

# Céad Míle Fáilte – A hundred thousand welcomes

Ireland is the land of 100,000 welcomes. Nowhere is this hospitality more evident than in the pubs, cafes, restaurants and streets of the capital.....

Founded by the Vikings over a millennium ago, Dublin offers all the attractions and advantages of a modern European capital while retaining its village like charm. Here along the banks of the River Liffey – you will find state of the art hotels, venues and conference centres rising above Viking laneways and cobbled Georgian Streets.

## Some Key Facts:

- Population: 1.3 million
- Airport to city centre: 12km
- Currency: Euro
- Language: English
- Safety: Dublin is one of the friendliest cities in Europe and maintains a relaxed and welcoming atmosphere.

## Cost of Living:

- Coffee in a Typical Café: €2.50 - €3.00
- 50cl bottle of mineral water: €1.20
- Ham Sandwich: €3.50 - €4.00
- Typical Meal Cost (including alcoholic drink): €15 - €20



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# Getting Around Dublin



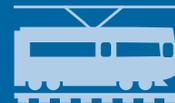
## Getting to the City Centre from Dublin Airport

The short hop to the city centre is serviced by Aircoach and Dublin Bus Airlink. These coach companies serve the main areas and hotels in the city, as well as main conference venues. A transfer to the city takes only 15 minutes using the Dublin Port Tunnel.



## Luas

The Luas is Dublin's tram system, which connects the surrounding suburbs to downtown within minutes. Tickets can be purchased at automatic kiosks at each stop and you can choose from a simple one way to a weekly or monthly pass. An integrated city transport card, the Leap card can also be used on the Luas.



## Dart

Dublin Area Rapid Transport brings commuters to and from the city centre and along the coastal towns of Dublin, so within minutes you can go from the bustling business district to relaxing in one of our fishing villages.



## Dublin Bikes

Pick up a Dublin Bike from one of the 44 stations dotted around the downtown area and travel with ease across the city. A three day subscription costs just €2 euro and can be purchased at any one of the 15 credit card terminals around the city. These are an increasingly popular option for Dubliners, and it's not uncommon to see our Mayor or politicians using them to get from meeting to meeting!



## Dublin Bus

Our double decker buses traverse the city in designated bus lanes, that ease through the traffic and ensure prompt arrival at your destination. Download the free Dublin Bus app before you arrive in Dublin to get 'realtime' travel updates.



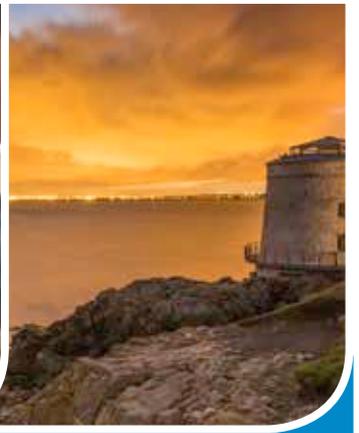
## Hailo Taxi

Organise your cab (or as we say; Taxi) even before you leave your home! Forget random taxis, lost receipts and arm flailing. Download the free Hailo App so with just two clicks on your smartphone you can book, track travel, pay in advance and receive e-receipts electronically. Hailo taxi cabs are fast becoming Dubliners most popular choice of taxi cab!



## Walking

You are only 5 minutes from anything in Dublin city; 5 minutes down the road, across the bridge, around the corner, past the statue, so get on your feet and explore our cities streets where you're sure to discover hidden gems!



## City Rambler

One of the nicest things about visiting a city for the first time is that feeling of adventure and the unknown – being a little lost most of the time but not really caring! Long, rambling, unplanned walks around Dublin will ensure you'll uncover your own city gems – from amazing home-baked treats and caffeine fixes in little hidden cafés and the perfect vintage find in a second-hand boutique, to a historical landmark with a thrilling back story or a chance conversation with a Dublin character – this city is layered and unique, and Dublin is full of treasures waiting to be found. Wander the city with a little purpose though, and you'll add to the list of surprises.

Make your way down Merrion Square to gaze at beautifully preserved Georgian buildings while lazing in the park. Buy lunch and eat it in St. Stephen's Green like the locals do, or experience a part of Dublin that has changed little over the years by walking through the Liberties' own Meath Street markets (Friday is the

best day!). Introduce yourself to authentic traditional Irish music at the Cobblestone in Smithfield, or sit down to some homegrown film-making talent at the Irish Film Institute in Temple Bar, where at least one Irish film is showcased every month. The options are endless...

For an oasis within the city, stroll through the grounds of Trinity College where the buzz of the city streets are dulled by the grand old buildings. On a nice day, wander the green spaces at the back of the campus and during college term cheer along to the students' rugby or cricket matches.

For shopping in Dublin, head to Henry Street for some high street bargains and a browse around Arnotts, the grand old dame of Dublin department store style. Grafton Street and its surrounds holds many a boutique gem as well as some relaxing cafés in which to wind down while you take stock of your new purchases.



## Useful Gaelic phrases

*Hello, Goodbye – The Irish Way*

Hello – Dia Dhuit. (literally 'May God be with you')

How are you? – Conas atá tú?

I am... - Is mise

What's your name? – Cad is ainm duit?





## City by the Sea

Did you know Dublin has a stunning coastline just minutes from the city centre? Hop on the DART and enjoy a short, relaxing journey north or south of the city to find yourself in one of Dublin's many gorgeous seaside fishing villages. Yes, Dublin does have seaside villages!

Experience a different side to Dublin and go north to Howth, where there's a walk for every fitness level. Get your heart pumping on the Bog of Frogs Loop for scenic views of the cliffs, Lambay Island and the Baily Lighthouse, or wander down the pier and take in the views of Ireland's Eye, a beautiful island just a 15-minute boat ride away.

Check out Howth Market for Irish crafts and tasty street food, and immerse yourself in history at the nearby Howth Castle and Gardens. There are tons of great places to eat here and seafood, as you might expect, takes centre stage. Finish off your day trip by ordering a seafood platter at Deep on the pier, or slurp one of the three seafood chowders (the Luxury Chowder, a Manhattan Chowder or a regular one!) on offer at The Oarhouse. If you don't fancy fish, then grab a slice of cheesy goodness at The Dog House Blues Tea Rooms, a quirky spot serving mouth-watering pizza.

Alternatively, head south and discover Dalkey. Home to more than one famous local (Bono, The Edge, Enya and Van Morrison live here), this charming spot has a rich history – the main street features not one, but two Norman castles and a 10th century church. If literature is more your thing, don't miss the Writer's Gallery for everything from Beckett to Binchy. Also south of the city is Dún Laoghaire – a town offering amazing views of Dublin Bay and a wealth of things to do and see. Stroll along the town's mile-long East Pier Walk; grab some fish and chips to eat by the sea and don't forget to sample a 99 (with a Flake!) from the institution that is Teddy's – renowned as purveyors of one of Dublin's best-tasting ice creams!





## Following Irish signs

Fir – men

Mná – Women

Oscailte – Open

Dúnta – closed

As Seirbis – out of service

An Lar – Town centre

Garda – Police

Eolais – Information

Oifig Eolais – Tourist Information

Oifig an Phoist – Post Office

Páirceáil – Parking

# Dublin's Cultural Heritage

Dublin has a huge wealth of cultural visitor attractions within leisurely walking distance around the compact city centre. The medieval St. Patrick's Cathedral and Christchurch cathedral, along with Trinity College's Book of Kells; the Guinness Storehouse and Dublin Castle are all in the heart of the city. The architecture of Dublin includes everything from cobblestones and churches to the sleek modernity of the newly renovated docklands, via the elegant wide avenues of the Georgian era.

## UNESCO City of Literature

Writers such as James Joyce, Samuel Beckett; George Bernard Shaw, WB Yeats; John Synge, Oscar Wilde; Jonathan Swift and Bram Stoker all hail from Ireland's capital city, Dublin was awarded the UNESCO City of Literature in 2010 for its on-going contribution to the literary world.

## Eating Out

Ireland is an island rich with lush green vegetation and a strong agricultural tradition. Nowhere is this more apparent than in the quality of local Irish ingredients. This quality of produce coupled with the fact that Ireland has undergone a food revolution since the nineties makes Dublin one of the most exciting capitals in Europe to eat out in. With a growing global passion for home-grown and locally sourced produce, Irish restaurants are now gaining international recognition for producing dishes of the highest quality. In recent years, café culture in Dublin has really come into its own. All over town, you'll find cosy and comfortable cafés, coffee shops and tea shops offering a choice of the finest brews, blends, savoury and sweet treats.

## Parks and Gardens

Dublin's numerous parks and gardens are the life and lungs of the city. The 2,000 hectares of green space range from the historic Phoenix Park- home of the wild Fallow deer, to nature reserves, Georgian Squares and sports grounds.

## Happening Nights

While you're in Dublin, it's unlikely you'll escape the draw of our famous nightlife. From heaving bars and clubs to quaint old-style pubs; high-end culinary delights to tasty food on the go; street performers and buskers to seated harmonics and theatre shows, the Dublin music scene has it all! Music lovers are spoiled for choice with gigs a plenty, try Sin É on a Sunday night for folk and blues, the National Concert Hall for some class, Vicar Street for the biggest names in an intimate setting and Whelan's for an indie boogie any night of the week.

Avid theatre-goers should pay a visit to the stages of the Abbey and the Gate Theatre to watch the finest Irish acting talent in action. Foodies won't be disappointed with Dublin restaurants like the Rustic Stone, 777, Bunsen and Crackbird (and many, many more) serving up some serious grub to ensure you're set for the night. Craft beer aficionados can jump for joy in bars like Brewdock, Against the Grain, Black Sheep and Bison Bar. So, get out there and explore Dublin at night – there are so many options for the first time visitor in Dublin, you'll find you just have to make a second trip!

