forest Park, a mesmerizing expanse of wild woodland known as the Haunted Forest in Westeros, and 12<sup>th</sup> century Inch Abbey, where the War of the Five Kings began. Other filming locations from the series include the ancient Antrim plateau (Dothraki Grasslands); the Shillanavogy Valley beneath Slemish Mountain in County Antrim (Dothraki Sea), where St Patrick once served as a shepherd; and the haunting beauty of the Dark Hedges (the Kingsroad), a captivating avenue of beech trees, also in Antrim.

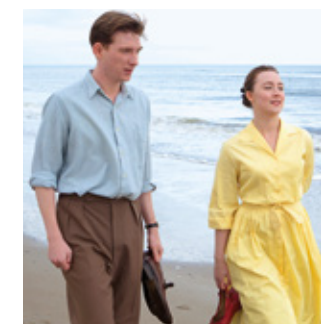
Famous for its bohemian vibe, artistic outlook, and dynamic creativity, Galway is a filmmaker's dream – a city both old and new that boasts medieval streets, charismatic old pubs, and flashes of modern architecture. In 2014, this western gem was designated a UNESCO City of Film, acknowledging Ireland's writers and producers, as well as the Galway Film Centre, the Irish Film Board, and TG4 (the Irish-language television station), all of which are based in the city. The Galway Film Fleadh (festival) in July is a great way to soak up a slice of Galway's film scene and the intimate venues, post-screening events, and sense of energy and fun throughout the city during festival time give it a really unique ambience. Beyond the city, the county of Galway has featured in numerous movies, including *Marley & Me*, *The Guard*, and *The Field*.



01



02



03



04

- 01 *Star Wars: The Force Awakens*  
Skellig Michael, County Kerry
- 02 *Game of Thrones*<sup>®</sup>  
Dark Hedges, County Antrim
- 03 *Brooklyn*  
Curraclloe Beach, County Wexford
- 04 *Braveheart*  
Trim Castle, County Meath

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## FOOD IN IRELAND

With innovative restaurants, gastropubs, and fab farmers' markets, Ireland's food scene is all fired up

When it comes to food on the island of Ireland, you need to start at the very beginning. The natural produce here has made Ireland one of Europe's most talked-about food destinations, with artisan cheese, exceptional beef and lamb, and fresh seafood. From smoked salmon to the creamiest butter, Ireland's food is pure and simple, while traditional dishes of coddle (a bacon, sausage, potato, and onion stew), Irish stew (made with lamb, carrot, and potatoes), soda bread (a brown bread), and the Ulster Fry (a cooked breakfast) celebrate the flavors of the past.



02

### Traditional meets modern

With such a prodigiously stocked natural larder, it's no wonder that the island's chefs make full use of the great produce on their doorstep. You'll find wonderful modern Irish food at **Canteen**, a simple, critically acclaimed eatery in Celbridge, County Kildare, that specializes in sourcing the very best ingredients. **Idás** in Dingle, County Kerry, turns excellent local and foraged produce into amazing tasting menus that celebrate West Kerry's flavors, while **Wine & Brine** in Moira, County Armagh, brings age-old techniques to the table. To enjoy a different side of the Irish culinary scene, try a festival such as the **Rockin' Food Festival** in Enniscorthy, County Wexford, or take time out at a cookery school. Darina Allen's **Ballymaloe Cookery School** in Cork is ideal for learning modern Irish dishes in a hands-on environment.

- 01 Klaw Temple Bar, Dublin
- 02 Idás Dingle, County Kerry
- 03 Love Fish Belfast
- 04 Moran's Oyster Cottage Kilcolgan, County Galway
- 05 Taste & Tour Belfast



Ireland Food

01

### A taste of the sea

With oysters and crab claws, mussels and lobster, Ireland's seafood is nothing short of exceptional. Enjoy oysters at the **Temple Bar Food Market**, tasty mussels at the famous **Mourne Seafood Bar** in Dundrum, County Down, or fish and chips at **Love Fish** in Belfast. Fancy some top-notch seafood right by the water? Then check out **Harry's Shack** on Portstewart Strand, County Londonderry, **Moran's Oyster Cottage** in Kilcolgan, County Galway, and **Trá Bán** in Strandhill, County Sligo. Seafood even has a cultural side in Ireland, with events such as the **Flavours of the Foyle Seafood Festival** in Derry~Londonderry (July) and the **Galway Oyster Festival** in Galway city (Sept) drawing huge crowds.



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### The best local drinks

Great food deserves great drinks to go with it – and Ireland certainly delivers. Irish whiskey ranges from the traditional flavors of **Bushmills** and **Jameson** to the newer tastes of **Teeling**, **Glendalough** and **Nephtin**. Craft beers can be found everywhere, so keep your eye out for local brews such as **Trouble Brewing**, **James Brown Brews**, and **Northbound**. Gin, meanwhile, is emerging as one of the island's most exciting artisan drinks, with small distilleries including **Blackwater No.5** and **Shortcross Gin**. Finally, enjoy a taste of the "orchard county", County Armagh, with the award-winning **AJ Apple Juice**, made from freshly pressed Armagh apples, and **Armagh cider** – simply delicious!



05

### Top Tip

Get to know Ireland's food scene from the inside out and taste some excellent local produce with a walking tour from Belfast's Taste & Tour, and Fab Food Trails in Dublin and Cork. ☘



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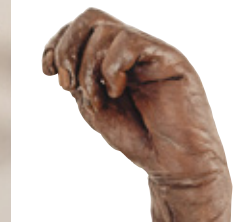
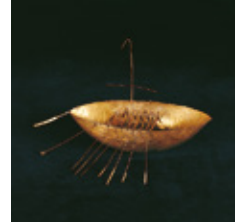
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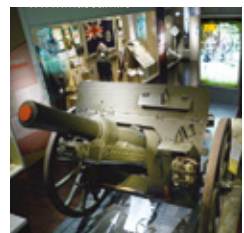


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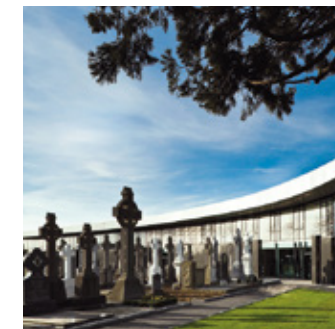


## A JOURNEY INTO THE PAST

Curious about your Irish ancestors? Here's how  
to get started on an adventure into your own  
personal history

### Getting started

Tracing your ancestry involves its fair share of history, bloodlines, and late-night sleuthing, but when it comes to Ireland, it's also about the math. While just over six million people live on the island, nearly 40 million in the US claim Irish ancestry. From Alaska to Arizona, and Wisconsin to Wyoming, generations of traders and emigrants have spread their wings, taking their own brand of Irishness all over the States. Of course, starting on a journey of discovery can be daunting, but it's all about getting back to basics. Make a list of siblings, parents, grandparents, and cousins, as far back as possible and include any details you know: names, dates of birth, where they lived, where they were born. If you don't know, ask relatives. Next, gather together any material you can, including letters; birth, marriage, or death certificates; photos; memorial cards; and locations of family graves. Focus your research first on where you know the ancestor spent the last years of their life and broaden out from there. Karel Kiely of Roots Ireland recommends trying to find out where your relations may have passed away and if they appear in ships' passenger lists or newspapers. Collect as much information as you can and keep notes.



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### Make the journey home

Coming to Ireland will add a whole new dimension to your genealogy experience and enables you to access an amazing amount of resources. There are free, walk-in advisory services and census records at the National Library and National Archives in Dublin, while in Northern Ireland you can access public records at the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland (PRONI) and registers of births, deaths, marriages, and adoptions at the General Register Office for Northern Ireland (GRONI). Many counties boast their own county genealogy centers and a list is available on [rootsireland.ie](http://rootsireland.ie). Dublin's Glasnevin Cemetery holds burial records for over 1.5 million people as well as a Genealogy Research Centre ([glasnevintrust.ie](http://glasnevintrust.ie)), and the Military Archives offers a range of information for the Republic of Ireland ([militaryarchives.ie](http://militaryarchives.ie)). Don't miss the Irish Family History Centre at EPIC Ireland in Dublin, with genealogy experts, family history records, and interactive displays. And while rummaging through records is a vital part of the genealogy experience, remember that this is ultimately an emotional journey. As New Yorker Gerry Britt, who traced his ancestors back to a small village in County Tipperary, explains: "Coming to Ireland gives you an experience that records just can't."



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### Think outside the box

You will encounter obstacles along the way, so be flexible. Online databases make a good place to go hunting. Use websites such as the Irish Government-sponsored [irishgenealogy.ie](http://irishgenealogy.ie), or build a family tree on [ancestry.com](http://ancestry.com) that faraway relatives can add to. Ireland Family History on Facebook is great for making contacts, while the Ulster Historical Foundation at [ancestryireland.com](http://ancestryireland.com) is a useful resource that traces Scots-Irish and Irish roots. Remember that sometimes you don't need to start your research in Irish databases, though, as Karel Kiely advises: "If your ancestor emigrated from Ireland, don't start your research in Ireland. Working back from the known to the unknown, generation by generation, is the only way to be sure." 🍀



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- 01 Dunbrody Famine Ship Experience  
New Ross, County Wexford
- 02 Glasnevin Cemetery  
Dublin
- 03 EPIC Ireland  
Dublin
- 04 Blasket Islands  
County Kerry
- 05 Linen Hall Library  
Belfast



# IRELAND'S CITIES

Take a break in some of the most exciting cities in the world, from bursts of fresh coastal air in Dublin to great sightseeing in Belfast, Cork, and Derry~Londonderry

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## Five great places to visit

**Guinness Storehouse**  
Learn all about the history of Ireland's famous black stout in the impressive Guinness Storehouse at the home of the brewery in St James's Gate. The fascinating tour ends with a pint of the "black stuff" in the Gravity Bar, which has panoramic views across the city.

**Trinity College and the Book of Kells**  
The cobblestone courtyards of Trinity College are a peaceful haven from the bustle of the city. Trinity's highlights include the Book of Kells, a richly decorated manuscript from the 9th century, and the impressive Long Room, home to 200,000 of the library's oldest books.

**Kilmainham Gaol**  
When it first opened in 1796, this prison was used to house convicts bound for Australia. Kilmainham later became a symbol of the Irish fight for independence, when the leaders of the 1916 Irish Rising were executed here.

**National Museum of Ireland**  
Uncover Ireland's rich history with artifacts dating back thousands of years. The glittering collection of prehistoric gold jewelry at Ór, Ireland's Gold exhibition, includes decorative collars from the Bronze Age. And don't miss the section on the mysterious Iron Age bodies discovered in Irish bogs.

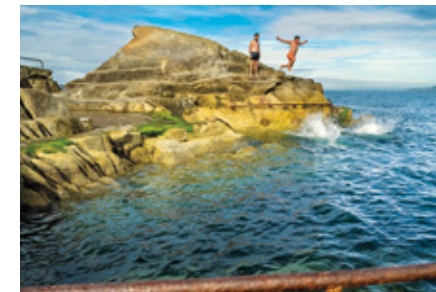
**Temple Bar**  
In this central location between the River Liffey and Dame Street, you'll find pubs, restaurants, and nightclubs along Temple Bar's cobbled streets. The Gallery of Photography, a weekend book market and a summer design market at Cow's Lane on Saturdays add to the attractions.



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PHOTO: BARRY MCCALL

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## Food and drink

With its cool cafés, bustling brasseries, and elegant fine-dining restaurants, Dublin's food scene is one of the most exciting in Europe. Enjoy a taste of Ireland's famous seafood in restaurants such as **Matt the Thresher** on Pembroke Street Lower, **Fish Shop** in Smithfield and **Catch 22** on South Anne Street. Modern-meets-traditional at **Delahunt** on Camden Street Lower, where menus feature local produce transformed by often-overlooked cooking techniques. For innovative cuisine with a focus on the best local ingredients, try **Locks** in Portobello or the contemporary neighborhood bistro **Bastible** on South Circular Road.

The **Temple Bar Food Market** in Meeting House Square is great for a Saturday stroll, featuring stalls laden with everything from seasonal fruit and vegetables to cheeses and meats. Don't miss **Leo Burdock's** at Christ Church Cathedral for traditional takeaway fish and chips wrapped in paper, or go for a light lunch in one of the city's popular cafés such as the Grafton Street institution of **Bewley's**.



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## Dublin

Dublin charms the visitor with a gorgeous coastal setting, compelling history, lively nightlife, and an impressive food scene. The city evokes a warm, laid-back atmosphere thanks to friendly locals who view the world with a wry smile. This is a destination you'll want to return to again and again.

Dating back to Viking times, Dublin is a city where historic buildings sit next to cool cafés and quirky craft shops. Take a wander around the old city area and you'll happen upon ancient structures such as **Christ Church Cathedral** (founded around 1030), **The Brazen Head Pub** (1198) and **Dublin Castle** (1204).

Around Merrion Square and Fitzwilliam Square, Georgian terraces of tall, elegant townhouses from the 18th and 19th century overlook leafy parks used for festivals and an outdoor cinema in the summer. Georgian Dublin also boasts impressive, free-to-enter museums and galleries, including the **National Gallery** and the **Natural History Museum**.

Dublin is a cultural capital. You won't go far in the city without hearing a tune, whether it's from buskers on Grafton

Street or traditional Irish music in the pubs. The city is also famous for being a powerhouse of the written word. In this UNESCO City of Literature, you can immerse yourself in all things literary at the **Dublin Writers Museum**, featuring Bram Stoker (who lived in Dublin) and Jonathan Swift. Join the **Literary Pub Crawl** around some pubs beloved of writers, such as **The Duke**, frequented by Patrick Kavanagh and Brendan Behan, or visit the **James Joyce Museum** beside the sea in Sandycove, County Dublin.

Backed by mountains and on the edge of the Irish Sea, Dublin makes the most of its striking location, with great coastal villages that ooze charm and a bounty of cliff walks, castles, cool bars, and "craic" (fun). Whether enjoying the vibrant atmosphere of the modern city or a leisurely stroll to take in the views, you'll find Dublin is a breath of fresh air.

- 01 Ha'penny Bridge
- 02 Dublin Castle
- 03 Temple Bar
- 04 Guinness Storehouse
- 05 Trinity College
- 06 The Forty Foot, Sandycove
- 07 Delahunt restaurant



## Dublin tips

Dublin has plenty of grassy spaces – there's St Stephen's Green, known for its pretty ponds and blooming flowerbeds, and Phoenix Park, Europe's largest enclosed city park, with its resident herd of fallow deer. Or try the peaceful Iveagh Gardens, a secret green oasis off Harcourt Street, which has a yew maze and ornate fountains.

For a bracing cliff walk and glorious sea views, spend a couple of hours exploring the majestic cliff path on the Howth Peninsula, easily accessible by the rapid rail service (DART) heading north from the city center.

Take the DART south to Sandycove for a dip in the famous Forty Foot bathing spot, and a walk along the scenic seafront. Top things off with an ice cream from Teddy's, close to Dún Laoghaire's East Pier – it's a favorite of Dubliners.

See the 800-year-old mummies in the vaults of St Michan's Church. The first church was founded here in 1095 and the bodies are thought to have been preserved by limestone in the vault walls.



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### Five great places to visit

#### Crumlin Road Gaol

A working prison from 1845 to 1996, Crumlin Road Gaol is now an exciting visitor attraction within a dramatic 19<sup>th</sup> century space. Concerts and events are regularly held at the prison, and those who dare can take the Paranormal Tour after dark.

#### Belfast City Hall

Belfast's architectural centerpiece is City Hall, with beautiful surrounding gardens and impressive statues. Free public tours bring visitors through the interior's finest rooms and exhibitions.

#### Ulster Museum

Set within the delightful Botanic Gardens, the Ulster Museum has exhibitions that trace the history and prehistory of Ireland and map out the rise of Belfast's crafts and trades. There are marvels wherever you turn, so give yourself enough time to enjoy it all.

#### Carrickfergus Castle

About 30 minutes north of the city on the shores of Belfast Lough, you'll find Carrickfergus Castle. Built in the 12<sup>th</sup> century by the Normans, it has withstood sieges by the Scots, Irish, English, and French over the years, and is one of the best-preserved medieval castles on the island of Ireland.

#### The MAC

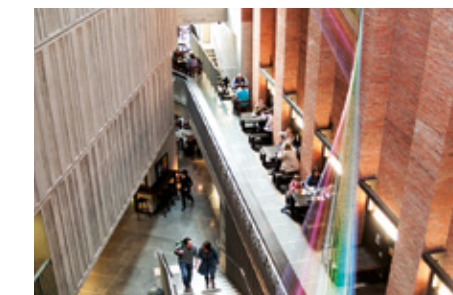
Belfast's award-winning cultural center in the heart of the Cathedral Quarter occupies a beautiful modern building with three art galleries. It hosts a variety of exhibitions, theatrical performances, music, and comedy.



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### Food and drink

With esteemed Michelin-starred restaurants, award-winning food producers, breweries, and food markets, Belfast's food scene is winning international accolades for good reason. The creativity in the kitchens of both **Ox** and **Eipic** has been recognized with Michelin stars in recent years, while fresh seafood is the star at **Fish City**, popular for its fish and chips.

Don't miss **St George's Market** (Fri-Sat), offering all types of gourmet nibbles from fresh produce to hot food, plus delicious coffees and cakes, often accompanied by live music. You can also take a guided food tour of the city from the market, sampling local drinks and dishes and learning about artisan food producers.

There are pubs to suit all tastes in Belfast, but it's the old pubs that have the most character. Between Ann Street and High Street, explore the tiny cobblestone area called **The Belfast Entries**, for old pubs such as **White's Tavern** and **The Morning Star Bar**. Or check out the beautiful 19<sup>th</sup> century **Crown Liquor Saloon** on Great Victoria Street.



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## Belfast

With welcoming locals and sensational sightseeing attractions, Belfast is a city with an undeniable allure. Spend a weekend, a week, or even longer here, and you'll discover a place that can trace its origins back to the Bronze Age – a magnetic metropolis with a Titanic past and a vivacious present.

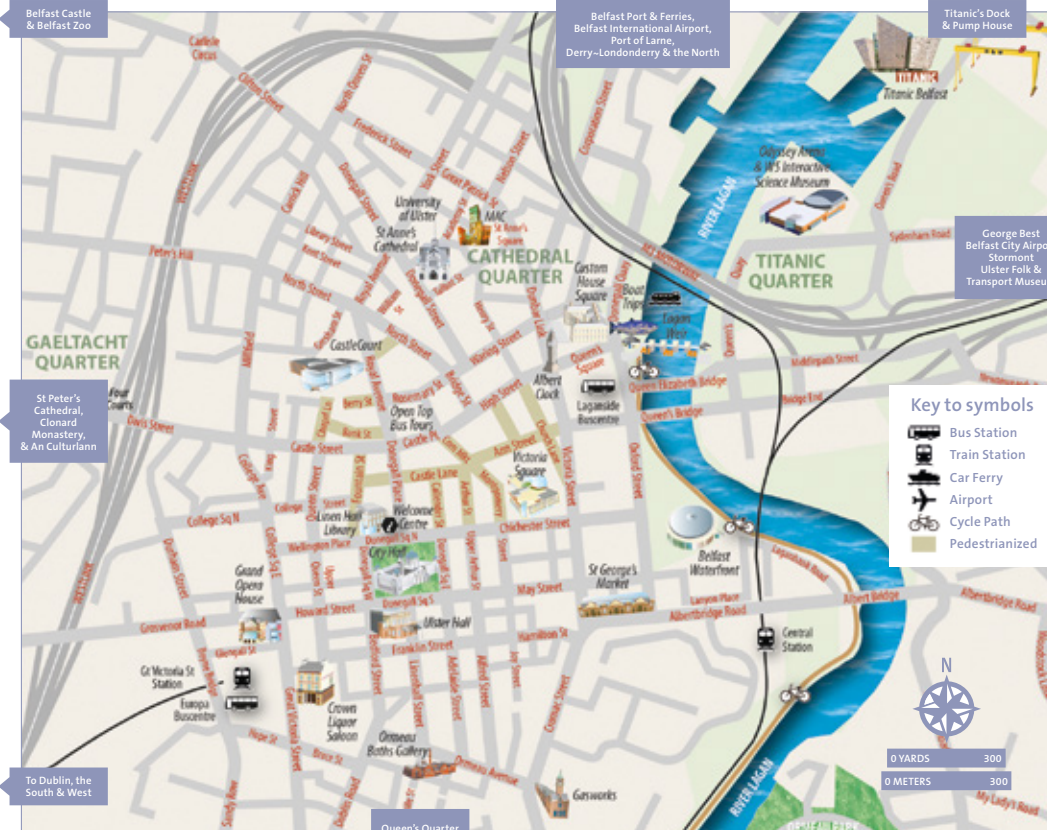
To soak up Belfast's unique atmosphere, it's best to explore its four quarters on foot, walking the compact center to absorb the pulsating mix of music venues, traditional pubs, critically acclaimed restaurants, and art galleries. The Cathedral Quarter, set around **St Anne's Cathedral**, contains some of the city's oldest streets and radiates an artsy vibe, with fine old pubs such as the characterful **Duke of York**, as well as the restaurant-filled **St Anne's Square**, and **The MAC** (Metropolitan Arts Centre).

Walk along the River Lagan, and you'll enter the heart of Belfast's industrial past, when it was once one of the greatest places in the world for shipbuilding. This is the city whose shipyards built the **Titanic** and her sister ships, the **Olympic** and **Britannic**. The Titanic Quarter in Belfast

Harbour is now home to **Titanic Belfast**, a state-of-the-art exhibition tracing the tragic tale of the "Ship of Dreams". It's also where you can take a walk back in time on board the **SS Nomadic**, which once ferried first- and second-class passengers out to Titanic, and is the last remaining White Star Line ship in the world. At **Alexandra Dock**, a short walk from Titanic Belfast, sits **HMS Caroline**, a WWI Light Battle Cruiser. The exhibition on the ship covers battles, weaponry, and what life was like at sea for the 300 crew members.

In the Queen's Quarter, home of **Queen's University**, you'll find eclectic cafés and bars such as **Muriel's**, as well as the **Ulster Museum**, with ancient mummies and an impressive art collection. And in the Gaeltacht Quarter, learn more about Belfast and its political history, including the famous murals and Peace Walls, on an open-top bus or Black Taxi Tour.

- 01 Titanic Belfast
- 02 Belfast City Hall
- 03 Queen's University
- 04 Crumlin Road Gaol
- 05 Carrickfergus Castle
- 06 The MAC
- 07 The Crown Liquor Saloon



### Belfast tips

Almost hidden away on Donegall Square, the handsome **Linen Hall Library** is Belfast's oldest library and was founded in 1788. A general tour of the building takes place Mon-Sat at 11:30am.

Drop in for lunch or afternoon tea at **Belfast Castle Estate** and **Cave Hill Visitor Centre**, and explore the gardens and walking trails – they offer great views over the city and Belfast Lough.

The **Chronicles of Narnia** writer **CS Lewis** was born in east Belfast – visit **CS Lewis Square** to see sculptures from **The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe**, or follow a self-guided trail to places from the author's early life that may have inspired his later writings.

Take a day trip from Belfast to visit key **Game of Thrones** locations, such as the **Dark Hedges** and impressive **Castle Ward**, home of **Winterfell**. Or journey along the stunning **Causeway Coastal Route**, dropping in at the **Giant's Causeway** and then on to beautiful **Ballintoy Harbour**, otherwise known as the **Iron Islands**.



## Derry~Londonderry

With its ancient city walls, great street food and craft-beer scene, and a strong creative streak that vibrates through galleries, studios, shops, and museums, the city of Derry~Londonderry has never been more exciting than it is right now.

Still buzzing from its year as UK Capital of Culture, the city's many layers unfold as you walk around its historic streets, from the soaring modern lines of the **Peace Bridge** to the **400-year-old walls**. As the main city in Ireland's northwest, Derry~Londonderry is where the Wild Atlantic Way meets the Causeway Coastal Route and the beauty of its setting on the River Foyle can be best enjoyed from its famous walls, where views stretch as far as the distant Donegal hills.

From on high, you can also look down on the tangle of city streets, where modern life bustles in energetic trad sessions, great local restaurants, and enchanting old buildings – all combining to give the city its unique local flavor.

First time here? Take a tour and see one of the city's fascinating flip-sides, whether it's the story of the colorful street art and murals with **Bogside Artists**, or artisan food tours with **Made in Derry**. Take a step into something special.

## Cork

Cork is resolutely charismatic, with friendly people who are fiercely proud of their city. And why wouldn't they be? With a beautiful location on an island at the mouth of the River Lee, the city serves up a bustling blend of trendy cafés and restaurants, vibrant art galleries, absorbing museums, and old pubs.

Walking through the streets you can weave from the working hustle and bustle of the 19<sup>th</sup> century **English Market** to the elegant **Crawford Art Gallery**, where Irish artists such as Paul Henry, Jack B Yeats, and Dorothy Cross share space with the original 5<sup>th</sup> century Athenian discus-thrower, Discobolus. You can lunch on oysters overlooking the River Lee at the **Electric Fish Bar**, and dine alfresco by a waterfall in the pretty courtyard at **Greenes Restaurant**, housed within an old warehouse.

Best explored on foot, Cork is the kind of place that has a little bit of everything, including artsy enclaves and the historic Huguenot Quarter. Attractions here often come with a pleasing quirk, whether it's the fascinating **Butter Museum** or maybe a chance to ring the church bells at **St Anne's Church**. Creative, cultured and cool – Cork is a charmer.



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### What to see

Sitting pretty within reach of the walls, the beautiful red-brick **Guildhall** boasts stunning stained-glass windows and stands like an anchor within the vibrant Guildhall Square. Mere steps from here is the river-spanning **Peace Bridge** – a Derry~Londonderry icon and a scenic spot from which to watch the majestic River Foyle rush towards a meeting with Lough Foyle to the north. And don't miss the award-winning **Tower Museum**, which traces the city's history and culminates with a panoramic open-air viewing platform. Located within the historic city walls, the museum also includes an exhibition on the shipwrecked Armada vessel, **La Trinidad Valencera**.

- 01 The Guildhall
- 02 Derry~Londonderry Walls
- 03 The Peace Bridge
- 04 Warehouse No 1



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### What to see

Two Cork attractions peek into the bygone age of the penal system: the 17<sup>th</sup> century **Elizabeth Fort** was used as an army barracks, a female prison, and a police station in its time, and **Cork City Gaol** housed prisoners during the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Take a walk on the wild side at the **Fota Wildlife Park**, a 30-minute journey from the city center. Dedicated to conservation and education, the park is home to lions, gibbons, bison, and red panda; animals either roam free or live in natural paddocks. Back in the city, get an art fix at the **Lewis Glucksman Gallery** or mix with the stars at the **Blackrock Castle Observatory**, just outside the city on the banks of the River Lee.

- 05 The River Lee
- 06 The English Market
- 07 Elizabeth Fort
- 08 Café Paradiso



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### Food and drink

Traditional pubs, culture on tap, and elegant eateries: the Derry~Londonderry food scene is a joy to explore. A good place to start is the traditional pub of **Peadar O'Donnell's** for live music and a pint of porter. For something a bit different, the **Walled City Brewery** mixes a restaurant and brewery to great effect with craft beers and gins. A taste of Derry~Londonderry's renowned local food can be best appreciated in the fine-dining favorite, **Brown's**. Mixing elegant surroundings and top ingredients, it's one of the city's best restaurants. Finally, don't miss **Warehouse No 1** – boasting a shop, gallery, café, and bistro, it's the perfect mix of culture and food in the scenic surrounds of Guildhall Square.

## CITIES TO EXPLORE

Whether you're planning a quick city trip or a longer getaway, you'll find that the cities on the island of Ireland are as diverse as they are fascinating

### Armagh

Ireland's ecclesiastical capital? Welcome to Armagh, proud possessor of two cathedrals, both dedicated to St Patrick. A small city in Northern Ireland, 40 miles southwest of Belfast, Armagh is perfect for exploring on foot. Wander through the gracious tree-lined Georgian **Mall**; watch out for the 22 quirky bronze gargoyles and angels hidden around the city; or visit the ancient ceremonial monument of **Navan Fort**. Armagh has some great restaurants, including **The Moody Boar** and **4 Vicars**, making this a spot to be savored.

### Galway

The spirit of Ireland's west coast is very much present in this vibrant seaside city. Galway is never far from a festival (arts, film, horse racing, and oysters are all celebrated in quick succession during the summer months). This, combined with its compact streets and colorful store fronts, gives the feeling of a rolling street party. The super **Galway City Museum**, thriving food scene (Galway has two Michelin-starred restaurants, **Aniar** and **Loam**), and the scenic coastal suburb of Salthill seal the deal.

### Kilkenny

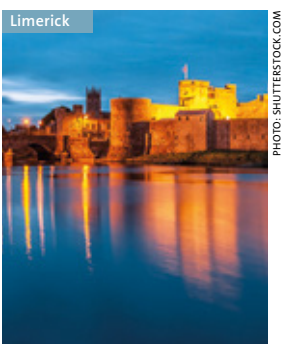
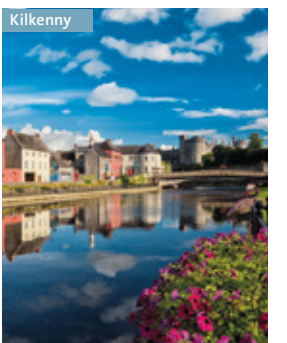
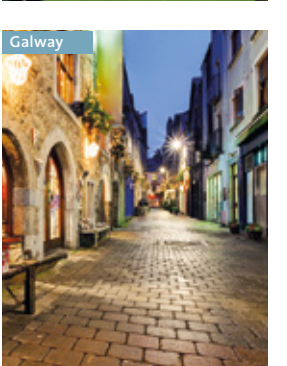
Located in Ireland's Ancient East, Kilkenny mixes nightlife, great food, and culture to perfection. This city will wow you with medieval showpieces by day, and keep you entertained in traditional pubs by night. Walk the **Medieval Mile** and be catapulted back centuries with Tudor inns, old merchant townhouses, hidden alleys, **Kilkenny Castle**, and **St Canice's Cathedral**. The city also boasts craft stores, design studios, and the brewery tour at **Smithwick's Experience Kilkenny**.

### Limerick

Limerick is a place with culture at its heart. Overlooking the River Shannon, this appealing medieval city is known for its festivals, galleries, and museums. There's the faded Georgian elegance of the **Newtown Pery** district; the **Hunt Museum**, with its collection of precious art and antiquities; and the **Frank McCourt Museum**, based in the author's old school. See rugby at **Thomond Park**, try local food at the **Milk Market's** weekend market, and explore the fortifications of the 13<sup>th</sup> century **King John's Castle**.

### Waterford

The atmosphere in Waterford is friendly, intimate, and relaxed, but you'll find lots to do in Ireland's oldest city. Located in Ireland's Ancient East, the city was founded by the Vikings and you can trace its fascinating history in the **Viking Triangle**, which contains the **Medieval Museum**, **Bishop's Palace**, and **Reginald's Tower**. See beautiful cut glass at the **House of Waterford Crystal**, taste a freshly baked "blaa" (bread roll) at the **Granary Café**, or take a walk along the historic quays. ☘



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# TOWNS AND VILLAGES

Ireland's towns and villages are full of charm, with beautiful coastal, river, and mountainside settings, fascinating historic attractions and, best of all, great food, drink, and fun. Whether you're dropping into a town or village for a browse around the shops and galleries, or picking a base for a few days of exploring scenic sights, you'll find a warm welcome waiting

## Wild Atlantic Way

Sprinkled along the coastline of the Wild Atlantic Way, charming towns and villages act like magnetic retreats from the striking surrounding landscape that weaves and soars from Malin Head in County Donegal to Kinsale in County Cork. Tucked into tranquil bays, cradled by hills, or fronting vast Atlantic panoramas, these hamlets mix traditional culture, lively pubs, and great seafood restaurants to create truly enchanting coastal destinations.

Once home to the acclaimed Irish playwright Brian Friel, who lived here from 1960 until his death in 2015, **Greencastle** rests on the edge of Lough Foyle in County Donegal. With a lively

port and pleasant beach, the village takes its name from an early 14<sup>th</sup> century castle, the ruins of which loom over the entrance to the lough. As well as being perfectly placed to enjoy the natural wonders of the stunning Inishowen Peninsula, the village is also home to the popular family-run Kealy's Seafood Bar, which overlooks the harbor and its busy fishing boats. Settle down and take in the view while enjoying great seafood dishes, such as pan-fried hake with chorizo, olives, and cherry tomatoes.

The lively heritage town of **Westport** in County Mayo is set around two main streets and is famous for its pubs such as Matt Molloy's, which hosts nightly



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traditional music sessions. By day, take a tour of Westport House, which was built in 1650, or bring younger visitors to enjoy the Pirate Adventure Park on the grounds. By night, seek out the town's best restaurants including An Port Mór, right in the center. As well as being a destination in its own right, Westport is a great base for exploring the islands of Clew Bay, as well as the nearby Croagh Patrick Mountain.

Nature has been kind to **Roundstone**, set in the fabled area of Connemara in County Galway. Surrounded by mountains and the sea, the village was built in the 1820s and boasts a busy harbor where fishermen haul in the day's catch of lobster, crab, and mackerel. Boats bob in the water against a backdrop of the Twelve Bens Mountains, while craft shops, cafés, and restaurants create an atmosphere that makes you want to linger. Just outside the village is one of the area's real highlights – the stunning Dog's Bay beach, while the Connemara National Park is a short drive away, with incredible walks amongst mountains, bog, and heath. Don't miss Kylemore Abbey while in this part of the world, too – its beautiful location overlooking a glassy lake in the heart of Connemara is truly beguiling.

Thatched-roofed cottages, friendly music pubs, and a perfect setting in the heart of County Clare's Burren has made **Doolin** one of the most popular destinations on Ireland's west coast. From the village, you can take a walk on the wild side on the Cliffs of Moher Cliff Path, which hugs the coast closely all the way to the cliffs themselves. Doolin is also a great place from which to explore the surrounding karst limestone plateau of the Burren, with its remarkable flora and fauna, as well as being one of the best places on the island for a night of traditional music in pubs such as Gus O'Connor's and McGann's. You may never want to leave.

With bright, colorful storefronts, cafés, and a row of fishing boats moored along the quay, **Dingle** in County Kerry is a thriving town and one of the most popular for visitors to the southwest. Take a trip out on the water to meet the town's most famous resident, Fungie the dolphin, who has been wowing visitors since he moved here in 1983 (there are lots of boat trips available) and when you return, tuck into some seafood along the quay, with live music in the evenings and great traditional pubs such as Foxy John's and Dick Mack's. And don't miss a visit to Murphy's – a tub of the sea salt

- 01 **Murphy's Ice Cream** Dingle, County Kerry
- 02 **Matt Molloy's** Westport, County Mayo
- 03 **Roundstone** County Galway
- 04 **Kinsale** County Cork
- 05 **Westport House** County Mayo
- 06 **Doolin** County Clare
- 07 **Carlingford** County Louth
- 08 **Kealy's Seafood Bar** Greencastle, County Donegal
- 09 **Dingle** County Kerry

and honeycomb ice cream here is a fast track to foodie heaven. Day trip options abound from Dingle – go south and you'll hit the remarkable sands and dunes of Inch Beach, one of County Kerry's most beautiful. Or head out along the Sleah Head Drive, which weaves and curves around Sleah Head taking in incredible sights such as the Early Christian stone church of Gallarus Oratory, views of the Blasket Islands, and the much-photographed Dunquin Harbour. You can also access the stunning Ring of Kerry from Dingle, famous for its wild beauty.

## Ireland's Ancient East

A former fishing village and best known for its oysters, **Carlingford** in County Louth is an ideal spot for exploring the Cooley Peninsula. Its small medieval streets, where you can see historic sights such as the Tholsel, an old toll gate, and the old mint, are also home to plenty of places to eat, drink, and stay. The ruins of King >



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John's Castle sit overlooking Carlingford Lough and the waterfront area is now a popular spot for cruises or fishing trips on the sheltered lough.

It's hard to take your eyes off Trim Castle when entering the town of **Trim**, County Meath. Dating back to 1172, the Anglo Norman castle overlooking the River Boyne is one of the most impressive in Ireland, with its long curtain wall and 10 towers. After visiting the castle, explore the town's historical sights, which include a medieval gate, Sheep Gate, the ancient St Peter's Bridge, and the ruins of the Hospital of St John the Baptist, which dates back to the 13<sup>th</sup> century.

**Birr** town in County Offaly, which was originally planned around the estate of Birr Castle, the seat of the Earls of Rosse, is famous for its Georgian layout and architectural features. Spend an hour or two in the grounds of Birr Castle Demesne, where walking trails lead you off into the tranquil gardens, forest, and along the river with many rare species of trees and plants. In the grounds you can also see the Great Telescope, once the largest in the world. With lively pubs and restaurants such as Spinners and The Thatch, the town makes a perfect base for exploring the beautiful Slieve Bloom Mountains and tranquil Lough Derg.

Set at the entrance to Waterford Harbour, **Dunmore East** in County Waterford is one of the southeast's most charming fishing villages. Taking its name from an Iron Age promontory fort, the village has a busy harbor, eye-catching cliffs, sandy beaches, and sheltered coves. It's a short drive to Waterford city from here, from where you can access the beautiful Copper Coast. This stunning stretch of coastline dotted with coves and villages got its name from the 19<sup>th</sup> century copper mines at its heart and has been designated a UNESCO Global Geopark.

## CUSHENDUN HAS A PICTURESQUE HARBOR AND THE CAVES NEAR HERE WERE USED AS A LOCATION IN HBO'S FANTASY SERIES, GAME OF THRONES\*. ENJOY TEA AND CAKE IN THE LOVELY CORNER HOUSE TEAROOM

### Northern Ireland

Dropped like a jewel into the Fermanagh Lakelands, the lively town of **Enniskillen** occupies a natural island that separates the upper and lower sections of Lough Erne. The beautiful waterside setting is accentuated by the stone bastion of the stately Enniskillen Castle. Explore the castle museums, take in a music show at the Ardhowen theatre, or jump on a boat tour with Erne Tours at the Round O Jetty. The trip is the perfect way to enjoy some of Fermanagh's natural landscapes.

In the pleasant courtyard of the old dairy market (now called the Buttermarket), you can browse some of Enniskillen's galleries, craft studios, and cafés, while the nearby beauty spots of Devenish Island, Florence Court, Crom Castle, and Castle Coole make perfect day trips by car or boat. Back in town, top off the day with dinner at the family-run Blakes of the Hollow.

A coastal gem near the top of Northern Ireland's Ards Peninsula, **Donaghadee** in County Down has a strong seafaring past. The picturesque harbor has long been a safe haven for ships and boats; its famous lighthouse guiding the way for maritime traffic. Walk the south pier to soak up the coastal atmosphere, play a round of golf at the local golf club or enjoy an evening at Grace Neill's pub – established in 1611, it's



11



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10 **Cushendun** County Antrim  
11 **Birr Castle** County Offaly  
12 **Enniskillen** County Fermanagh

one of the oldest on the island of Ireland!

In a stunning setting amidst the rich, green Glens of Antrim, the village of **Cushendun** is a characterful spot, known for its graceful Georgian buildings that line the town's four original streets and its great traditional music pubs. It's a wonderful base for visiting the Glenariff Forest Park, which is about 5 miles away and is an enticing natural wonderland of gushing waterfalls, rivers, woods, and rocky gorges.

Don't miss a visit to the lovely coastal village of **Cushendun**, which sits just 5 miles to the north. Managed by the National Trust, it has a picturesque harbor and the caves near here were used as a location in HBO's fantasy series, *Game of Thrones*®. Pop into the Corner House Tearoom for tea and cakes in a very pleasant setting.

Set at the mouth of Strangford Lough, and across the water from Portaferry and the Ards Peninsula, **Strangford** in County Down is a petite, well-preserved harbor village that has relaxation written all over it. It's ideal for accessing the very best this area of natural beauty has to offer, including delicious local food at The Cuan and The Poacher's Pocket, the delightful Castle Espie Wetlands, and the 5<sup>th</sup> century Nendrum Monastic Site, which has links to St Patrick.

An attractive wide main street and two central squares lined with chestnut trees add to the charm of **Castlewellan** village in County Down, but the highlight has to be Castlewellan Forest Park and Lake just to the north of the village, which offers miles of walking and mountain bike trails, a giant maze, equestrian center, and camp grounds, plus an arboretum which was first planted in the 1740s. 🍀

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# IRELAND'S ANCIENT EAST

At first glance, the east of Ireland is all soft green fields, busy little towns, and gentle rivers. But this is a landscape full of secrets, of battles and betrothals, of stars and the spirit world, of wealth and sometimes wickedness. Welcome to Ireland's Ancient East



01

## 01 Brú na Bóinne County Meath

In a quiet part of County Meath is one of the most important prehistoric landscapes in the world. At Brú na Bóinne, human activity can be traced back 6,000 years and it's where you will find a passage tomb that predates the pyramids at Giza. Newgrange's spiral-engraved kerbstones and white Wicklow quartzite topped with grass make an impressive sight, but step into the dark heart of this UNESCO World Heritage Site and a secret is unveiled. Every year, on the winter solstice, a beam of sunlight travels up the stone-lined passage, illuminating the inner chamber. Quite literally, it's an ancient architectural masterpiece.

### What's nearby

The Boyne Valley is packed with historical attractions, such as the passage tombs of **Knowth & Dowth**, the **Hills of Slane** and **Tara**, and the 6<sup>th</sup> century Christian settlement of **Monasterboice**.

### Take time out

Enjoy lunch at elegant **Tankardstown House**, visit **St Peter's Church** in Drogheda to see the head of **St Oliver Plunkett** in its gilded glass case, and take a walk through the breathtaking **Loughcrew Gardens**.

### Try something new

Get close to magnificent birds of prey with a falconry lesson at **Newgrange Falconry**.



02



## 02 The Rock of Cashel County Tipperary

Nothing can quite beat the spectacle of the iconic Rock of Cashel, which looms above the landscape like a fairytale castle. Legend has it the towering rock was dropped here by the devil, but today it is home to one of the most impressive collections of medieval buildings in Europe. Centuries of history blow through the craggy and mysterious remains of the Gothic cathedral, round tower, and 15<sup>th</sup> century castle. Listen closely, and you may hear tales of lightning strikes, massacres, and the 5<sup>th</sup> century conversion of the King of Munster to Christianity by St Patrick (when he accidentally stabbed the king in the foot with his staff).

### What's nearby

Seek out **Holy Cross Abbey**, a Cistercian monastery founded by the King of Munster in 1168. The abbey was bestowed with a piece of the True Cross by Queen Isabella of Angoulême around 1233.

### Take time out

Visit the **Fethard Horse Country Experience** in the medieval town of Fethard, have lunch at **Café Hans** in Cashel, and take a walk in the verdant **Glen of Aherlow**.

### Try something new

Check ahead to see what's happening at the **Brú Ború** center, Cashel's famous hub for traditional Irish music and dance.

## 03 Kilkenny Castle

### Kilkenny city

The city's famous 12<sup>th</sup> century Norman castle was home to the Butlers of Ormonde for nearly five centuries, before the 6<sup>th</sup> Marquess of Ormonde offered it to the city of Kilkenny for a mere £50 in 1967. A tour will bring you to the Picture Gallery and around the library, with its vivid color scheme of garnet-red curtains and Berber-style carpets. Don't have time for a full tour? No problem: 500 years of history is condensed into a 12-minute film in the Medieval Room in the South Tower. Afterwards, stroll around the stunning formal terraced gardens and parkland, with pleasant woodland walks beside the River Nore.

### What's nearby

The **Medieval Mile** is a great way to uncover the city's many secret stories and historic attractions, which include accused witches and intricate stained-glass windows.

### Take time out

Have lunch in the Michelin-starred **Campagne**, enjoy the **Smithwick's Experience Kilkenny** brewery tour to find out about Kilkenny's famous brew, and head out of town to the **Nicholas Mosse Pottery** mill by the River Nore.

### Try something new

Join **The Kilkenny Way Ultimate Hurling Experience** for insight into the world's oldest and fastest field sport.

PHOTO: LOLA KINMADE/ÅKERSTROM



03

## 04 Russborough House County Wicklow

Tucked away in the County Wicklow countryside sits a grand Palladian mansion that is pure glamour. Step through the impressive façade of Russborough House (said to be the longest of any in Ireland), and you're into a world of captivating stories, sumptuous interiors, and exquisite art. The house was bought by Sir Alfred Beit in the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century and once he moved in, Beit and his wife set about installing a truly phenomenal art collection. Today, the collection remains largely intact and it's a joy to behold these works in rooms that have entertained everyone from Fred Astaire to Mick Jagger.

### What's nearby

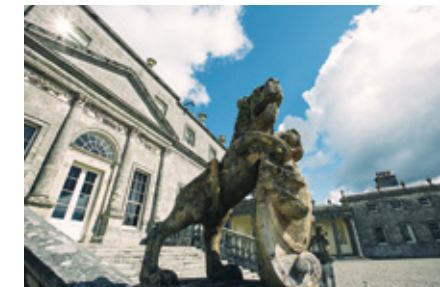
Russborough sits on the edge of the **Wicklow Mountains National Park**, with its abundance of walking trails. The monastic site of **Glendalough** is nearby, while the **Blessington Lakes** are also only a stone's throw away.

### Take time out

Enjoy a feast in the **Ballymore Inn**, visit the **Museum of Style Icons at Newbridge**, and walk the **Blessington Greenway**, which links Blessington with Russborough House.

### Try something new

Watch a sheepdog demonstration in the grounds of Russborough House on weekend afternoons.



04



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## 05 Cobh County Cork

Along an elegant stretch of promenade in the coastal village of Cobh, you'll come across a statue of Annie Moore – the first immigrant to be processed through Ellis Island in New York. Moore was just one of hundreds of thousands of people, from Famine-stricken peasants to convicts bound for Australia, who left Cobh for a new and uncertain life elsewhere. The town also gained fame as the last port of call for Titanic before it left on its ill-fated transatlantic voyage. Discover all about Cobh's incredible maritime connections, history of emigration, and Titanic tales at the **Cobh Heritage Centre** and the **Titanic Experience Cobh**.

### What's nearby

A 30-minute journey by car or bus from Cobh is the city of **Cork**, with its great sightseeing attractions including the food hub of the **English Market**, fascinating **Cork City Gaol**, and the **Butter Museum**.

### Take time out

Head to **Midleton** for dinner at **Sage Restaurant**, a tour of the **Jameson Distillery Midleton**, and the excellent **Midleton Farmers Market** on Saturdays.

### Try something new

Jump on a boat from Cobh to **Spike Island**, where you can uncover the stories of a prison so petrifying it was once called "Ireland's hell".

## 06 Glendalough

County Wicklow

Walk among Glendalough's glassy lakes, wooded valleys, and silent ruins and it's easy to see why St Kevin was drawn here in the 6<sup>th</sup> century. The saint lived as a hermit in solitude and prayer in this pastoral wonderland, before establishing a vibrant monastic settlement. The Round Tower, cathedral, and priests' houses made the "valley of two lakes" a bustling hub – and a natural target for merciless Viking raids. Explore the ghostly monastic village before setting off into the surrounding landscape on one of the walking trails that skirt the lake and offer incredible views down through the valley.

### What's nearby

With views of the River Vartry, **The Lighthouse Seafood Restaurant** in Wicklow town makes a nice stop; lunch at **Hunter's** in Rathnew – one of Ireland's oldest coaching inns – is something to savor; and the gardens at **Mount Usher** in Ashford make for a delightful afternoon stroll.

### Take time out

Outside the village of Enniskerry lie the stunning house and gardens of **Powerscourt Estate**, with the beautiful **Powerscourt Waterfall** just a 15-minute drive away.

### Try something new

Visit the 18<sup>th</sup> century **Wicklow Gaol** in Wicklow town to learn about past penal hardships.



## 07 Viking Triangle

Waterford

The Vikings most certainly made their mark on Ireland. Bearing down on an unsuspecting island in the late 8<sup>th</sup> century, they went on to loot monasteries, battle kings, and make off with priceless treasures. But they also laid the foundations of many Irish towns and cities, including Waterford, established by Norse raiders in 914AD. Today, Waterford celebrates its Viking legacy in the Viking Triangle at the heart of the city. Join the 45-minute Epic Tour of the Viking Triangle to trace the city's 1,100 years of history before visiting the King of the Vikings, an exciting 3D virtual-reality experience in a recreated Viking house.

### What's nearby

Waterford itself is packed with things to do, from a visit to the **Waterford Crystal Visitor Centre**, to a tour of the **Waterford Treasures**, a trio of museums including the **Bishop's Palace**, **Reginald's Tower**, and the **Medieval Museum**.

### Take time out

Try a "blaa", the floury bread roll for which the city is famed; drop into **Henry Downes bar**, with its own whiskey blend; or visit the seaside village of **Dunmore East**.

### Try something new

Between Waterford and Dungarvan, journey to the stunning **Waterford Greenway** to walk all or some of the 28-mile off-road trail.

## 08 Irish National Stud

County Kildare

Surrounded by the rich pastures of County Kildare, the National Stud is one of the island's most prestigious thoroughbred horse-breeding facilities. Here, stallions and stargazing are mixed – or at least they used to – thanks to the superstitions of the stud's founder, Colonel William Hall Walker. The colonel drew up a birth chart for each foal, and if he didn't like the stars, the foal would be sold. Equestrian astrology seems a million miles away at the adjacent Japanese Gardens, also created by Walker, this time with the help of master horticulturist Tassa Eida from Japan. It's a peaceful place where the rest of the world seems to just fade away.

### What's nearby

Two of Europe's best racecourses, **Punchestown** and the **Curragh** are nearby, and a race day at either is a thrilling experience. Or visit the **Curragh Military Museum**, which traces the area's absorbing military history.

### Take time out

Indulge in some retail therapy at **Kildare Village**, a designer outlet that offers up to 60% off top labels; enjoy lunch at **Lock 13** overlooking the Grand Canal, just outside Naas; and visit the blooming gardens at **Burtown House**, near Athy.

### Try something new

Take a barge trip from Sallins through 250 years of history along the Grand Canal.

## 09 Clonmacnoise

County Offaly

Traveling down the River Shannon on a replica Viking ship to the ancient monastic site of Clonmacnoise is enough to give you goosebumps. It's an incredible way to arrive at this sacred place, which was founded by St Ciaran in 544AD. Today, Clonmacnoise catapults you back to a time of religious, literary, and artistic creativity, and the site abounds with tales of devotion, Viking raids, and kingly connections. Set amid the beautiful green fields of County Offaly and next to the River Shannon, there are churches, two round towers, high crosses, a cathedral, and the largest collection of Early Christian graveslabs in Europe.

### What's nearby

Follow the river north to the town of Athlone, where you can discover the history of the area at the **Athlone Castle Visitor Centre**; visit **Birr Castle, Gardens, and Science Centre**; or explore the beautiful **Lough Boora Discovery Park**.

### Take time out

Relax with a slow lunch at **The Fatted Calf** in Glasson; have a pint in **Sean's Bar** in Athlone, reputed to be the oldest pub in Ireland; and take a stroll around the **Ballinahown Eco-Craft Village**, on the outskirts of Athlone.

### Try something new

Take a boat trip down the River Shannon with **The River Run Pleasure Cruiser** from Athlone.

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# THE NORTHERN SCENE

There is nowhere else like it. With so many adventures packed into a small space, Northern Ireland is 2018's ultimate destination. Fantastical Game of Thrones® landscapes, great food, epic experiences – all lie within easy reach

## Causeway Coastal Route

Dramatic clifftop castles, white-sand beaches, charming little villages – the Causeway Coastal Route delivers an incredible amount of beauty within just 195 miles. Starting in the vibrant city of **Belfast** and finishing in **Derry~Londonderry** (or the other way around if you prefer), the route is all about slowing down, taking your time, and savoring this spellbinding coastline. See show-stopping views from the craggy heights of Torr Head, experience the warmth of local people in the quaint villages of the Glens of Antrim, and tuck into fresh seafood in cozy pubs.

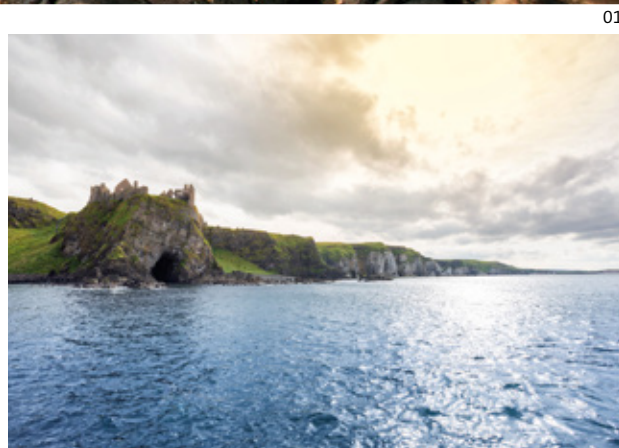
Frequently cited as one of the best touring routes in the world, the Causeway Coastal Route is a genuine joy to drive, boasting an incredible amount of sights and experiences packed into a relatively short stretch of coastline. There's **Carrickfergus**, with its 12th century Norman castle; there's **The Gobbins**, a restored 100-year-old cliff path through tunnels and over bridges; there's **Glenarm Castle**, home to the Earls of Antrim for

around 400 years; and there's **Mussenden Temple** perched on a clifftop.

Catch the ferry from Ballycastle to **Rathlin Island** and you'll discover a haven for wildlife including basking seals and puffins. When you're back on the mainland again, the UNESCO World Heritage Site of the **Giant's Causeway** brings you the astounding sight of 40,000 hexagonal stone columns. According to science, intense volcanic activity 60 million years ago created this whimsical landscape, but the local legend of warring giants is a lot more fun.

If you want to slow the pace even further, leave the car and explore this magnificent coast on foot. With soaring cliffs and swirling ocean on one side, and green meadows on the other, the **Causeway Coast Way** walking trail lets you experience everything that makes this region so special.

As you head along the coast, the ruins of the 14th century **Dunluce Castle** sit boldly on a stark, rocky headland. And if it looks like it's about to topple into the sea, that may be because part of it already has. According to local tales, on a dark and stormy night in the 17th century, part of



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the kitchen actually collapsed into the pounding waves below.

The route ends in the Walled City of Derry~Londonderry. With its beautiful 400-year-old walls, this lovely city will invite you to linger. And if the Causeway Coastal Route has whetted your appetite for spectacular seascapes and memorable experiences, why not continue your adventure on the Wild Atlantic Way?

## Experience food in Northern Ireland

Boundary-pushing chefs, a deep respect for local ingredients, and a convivial atmosphere in pubs and restaurants have turned Northern Ireland into one of Europe's most exciting food destinations. And a great way to see the landscapes, meet the people and experience the incredible flavors is with a food-inspired tour from city to sea.

**Belfast** is the perfect place to start with an invigorating array of cafés, bars, and restaurants sitting elbow-to-elbow with delis, street food, and the historic St George's Market. This vibrant city has a bumper crop of great places to eat, including fine dining at Michelin-starred **Ox**, and brunch Belfast-style at **Established Coffee** or **General Merchants Café**. To taste what the city has to offer, join a tour such as Taste and Tour, which offers outings themed around everything from craft beer and whiskey to local producers.

Once you've enjoyed what Belfast has to offer, head south to County Down and the **Schoolhouse**, a luxury guest house and restaurant that has earned a Michelin Bib Gourmand for creative, quality cooking. Set in the heart of the Comber countryside famous for its potato, (the Comber Early), the

## TAKE A WALK THROUGH THE SCENIC MURLOUGH NATURE RESERVE ACROSS THE LAGOON TO WORK UP AN APPETITE BEFORE ENJOYING A FEAST OF CRAB CLAWS

**Schoolhouse** makes a great base for discovering Strangford Lough, Mount Stewart House and Gardens, and the world of Game of Thrones® at Castle Ward, where the popular television series is filmed. Get a taste of all things Winterfell with ClearSky Adventure at the castle.

The historic **Balloo House**, a short drive away in the small village of **Killinchy**, is an impressive place to dine. This 400-year-old inn delivers a lovely mix of comfort and charm, with two different dining experiences under one roof. Downstairs is a classic pub, while upstairs you can enjoy seasonal dishes such as Finnebrogue venison liver with creamy mash, crispy onions, bacon, and red wine jus.

The shores of Dundrum Bay beckon next, with a cluster of cozy local pubs and family-run eateries such as **The Buck's Head** and **The Dundrum Inn** as well as the celebrated **Mourne Seafood Bar**. Backed by the Mourne Mountains and overlooking the sea, this celebrated seafood brasserie



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- 01 Giant's Causeway County Antrim
- 02 Dunluce Castle County Antrim
- 03 Balloo House County Down
- 04 Ox Belfast
- 05 St George's Market Belfast
- 06 Mourne Seafood Bar County Down
- 07 General Merchants Café Belfast

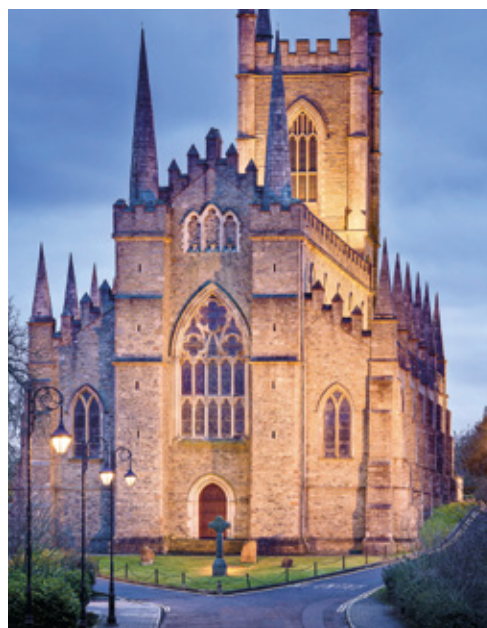
serves delicious, locally caught seafood. Take a walk through the scenic Murlough Nature Reserve to work up an appetite before enjoying a feast of crab claws.

The Mourne Mountains area is known for excellent produce, from artisan honey to creamy Abernethy Butter, used in top restaurants around the world. **NI Food Tours** offers a number of treks in County Down, including a Deep in the Mournes jaunt, where you can meet some of the area's top artisan food producers and sample their award-winning fare.

Heading back to Belfast, stop in the small city of **Lisburn**, where the Yellow Door Deli café serves up home-cooked breads, stews, and pastries.



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### Home of Saint Patrick

In Northern Ireland, soaring cathedrals, crumbling monastic ruins, and magnificent landscapes are all united by one incredible story – the tale of St Patrick, Ireland’s famed patron saint. Patrick’s story has fascinated people around the world for centuries and you can follow in his footsteps on St Patrick’s Trail. Winding through the rolling landscapes of Counties **Down** and **Armagh**, you’ll come across sites where the saint first taught his message of Christianity, and it’s where you can get closest to Patrick himself.

A perfect place to start is the town of **Downpatrick** in County Down. It was not far from here that back in the 5<sup>th</sup> century Patrick encountered a local chieftain who gave him a simple barn for shelter. This very place is now marked by **Saul Church**, which was built in 1932 to honor the humble beginnings of St Patrick’s Christian odyssey around the island. Poignantly, **Downpatrick** is also where St Patrick is thought to be buried. A modest granite memorial stone was laid in 1900 to mark the location within the tranquil grounds of **Down Cathedral**.

A short walk away from the cathedral on Market Street, **The Saint Patrick Centre** offers a fascinating glimpse into the saint’s life and times in a state-of-the-art multimedia exhibition. From St Patrick’s intriguing background, to the monastic chroniclers who ensured a legacy that would endure down through the centuries, it will change the way you think about the “Apostle of Ireland”.

Just over an hour away, the city of **Armagh** has the esteemed title of “ecclesiastical capital of Ireland” and it’s a place of secrets, surprises, and scenic delights. Overlooking the city, two cathedrals dedicated to St Patrick dominate the horizon and face each



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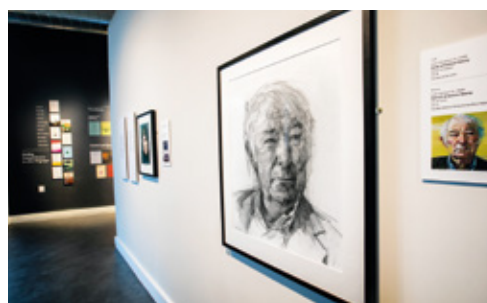
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**IN THE 5<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY, PATRICK ENCOUNTERED A LOCAL CHIEFTAIN WHO GAVE HIM A SIMPLE BARN FOR SHELTER. THIS PLACE IS NOW MARKED BY SAUL CHURCH, BUILT IN 1932 TO HONOR THE SAINT**

other on top of two hills. **Saint Patrick’s Church of Ireland Cathedral** sits on the site of St Patrick’s main church, which was established in the 5<sup>th</sup> century, while centuries later **St Patrick’s Catholic Cathedral** was built. After the death of St Patrick, the Bishop of Armagh, St Cormac, transformed the city into a place of learning and by the 12<sup>th</sup> century students from all over Europe were coming here to study theology.

A walking tour of Armagh is a wonderful way to get under the skin of this enigmatic city, much of which is the result of the vision of Archbishop Robinson, who set about rebuilding the city in the late 18<sup>th</sup> century. Stroll the streets, explore the museums and library, and finish up with dinner in 4 Vicars, where the very best local ingredients are served up in simple surroundings overlooking the city.

It’s the perfect place to raise a glass to St Patrick.



12

### Hidden gems

Dominated by the heather-clad **Sperrin Mountains**, County Tyrone is one of Ireland’s hidden gems. Dotted with the remains of Celtic standing stones and crisscrossed by a network of quiet farm roads, this is the ideal landscape for walking and cycling, as well as exploring the intriguing journey of the Irish emigrant at the **Ulster American Folk Park** in Omagh. Just 45 minutes from Belfast or Derry~Londonderry, the **Seamus Heaney HomePlace** is a must-see on any visit to Northern Ireland, and celebrates the life and literature of one of the world’s great Nobel laureates, the poet Seamus Heaney. The exhibition is filled with artifacts, personal stories, images, and books, many of which have been donated by the Heaney family. ☘

- 08 St Patrick’s Catholic Cathedral Armagh
- 09 Down Cathedral Downpatrick
- 10 St Patrick’s Church of Ireland Cathedral Armagh
- 11 Saul Church County Down
- 12 Seamus Heaney HomePlace County Londonderry

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# SEVEN WONDERS OF THE WILD ATLANTIC WAY

Get in gear for some of the most spellbinding destinations on the 1,500 mile, wave-lashed Wild Atlantic Way



01

## 01 The Cliffs of Moher County Clare

**Where is it?**  
The Cliff Coast.

**Why is it a wonder?**  
Towering 702ft above the crashing Atlantic waves, County Clare's iconic cliffs offer incredible views across the ocean. Tracing their origins back over 300 million years, the cliff walks, teeming birdlife, and interactive visitor center make for an unforgettable few hours at the edge of the earth.

**What is there to do nearby?**  
The Cliffs of Moher are close to the Burren National Park, a wonderland of karstic limestone formations. On your coastal drive, plan a stop in the lively music town of Doolin (where you can also catch a ferry to the Aran Islands) and, for a more remote Atlantic experience, take a car around Loop Head, an awe-inspiring



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PHOTO: @STORTRAVELERS



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headland where you sometimes can spot dolphins and whales, as well as the impressive Loop Head Lighthouse, which dates back to 1854.

**Where to eat?**  
Try Vaughan's Anchor Inn in the old fishing village of Liscannor, sample local Burren ingredients at the Wild Honey Inn in Lisdoonvarna, or stop into a restaurant with its own turf fire, such as the Riverside Bistro in Doolin.

## 02 The Islands

**Where are they?**  
All along the Wild Atlantic Way.

**Why are they a wonder?**  
Unique, friendly and steeped in traditional culture, Ireland's islands are full of exceptional landscapes, prehistoric forts, Irish-speaking communities and a real sense of escape. There are those that can be easily accessed, connected by bridges to the mainland at islands such as Achill, County Mayo, and Valentia, County Kerry, or abandoned gems such as Inishmurray off County Sligo and the Blasket Islands off County Kerry.

**Which island should I visit?**  
There's an Irish island for every taste. Fancy a thrill? Take the cable car to West Cork's Dursey Island, where the resident population is said to be just three. Clear blue waters meet secluded beaches on

Inishturk, County Mayo; culture vultures can try a few words of Irish on Cape Clear, County Cork, and Tory, County Donegal; and Inis Mór in County Galway is perfect for families.

**Where to eat?**  
Find local produce elevated to high art at Inis Meáin Restaurant & Suites on the Aran Islands, County Galway; break your adventure on Achill, County Mayo, at the Achill Cliff House Hotel; or tuck into some local grub at Seán Rua's restaurant and pizzeria on Cape Clear, County Cork.

## 03 Skellig Michael County Kerry

**Where is it?**  
The Southern Peninsulas.

**Why is it a wonder?**  
Skellig Michael lies over 7 miles off the coast of Kerry's Iveragh Peninsula, a shard-like rock capped by a UNESCO World Heritage Site with a difference. Close to its peak sit several beehive-shaped huts in a monastic site dating back to the 6<sup>th</sup> century, with divine views of the Irish coast. As seen in Star Wars: The Force Awakens, history, myth, and stunning scenery collide with monumental effect at this wilderness site – but come prepared with food and drink (there are no facilities). Boats, both to the island and around the island, run from May to



04

- 01 The Cliffs of Moher County Clare
- 02 Achill Island County Mayo
- 03 Skellig Michael County Kerry
- 04 Downpatrick Head County Mayo

October, and are weather-dependent. There are also wonderful views of the islands to be had from the Kerry Cliffs.

**What is there to do nearby?**  
The Ring of Kerry is Ireland's iconic touring loop, while the Dingle Peninsula is famous for seafood. Don't miss the Sleah Head Drive and the Dingle Whiskey Distillery, located just outside Dingle.

**Where to eat?**  
The Moorings at Portmagee is where the Star Wars crew set up shop while filming on the Skelligs. QC's in Cahersiveen is the place to tuck into ocean-fresh seafood, or stop for a cup of hot chocolate at Skelligs Chocolate Factory overlooking the sea.

## 04 Downpatrick Head County Mayo

**Where it is?**  
The Surf Coast.

**Why is it a wonder?**  
Downpatrick Head is one of the most glorious places on the island of Ireland. It may look modest on the map, but those who venture out from nearby Ballycastle, County Mayo, are rewarded with stunning views of the Dún Briste sea stack, rugged coastal scenery, and wildlife. Dún Briste means "broken fort" in Irish, and this piece of rock is believed to have broken away from the mainland in 1393. St Patrick is also said to have founded a church on the headland where you'll find an old holy well and stone cross perched above the Atlantic Ocean.

**What is there to do nearby?**  
Visit the oldest known stone-walled farmlands in the world at Céide Fields in Ballycastle, with its award-winning visitor center; take a walk around Sligo's Mullaghmore Peninsula; or enjoy the soft sands of Strandhill beach. >

**Where to eat?**

Soak up views of Downpatrick Head and the Atlantic Ocean from the comfort of the Stella Maris Country House Hotel in Ballycastle. You can sample the delights of tasty home cooking at Mary's Cottage Kitchen also in Ballycastle, or continue east to Sligo town for the pick of great Irish food and drink at Hargadon's atmospheric pub.

**05 Old Head of Kinsale**

County Cork

**Where is it?**

The Haven Coast.

**Why is it a wonder?**

Stretching nearly 2 miles into the Atlantic off the coast of West Cork, this dramatic headland is one of Ireland's most exceptional geographical formations. Although the tip of Old Head is now a private golf course, visitors can still take a stunning 4-mile walk around the base of the peninsula. In 1915, German U-boats famously torpedoed the Lusitania offshore, and a 98ft-lighthouse guides ships to the safety of Kinsale Harbour.

**What is there to do nearby?**

Explore the foodie town of Kinsale (bring an appetite), which is packed with lovely craft stores, pubs, and seafood restaurants; take a tour of the star-shaped Charles Fort, dating from the late 17<sup>th</sup> century; or travel west for a mosey around Clonakilty. Colorful stores, restaurants, and nearby Inchydoney Beach make this a favorite with visitors.

**Where to eat?**

Eat beautifully presented local dishes in Pilgrim's of Rosscarbery, a small, friendly restaurant with a daily-changing menu; pop into Clonakilty for a local feast at An Sùgán pub, restaurant, and guest house; or head to Bastion for cutting-edge cuisine in Kinsale. A great time to visit Kinsale is in October when the food festival brings a real party atmosphere to town.

**06 Killary Harbour**

County Galway

**Where is it?**

The Bay Coast.

**Why is it a wonder?**

Located within the craggy landscape of Connemara, Killary Harbour stretches 10 miles inland from the Atlantic to its head below the Aasleagh Falls, and serves up some of the most dramatic views in Ireland. Cleaving the border between counties Galway and Mayo, activities in Killary range from relaxing in the village of Leenane to sightseeing boat tours. There's a stunning 19<sup>th</sup> century road here, too – the Green Road hugs the coastline



05



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07

tight above the waters of the fjord and is a leap into truly breathtaking scenery.

**What is there to do nearby?**

Drive to Westport through the awe-inspiring Doolough Valley, set between the Connemara mountains; visit the charming villages and towns of Cleggan, Clifden, Letterfrack and Roundstone; and don't miss Kylemore Abbey. The Benedictine abbey, which casts a perfect reflection in its lake, is set on a 1,000-acre estate and is home to Ireland's largest walled garden.

**Where to eat?**

Pop into Mitchell's of Clifden for a local seafood feast; stop for some tasty, home-cooked fare at the Blackberry Café in Leenane; or break up your journey with delicious pub grub at the local favorite of O'Dowd's of Roundstone, all in County Galway.

**07 Malin Head**

County Donegal

**Where is it?**

The Northern Headlands.

**Why is it a wonder?**

Want the ends of the earth? Ireland's most northerly point is every bit as elemental as you would expect, with incredible rock formations, ancient ruins, and some of Europe's largest sand dunes. Crowning

05 Old Head of Kinsale County Cork  
06 Killary Harbour County Galway  
07 Malin Head County Donegal

the Inishowen Peninsula, Malin Head's natural wonders include basking sharks and seabirds. You might even see the Northern Lights, which are known to appear in the skies above the peninsula. Steeped in myth and history, the area also boasts Banba's Crown, an amazing clifftop tower dating from 1805, and the ominously titled Hell's Hole, where the Atlantic waves crash dramatically against coastal cliffs.

**What is there to do nearby?**

Take a journey through Irish life from the 1840s to the present day at Doagh Famine Village; marvel at some of the highest sea cliffs in western Europe at Slieve League further south; or head on towards Derry~Londonderry and explore the sights and sounds of the Causeway Coastal Route, with amazing experiences all the way to Belfast.

**Where to eat?**

The convivial Seaview Tavern is Ireland's most northerly bar, hotel, and restaurant and boasts wonderful views overlooking islands in the Atlantic. You'll meet an equally friendly welcome at Lily's Bar and Tea Room in Malin town, or grab a cup of tea and a pastry from Caffè Banba, the "café on wheels" at Banba's Crown (Easter to September). ☘



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# GOLF IN IRELAND

There's no doubt about it, there's some fabulous golf to be played on the island of Ireland... but don't forget, there's plenty of "craic" (fun) to be found beyond the fairways

01

The island of Ireland is a golfer's delight, with world-class courses in some of the most spectacular locations on the planet.

From epic links to phenomenal championship courses, Ireland's golfing credentials are sky-high. The island boasts a quarter of the world's natural links courses, including Royal County Down, which topped Golf Digest's Top 100 Courses in the World. Ireland is frequently referred to as the "Home of Champions", too – which is no surprise given that some of the world's best golfers including Rory McIlroy and Padraig Harrington hail from here – and it's a regular host of major championships. In 2019, the 148<sup>th</sup> Open will be held at Royal Portrush Golf Club.

But the truly great thing about golfing in Ireland is the ability to blend an exceptional game with wonderful off-the-course experiences. Check out some of the great things you can do beyond six of our finest fairways...



02



03

PHOTO: PAUL SAFFERY

## Portmarnock

County Dublin

Founded in 1894 on a sandy peninsula that was once only accessible by boat, this wonderful links course is renowned worldwide. A purely natural course, Portmarnock has hosted 12 Irish Opens as well as the Walker Cup and the Canada Cup – now the World Cup of Golf – and its finishing holes are regarded as some of the best to be found anywhere. Often described as a true test of golf, champion American golfer Tom Watson noted on one of his visits that at Portmarnock, "There are no tricks or nasty surprises, only an honest, albeit searching test of shot-making skills."

### Beyond the fairway

Portmarnock Golf Club is just 10 miles north of **Dublin city**, making it ideal for mixing a city break with a golfing adventure. And thanks to its great coastal setting, you're in the perfect spot for getting to two of County Dublin's scenic seaside villages – **Howth** and **Malahide**. In Howth, you can walk all or parts of the stunning **cliff path**, enjoy seafood by the working harbor, and stroll the pier. Malahide, meanwhile, has an impressive castle, parts of which date to the 12<sup>th</sup> century; as well as lots of busy cafés, pubs, and restaurants. Relax at the **Garden House Café** or go for fine-dining at **Bon Appétit**, set within a Georgian townhouse.



04

## Ballyliffin Golf Club

Don't miss Ballyliffin Golf Club on your visit to the island of Ireland. Sitting on the northernmost point of Ireland's Wild Atlantic Way in County Donegal, the club boasts two championship golf courses. Ballyliffin is the host of the 2018 Irish Open.

## Old Head Golf Links

County Cork

Humpback whales splashing in the swirling waters, swooping seabirds, scampering hares – you're certainly at one with nature's immense power on this beautiful links golf course in Kinsale, County Cork. Encompassing 180 acres of a diamond-shaped rocky headland extending nearly two miles out into the Atlantic Ocean, Old Head possesses cliff-top drops for half of its 18 holes. Designed as a walking course, this is where memories will be made – just remember to keep your eyes on the ball.

### Beyond the fairway

The star of the show here is the town of **Kinsale**, a short drive away and the southernmost point of the **Wild Atlantic Way**. This breezy, beautiful town is a major foodie destination with great restaurants, a farmers' market, and a food festival in October. Enjoy oysters and cocktails at **The Supper Club**, explore **Charles Fort**, perched on the water's edge, or relax with a pint of porter in the **Bulman Bar**.



05



06

PHOTO: RAYMOND FOGARTY



07



08



09

- 01 Portmarnock County Dublin
- 02 Howth Head County Dublin
- 03 Castle Market Dublin
- 04 Ballyliffin County Donegal
- 05 Old Head County Cork
- 06 Kinsale Harbour County Cork
- 07 Old Head County Cork
- 08 Royal County Down County Down
- 09 Tollymore Forest Park County Down

## Royal County Down

County Down

"Royal County Down is one of my favorites," says Rory McIlroy. "The more you play it, the more you recognize it for the class place it is." The majestic, savage beauty of Royal County Down makes it a clever test of skills, but even the shrewdest players can be challenged by what is arguably Irish golf's finest course. Peppared with blind tee shots, deep pot bunkers, domed greens, and narrow ribbons of hummocky fairways – it is still a pleasure to play and was justifiably voted the number one course in the world by Golf Digest in 2017.

### Beyond the fairway

Part of what makes Royal County Down such a magnificent place to play golf is the haunting beauty of the **Mourne Mountains**, an alluring mountain range that forms a backdrop to the course and boasts 28 peaks. The club also sits around halfway between the gorgeous natural playgrounds of **Strangford Lough** to the north and **Carlingford Lough** to the south. Explore the scenic walkways, follies, and forests of **Tollymore Forest Park**, enjoy excellent local and seasonal dishes at **Brunel's Restaurant** at the **Anchor Bar** in the small nearby town of **Newcastle**, and take in some more golf at the courses of **Ardglass** and **Kilkeel**, also in County Down.



**THE OPEN**  
148<sup>TH</sup> ROYAL PORTRUSH

### Royal Portrush Golf Club

County Antrim

Host to over 50 national championships in its time, Royal Portrush Golf Club became the first course on the island of Ireland to stage The Open back in 1951 – and will do so again from July 15 to July 21, 2019. “This is among my favorite places to play in Northern Ireland, it’s one of the truly great links courses,” said Rory McIlroy. And he’s not the only one to think so. This is also the place that 2016 European Ryder Cup team captain Darren Clarke claims made him fall in love with the game. Test your skills on the Dunluce Links. Known for being one of the most challenging courses in the world, it boasts a backdrop of impressive coastal beauty.

#### Beyond the fairway

Royal Portrush is located on the Causeway Coastal Route, with the romantic ruins of Dunluce Castle, the epic UNESCO World Heritage Site of the Giant’s Causeway, and the heart-stopping Carrick-a-Rede rope bridge, all on your doorstep. If you’re looking for another excuse to come here, then whiskey might be the answer. Only a few miles down the road is the Bushmills Distillery where you can take a tour and sample some whiskey.

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10



11

### Lahinch Golf Course

County Clare

Central to the Irish golfing scene for 125 years, Lahinch’s Old Course has undergone many changes since Old Tom Morris came over from Scotland to create it in 1894. Over the years, it has been enhanced by esteemed architects Charles “Mo” Gibson, Dr Alister Mackenzie, and Dr Martin Hawtree, and it now stands as an enjoyable and challenging test of skill and expertise. Keep an eye out for the goats while you’re here. It’s said if they’re seen near the clubhouse, the weather prospects aren’t so good; if they’re out on the dunes, the day is sure to be fine.

#### Beyond the fairway

Off the greens, you’ll enjoy some of the area’s great seafood at Vaughan’s in nearby Liscannor, and at the tiny, beautifully situated restaurant of Barrtrá overlooking the ocean. Lahinch is also close to the famous Cliffs of Moher, one of Ireland’s most spectacular natural wonders, as well as the rock-strewn landscape of the Burren National Park, where a vast limestone plateau tumbles down to the ocean.



12

### Waterville Golf Links

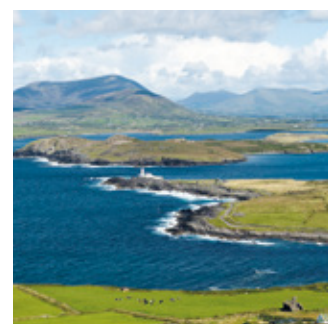
County Kerry

With a location on the world-famous Ring of Kerry which skirts the Wild Atlantic Way, Waterville Golf Links has it all: a heady combination of dunes, gorse, and native grasses, sod-faced bunkers, and subtle putting surfaces. Waterville is right on the edge of the Atlantic Ocean and the landscape changes color with the shifts in weather, making it look just as dramatic in clear sunshine as in cloud. According to course designer Tom Fazio, “Everything at Waterville is spectacular – the setting is one of the best that I have seen anywhere in golf.” Little wonder then that it regularly features as one of the top 100 courses in the world.

#### Beyond the fairway

Beautifully positioned between the Atlantic Ocean and Lough Currane, the village of Waterville has been enjoyed by everyone from Charlie Chaplin to the late US Open and US PGA champion Payne Stewart. And great sights are everywhere – to the north, there’s the Skellig Ring, with Valentia Island and views of Skellig Michael; to the south, you’ll find Derrynane Bay, and the foodie hub of Kenmare.

- 10 Royal Portrush Golf Club  
County Antrim
- 11 Lahinch Golf Course  
County Clare
- 12 Waterville Golf Links  
County Kerry
- 13 Valentia Island  
County Kerry



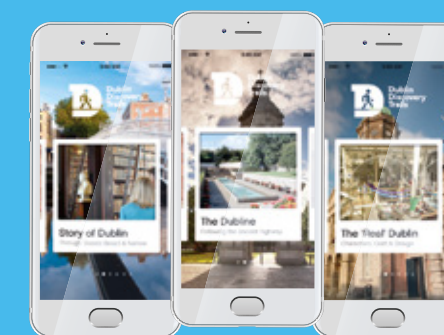
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01

# THE LAST WORD ON... TRADITIONAL MUSIC

Enjoy the rapturous sounds and pulse-racing pace of traditional music on the island of Ireland

## All about the music

Traditional Irish music is legendary throughout the world for good reason – from the infectious beats of fast-paced tunes to the haunting beauty of *sean-nós* (unaccompanied) ballads, this is music with a very emotional heart. The two places you're most likely to experience traditional music in Ireland are at a *seisiún* and a *céili* – and there's a difference between the two. A *seisiún* (trad music session) can be best described as an informal gathering of musicians. Often it'll kick off with just one or two instruments, but before long you've got a whole group of fiddlers, flautists, banjos, and *bodhráns* (drums) fusing together to create an incredible sound. You'll find a session in every village, town, and city on the island, especially on weekends, and usually in a pub. A *céili* (dance), meanwhile is all about dancing to the music and there's a huge emphasis on joining in with the locals, so prepare to get on your feet! *Céilís* can take place at Irish cultural centers or at pubs with larger dancing spaces, such as **Vaughan's** in Kilkenny, County Clare. To get to grips with the steps, pop into the *Céili by the Lee* at **Crane Lane** in Cork every Monday night, where you'll be guided through the basics. It's great fun!

## The festivals

Irish music festivals take the great atmosphere you find at a trad session and spread it over a few days or even weeks. **Temple Bar TradFest** in Dublin (January) uses eclectic venues for gigs and concerts, and local pubs keep the sounds going after dark. The world-famous festival of **Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann** takes place every year in August and is the biggest celebration of Irish music on the planet. In 2018, the location is Drogheda, County Louth, featuring sessions, competitive events, and street music. Or get into the spirit of things at the **Derry International Irish Music Festival** (late January), a week-long event featuring the best musicians of the trad scene.



02



03

- 01 Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann
- 02 Temple Bar TradFest Dublin
- 03 Belfast Tattoo
- 04 Duke of York Belfast
- 05 Bodhrán maker Roundstone, County Galway



04

## Three great music experiences

### An Droichead: Belfast Traditional Music Trail Belfast

Experience the best of traditional music in Belfast led by two professional musicians. This great trail winds around the **Cathedral Quarter**, stopping at pubs including **The Dirty Onion**, **Duke of York**, and **McHugh's**.

### Tig Cóili Galway

It may have a city location, but this lively pub in Galway city's **Latin Quarter** has a real country atmosphere. Local and visiting musicians mean there are 14 sessions a week, all year round.

### McGann's Doolin, County Clare

The softly worn wooden interior of this lovely pub in the music hub of **Doolin**, County Clare, makes the perfect backdrop for impromptu music sessions.



05

## Listen out for

Possibly the most famous of all Ireland's instruments, the *bodhrán* is a one-sided frame drum, played with a *cipín* (wooden stick). At a session, you're also likely to notice a *tin whistle* (a simple wind instrument) and the *fiddle* (basically a violin played in a different way). Keep your eyes out, too, for the *uilleann pipes*, often regarded as the most melodic pipes in the world.

## Ulster-Scots traditions

With a history stretching back to the 17<sup>th</sup> century, the Ulster-Scots community in Northern Ireland has a rich musical heritage with a very distinct sound. **Flutes, pipes, and drums** can be best heard at festivals such as the **Belfast Tattoo** in September in the SSE Arena on the banks of the River Lagan. It features marching bands, musicians, and dancers from all over Ulster and beyond.



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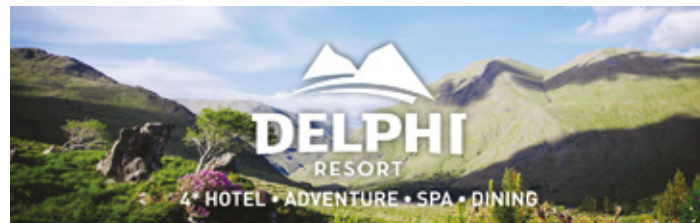
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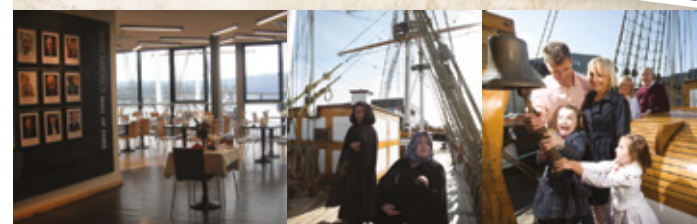


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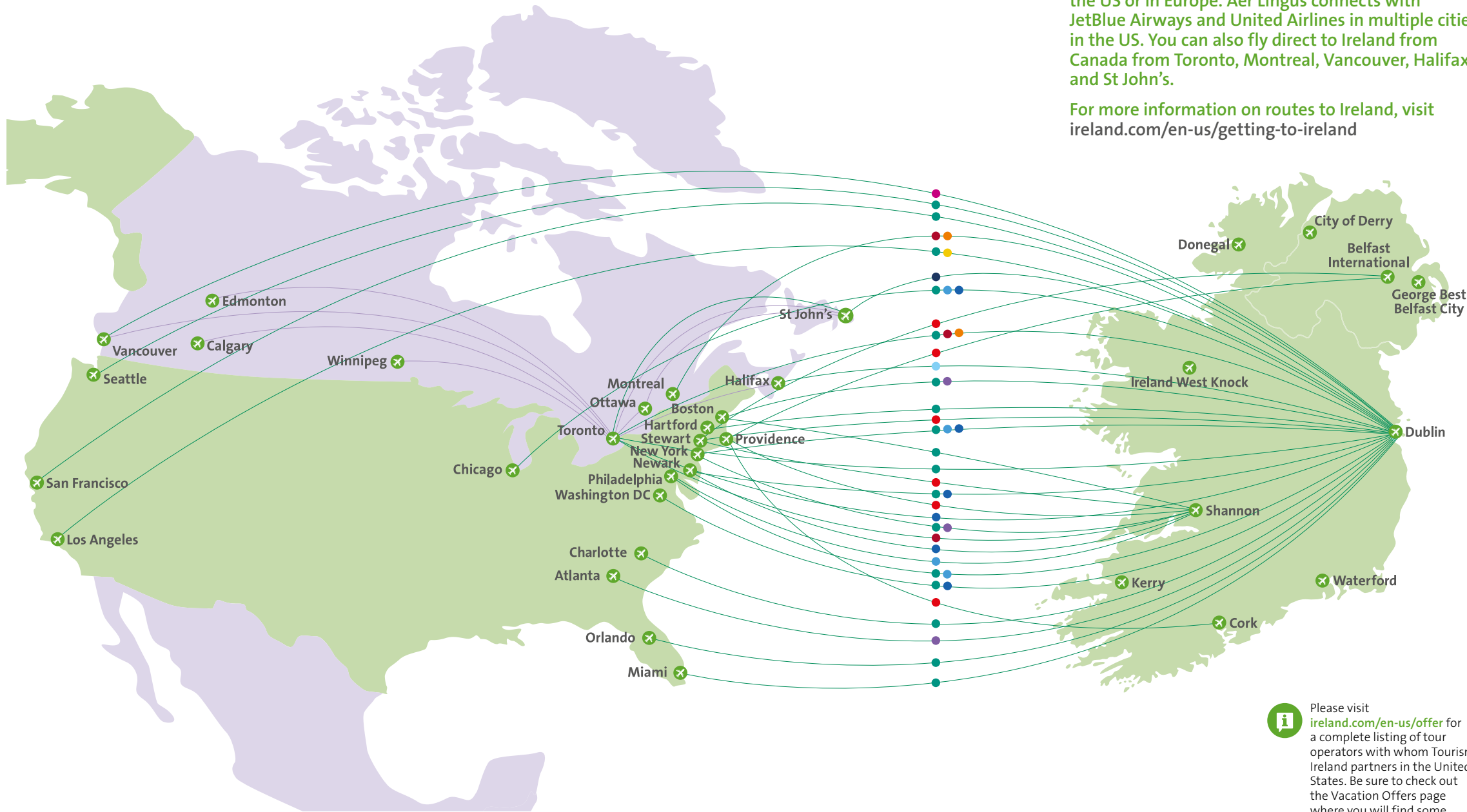
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 Chicago (ORD) > Dublin (Seasonal)  
 Newark (EWR) > Dublin  
 Newark (EWR) > Shannon (Seasonal)  
 Washington (IAD) > Dublin (Seasonal)
- DELTA**  
[delta.com](http://delta.com)  
 Atlanta (ATL) > Dublin (Seasonal)  
 Boston (BOS) > Dublin (Seasonal)  
 New York (JFK) > Dublin  
 New York (JFK) > Shannon (Seasonal)
- norwegian**  
[norwegian.com](http://norwegian.com)  
 Providence (PVD) > Dublin  
 Providence (PVD) > Belfast (Seasonal)  
 Providence (PVD) > Cork  
 Providence (PVD) > Shannon  
 Stewart (SWF) > Dublin  
 Stewart (SWF) > Belfast  
 Stewart (SWF) > Shannon
- Ethiopian**  
[ethiopianairlines.com](http://ethiopianairlines.com)  
 Los Angeles (LAX) > Dublin
- AIR CANADA**  
[aircanada.com](http://aircanada.com)  
 Montreal (YUL) > Dublin (Seasonal)  
 Toronto (YYZ) > Dublin  
 Toronto (YYZ) > Shannon (Seasonal)
- ASL**  
[aslairlines.com](http://aslairlines.com)  
 Halifax (YHZ) > Dublin (Seasonal)
- transat**  
[airtransat.ca](http://airtransat.ca)  
 Montreal (YUL) > Dublin (Seasonal)  
 Toronto (YYZ) > Dublin (Seasonal)
- WESTJET**  
[westjet.com](http://westjet.com)  
 Toronto (YYZ) > Dublin (via St John's, Seasonal)  
 St John's (YYT) > Dublin (Seasonal)
- Aer Lingus**  
[aerlingus.com](http://aerlingus.com)  
 Vancouver (YVR) > Dublin (Seasonal)

## TOUR OPERATORS

Are you ready to jump into your Ireland vacation?

Now, where to begin? Whether you are a family or a couple, a group or traveling solo, there is a large variety of tour operators with a range of vacation packages and travel options for you to choose from. Tour operators cater to all budgets, tastes, interests, and travel styles. One of the primary advantages of using a tour operator is that they make it easier for you to plan your dream vacation as they can arrange accommodation, sightseeing, and transportation including flights and meals. Travel packages can be customized to exact preferences and budgets. Because tour operators represent steady, often bulk business, they may be able to pull all the pieces of a vacation together more cost-effectively and expediently. Whether you prefer teeing off on a world-class links course, being escorted around on a small group tour or chauffeured excursion, setting off on a coach trip, or renting a car and exploring the scenic routes and detours yourself, tour operators can help you plan the trip of a lifetime to Ireland.

Please visit [ireland.com/en-us/offer](http://ireland.com/en-us/offer) for a complete listing of tour operators with whom Tourism Ireland partners in the United States. Be sure to check out the Vacation Offers page where you will find some great value deals.



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[www.sandymounthotel.ie](http://www.sandymounthotel.ie)



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## Ireland Information



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## IRELAND KEY TRAVEL FACTS

**SMOKING RESTRICTIONS**  
Smoking is banned in enclosed public places.

**CUSTOMS**  
Customs operate green and red channels at most ports and airports. If you need to declare goods over the duty and tax-free allowances for non-EU visitors, you must use the red channel. Pass through the green channel if you have nothing to declare. The United States Customs and Border Protection (USCBP) facility at Terminal 2 in Dublin Airport is a purpose-built facility that allows US-bound

passengers to undertake all immigration, customs, and agriculture inspections in Dublin prior to departure. Shannon Airport also has pre-clearance facilities available.

**WEIGHTS AND MEASURES**  
The metric system is used in the Republic of Ireland (not strictly enforced at times) and Northern Ireland.

**CURRENCY**  
Higher denomination notes such as €100, €200 and €500 will not normally be accepted

in retail outlets, so bring cash in lower denominations when you're coming to Ireland.

**CREDIT CARDS**  
Visa and Mastercard are widely accepted throughout the island of Ireland; American Express is accepted in some places but not all. Credit cards can be used for purchases and also to access money from ATMs (although this usually is accompanied by a high fee). You can also withdraw money from ATMs with your US debit card, fees will still be charged but they are not as high as credit cards and the money will come directly from your US checking account. Each ATM has a list of card symbols that can be used. Ireland uses a "chip and pin" system for debit and credit card purchases, which means you key your pin into a pinpad. If your card doesn't have a chip, most retailers will still accept it and you can just sign for your purchases.

**VAT (SALES TAX) AND REFUNDS**  
In the Republic of Ireland, tourism services such as restaurant meals and accommodation benefit from a lower VAT (sales tax) rate of 9%. Visitors to Ireland from non-EU countries can claim back sales taxes on purchases made in Ireland; shopping in Ireland is subject to a sales tax of 23%. Always look for the "Tax-Free Shopping" sign in the windows of participating stores. To avail of your tax refund, complete a valid tax refund document, which you can get from participating stores. Present this and >

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- Roof-Top Beer Garden
- Pour Your Own Pint tables
- Largest selection of local Irish Craft Beers on draught in Ireland, representing as many of the local Craft Breweries as possible, rotating and guesting beers
- Free Wi-Fi to all our Customers
- For the whiskey connoisseur there's our Whiskey Bar where you'll find a fantastic selection of Irish whiskeys and malts
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Our 'Really Good' Breakfast Menu served 7 days a week.

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lonely planet  
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**FREE ADMISSION**  
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a: Pearse Street, Ballina, Co. Mayo, Ireland  
w: www.clarkecollection.ie  
t: +353 (0)96 73508  
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goods to customs on departure from the EU, and you can receive your refund on the spot at some airports; otherwise, you can mail your tax refund document to the store and a refund will be issued. Select shopkeepers will offer you the Horizon Tax-Free Shopping card, a new paperless method of getting tax refunds brought to you by FEXCO Tax-Free Shopping. With each purchase, the card is swiped and tax-free eligible items are logged. At the end of your trip, hand in the card to the FEXCO Tax-Free Shopping desk at Dublin or Shannon Airport. You can apply for a card online at [www.shoptaxfree.com](http://www.shoptaxfree.com)

For details on how to claim tax back on goods bought in Northern Ireland, please visit [gov.uk/tax-on-shopping/taxfree-shopping](http://gov.uk/tax-on-shopping/taxfree-shopping)

**LANGUAGE**

Irish (Gaelic) and English are the official languages of the Republic of Ireland; street and road signs are all bilingual. In Gaeltacht (Irish-speaking) areas, road signs may only be displayed in Irish and Irish is spoken daily, though everyone speaks English as well. In Northern Ireland, English is the official language. The Irish language is also taught in many schools and summer schools. Ulster-Scots is also spoken in Northern Ireland.

**CLIMATE**

Ireland has a mild, temperate climate with summer temperatures generally ranging from 60°F to 70°F. Temperatures in spring and autumn are generally 50°F, and in winter between 40°F and 46°F. Snow is rare but rain showers can occur at any time of the year. For up-to-the-minute weather reports visit [met.ie](http://met.ie)

**PASSPORT/VISA REQUIREMENTS**

A valid US passport is required to visit the island of Ireland and no visa is required. However, if you are traveling on a passport issued by another country (although a resident in the United States), please check visa requirements with the embassy.

**PERSONAL SAFETY**

The Irish Tourist Assistance Service (ITAS) provides immediate support and assistance, seven days a week for visitors to the country who become victims of crime or other traumatic incidents. The service operates from Pearse Street Garda Station in Dublin and can be contacted on 01-666-9354 / 1-890-365-700 or [info@itas.ie](mailto:info@itas.ie)



Conor Pass County Kerry

**DRIVING IN IRELAND**

American visitors to Ireland must bring a valid American driver's license with them. Driving in Ireland is on the left of the road and seatbelts must be worn at all times in the front and back of the vehicle. Drivers should note that they are obliged by law to carry their driver's license at all times. Motorcyclists and their passengers must wear helmets. There are very strict laws on drinking alcohol and driving, and the best advice is simply "don't drink and drive." The measurement of speed limits on roads in the Republic of Ireland is kilometers per hour (km/h). The measurement of speed limits on roads in Northern Ireland is miles per hour (mph). Drivers are urged to remember the change of driving laws between Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland.

**CAR RENTAL**

Most of the major car rental companies have desks at airports, ferry terminals and cities across Ireland. Some companies do not rent cars to drivers under 21 years or over 70 years, but please check with your car rental company before making a reservation. All drivers must hold valid licenses. It is advisable to book in advance, especially if you are traveling during the high season, as it is generally cheaper. The majority of rental cars are standard shift but automatic cars are available, if booked in advance, for an additional charge. Child seats should also be booked in advance. To avoid misunderstandings, it is recommended that you always check the detailed terms and conditions of your rental booking in advance. Even if you book through a third party (broker, agent, tour operator) you will be required to sign a rental agreement with the car rental company, so spend

some time in advance selecting the various insurances, waivers and other options appropriate to your needs and understand the costs involved. For insurance reasons, you should advise the car rental company if you intend to travel between the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland.

The trade organization for the car rental industry in the Republic of Ireland is the **Car Rental Council**. [carrentalcouncil.ie](http://carrentalcouncil.ie)

In Northern Ireland contact the **British Vehicle Rental and Leasing Association**. [bvrla.co.uk](http://bvrla.co.uk)

**ACCESS**

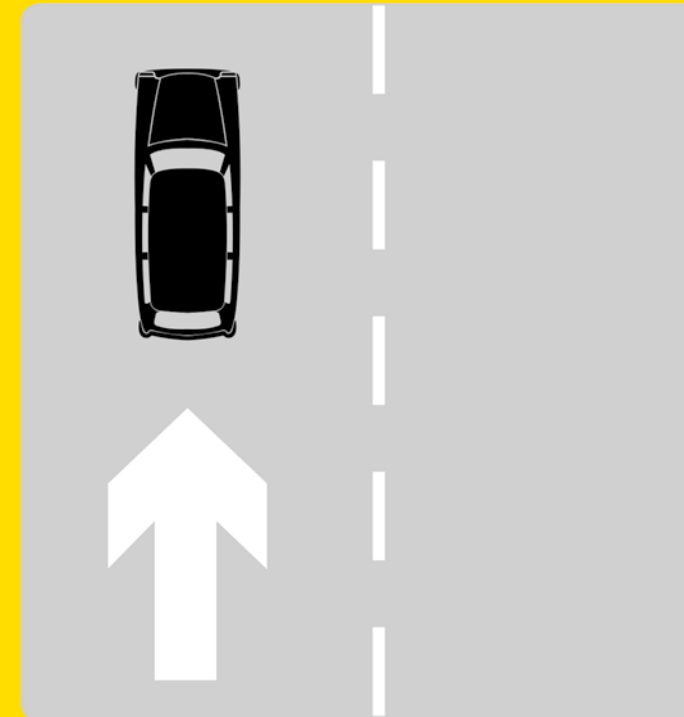
For details on airline services to Dublin, Belfast Cork, and Shannon, please see map on page 46.

**PUBLIC HOLIDAYS 2018**

<b>New Year's Day Holiday</b>	1 Jan
<b>St Patrick's Day Holiday</b>	19 Mar
<b>Good Friday (NI only)</b>	30 Mar
<b>Easter Monday</b>	2 Apr
<b>May Bank Holiday</b>	7 May
<b>Spring Bank Holiday (NI only)</b>	28 May
<b>June Bank Holiday (ROI only)</b>	4 June
<b>July Holiday (NI only)</b>	12 July
<b>Aug Bank Holiday (ROI only)</b>	6 Aug
<b>Aug Bank Holiday (NI only)</b>	27 Aug
<b>Oct Bank Holiday (ROI only)</b>	29 Oct
<b>Christmas Day</b>	25 Dec
<b>St Stephen's Day (ROI)</b>	26 Dec
<b>Boxing Day (NI)</b>	26 Dec

Good Friday is not an official public holiday in the Republic of Ireland, although most stores and businesses are closed.

# ATTENTION / ACHTUNG



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\*See instore for details

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# MAP & ROUTE MILEAGE PLANNER

Roads in Ireland range from modern motorways to narrow country lanes, and driving in Ireland can be a magical experience, with scenic treasures around every corner.



While every care has been taken to ensure accuracy in the compilation of this map, Tourism Ireland cannot accept responsibility for errors or omissions. Due to the small scale of this map, not all locations can be shown. The information on this map is correct at time of going to press. © 2018 Tourism Ireland. Map creation by Michael Schmelzer, www.maps.ardcon.com | Map data © OpenStreetMap contributors, CC BY-SA



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