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Publisher's Note

Hello and welcome to our first Go Wild tourism issue of 2020 for Dublin.

Planning and putting together the content for this title is always done with a sense of excitement as each year we continue to be spellbound by what our capital city has to offer tourists.

This issue will give you an insight into the best things to see and do in Dublin City and County and contains some really interesting Tourism interviews to keep our readers up to date.

We will follow this issue with our other Tourism titles including just launched Go Wild Northern Ireland, Go Ancient East, Go Wild on the Lakes and our Gourmand award winning magazine Go Wild Food Experience.

All of these titles will be available to download for free once they are published so continue to stay with us and check out www.gowildmagazine.com.

You can also download Go Wild Titles anywhere in the world with the PRESSREADER Digital Magazine Platform, which is available on Multiple worldwide airlines and top International hotel groups. We want you to have the most amazing holiday and feel free to email me with your stories on your experiences in Dublin's Fair City.

A huge thank you to our team of Dave Curtin, Keith Nicol, Ed Allen, Andrea Smith, Maire Ni Chuinneagain, Cleo Power, Lauren Gonzalez, & Lorraine Bell for your continued support in making all Go Wild Titles great tourism publications.

Please enjoy,

Bobby Power

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To download all six of our Go Wild Tourism Titles directly to your device, please visit http://:www.issuu.com/gowildmagazine





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

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Contents

- Page 4: Ruth Andrews CEO of AVEA Page 6: Ten Great reasons to visit Dublin Page 7: Powerscourt Distillery Page 10: Paul Kelly CEO Failte Ireland Page 14: Things to see and do in Glasnevin Page 16: 48 hours in Temple bar Page 18: King of the Castle Mark Nolan Page 20: Clare Tolan Jameson Whiskey MD Page 22: Things to see and do in Howth Page 24: Niall O'Callaghan Shannon Heritage Page 26: Gabe Saglie Travel Zoo Page 28: Niall Rochford Ashford Castle Page 30: Daragh Feighery Centerparcs
- Page 32: Doug Gordon Page 34: Niall Gibbons Tourism Ireland Page 36: City Centre What's Hot Page 38: John McGrillen Tourism Northern Ireland Page 42: Top places Dublin Bay Page 44: Things to do in Dun Laoigharie Page 46: Grace A Love Story Page 50: Things to do around Killiney Hill Page 54: Dublin's best Beaches Page 56: Stretch those Legs Page 58: Scenic Rail Journeys Page 60: Things to do in Skerries Page 64: Things to see and do in Malahide

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MEETRUTH ANDREWS

Chief Executive Officer at AVEA Association of Visitor Experience and Attractions

Ruth Andrews could never be accused of resting on her laurels, given the number of high-profile roles she holds in the Irish tourism industry. The Wexford-born woman is chief executive of Incoming Tour Operators Association Ireland (ITOA) and CEO of the Association of Visitor Experiences and Attractions (AVEA). She also took on chairmanship of the Irish Tourism Industry Confederation (ITIC) last year.

Then again, she reckons her destiny may have been mapped out all along as her parents both worked in the hotel industry. "It's amazing how tourism gets into your blood system," she says.

Having studied business and languages, Ruth spent seven years in the sales and marketing office of the Doyle Hotel Group, followed by seven years working with the Great Southern Hotel group. She set up her own tourism marketing consultancy in 1998.

ITOA approached her to run its secretariat in 2006 on a part-time basis and she ultimately became its chief executive. The role with AVEA began in 2017 and chairmanship of ITIC commenced in 2019.

You can see why Ruth is so much in demand as there is a huge warmth and serenity about her and she radiates a positive, outward approach. This, one imagines, is what got her through the sad passing of her husband Ciarán in a road traffic accident in 2002, in which Ruth, then in her 30s, was also badly injured. Their daughter Claire was only a year old at the time and thankfully wasn't with them when the accident occurred.

"It took me a year to recover physically

and I'm very glad to be as mobile and able as I am," says Ruth. "It wasn't easy and we miss Ciaran but we still have the memories. His family, and my own, have been a great support to us."

Ruth says that 18-year-old Claire is her "joy," and she hopes that she will get to travel when she leaves school. They live in Enniskerry in Wicklow, and Ruth's office is beside her house, which eliminates the daily commute.

She travels a lot for work, of course, and says that we are blessed with amazing villages and towns all around Ireland. "The place and the people are without doubt our core advantages over other destinations," she says. "People come to see the green, clean environment, and our people are naturally disposed to be friendly, curious and interested in the people who come to experience what we have to offer."

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10 Reasons lo visit Dubli

Molly Malone

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

Moore Street Market

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

Stroll along Grafton Street

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

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

Dublin Zoo

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

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

Marvel at Saint Patrick's Cathedral

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

Get a photo at the Spire

The huge, striking and innovative monument stands in the middle of O'Connell Street just across from the famous GPO. 120m high and 3m in diameter at the base, the Spire rises above O'Connell Street, breaking above the roof line with as slender and elegant a movement as is technically possible. The Spire is approximately 15cm in diameter at its apex. The upper part of the Spire sways gently when the wind blows, reflecting the character of the city's climate. The monument's tip can sway up to a maximum of 1.5m under extreme wind loading; don't be too alarmed if you're nearby when this happens!

Take a tour at the Jameson Distillery

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

Take a walk over Ha'penny Bridge

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

Explore Dublin Castle

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

General Post Office

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

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



POWERSCOURT DISTILLERY

Offers an array of tasting pleasures, which does not end with the whiskey

Having only opened to the public in May 2019 and now employing 26 people, Powerscourt Distillery and Visitor Centre has already been awarded 4th place in the recent Gold Star Awards for the Best Irish Drinks Tourism Destination. The visitor centre also offers a unique local food and whiskey pairing experience.

Powerscourt Distillery introduced a carefully selected choice of Irish Artisan food products to complement the tastings of Fercullen Irish Whiskey.

The food and whiskey pairings include Irish Farmhouse Cheeses in a variety of styles and textures, including some local Wicklow cheese. There's also a selection of Irish charcuterie, cured using traditional methods by artisan producers. Irish crackers, local breads, Wicklow honey and other accompaniments add to the 'food story'. Sweet treats include a small selection of Irish made biscuits, many of them gluten free, locally baked cakes, such as the Fercullen Fruit cake steeped in whiskey. The Fercullen Whiskey Ice cream is



the perfect dessert, and there is a large selection of locally made chocolates. Powerscourt Distillery is uniquely positioned to showcase local produce with six carefully appointed individual tasting rooms available for private and corporate hire, pre and post-wedding events, high-end AV lounge, café, bar and retail areas, which are open to the public for daily tours and tastings. Make no mistake about it, Powerscourt Distillery has something special to offer welcoming visitors to experience an exceptional whiskey distillery in an extraordinary location. The Distillery is located on the Powerscourt Estate, only a twominute walk from Powerscourt House & Gardens and a five-minute walk to Powerscourt Hotel & Golf Club. Recognised as the jewel in









Wicklow's crown, the "Garden" of "The Garden County", Powerscourt Estate is a timeless place of history and exploration. With 47 acres of landscaped gardens set against the stunning backdrop of the Sugarloaf Mountain, even National Geographic identified it as one of the top three gardens in the world.

Powerscourt is not only the ideal place to inspire a new generation in craftsmanship and whiskey appreciation but the perfect setting in which to create whiskey. The unrivaled location offers access to the best raw materials, from the pure mineral water that filters into the estate's underground lake emanating from the Powerscourt waterfall to their proximity to some of the best growing lands in Ireland, enjoying a mild coastline climate, Powerscourt sets the perfect stage for distilling and maturing Irish whiskey.

Visitors can enjoy a 60-minute fully immersive guided tour of the whiskey distillery process. Starting in the converted old Mill house dating back to 1730 and like a time portal, the visitor emerges from the ancient entrance building into a light, bright contemporary Distillery and visitor centre, which has been thoughtfully designed to seamlessly blend old with the new. Experience first-hand the sights, sounds and aromas of a fully operational distillery followed by a visit to the on-site maturation warehouse, which is used for filling and storing whiskey casks. This tour includes three samples of award-winning Fercullen Irish whiskeys. Powerscourt Distillery is the Home to Fercullen.

What immediately sets Powerscourt Distillery apart from the many new distilleries opening on the island is the influence of Master-Distiller & Blender Noel Sweeney. He brings his decades of expertise and knowledge, now being passed down to a new generation of apprentice distillers daily. He is one of the central people who can be attributed with laying the foundations over 20 years ago for the current Irish Whiskey renaissance. Noel has been at the forefront of innovation in Irish whiskey for over 20 years. A globally recognised expert credited with the release of many international award-winning whiskeys. Noel is an inductee into the Whisky Magazine's celebrated World Whiskey "Hall of Fame" and is a founding member of the Irish Whiskey Association and the GI technical file for Irish Whiskey.

At Powerscourt Distillery, Noel oversees all aspects of whiskey production on the estate, including the first expressions of the Fercullen brand and laying down of new spirit or future releases.

Noel has also played a huge part in the design and commissioning of the plant facilities ensuring the delivery of his quintessential style of Irish whiskey, delicately crafted award-winning whiskeys of character and layers of complexity. For more information on tours, bookings, products, please go to

www.PowerscourtDistillery.com +353 1 5055656

VISIT THE POWERSCOURT DISTILLERY Home of fercullen irish whiskey



Powerscourt Distillery is a unique whiskey distillery in an extraordinary location. Home to Fercullen Irish Whiskey, the Distillery & Visitor Centre are situated on the Powerscourt Estate, Enniskerry, Co. Wicklow, on Ireland's Ancient East trail.

Enjoy fully immersive guided tours of the whiskey distillery process. Experience first-hand the sights, sounds and aromas of a fully operational distillery including a visit to the on-site maturation warehouse.

Tours include three samples of our award-winning Fercullen Irish whiskeys by world renowned Master Distiller & Blender Noel Sweeney.

Six carefully appointed individual tasting rooms available for private and corporate hire, a high-end AV Room, café, bar and retail areas which are open to the public for daily tours and tastings.

See PowerscourtDistillery.com for tour times and bookings. A visit to Powerscourt Distillery & Visitor Centre - a truly memorable experience!







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FAILTE IRELAND CEO PAUL KELLY

WE ARE WORKING TO GROW TOURISM INCOME IN EVERY CORNER OF THE COUNTRY

Fáilte Ireland's action plans for 2020 focus on developing and sustaining tourism region by region. The National Tourism Development Authority's CEO Paul Kelly gives his account of what these plans will deliver.

Welcoming and entertaining visitors is part of our character as a people. As a small island, we have a natural open and welcoming nature and global connections through emigration and family ties around the world that make us an outward looking people.

Offering hospitality is not just in our nature, it is now an economic mainstay. It is a life-source for dispersed communities around the country and an important economic contributor to our cities and towns.

The revenue we earn, from the hospitality we give, returns to us when spent in our schools, our hospitals and on our infrastructure. Tourism brings in revenue of €7.5billion annually and supports 260,000 jobs. The scale of what is at stake is underlined by the simple fact that 22c in every Euro that every visitor spends, ends up as public money. Tourism's importance as an industry is further underlined when you consider that every €1million spent by tourists supports 27 jobs.

The uncertainty around the implications of Brexit over the past few months has caused momentum to falter. It has stalled the tremendous growth we have earned and enjoyed in recent years and undermined the confidence that is so important to future success. Any fall in visitor numbers is an economic issue that can be explained in numbers, but the effects would be felt by families and businesses in real-time human stories of disappointment and hardship. That will be both a social consequence and an economic fact. We know businesses are fearful and supporting businesses through Brexit, so that they are 'Brexit ready' is a role that Fáilte Ireland will continue to deliver on.



But while the threats are regrettably real, we must remember so too are opportunities. The demand to travel and discover new places is an innate human urge and it's now affordable for so many more people around the world than in the past.

Fáilte Ireland's underpinning focus on regionality and seasonality ensures sustainable economic benefits, regional balance and better social cohesion.

We are at a critical juncture in our economic as well as our political history. Our plans are about building an Ireland where every part of the country is included and the natural inclination of our people to welcome others is translated into jobs and opportunities.

Regionally, tourism is a powerful force for economic and social good. It can be a sustainable, innovative driver of growth if protected and developed but if we cannot ensure a greater regional spread of tourism, the sector's potential for generating revenue and jobs will remain untapped in many parts of Ireland. *Continued pg 12* >



THERE'S MORE TO US THAN



Go beyond the stereotypes at Europe's Leading Tourist Attraction 2019. You won't find leprechauns or pots of gold, but you'll discover what it means to be Irish expands far beyond the borders of Ireland. Discover Ireland from the outside in – through the stories of the men and women who left and the Irish culture they brought with them.

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Ireland's Ancient East, the Wild Atlantic Way and Ireland's Hidden Heartlands are examples of the thought-leadership and development that can deliver rich experiences and brilliant visitor experiences regionally and seasonally.

This year, through the Government's Project Ireland 2040 programme, we will be investing over €12 million to develop better visitor attractions. As we create a world class industry, there is a quiet transformation underway in the experiences we offer our visitors. We will open 25 new and improved visitor attractions and activities in 2020 alone.

We will also increase to 20 the number of local tourism clusters known as Visitor Experience Development Plans this year. These plans, which develop the visitor experiences in specific areas, are facilitated by Fáilte Ireland but the richness of content comes from local communities as they bring the unique and authentic heritage and cultural identity of each local area to life in a compelling way for visitors. Our plans also involve a new €6million 2020 home holidays marketing campaign called 'Keep Discovering' to help drive short domestic breaks across the regions.

We have established a new division in Fáilte Ireland to drive the longterm development of the tourism sector so we'll also be stepping up our business supports and training programmes for the industry. We will also fund a campaign promoting tourism careers to shift perceptions and attract the volume and quality of talent required to sustain growth.

Foreign Direct Investment is an extraordinary Irish success story but the direct investment by tourists can reach into nooks and crannies around the country that industrial scale investment is unlikely to find. This provides a dividend that is real and relevant to every citizen. At Fáilte Ireland, we are redoubling our efforts to support the tourism industry to face the challenges that lie ahead and ensure that communities across the country, reap the immense social and economic benefits that tourism brings.



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Glasnevin Cemetery Museum

Glasnevin is Ireland's largest cemetery where over one and a half million people are buried including icons such as Daniel O'Connell, Michael Collins, Charles Stewart Parnell, Maud Gonne, and Eamon DeValera. Glasnevin's mission strives to showcase the fascinating stories, from the ordinary to the extraordinary, of those laid to rest in the cemetery. There is an enviable collection of statues and headstones from the simplest to the magnificently ornate, including Daniel O'Connell's crypt.

The O'Connell Tower:

198 steps to breath taking views of Dublin, the tower opened to the public for the first time since it was destroyed by a bomb in 1971. It is Ireland's tallest round tower and stands at 180 feet. Built in 1854, it is the tombstone of the great liberator, Daniel O'Connell, who lies in an ornately decorated crypt at the base of the tower.

The Helix

The Helix is Ireland's newest and most exciting multi - venue performance space. The Helix comprises three different auditoria, Mahony Hall, The Theatre and The Space, alongside a visual art gallery and these are all contained in a truly breath taking building designed by A&D Wejchert. Despite a proliferation of new media, there is still no way of recreating the unique experience only live performance can deliver and The Helix at last gives Ireland a truly world class facility in which to experience this. The Helix is based in the heart of the campus of Dublin City University.

Dublin City University

Take a visit to Dublin City University, a relatively new and modern campus. Created as the National Institute for Higher Education, Dublin, in 1975, it enrolled its first students in 1980 and was elevated to university status in September 1989.

The National Botanic Gardens

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

The Pyramid Church

Glasnevin is served by the Church of Lady of Dolours. A timber church, which originally stood on Berkeley Road, was moved to a riverside site on Botanic Avenue early in the 20th century. The altar in this church was from Newgate prison in Dublin. It served as the parish church until it was replaced, in 1972, by a structure resembling a pyramid when viewed from Botanic Avenue.

John Kavanagh's The Gravediggers

John Kavanagh's pub lays claim to being the oldest family pub in Dublin – it was established in 1833 and the current family are the 6th generation in the business. Also known as 'The Gravediggers' because of its location next to the Glasnevin cemetery and its attached folk history, this is a genuine Victorian bar, totally unspoilt – and it has a reputation for serving one of the best pints in Dublin. No music, "piped or otherwise".

Experience Gaelic Games

Experience the most unique modern cultural activity in Ireland– Gaelic Games. Learn of some of the oldest tribal field games in the world. The sessions are flexible and are tailormade to suit the profile & dynamic of each group. For some it will be all about the sports – they will wish to get stuck in immediately and want to play the games. For others, it will centre on the impact of Gaelic games on Modern Irish Culture with a focus on team building and more sedate activity. It is educational, cultural, fun and something that you can only do when in Ireland.

Grand Canal Walk

The route is an informal linear park punctuated by the locks that characterise canal technology, carefully restored surviving lock-keepers cottages and the towns and villages whose existence is owed to the trade and commerce the canal brought in the 18th and 19th centuries. The many towns and villages along the way provide walkers with accommodation possibilities along the route and as public transport options are good, these places can act as starting and finishing points for those who want to sample only sections of the route.

Mountjoy Square

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



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Dublin's Temple Bar

Imagine the best of Dublin city – pubs, galleries, restaurants and music – squeezed into a few blocks. Introducing Temple Bar, the cobbled, cultural heart of Dublin City.

First, some history. Temple Bar has always been a popular spot – the Vikings set up camp here as far back as 795 A.D. Their settlement remains can be seen in Dublin Castle today. Fast forward a few centuries to a time when British diplomat Sir William Temple built his grand residence and gardens on the site, the name stuck and Temple Bar was born.

The Temple Bar area is a square on the south bank of the River Liffey with off-shooting streets and narrow laneways. They're lined with boutiques, cafes, galleries and pubs, and at any time of year, packed with culture-vultures and partyseekers. It's the city's playground, and it has a lot going on.

Culture capital

Temple Bar is the centre of Dublin's cultural universe. Buskers, street artists, open air markets and exhibitions a create carnival atmosphere. You can catch a show (no less than three theatres on offer), mosey through a gallery, explore a market, go to a gig or just plonk yourself in a café for Dublin's best people-watching spot.

Culture squared

Meeting House Square is Temple Bar's culture HQ. It is lined by The National Photographic Archive and The Gallery of Photography (both free entry), and the Irish Film Institute. It is also a stage for occasional screenings, markets and even a vineyard.

Every Saturday, it erupts with colour with the food market. Huge canopies cover the square making it all-weather. On sale you'll find fresh fruit and veg, a cheesemongers, even oysters. Around the corner in the main square, the Temple Bar Book Market has a world of literature on its stalls.

Filmbase

Between the squares is Filmbase, a mecca for film fans with a public gallery, tasty café, free lectures and screenings.

Temple Bar tastes

Feeling peckish? Wander the cobbled streets and let your sense of smell guide you. The fare on offer is international, from Indonesian eatery The Chameleon to French bistro Les Fréres Jacques. For traditional Irish, get your boxty on at Gallagher's Boxty House. For a real treat, try the Tea Room restaurant at The Clarence Hotel, and keep an eye out for owners Bono and The Edge.

Bring on the night

When the sun goes down, the volume goes up. Temple Bar has the highest density of pubs of in Dublin City, so no problems grabbing a pint here. Street musicians play their hearts out for the revellers hopping from pub to pub. The rhythmic sounds of Irish trad music may tempt you in for a pint and a dance. The Oliver St John Gogarty bar has live Irish trad every day and night.

Down Fleet Street is the Porterhouse Bar and brewery pub. One of the bastions of Ireland's craft beer scene, The Porterhouse's taps only flow with their brews, and there are bottled wonders from around the world.

Quite like Temple Bar itself: a cultural melting pot with an Irish flavour at its heart.



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King of the Castle

Dromoland Castle has been welcoming guests since the 16th century, and while he hasn't been there quite that long, managing director Mark Nolan joined the five-star castle in Clare in 1989.

The affable Dubliner was only 29 when he took over as general manager, and jokes that he has "kind of" been accepted by the Clare people at this stage. He fell in love with the hotel industry when he got a summer job at Ashford Castle aged 17. His mother Mary, who celebrated her 100th birthday at the castle last year, encouraged him to do a hotel management diploma in Galway.

"My family were all in legal and medical careers, so I'm the black sheep of the family," he laughs. "Academia was never for me. I'm more of a hands-on person who likes being out and about, and am not a great 'office' person."

After a year on scholarship at the Dunfey Hotels in New York, Mark worked at Ashford Castle for six years before joining Dromoland. He met his wife Maria, an intensive care nurse, at Ballantine Races, and they built a house on Dromolond's golf course. "I'm a dreadful golfer, but I enjoy it," he says.

As he worked long, unsociable hours, Maria stayed at home with their four children - Jessie, Andrea, Gillian and Marcus - and Mark made sure he was there for the important bits. He pays tribute to Maria for them growing to be fine, well-balanced adults.

With such a long tenure at the top,



Mark has seen the award-winning castle through various programmes of refurbishment and some very exciting times. Many famous guests have stayed at Dromoland, including Bill Clinton, Nelson Mandela and George W. Bush.

There have also been various challenges, such as recessions and world disasters. "9/11 had the most dramatic effect on our business because we attract so many people from North America," says Mark. "We did a huge campaign to attract UK visitors and luckily it worked." Huge investment has been made into Dromoland Castle over the past four years, and Mark and his team are now concentrating on developing the grounds and creating new walkways and fabulous guest experiences.

With such a busy job, Mark unwinds by bringing his springer spaniel, Callie, to the beach and doing some boating and walking. His passion for the business has never diminished, and he enjoys the fact that no two days are the same. "I love my job and the feeling of a satisfied customer is hugely rewarding," he says.







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CLARE TOLAN Managing Director for Ireland of Irish Distillers

s managing director for Ireland of Irish Distillers, Claire Tolan has been responsible for the distribution of the Pernod Ricard portfolio of wines and spirits in the country since 2018.

Claire grew up in the coastal town of Malahide in Dublin, and her career began in 1998 when she joined the Jameson Graduate Programme. She spent time as brand ambassador in San Francisco and held a number of commercial roles in the US, before joining the international commercial team for Jameson in 2007.

"I would say that I'm an igniter – great at getting things started - which has served me well working for Irish Distillers," she says. "I'm also a very positive person, which helps in all aspects of life." One of Claire's proudest accomplishments was overseeing the €11m redevelopment of Jameson Bow St. Distillery, which was named the world's leading distillery tour at the World Travel Awards in 2018 and 2019.

"I absolutely loved working on the redevelopment," she says. "We have had the privilege of calling Bow Street home since 1780, so it was really important that we got it right. Thankfully, it was a huge success and Jameson Distillery Bow St. and Jameson Distillery Midleton welcomed more than 500,000 visitors from 70 countries last year."

Claire's current role is centred around the firm's domestic business, and Jameson achieved its 30th year of consecutive growth last year with sales of 7.7m. This represents an increase of 7.2m cases compared to the mid '90s, and Claire believes that the company's dedication to innovation has helped to drive sales.

She is married with three boys, and says that while life is very busy, she has a good support network in place. "Flexible and smart working also plays a big part and I'm lucky to have an employer who supports that," she says. "The first step is being organised, which means tightly managing my diary. I attend a lot of meetings, but I make sure that I allow time for action and, more importantly, thinking."

Managing stress for Claire means having balance, where possible, and this includes using all of her holiday allocation. As her father is from Mayo, she loves going to the west of Ireland and spending time in Crossmolina and Westport. While the country is beautiful, she firmly believes that Ireland has an added attraction. "Irish people are friendly and we're happy to interact and have the craic, and visitors love that," she says.

IVEAGH GARDEN HOTEL 72-74 HARCOURT STREET, DUBLIN 2

The Iveagh Garden Hotel L opened in February 2018 and was designed with the goal of creating one of Europe's first fully sustainable green hotel at the heart of Dublin City's financial and technological district. The McGill family's vision was to maintain the hotel's traditional façade, while delivering a contemporary and modern interior ideally suited to today's visitor to Ireland. The four-star Iveagh Garden Hotel is an urban oasis just steps from the famous Grafton Street. This ideal location creates the ideal Dublin base to unwind with a stroll through the Iveagh Gardens, enjoying delicious casual dining, craft cocktails and the freshest



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Things To Do In Howth

Howth Summit

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

Hurdy Gurdy Museum of Vintage Radio

The Ye Olde Hurdy-Gurdy Museum of Vintage Radio in Howth boasts many examples of early Morse equipment, gramophones, crystal sets, valve radios and other pieces of equipment. Pat Herbert, the curator, is always on hand to demonstrate some of the many working exhibits. Fittingly, the Martello Tower has historic links with Marconi and Lee de Forest, two of the fathers of wireless, who conducted early experiments from the tower in the 1900s. It was also the site where the first communications cable from Holyhead in Wales to Ireland was laid in 1852.

Howth Market

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

Howth Castle Gardens

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

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

Claremont Beach

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

Aqua Restaurant

Aqua, Howth's award-winning seafood restaurant, has been serving the community for over 15 years. Located at the very end of Howth's West Pier in a building with a long and apt history, Aqua has the best seat in town with legendary views across Howth Sound to the island of Ireland's Eye. Aqua sits proudly in a building which previously belonged to Howth Sailing Club, which was formed in 1895. Aqua uses the best local ingredients in all dishes, a lot of fish served is caught locally and salads come from a local restaurant garden run on Howth Hill.

Ireland's Eye

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

National Transport Museum

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



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SICHION GILCOG

Interview with Niall O'Callaghan

A t 37, Niall O'Callaghan of Shannon Heritage is the youngest managing director of a semi-state company in Ireland. One of Ireland's largest visitor experience operators, Shannon Heritage is responsible for eight day visitor attractions and four evening entertainment programmes in Clare, Limerick, Galway and Dublin.

Prior to taking up his current position in 2017, Niall worked as the mid-west regional director of IDA Ireland. Not bad going for a man who started off his working life washing dishes in the Dunraven Arms Hotel in Limerick.

Given that he's also a former Irish international athlete, the dynamic man from from Adare in Limerick couldn't exactly be accused of resting on his laurels. He puts his sports experience to good use these days as the under-6s coach with Croagh GAA Club. He and his wife Maria have three children - Conor (5), Jack (3) and new baby Ellie, born at the end of 2019. "My wife is terrific support, and I couldn't do it without her being so understanding around the demands of the role," he says.

Under Niall's tenure, total visitor numbers to Shannon Heritage's attractions have grown by 10% and they have won many awards. While many people would find the myriad demands of his position challenging, resilience is one of Niall's strongest characteristics, as well as his ability to connect with people and build relationships.

There is quite a bit of travel involved in his job, given the breadth of his portfolio stretches from the very edge of the Wild Atlantic Way at the Cliffs of Moher, to the heart of Dublin at the GPO. When he's not on the road, Niall tries to arrive to work early and leave on time so he can make his children's bedtime. As chair of the Association of Visitor Experiences and Attractions, he is well aware of the obvious challenges facing the tourism sector, but says that the plan for 2020 at Shannon Heritage is an exciting one.

"We will be focusing on continuing our experiential improvements to keep visitors enthralled with our rich history across the portfolio," he says. "We're excited about opening our latest attraction, the Casino Model Railway Museum in Malahide, early in 2020, in partnership with Fingal County Council."

Niall says that it's the people, above all, who make an experience appeal to visitors. "Whether that's an actor telling a story or someone serving you food, visitors never forget the human interaction," he points out.





DAY TOURS

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

Enjoy a two-hour visit at the Cliffs of Moher. Your ticket includes admittance to the Cliffs of Moher Visitor Centre: A scenic drive along the Wild Atlantic Way Coast: A visit to Galway City, the bohemian and cultural capital of Ireland. Your two-hour visit includes a free walking tour of the City provided by the Tour Guide.

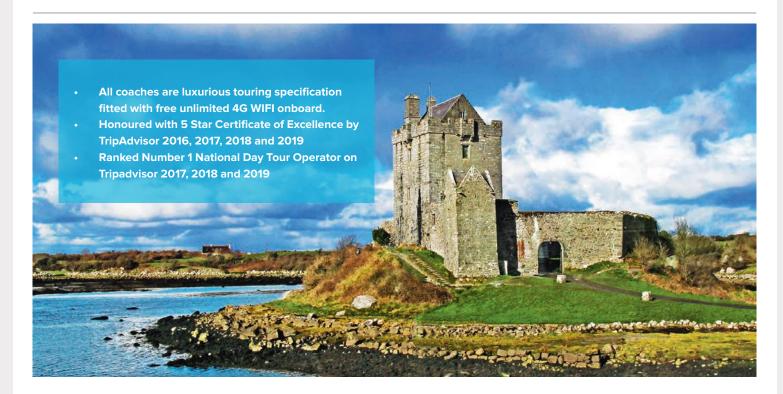
Giants Causeway / Belfast Titanic Museum / Belfast City Black Taxi Political Tour / Carrick Rede Rope Bridge:

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

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

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

Game of Thrones & Giant's Causeway: Visiting the Antrim coast and caves, Ballintoy Harbour and the Dark Hedges. The Giant's Causeway and Dunluce Castle.





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TRAVELZOO Senior editor, Gabe Saglie -Discovering Ireland



s a Chilean born in Norway and now living in California, it is appropriate that Gabe Saglie made his career in the area of travel. He was working as a morning weatherman in Santa Barbara when he received the opportunity to work for Travelzoo.

"That was in 2005 and the years since have afforded me an awesome career in an awesome industry" he says. "As Travelzoo's senior editor and as an editorial voice for our company as well as the industry as a whole, I am intent on sharing my own enthusiasm for travel with others and on offering education and inspiration that will help others tap the power of travel."

Gabe lives with his wife Renee and sons Gabriel and Greyson in Santa Barbara. His parents fostered his love for travel through road-tripping and trips around the world. "As a dad of three myself, I carry that torch," he says. "We aren't rich, but we creatively make exploration a priority, and we bring our kids along whenever possible."

Gabe says that his first visit to Ireland with his young boys in 2013 remains one of their favourite travel memories to this day. He visits twice or three times a year, and is impressed by the seamlessness of travel between the ROI and NI.

"One thing you hear before you get to Ireland for the first time is that the people are amazingly



friendly, and is that ever true," he enthuses. "I have had countless interactions that prove how engaging, open-hearted and warm the Irish are, from remote roads along the Wild Atlantic Way to the buzziest of pubs in downtown Dublin."

Gabe feels that Ireland's gastronomic renaissance is fuelled by a fresh wave of creative, talented chefs and a concerted national push to highlight regionality in food and drink. He also thinks that the people are Ireland's best advocates. "T've seen a growing trend in locals genuinely appreciating their own local treasures – historic, artistic, culinary, etc. That growing ambassadorship is something that will help lure travellers as it continues to grow and keep them coming back."

While he says that there is nowhere in Ireland that hasn't delivered a fantastic traveller experience for him, Gabe is partial to the west coast. Some of his fondest memories are rooted in the sweeping landscapes of the Wild Atlantic Way and the warmth of the people there.

"I have also had wonderful, immersive experiences in places like Wicklow and Wexford, due especially to the surge in foodie options there," he says. "And Derry and Belfast have revealed poignant histories and wonderful people, which make them not-tomiss recommendations to anyone who asks me."

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Ashford Castle

Interview with Niall Rochford

Niall Rochford is the General Manager of both the 5-star Ashford Castle and the 4-star Lodge at Ashford and responsible for the lives of over 425 people employed on the Ashford Estate.

Niall knew from a very early age he wanted to pursue a career in hotels and on leaving school, attended the Dublin College of Catering – better known as Cathal Brugha Street, to complete his Hotel Management and degree in Business Studies.

Destined for a career in the 5-star hotel business, Niall started his 'castle career' at Dromoland Castle – where he worked for 11 years rising to become Deputy General Manager. In 2002 the General Manager of the other legendary Irish castle – Ashford Castle, retired and at the very young age of 32 Niall was promoted by the then board to the position of General Manager of Ashford Castle.

Under Niall's skilful management for 18 years, he has presided over some of the most extraordinary times at Ashford, including the sale of the castle in 2013 to Red Carnation Hotel Collection, the multi-million euro restoration and the opening of the 64 bedroom 4-star Lodge at Ashford.

Niall's caring and passionate professionalism has helped team Ashford win a number of leading industry awards including – the first Irish hotel to be awarded Virtuoso Best Hotel in the World in 2015, Travel + Leisure Best Hotel Resort in UK & Ireland 2016.

Recognised as an Unique Lodge by National Geographic, Niall has pushed his team to think above and beyond in terms of sustainability. The estate has eliminated single-use plastics and is the first hotel in Ireland to receive a Plastic Smart award from Green Hospitality. The 9-hole golf course is the first in Southern Ireland to be geo golf certified and The Spa at Ashford was recipient of an award for its sustainability endeavours. A hotel surrounded by water and now



Mr. Niall Rochford, General Manager, Ashford Castle

looking into rainwater harvesting and hydroelectricity.

in 2020 Ashford Castle is looking to extend their luxury concierge experience, which is not just about information for guests, it is about delivering knowledge and experiences and giving guests an opportunity to immerse themselves in the life of the west of Ireland.

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF IRELAND

The National Museum of Ireland is home to the world's greatest collection of objects related to Irish heritage and history, displayed at four museums in Dublin and Mavo. The collections span from prehistoric times to the present day and explore a wide range of themes from Bronze Age gold to 20th century revolution. The main aim of the National Museum of Ireland is to preserve, share, explore and celebrate Ireland's history and culture and its place in the wider world.

Highlights at the National Museum of Ireland - Natural History include imposing skeletons of Ireland's extinct giant deer and a huge, basking shark suspended from the ceiling. The aptly named Wonder Cabinet allows visitors to get up-close to museum objects with a fascinating handling collection. The recently

refurbished and reimagined Irish Wars 1919 – 1923 exhibition Eileen Grav. exploring the life and work of the iconic 20th century designer are highlights within the National Museum of Ireland - Decorative Arts & History. Collins Barracks. Highlights at the National Museum of Ireland – Archaeology include the world-famous Iron Age 'bog bodies', an exhibition of prehistoric Irish gold, and a section dedicated to an early medieval book of psalms known as the Faddan More Psalter.

The museum offers a year-round programme of workshops, talks and tours for all ages and a changing programme of temporary exhibitions on historical and contemporary themes.

The National Museum of Ireland has 4 public sites, and a Collections Repository:

National Museum of Ireland -

Archaeology (Kildare Street, Dublin 2)

- National Museum of Ireland -Natural History (Merrion Street, Dublin 2)
- National Museum of Ireland - Decorative Arts & History (Collins Barracks, Dublin 7)
- National Museum of Ireland -Country Life (Turlough Park, Castlebar, Co. Mayo)

Admission to the National Museum of Ireland and its Exhibitions is Free. Museum Shop & Café on site - see www.museum.ie.

Museum Opening Hours:

Tuesday - Saturday 10.00am -5.00pm Sunday and Monday 1.00pm – 5.00pm

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Sherwood Forest to Longford F

Center Parcs Longford Forest opened in July 2019 and with the first few months successfully under his belt, general manager Daragh Feighery can heave a sigh of relief at how well it's all gone.

The stakes were high for the Lucan man because Center Parcs is a hugely successful European network of holiday villages and this was its first time to open in Ireland. Happily, it has achieved its aim of revolutionising the short-stay holiday market in mere months, as Longford Forest opened to great reviews and acclaim.

Prior to joining Center Parcs, Daragh was regional operations director with Aramark, which handles catering operations all over Ireland.

Describing himself as driven, focused and ambitious, he is actually a trained chef. He met his home economist wife Sineád when they were both studying culinary arts at DIT, Cathal Brugha Street. They now live in Celbridge with their four children – Naomi (25), Rachel (18), Ryan (14) and Saoirse (9).

Actually Center Parcs have the children to thank for their role in Daragh's decision to take the job. Having been approached by an agency, he was dispatched to Sherwood Forest to carry out a task as part of the recruitment process.

Center Parcs insisted that he bring his family along to stay with him and it proved to be a smart move. "I wasn't sure if I was in the market for a new role but the decision was taken out of my hands," he laughs.

Daragh worked as general manager at Sherwood Forest for a year in preparation for taking the role in Ireland. This meant that he was away from the family a good bit but they visited often and he came home every ten days. He pays tribute to Sinéad for keeping it all going during that time.

Their children play a lot of



sports and Daragh coaches the under nine's camogie team at Lucan Sarsfields GAA club. This is appropriate as his aunt, Aileen Lawlor, is former president of the Camogie Association.

He is fired with passion and enthusiasm around Center Parcs and very much appreciates its ethos of bringing family principles into a corporate situation, which is a real recipe for success. "I worked all over Christmas and New Year but my family and I moved into a lodge on-site so we were all together," he says. "It's a very special place and the kids absolutely love it."

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Stress is one of the biggest killers in our society today and back in 2012 it almost killed Doug Gordon.

Doug worked in the Investment world for 21 years selling investment funds B2B to Global Banks & Fund Managers. He worked as Sales Director & Head of Sales & Marketing for the largest fund management companies in the UK and Ireland. During his investment career he grew a sales area from \$50m per annum to \$1.75Bn in a year in 6 years.

Between 2008 & 2012 Doug went through major stress, two operations that went wrong & then a near death experience.

This brought about a profound change in his life and he has since healed himself completely by studying & using wellness techniques daily in his life and those of his clients. This has generated a passion to help others with High Performance Success without Stress, helping leaders in many industries. is mindful walks in beautiful places of nature such as Wicklow, Kerry, Donegal, and even over in Cornwall. "Connecting with nature, taking in the beauty, breathing in the fresh air and the visual effect of the sea, the mountains and the trees has a massive positive impact on your body, mind and soul. I try and get out to places like this as much as possible and we are blessed in Ireland in this respect."

"In one company I worked in we had a meeting room with no windows. I noticed the atmosphere in the meetings were not as good. I printed out large photos of coastal scenery, mountains and lakes from the coasts of Ireland and put them all over the walls. The productivity and atmosphere of the meetings improved massively. For the first time I witnessed laughter and fun in the meetings. The energy in the room had changed."

So, if photos can have that effect, imagine what the real thing does for the soul!

Doug is now CEO of D&S Performance Optimisation, a coaching, consulting & corporate training company. He is also the Global Goodwill Ambassador for Dublin.

He speaks professionally all over the world alongside Prime Ministers, film stars, TV celebs, NY Times bestsellers, renowned CEOs & sports stars.

He runs a radio show on Dublin radio, called "Inspirational People, Inspirational Stories" & has had film stars, TV Celebs, famous CEOs, international sports stars, international sports coaches, Guinness Book of record holders, NY Times & Sunday Times bestsellers, cancer survivors & famous speakers in the show. The show has gone from zero to 132,000 listeners in 2 years.

So, if you wish to make changes in your life and discover the secrets that Doug has learned since his near death experience, get in touch with this highly energized guy today and make your life multiple times better

Check out Doug on www. DSPerformancOptimisation.com

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Tourism Ireland outlines 2020 plans to promote the island of Ireland overseas

Tourism Ireland has launched details of its new three-year strategy for 2020-2022 and its marketing plans to promote the island of Ireland overseas in 2020. The aim is to grow overseas tourism revenue to $\in 6.54$ billion (+13%) and visitor numbers to 12 million (+7%), by 2022.

The 2020-2022 strategy has been designed to be both flexible and sustainable – while delivering further growth in overseas tourism and supporting the industry across the island of Ireland. Tourism Ireland aims to spread the benefits of tourism more broadly across the island of Ireland on a year-round basis and to address the issues of capacity, to ensure the visitor experience continues to be world-class. The new strategy is built on a set of sustainable destination marketing principles.

Phase two of Tourism Ireland's global campaign – 'Fill Your Heart With Ireland' – will be rolled out in over 20 markets around the globe in 2020. It will continue to refresh and reinvigorate the presentation of the island of Ireland overseas. As in phase one of the campaign, the new ad features less visited attractions and locations – including Trim Castle, Waterford Greenway, EPIC – the Irish Emigration Museum and Rathlin Island – and will highlight the passions that research shows motivate our target audience, such as landscapes and heritage; and will dial up activities like walking, cycling and kayaking.

The period 2020-2022 will see Tourism Ireland transform its digital platforms and re-develop its entire suite of Ireland.com websites – which attracted more than 23 million visits



Niall Gibbons Chief Executive Tourism Ireland

last year – to ensure its digital marketing continues to be 'best in class' in the 2020s. It will use big data and artificial intelligence to reach potential visitors; this new technology will also allow Tourism Ireland to re-target visitors and potential visitors with personalised messages and offers, designed to appeal to their specific interests.

2019 was a very mixed experience for Irish tourism, with weaker demand and the continued uncertainty around Brexit giving rise to consumer concern in Britain and some Mainland European markets. There was also a deterioration in air access capacity last year. Latest estimates indicate that, by year end, revenue generated by international visitors was around &5.78 billion (-1.4% on last year), with some 11.17 million



people having visited the island of Ireland (0%).

2020 will undoubtedly continue to present some challenges – not least the ongoing uncertainty around Brexit, which is likely to continue to impact on consumer confidence and, in turn, on travel from Britain and some Mainland European markets. Other challenges may include economic and geo-political uncertainty, as well as constraints on the availability of aircraft (particularly relating to the grounding of the Boeing 737 MAX).

While recognising the various risks and challenges, Tourism Ireland believes that growth in overseas tourism can be achieved. By 2022, the aim is to grow overseas tourism revenue to €6.54 billion (+13%) and visitor numbers to 12 million (+7%).

Niall Gibbons, CEO of Tourism Ireland, said: "It is not enough to simply target growth at all costs and our new, three-year strategy is built on a set of sustainable destination marketing principles. These principles will underpin all of Tourism Ireland's activities and are reflected in our renewed emphasis on driving business to the regions and ensuring the benefits of tourism growth are distributed right around the island of Ireland, on a year-round basis. By applying these principles and through working with our partners on wider sustainability issues, we are confident that overseas tourism will help communities to prosper, while our overseas visitors continue to enjoy a great holiday experience.

"Tourism Ireland will continue to raise awareness of the Wild Atlantic Way and Ireland's Ancient East around the world. We will highlight inspirational events like Taste the Island, Galway 2020 and Púca. Our aim is to spread the success of overseas tourism throughout the year and around the entire island of Ireland – ensuring we maintain our renowned welcome and superb visitor experience."

Tourism Ireland will continue to promote the island of Ireland in both established and key emerging markets, to mitigate risk and ensure long-term market diversification. As the organisation's marketing techniques evolve, so do the opportunities for more nuanced customer segmentation. In 2020, Tourism Ireland will review its core segments – 'culturally curious' and 'social energisers'. It will also assess the future potential of special niche segments and special interest groups – including soft adventure, Diaspora and LGBT+. It will continue to grow Ireland's share of luxury travel from key markets.

CITY CENTRE What's hot

There's so much to see and do in the heart of the capital and no visitor will ever leave unfulfilled. Well-known attractions such as The Guinness Storehouse have rightly earned their place at the top of the most visited list; but along with St. James Gate, there are some hidden gems to look out for too. Here's a few of our favourites for you to check out during your stay in Dublin city centre.

The Guinness Storehouse

It takes a lot to become iconic, but Guinness has done it. The "Black Stuff" may be famous the world over but this slow-settling porter started its life in the heart of old Dublin. Back in 1759, an enterprising brewer by the name of Arthur Guinness took out a 9,000-year lease on the brewery here for an annual rent of £45! A couple of centuries later, the Storehouse was born. Built in the style of the Chicago School of Architecture 1904, it was originally used as a fermentation house. Today it's Ireland's number one visitor attraction - a gleaming, multimedia exhibition on everything from retro advertising to the craft of brewing, topped off with a pint in the 360-degree Gravity Bar. When you get there, don't forget to raise your glass to Arthur's wonderful creation!

St. Patrick's Cathedral

Ancient, dramatic and intriguing, Dublin's two cathedrals make a striking pair. Built beside a well where Ireland's patron saint baptised converts, St Patrick's dates back to 1220 and is filled with monuments, 19th-century stained glass and a beautiful Lady Chapel.

The book of Kells and Trinity College

With a backstory that includes monks, Vikings and remote Scottish islands, the Book of Kells will make the hairs on the back of your neck stand on end. This glorious Early Christian illuminated manuscript is quite simply a masterpiece. Located within Trinity College's Treasury, the tour here includes a visit to the Long Room library, one of Europe's most magnificent libraries housing over 200,000 of Trinity's oldest books.

The Irish Emigration Museum

Located in the historic vaults of the CHQ Building at Custom House Quay, EPIC The Irish Emigration Museum delves into the past of Ireland's diaspora in brilliant interactive detail. The state-of-the-art visitor experience explores the inspiring journeys of over 10 million people who left Ireland's shores throughout history. Fancy learning more about your Irish ancestry? You can access valuable records, speak with a genealogy expert and join the online community of people on a quest to learn about their Irish roots.

Kilmainham Gaol

There's a real "wow" moment that comes with walking into the East Wing of Kilmainham Gaol. Eerie, vast and deserted, the gaol is the largest unoccupied prison in Europe and holds countless tales within its thick, cold walls. The tour here gives a dramatic insight into the history of this forbidding prison, with its overcrowding, hardship and brutal conditions. A definite don't miss.

Dublin's Free Museums

Gaze at one of the largest and most spellbinding gold collections in Europe; come "face to face" with the incredible preserved bodies of Iron Age people; and look in wonder at a 4,500-year-old log boat from County Galway. The National Museum Dublin is just one of the city's must-visit museums, housed within a lovely Palladian building from 1890.

Dublin's City Parks

Whether you want to spend the evening watching a retro film in a leafy Georgian square or potter around a lunchtime farmers' market, Dublin's parks will fit the bill. Cherished and adored, the city's green spaces include the hidden oasis of Iveagh Gardens (perfect for afternoon picnics) and the city centre gem of St. Stephen's Green, which was used for public executions until the 1770s.

Little Museum of Dublin

Tucked away on St Stephen's Green is the Little Museum of Dublin, an eccentric collection of fascinating items donated by Dubliners themselves. Intricately curated and thoughtfully displayed, the museum is a delightful place to spend an unhurried afternoon, uncovering a more intimate history of Dublin in the 20th century through photography, letters, advertising and art. Music fans will particularly enjoy the second-floor exhibition - U2 Made in Dublin, which starts the story of the city's most famous rock band from 1976 to the present day.



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EXCITING EXPERIENCES TO ENJOY BY EMBRACING "A GIANT SPIRIT" IN NORTHERN IRELAND

Northern Ireland - Embrace a Giant Spirit, a new experience brand being rolled by Tourism NI and Tourism Ireland, will highlight exciting experiences for visitors to Northern Ireland to enjoy, according to Tourism NI chief John McGrillen.

The focus on experiences has been added to the longstanding themes about the beauty of the landscape and the warmth of the welcome from local people that visitors have long experienced in Northern Ireland," he continues.

"Embrace a Giant Spirit is an imaginative branding designed to showcase that there's much, more to Northern Ireland well beyond the best known attractions such as the Giant's Causeway and Titanic Belfast," Mr McGrillen explains.

"The new brand is the outcome of extensive research in all our key markets to help us build on the outstanding achievements of our previous campaigns which saw tourism revenue here grow to a £1bn record last year. We want to double the size of the industry and its overall contribution to the economy over the next decade," he adds.

Embrace A Giant Spirit will communicate "a high quality experience to visitors that is recognisable as distinctively Northern Irish".

The brand comprises two important concepts: Firstly, a land built by a Giant Spirit which reflects consumer research and feedback that Northern Ireland is perceived as warm, engaging and big-hearted. It is a land built by pioneers and entrepreneurs with a rich cultural history, reflected through words, music and craft and woven together by a unique elemental beauty.

The second concept is an invitation to awaken spirits based on what is known about what visitors seek out in Northern Ireland, namely discovering and embracing the culture and



heritage here and enjoying refreshing experiences.

Embrace a Giant Spirit is a compelling concept reflecting the history, culture and the warmth of people of Northern Ireland.

Mr McGrillen continues: "The launch of the brand marks the start of a 10-year journey to support the tourism industry and local economy by developing new authentic experiences that can be promoted to the travel trade and to consumers throughout the world."

A list of 23 visitor experiences is now being promoted. Sixteen are located in Antrim and Down. Others include the Dark Sky Observatory, currently under construction at Davagh Forest near Cookstown in Tyrone, Mourne Walks and a 'blossom to bottle' experience at the Armagh Cider Company, near Portadown. Seamus Heaney Homeplace in Bellaghy, Taste the Coast Food Tours and Erne Water Taxis are also figuring in the promotional drive.

Experiences offered by filming locations associated with the TV blockbuster The Game of Thrones and events such as The Open golf championship last year at Royal Portrush are outstanding examples of the benefits to the local economy. "We estimate that one in every six visitors last year came specifically to experience the filming locations.



The success of The Open also enhanced substantially our global reputation as the place to go for the best golf experiences," he says.

"We've some marvellous attractions for visitors and a growing number of tours now available to help them see and experience the very best of Northern Ireland. For instance, there are now a great many taste and tour experiences organised by local organisations in conjunction with councils and the attractions themselves. There are certainly opportunities in the development of further tours and also to increase the number and knowledge of tour guides.

He emphasises the role of local councils and other bodies in developing new experiences for visitors and also ensuring the quality of attractions they already have. "We will continue to work with individual councils as they do whatever they can to enhance their authentic and quality experiences for visitors to their respective areas.

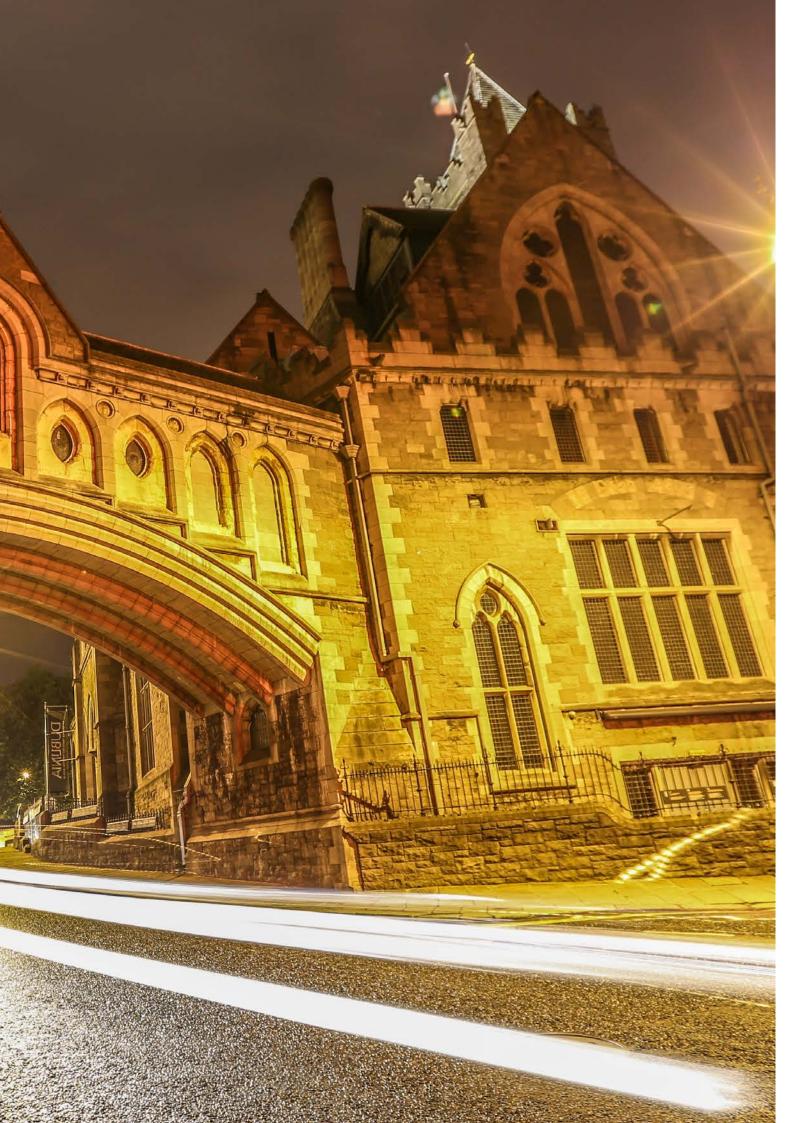
"The new international promotional campaign is all about changing the perception that people overseas have of Northern Ireland and those of us who live here, by painting a picture of what the place is really like now, as opposed to what people think it may be like.

He acknowledges that the key role played by food and drink and the overall hospitality industries in experiences for visitors. The importance of food and drink is also backed up by visitor attitude surveys which show that the percentage of visitors who thought Northern Ireland's food offering now stands at an immensely impressive 83 percent.

"Local food and drink has reputation for premium quality, outstanding taste, wholesomeness and safety, all of which have been recognised in the tremendous achievements of companies in Great Taste Awards.

"Food and drink is now a critical part of our culture. Visitors are coming here increasingly to experience our fabulous food and drink in excellent restaurants and the huge investment in hotels," he adds. "The level of investment in hotels and the wider hospitality sector will ensure there's scope for growth well into the future."







Top places to visi along Dublin Bay

Get out on the water

It's one thing admiring Dublin Bay from a DART carriage or the heights of a cliff walk; it's quite another to get out on the water itself.

Dublin Bay Cruises

The 75 minute cruise takes in a variety of landmarks along the way, including the James Joyce Tower, a Martello tower where James Joyce once spent six nights, and the idyllic Dalkey island, which is home to, among other things, colonies of adorable grey seals. Other landmarks include the gloriously untouched Ireland's Eye and Howth Head. A chilled, relaxing way to experience Dublin from an entirely new vantage point. Your 75 min trip you not only around the beautiful vista of Dublin Bay, but it also helps you to travel through time and to understand how and why the modern city of Dublin developed to become the capital city of Ireland.

Take a trip on the DART

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

James Joyce Tower & Museum

The James Joyce Tower, in Sandycove, was one of a series of Martello towers built to withstand an invasion by Napoleon and now holds a museum devoted to the life and works of James Joyce, who made the tower the setting for the first chapter of his masterpiece, Ulysses. Beautifully located 13km south of Dublin on the coast road, this tower is the perfect setting for a museum dedicated to Joyce, a writer of international renown who remains, world-wide, the writer most associated with Dublin. Joyce's brief stay here inspired the opening of his great novel Ulysses. The gun platform with its panoramic view and the living room inside the tower are much as he described them in his book. The museum's collection includes letters, photographs, first and rare editions and personal possessions of Joyce, as well as items associated with the Dublin of Ulysses.

Outdoor climbing

Giddy Gally Adventures offer a range of Half & Full Day activities. Experience the thrill of Rock Climbing and

Abseiling in Dalkey Quarry, just a short train ride from Dublin City. Take to the water with us on one of Kayaking trips in variety of locations throughout Dublin & Wicklow. Join in as we paddle with the seals of Dalkey Island. Maybe you would prefer Hill Walking in the beautiful Wicklow Mountains. Offering guided walks for all levels. All the Instructors are Fully Qualified, Fully Insured and bursting with Enthusiasm. So come on and unleash your inner adventurer and let your Irish Adventure begin with Giddy Gally Adventures.

Dalkey Castle & Heritage Centre

Dalkey Castle is situated in the picturesque, coastal, heritage town of Dalkey, half an hour south of Dublin. The visitor experience is enhanced by costumed actors who bring the history to colourful life. Try your strength on the Archer's longbow and sit in the Barber Surgeon's cart to hear his special offers. The Cook will tempt you with hedgehog pie! Dalkey Castle (1390) and has all the features of the larger Irish castles. Climb to battlements for panoramic views of sea and mountains.

Dublin Kite Festival

The Dublin City Council event will provide a jam packed day of exhilarating fun for all the family in North Bull Island, Clontarf on Sunday 14th June 2020. Last year's Dublin Kite Festival attracted attendees from around the country, brandishing an array of kites ready to take to the skies and beautify the Dublin skyline with a jumble of colour. There was free entertainment all day long ensuring that attendees enjoyed a carefree Sunday afternoon reliving childhood memories of kite flying whilst having fun with friends and family. Whether attendees were brilliant kite fliers, or failing kite triers everyone got off the ground in the end as there were plenty of kiting experts ready to lend a hand. The day also boasted lively music, exciting games, kite making workshops and a kite flying competition!. More info: www.dublinkitefestival.ie

Cliff walks in Howth

Just a 28-minute DART ride from Dublin lies the fishing village of Howth – home to a castle, several sizzling seafood restaurants and a series of looped walks. The Cliff Path is a local favourite, taking walkers exhilaratingly close to the edge before reaching a summit that moved The New York Times to evoke H.G. Wells's description of "one of the most beautiful views in the world."

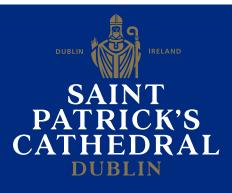
ST PATRICKS CATHEDRAL

Perhaps more than any other building in Ireland, Saint Patrick's Cathedral embodies the history and heritage of all Irish people of all backgrounds from the earliest times to the present day. The National Cathedral of the Church of Ireland, Saint Patrick's Cathedral hosts sung services twice daily Sunday through Friday, and welcomes over 500,000 visitors annually.

Saint Patrick's Cathedral in Dublin, Ireland, founded in 1191, is the National Cathedral of the Church of Ireland. With its 43-metre spire, St. Patrick's is the tallest church(not cathedral) in Ireland.

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Things to Do in Dun Laoghaire



Get on your bike

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

Ice-cream at Teddy's

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

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

National Maritime Museum

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

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

Time for a swim!

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

The Oratory

A treasure of Dun Laoghaire, the Oratory of the Sacred Heart was created to celebrate the end of World War One. At the end of this war, a

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

A bit of shopping

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

Pavilion Theatre

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

Saint Michael's Church

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



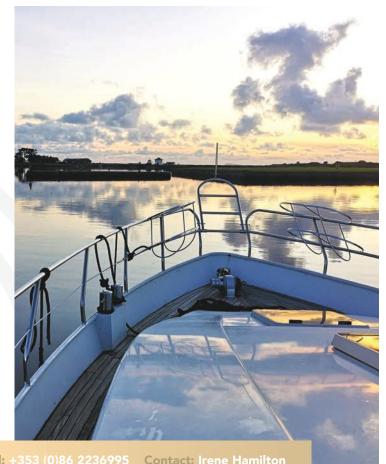
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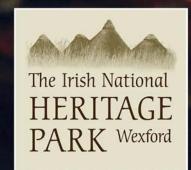


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SROCE a love story

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

So captivated was he by the song and story that he decided to visit the chapel in the Kilmainham where Grace and Joseph wed. Talking about the experience, he explained: "I visited the jail and went into the chapel where it all happened. So, it means a lot to me, that one, it really does. There was no furniture in the jail apart from the jail bed, no table, no bed, no chair, nothing." Rod revealed that lso visited Grace Gifford's grave in Glasnevin tetery in March of this year (pictured).

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

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

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





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

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

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

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

Songwriters: Sean O'Meara / Frank O'Meara

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ings to Do around

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

Killiney Hill Park

Killiney Hill and Dalkey Hill form part of Killiney Hill Park, a small public park overlooking both Dalkey and Killiney villages. The Park was dedicated to public use in 1887 by Prince Albert Victor of Wales, in memory of Queen Victoria's Jubilee, and called Victoria Hill.

Mornington Garden

In the last 7 years, Garden Designer and Horticulturist, Annmarie Bowring, has been actively developing the garden into a truly all round family one, which includes a play area for children, a clothes line for drying clothes, a potting shed, glass-house, chicken pen, 9 compost bins . Maintained in a totally sustainable way. There are no hard corners, the garden consists of winding gravel paths, sitting areas, grass, flowers. Please contact them to confirm opening times before travelling. More info: http:// dalkeygardenschool.com

Vertigo Outdoor

Vertigo Outdoor courses and sessions range from rock climbing and hill walking taster sessions, instruction and coaching to team building and youth leadership. Their staff is very experienced in introducing young people to the world of adventure sports as well as teaching high-end courses to adult groups.

The Grill at the Castle Killiney

The Grill at the Castle Killiney, is an ideal location for a relaxed evening meal or Sunday lunch. The extensive menu options at The Grill make it the ideal venue for any special occasion. Situated on the grounds of Fitzpatrick Castle Hotel within close proximity to the quaint village of Dalkey.

Bullock Castle

The castle is oblong with a tower at each end, and the archway under the western tower was probably used to pass from one court to another within the boundary walls of the castle. Inside the main door and inner porch is a large barrel-vaulted room originally used for the storage of grain, fish and other goods. A spiral staircase ascends to a series of rooms. On the way up a room on the left may be examined for its sturdy roof construction.

Sandycove Beach

This seaside suburb is located around a pleasant harbour and has a famous Martello Tower where the writer James Joyce once stayed for a week as a guest of poet Oliver St. John Gogarty. The opening scene of Joyce's Ulysses is set in this tower. It now hosts a small Joycean museum, open in summer time. Bloomsday is celebrated in Sandycove in Joyce's honour on the 16th of June every year. It is also the birthplace of Irish patriot Sir Roger Casement (1864-1916). Sandycove beach itself is very popular with young families, as it offers shallow water to paddle and gorgeous views to admire. At the back, you can find the famous Forty Foot, the traditional Irish bathing place, where - if you are brave and tough enough you can have a dip all year round.

National Maritime Museum of Ireland

In the early 1940s Col. Tony Lawlor founded the Maritime Institute of Ireland to preserve and present all aspects of marine life. The ever growing collection found a home in the Mariners Church in 1974. It is a showcase of a wide range of objects, pictures, paintings and documents relating to Ireland's colourful maritime heritage. From early maritime charts to the glorious ages of tall and steam ships to modern marine commerce. There are ship models, instruments, engines and all the paraphernalia necessary to cross the seas. The preservation of the maritime environment is part of the Museum's aim. There is something for the maritime enthusiast and casual visitor alike.

Railway Preservation Society Of Ireland

The Railway Preservation Society of Ireland (RPSI) in Dublin was formed in 1964 to preserve in working order steam locomotives (and other rolling stock built for the Irish railway system) from 1850 to the present day. The RPSI maintains a museum at Whitehead and operates steam hauled excursions over the present day Irish railway network for families and enthusiasts. The society is a not for profit charity managed by volunteers. All funds from ticket sales, shop sales, membership fees or donations go directly to keeping Ireland's steam railway heritage operating for future generations.

NEWBRIDGE HOUSE

Step back in time in Ireland's only intact Georgian mansion. Visitors to Newbridge House can learn about its illustrious history on a guided tour through three centuries of history in Ireland's only intact Georgian mansion and estate. Don't miss the 'Cabinet of Curiosities'; created in 1790 it is one of the few remaining family museums in Ireland and the UK filled to the brim with antiquities and oddities.

Closed on Mondays from October to March. Guided house tours run at 10am, 11am, 12pm, 2pm and 3pm Tuesday to Sunday in winter. Tour tickets include entry to Newbridge Farm.

Book Online & Save 10% on Day Admission



Sandymount Hotel in Dublin

The 4-star award-winning Sandymount Hotel has been run by the Loughran Family since 1955, celebrating over 65 years as the largest independent family-run hotel in Dublin. Located near Ballsbridge, Dublin 4 beside the Aviva Stadium and Lansdowne Rd DART station, you can be in Dublin city centre in minutes and at the city's top attractions including Grafton Street, the Guinness Storehouse and Dublin Castle. The RDS, 3 Arena and Bord Gais Energy Theatre are all within walking distance of the hotel as is the stunning Sandymount & Ballsbridge Village.

From humble beginnings of 4 bedrooms in 1955, the hotel now has 187 bedrooms, Line Out Bar and Whitty's Restaurant with outdoor terrace and 4 naturally lit meeting rooms.

Check-in is from 3 pm & Check-Out is at12pm.

Free Cancellation up to 2 pm the day prior to arrival. Free Parking & WIFI

All 187 bedrooms at Sandymount Hotel have SMART TVs with Netflix

Sandymount Hotel also has a 24-hour Fitness Room that includes a treadmill, cross trainer, bike, kettlebells, and weights. Our front desk team can provide you with directions to Sandymount Strand/Promenade which is ideal for outdoor training, running, jogging or walking.

Sandymount Hotel is 'Europe's Leading Green Hotel' recognised by the World Travel Awards. At Sandymount Hotel we are consistently improving and minimising any negative effect our procedures and systems have on the environment.

FIT FUN

Michelle McLoughlin the founder of fitfunadventures.com, is an advocate of filling your free time wisely. She has formed a new directory to help you find the hidden gems and unique activities to an area

Explore like a local, whether you are just visiting or live there. Now booking new businesses and activities . Get in touch with michelle@fitfunadventures.com







Client PR

Waterford Crystal

A luxury collection of the finest crystal continues to be made by skilled craftsmen at the House of Waterford Crystal factory situated in the heart of Waterford City, in Ireland's Ancient East. A significant tourist attraction, the House of Waterford Crystal welcomes 210,000 visitors annually from across the world. The House of Waterford Crystal was recently named as the 'Best Ireland's Ancient East Tourism Experience (Large)' at the ITIC Awards.



GPO Museum, O'Connell St., Dublin 1

The award winning GPO Museum is located in the historical GPO (General Post Office) building on O'Connell Street in the heart of Dublin. The GPO building is one of the most famous buildings in Irish history and is a must see on your visit to Dublin.

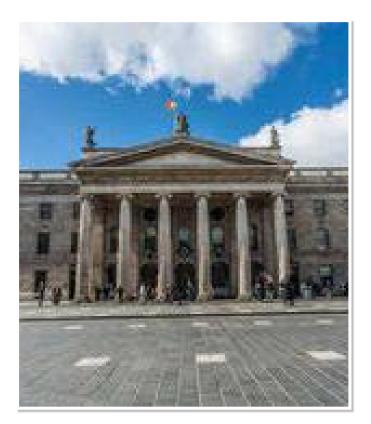
The building was the communications hub of Ireland and headquarters of the men and women who took part in the 1916 Easter Rising. The Easter Rising set in motion an unstoppable chain of events which would ultimately lead to the creation of the Irish Republic.

This spectacular experience focuses on the famous 1916 Easter Rising and the fascinating story of modern Irish history. History is brought to life through electronic touch screens, video, audio visual booths, sound and authentic artefacts.

The Iconic GPO building is the headquarters of the post office in Ireland as well as being an enduring symbol of freedom and a place of commemoration. The building has been witness to over two centuries of history and it remains one of the oldest operating postal headquarters in the world.

Relax afterwards in the café and browse the gift shop. This iconic venue is also available for private functions and events. For further information visit www.gpowitnesshistory.ie

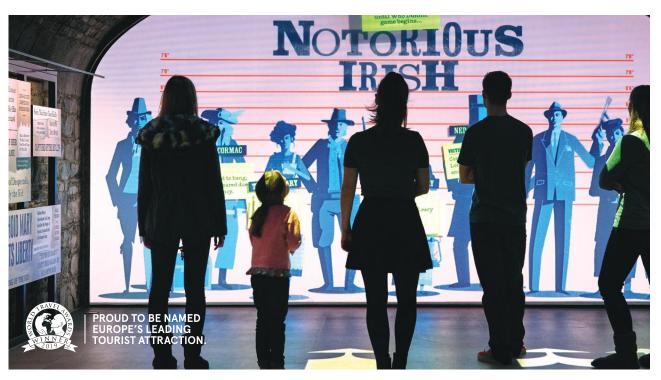




There's more to us than stereotypes at EPIC The Irish Emigration Museum

Ireland has given far more to the world than stereotypes. Discover why Irishness is celebrated around the world. See Ireland from the outside in through the stories of the men and women who left and the Irish culture they brought with them. Described as one of Ireland's National Treasures, EPIC was named Europe's Leading Tourist Attraction in the 2019 World Travel Awards.

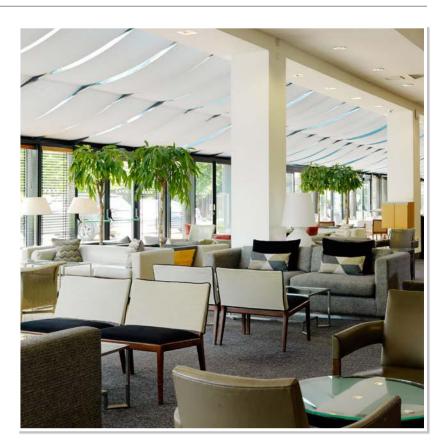
See www.epicchq.com



Herbert Park Hotel

Park Residence at Herbert Park Hotel is perfect for leisure and business guests who wish to stay a little longer. Feel at home, work with ease and relax in comfort in the superbly appointed studio apartments, offering a tranquil park-side setting at the heart of one of Dublin's most vibrant city neighbourhoods. Choose to cook, eat and entertain as you would at home or relax and let the famously attentive hotel staff look after you. Park Residence guests are welcome to enjoy all of the facilities of Herbert Park Hotel, including 24 hour reception desk, 24-hour fitness suite, Pavilion Restaurant, Lounge and Bar.

Park Residence at Herbert Park Hotel, Ballsbridge, Dublin 4 Telephone 00 353 1 6672200 www.herbertparkhotel.ie



Dublin's Best Beaches

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

Dollymount Strand

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

Bull Island

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

Forty Foot - Sandycove

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

Tower Bay, Portrane

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

The Great South Wall

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

Killiney – White Rock

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



Bullock Harbour

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

Skerries

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

Burrow Beach

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

The Velvet Strand

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

Flying the Blue Flag

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

.. Seapoint – Dun Laogharie/Rathdown

- 2. Portmarnock/Velvet Strand
- 3. Bray South Promenade
- 4. Greystones

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

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

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

Looking for an ecommerce store? LEO are offering Trading Online Vouchers for Small Irish Businesses

BrainStor

Who can apply?

The online trading voucher is open to all businesses with ten or less employees, intends to trade online (provided that the business is located and operates within the area of an Enterprise Office) and whose website has a content management system that can be added to over time.

Need help? Contact us

If you would like more information about grants available to you and your business or would like to discuss any of the points that you have read about here, please do not hesitate to contact us and we would be happy to help.

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Danny: 087 232 6762 Robert: 087 446 7007 **Enquiries** Email: info@brainstorm.ie Office: 061 748 278

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- www.irishdesigngallery.ie



Moran Park House (beside dlr Library), Queens Road, Dún Laoghaire Open Daily 11.00AM - 5.00PM

Stretch those legs.

Sometimes, no matter how much you love a place, it can be good to rise above it all and take a long view, which sounds all very theoretical unless you're talking about heading down to the Dublin Mountains to stretch your legs and take in the stunning views across the entire city and bay.

The stunning views of Dublin, Wicklow, Louth, Meath, Kildare and Down from the 536-metre summit at the top of Two Rock Mountain, relatively easy terrain and well-signposted routes make this one of Dublin's most popular walking spots for visitors and locals alike. The 'Fairy Castle' at the top is in fact a neolithic or Bronze Age passage tomb crowned by a pyramid of stones, dating back to between 2500 and 2000BC. There are plenty of similar





tombs scattered about the rugged landscape, but this is one of the highest.

To do the 6km Fairy Castle Loop, leave your car at the top of the Ticknock Forest Car Park (you'll save a little on an uphill walk), and from there follow the green signposts which will guide you along the route and back again.

The route includes road, stone paths and muddy trails, so a sensible pair of shoes is strongly advised, as well as a backpack with some warm clothing as the weather can change quite suddenly. And while it's a relatively short, easy-to-follow route, there's a bit of a climb that adds to the exertion. This will simply make that post-walk pint at the legendary Johnny Fox's (just down the road) taste all the better.

If you have your own GPS and want to

make a little diversion, you could also take in the Ballyedmonduff wedge tomb just under a kilometre away. Also known as The Giant's Tomb, this is a wonderful spot featuring a rectangular chamber arranged in a wedge shape which once had a twometre high cairn constructed on top. It has been dated back to around 1700BC and is not the easiest place to find.

To get there, backtrack on the route you took to Fairy Castle and follow your GPS for 1.6km. The site is buried inside the pine forest, so keep your eyes peeled for the path towards it.

And what was that mention of Johnny Fox's earlier? One of Ireland's oldest, highest and most famous pubs, this is an unmissable item on any decent Dublin itinerary thanks to the great food, live music and top-notch food. Go on, you'll have earned it.

Award-Winning Hop on Hop off Tour of Malahide

Enjoy the beautiful Malahide Castle & Gardens

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Hop On Hop Off Route / Stop Off & Pick UP Times

- 10:30 Toots departs from Malahide DART Station DAILY
- 10:40 **Beach Carpark**

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10:45 **Carnegie Library Stop in Village**

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- **DART** Station 10:50
- 11:00 Malahide Castle
- 11:10 **DART Station**

Then every 40 mins the loop begins again from DART Station 11:10, 11:50, 12:30, 13:10, 13:50,

14:30, 15:10, *16:30, *17:10, *17.50

*Denotes WEEKENDS (Friday to Sunday) & BANK HOLIDAYS in Summer Season

(May 1st until 30th September)

Winter season (1st October to 30th April) service ends each day with the 15:50 train going just one way to Malahide Castle as daylight determines our performance.



BHQRQ

Don't forget to show your badge for discount Discounts a wide variety of attractions i.e. Malahide Castle, Fairy Trail & Butterfly House.

www.malahidetrolley.ie

SCENIC Rail Journeys

The beauty of Dublin's public transport system is that it allows you to escape to almost anywhere in Ireland. Treat yourself to travel by rail and get in some leisure time while enjoying the scenery, living life at your own leisurely pace. Take a weekend break or a longer stay-away. Railtours Ireland – First Class are one of the leading operators of holidays by rail in Ireland. They offer visitors an opportunity to travel from Dublin to the absolute edge of Europe; where the rugged landscape has been shaped over centuries by the Atlantic Ocean, offering a combination of stunning scenery and ancient heritage. With Railtours Ireland - First Class you can enjoy the scenic highlights along the Wild Atlantic Way such as The Ring of Kerry, The Cliffs of Moher, Aran Islands, Connemara and much more. Check out the variety of tours:

Howth to Greystones

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

Dublin to Rosslare

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

Dublin to Belfast

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

Dublin to Galway

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

HOSTING THE WORLD SINCE 1798

Summer has arrived in the southwest and so there's never been a better time to explore this beautiful part of Ireland. Whether its watching nature spring to life in Killarney National Park, breathing in the fresh sea breeze of the Wild Atlantic Way or exploring the heritage town of Kenmare, there's plenty to choose from.

The Gleneagle Group have a selection of fantastic breaks and great value offers available across their hotels -from luxury breaks to girlie getaways, family fun to sightseeing and exploring. Embrace the brighter days and book your southwest break today.

Luxury Break in Killarney

The luxurious Brehon hotel in Killarney is the ideal escape for a luxury break. Their selection of elegant guestrooms and suites overlooking Killarney's landscape are the perfect spot to see Spring unfold.

Family Fun at The Gleneagle

With fresh air aplenty, acres of national park to run wild in and all the nature you can possibly imagine, Killarney is a kid's paradise. The team at The Gleneagle Hotel roll out the red carpet for families, from family-friendly dining options to one of the best hotel leisure centres in the country. They offer a selection of room sizes, suites and self-catering apartments so families big and small can book their perfect space. Their famous kids' clubs and kids' entertainment run during the school holidays, they also have pitch and putt, tennis and squash facilities open all year round.

In 2008, a forgotten corner of Trinity College Dublin was transformed into a living experiment called Science Gallery Dublin. Through a cutting-edge programme that ignites creativity and discovery where science and art collide, Science Gallery Dublin encourages young people to learn through their interests. Since its opening, more than three million visitors to the nonprofit gallery have experienced 43 unique exhibitions, ranging from design and violence to light and love, and from contagion and biomimicry to the futures of the human species and play.



THE CLIFFS OF MOHER

Located on county Clare's west coast, the Cliffs stretch for 8 kms/5 miles and 214 metres/700 feet above the Atlantic Ocean. The Cliffs of Moher are a Signature Discovery point at the heart of Ireland's Wild Atlantic Way. Like the many visitors who come to see this beautiful phenomena each year, you will be grasping for superlatives when you witness the unimaginable beauty of the Cliffs: Ireland at its most natural, rugged, panoramic and majestic – the vista is incomparable. The beauty of the Cliffs is that they offer a totally multi-faceted experience of Ireland's astonishing west coast – as much a historical landmark as they are a geographical wonder, conservation hotspot and area of immense natural richness and importance.

CARLINGFORD FERRY

Located midway between Dublin and Belfast, Carlingford Lough Ferry connects the dramatic Cooley Peninsula at the beginning of Ireland's Ancient East in the Republic of Ireland with the majestic Mountains of Mourne, the gateway to Northern Ireland. Surrounded by epic scenery and shrouded in mystery, with a rich tapestry of legend and folklore hidden in its hills. This largely undiscovered region is an area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. Discover the myths and legends of the iconic Carlingford Lough and explore the scenic route with a journey onboard Carlingford Lough Ferry. Ferry Terminals are located at Greenore, Co. Louth and Greencastle Co. Down. Book online at www.carlingfordferry.com

WILD ROVER TOURS - DISCOVER IRELAND

What better way to explore the land of a thousand welcomes than with a day tour from Dublin with Wild Rover Tours? With stunning locations to choose from, there are endless opportunities to live out your Irish dreams! Here at Wild Rover Tours, we are proud of our excellent-value, high-quality tours throughout this beautiful island. Recently, we have been awarded the TripAdvisor Traveller's Choice Award 2019 as the 6th Best Day Trip in the world, the Best Day Trip Experience in Ireland and are consistent Winners of 5 Star Certificate of Excellence from TripAdvisor 2012-2019.

Choose between incredible destinations such as Glendalough, the Cliffs of Moher, the Giant's Causeway, or explore some of the fiercely beautiful locations behind the HBO series Game of Thrones. Explore stunning natural landscapes and preserved heritage with the help of our friendly staff. A Wild Rover Tour is more than a holiday, it is an experience. Join Ireland's leading day tour company, and journey with us through this small country with a big heart. We're excited to help you discover the ancient charm of our enchanting island.



Things To Do In Skerries

Newbridge House and Farm

Newbridge House and Demesne is the most complete Anglo Irish estate in Ireland. The House and estate were purchased from the Cobbe family in 1985 and opened as a County Dublin Regional Park in 1986. Consisting of approximately 370 acres of gently undulating pastureland, woodland walks, wild flower meadows, traditional farm, ruins of Lanistown Castle, deer park and at its heart the fine Georgian house designed by the renowned architect James Gibbs. Newbridge still has all the intimacy and warmth of a family home with the accessibility of a property in public ownership. This is achieved through a very successful and unique arrangement between Fingal County Council and the Cobbe family.

Newbridge Farm is home to a vast array of animals ranging from the Shetland and Connemara ponies of the paddock, to the piglets, goats and chickens of the farmyard. It is one of the few working farms where children can see pigs and many other animals, reared in an environment where they can move about freely and express normal patterns of behaviour.

Rockabill Restaurant

Rockabill aims to bring fresh, locally-sourced, great food to Skerries, with long opening hours covering breakfast, lunch, and dinner – with a beer and wine licence, great chicken wings and most amazing fish dishes.

Divino Italian Tapas Restaurant

Divino is an authentic Italian-owned Tapas Restaurant serving high-quality food for Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner. Offers wine, seafood, steak & more in a casual, warm venue. Established in early 2012, their specialties include Seafood, Steak, Tapas, Sandwiches and Vegetarian dishes, with daily specials plus an extensive wine list.

Skerries Mills

Skerries Mills is a unique collection of two windmills and a watermill with associated mill pond, mill races and wetlands. This industrial heritage centre is an ideal place to visit on a day trip. This unique collection of mills is one of Ireland's foremost tourist attractions and industrial heritage centres. Guided tours are available daily and are a must on your list of things to do while in Dublin.

Ardgillan Castle

Set in spectacular parklands overlooking the Irish Sea with a magnificent view of the Mourne Mountains, Ardgillan Castle and Demesne is Ireland's hidden gem. As well as the castle, the demesne features a walled and rose garden. The

park consists of 194 acres of rolling open grassland, mixed woodland and gardens, overlooking the Irish Sea with views of Mourne Mountains to the north and Lambay to the southeast. Ardgillan is a sanctuary for many species of animals, mammals and birds for which the wooded areas provide a safe retreat from surrounding agricultural land.

Outdoor Dublin

Outdoor Dublin is a surf school offering lessons in Stand Up Paddling, Surfing, BloKarting and Kayaking. Suitable for all age groups and skill levels. Outdoor Dublin are passionate about watersports. Outdoor Dublin is the home of watersports on the east coast. Located in Skerries Co. Dublin, surrounded by beautiful sandy beaches, coves and islands. Often times you will see groups of kitesurfers and windsurfers out blasting around the coastline, or surfers catching mellow waves on the beach, or people Stand Up Paddling around the Islands just enjoying the weather. Outdoor Dublin's goal is to provide people with an opportunity to learn these sports in a fun and safe environment.

Skerries Sea Tours

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

Red Island

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

Baldongan Church

This National Monument, with its 21-metre-high fortified tower, resembles a tower house and is known locally as Baldongan castle. But it is a fortified church whose later tower dates to the 15th century. This castle was the residence of the de Berminghams and Barnwalls until it was besieged by Cromwellian forces in 1642 and the 200 strong garrison were put to the sword. The site offers superb extensive views of the north Dublin countryside.

Go Wild magazines are now on PressReader

Pick up one of their titles to plan your next adventure to Ireland.

With an in-depth look at local cultures and experiences they've got you covered.



Client PR

The Texas Steakout Good Honest Hearty Food Since 1989

Back in 1989, when the idea of the Steakout was conceived, there were very few restaurants in Limerick City. It was a gamble to open a restaurant with a Western theme and located in a basement was also a huge gamble. Thankfully, it was exactly what the Limerick people were looking for and, they responded accordingly. Back then their Waiting Staff were attired in full Cowboy/Cowgirl regalia, complete with Stetsons, Guns and Holsters! This caused quite a stir and was a great talking point in Limerick at that time. Kids were especially fascinated and spent more time playing with the Staff than eating their food!

Today, not much has changed except they've grown in size, so pop in to visit them on 116 O'Connell Street, Limerick, and discover for yourself the great food and excellent hospitality that awaits.



Investing in people at Airfield Estate

Airfield Estate isn't just a beautiful place with remarkable history, it is a social and charitable hub, investing in people and initiatives that reach every corner of the community.

Set over 38-acres of farm and gardens, and just 15 minutes from Dublin City, there's plenty to keep everyone entertained including: Egg collection, Jersey herd milking and tasting, animal feeding, working farm, heritage tours, indoor and outdoor play areas, vintage cars, organic food, ornamental gardens and a farmto-form restaurant.

Check out the Airfield Estate Facebook page and Twitter account @airfieldestate for more information.





How many memorable meals have you had on your own?

If you think of the best meals you have had in your life, how much of these memories relate to the people who shared these meals with you.

If you had the same food and drink in the same location on your own, would they still be memorable meals?

Unfortunately, dining alone is more common than you may realise, and it is a growing trend particularly among business travellers.

Despite the perceived glamour of Business Travel, for those of us who travel regularly on business, we know that the reality is far from glamourous.

Often, all you get to see on a business trip are the airport, the taxi, the hotel and the business with which you're meeting.

Business Travellers are all too familiar with going into restaurants late in the night armed with two despondent questions: is the kitchen still open? And Table4one could be the answer. Half of business trips are taken alone and one third of business meals are eaten alone, mostly not out of choice.

Ciaran Haughey was one of these business travellers who got really fed up with dining alone after concluding a career defining deal in Manchester a couple of years ago.

He wanted to celebrate, but he was on his own. He went to a lovely restaurant to treat himself and found 10 other people eating alone in the same restaurant.

After searching in vain for a solution, he created an App called Table4one that connects business travellers in destinations all around the world. It makes it easy to meet other interesting professional people with shared interests or industries.

The vision of Table4one is to ignite inspired conversations and create meaningful real-world connections globally. Table4one is bringing the fun, excitement and glamour back into Business Travel.

Companies can improve the wellbeing of their Business Travellers as well as generating new Business Development Opportunities.

Partner Hotels and Restaurants can generate additional revenue and increase off peak utilization, while also improving their guest experience, leading to better reviews and ratings.

With over 50,000 downloads in more than 100 countries all over the world, Table4one has a proven global appetite and demand.

With the investment that Ciaran is raising, Table4one plans to capture the dining sector of the Sharing economy, joining the likes of Airbnb and Uber.

Table4one is fuelling real-world connections all over the world.



Things To Do In Malahide

Malahide Castle

Malahide Castle, set on 250 acres of parkland in the pretty seaside town of Malahide, was both a fortress and a private home for nearly 800 years and is an interesting mix of architectural styles. A feature of Demense is the Talbot Botanic Garden. Visitors can expect an enhanced visitor experience on entering the castle, including a new Talbot Family Exhibition and interpretation area on the ground floor of the castle, friendly and experienced guides - offering guided tours in different languages. In the old castle courtyard visitors can expect a brand new visitor centre where tickets can be bought for guided & audio tours of the castle & gardens. The stunning walled gardens will also be opened to the public for the first timeallowing visitors to ramble around at their own pace.

Malahide Marina

Sitting just inside the sheltered broad meadow estuary, Malahide Marina is the ideal location from which to enjoy sailing the waters of the Irish Sea. This seaside village is the jewel in the crown of this scenic stretch of Ireland's magnificent eastern coastline. There are 350 fully serviced berths in the Marina, located in a well-protected inlet, and vessels of up to 75m can be accommodated. On the marina itself, Geisha Restaurant (Thai and Asian fusion), with a 280-seater bar and restaurant is ideal for groups with sailing activities in mind. Dublin International Oscar Taylor's restaurant provides top value cuisine in a very relaxing informal atmosphere. Their renowned selection of steaks, seafood, chicken and vegetarian dishes are delicious and appealing to all. Airport is a mere four miles from the marina.

Oscar Taylor's Restaurant

Oscar Taylor's restaurant provides top value cuisine in a very relaxing informal atmosphere. Their renowned selection of steaks, seafood, chicken and vegetarian dishes are delicious and appealing to all. Oscar Taylor's is one of the most popular eating establishments in the Fingal and Malahide area. With a seating capacity of 170, it is the most spacious, with more than ample room for the discerning diner.

Grab a pint in Gibney's

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

Café Provence for breakfast

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

Malahide Beach

Malahide has a 2km beach which, following an attractive coastal walk, leads into the neighbouring Portmarnock beach. This beach is lifeguarded during the summer months and has facilities for the disabled. Malahide Beach is also good for a sit down. It offers a lovely vista out to Lambay Island, Howth and Ireland's Eye, depending on how far you walk, that is.

County Dublin

Malahide is a smart maritime village full of pastel houses, a marina and a well-preserved 12th-century castle. It has also acquired a reputation for having one of the most thriving restaurant scenes on the east coast of Ireland. A coastal path leads to Portmarnock, a superb five-mile stretch of blue flagrated sandy beach.

Malahide Market

Malahide Market is held every Saturday in Malahide, from 2pm-6pm.With over 20 stalls of quality products at great value, Malahide Farmers Market is worth a visit on a Saturday afternoon. Shoppers will be able to buy fresh local produce and goods such as fruit and vegetables, cakes, cheese and jams, direct from the growers, farmers and producers. They also support local crafts, artists, and businesses with a wide range of stalls with something for everyone.

MALAHIDE CASTLE

The magnificent medieval castle with a dramatic 800 year heritage

Generations of the Talbot family have called Malahide Castle home. Hear their stories, explore the private rooms and collections, and discover the central part this castle played in Irish political and social life on a guided tour.

Guided tours of Malahide Castle run daily from 9.30am. Last tour is at 4:30pm in summer (April-October) and 3.30pm in winter (November-March). Tour tickets include entry to Malahide Gardens, the Fairy Trail and Butterfly House.





Malahide Castle is a magnificent medieval castle just 10 minutes from Dublin Airport. The castle is set on 250 acres of parkland with a story dating back to the 12th Century. Enjoy daily tours of the castle, visit the ornamental walled gardens, fairy trail, exotic butterfly house and dine or shop at the Avoca Café and Retail store. We look forward to your visit.

Audio guides for house tours available in French, German, Spanish, Italian, Portuguese, Russian and Chinese.

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