

An insider's guide to Dublin the way the locals live it

Insider Guides Cultural

To visit Ireland's capital city is to visit a place rich in history and culture and one which prides itself with a long tradition in music, theatre and literature. To truly experience Dublin is to immerse yourself in its rich, vibrant and absorbing culture!

For art lovers a visit to **The National Gallery**, home to one of Europe's premier collections, and the **Irish Museum of Modern Art** housed in the magnificent Royal Hospital building, are not to be missed and a great way to take in the city's and country's artistic heritage. For a window into the artistic treasures of the great cultures and religions of the world visit **The Chester Beatty Library**, the European Museum of the Year 2002. Highlights of the collection include Egyptian Papyrus texts, beautifully illuminated copies of the Qur'an, the Bible and European Medieval and Renaissance Manuscripts.

Impressionist masterpieces by Renoir, Degas, Monet, Morisot as well as the largest public collection of 20th century Irish art, and more, can be viewed at **Dublin City Gallery The Hugh Lane**. The Gallery celebrates its centenary this year and is hosting a rich program of events, open days and exhibitions, all worth a visit if time permits.

Keeping the city's rich theatre tradition alive, The Abbey Theatre, the national theatre, is a great place to take in an authentic Irish stage performance. Classics from European and world theatre and new plays by established playwrights are also staged throughout the year.

The Gate Theatre, the city's most elegant theatre, housed in a late 18th century building, has been artistically and architecturally, a landmark building for over 200 years and

continues to offer a stimulating and classical program, appealing to theatre-goers of all generations. If you are looking for a musical, opera, ballet or drama then **The Gaiety Theatre** and **The Olympia Theatre** in the city centre and the **Civic Theatre** or the **Draíocht Theatre** in the suburbs are just some of the many options open to you.

Dublin's literary tradition is an integral part of Dublin's culture. A visit to the **Dublin Writers Museum** will give you an insight into the immense literary tradition of the capital and introduce you to some of Dublin's literary geniuses of past and current times!

Temple Bar, Dublin's Cultural Quarter is located on the south bank of the River Liffey and is home to more than 50 cultural organisations offering you an opportunity to experience contemporary arts in some of the most spectacular and innovative cultural venues in the city. The area also boasts a year round programme of free outdoor cultural activities for all the family.

The National Concert Hall, the biggest and most prestigious music venue in Dublin has something to suit all tastes, from classical concerts to magical musicals to monthly workshops for toddlers and parents!

If its traditional music you're after then there are numerous pubs offering quality sessions and a great evening of entertainment. **The Oliver Saint John Gogarty Bar** offers music



seven days a week, however you won't have to venture far to find exactly what you are looking for! Another option is to enjoy a complete evening of dinner and entertainment with the famous balladeers, **The Merry Ploughboys** or head to the highest pub in the country **Johnnie Fox's!**

To learn more about the city and its development over the years then a visit to **Dublin City Hall** is required. From trade to war, to the modern day economic boom Dublin has had a colourful past. The Story of the Capital Exhibition in the atmospheric vaults of **Dublin City Hall** is an exciting multimedia exhibition which traces the evolution of Dublin city over 1000 years.

Read on to discover more suggestions and tips and check out www.visitdublin.com for more ideas.





top tips

Museum

The National Gallery

Merrion Square West and Clare Street, Dublin 2 Tel: 00353 1 661 5133 www.nationalgallerv.ie View online map

Irish Museum of Modern Art

Royal Hospital, Military Road Kilmainham, Dublin 8 Tel: 00353 1 6129900 www.imma.ie View online map

The Chester Beatty Library

Dublin Castle, Dublin 2 Tel: 00353 1 407 0750 www.cbl.ie View online map

Dublin Writers Museum

18. Parnell Square, Dublin 1 Tel. 00353 1 872 2077 www.writersmuseum.com View online map

Dublin City Gallery The Hugh Lane

Charlemont House Parnell Square North, Dublin : Tel. 00353 1 222 5550 www.huahlane.ie View online map

Dublin City Hall

City Hall Dame Street, Dublin 2 Tel. 00353 1 222 2204 www.dublincity.ie View online map

Theatres

Abbev Theatre

26 Lower Abbey Street. Dublin 2 T: 00353 1 878 7222 www.abbevtheatre.ie View online map

Gate Theatre

Cavendish Row, Parnell Square, Dublin 1 T: 00353 1 874 4045 www.gate-theatre.ie View online map

Gaiety Theatre

South King Street, Dublin 2 T: 00353 1 677 1717 www.gaietytheatre.ie View online map

Olympia Theatre

72. Dame Street. Dublin 2 T: 00353 1 679 3323 www.olvmpia.ie View online map

Civic Theatre

Tallaght, Dublin 24 T: 00353 1 462 7477 www.civictheatre.ie View online map

Draíocht

The Blanchardstown Centre, Dublin 15 T: 00353 1 885 2622 www.draiocht.ie View online map

Pavilion Theatre

Marine Road, Dun Laoghaire. Co. Dublin T: 00353 1 231 2929 www.paviliontheatre.ie View online map

Map key

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Temple Bar

Temple Bar Cultural Trust 12 East Essex Street. Temple Bar. Dublin 2 T: 00353 1 677 2255 www.templebar.ie View online map

Music

The National Concert Hall

Earlsfort Terrace, Dublin 2 T: 00353 1 417 0000 www.nch.ie View online map

Contemporary Music Centre

19 Fishamble Street, Temple Bar. Dublin 8 T: 00353 1 673 1922 www.cmc.ie View online map

The Button Factory

Temple Bar Music Centre Curved Street, Temple Bar. Dublin 2 T: 00353 1 670 9202 www.buttonfactorv.ie View online map

Traditional Irish Pubs

The Oliver Saint John Gogarty

58-59 Fleet Street. Temple Bar Dublin 2 T: 00353 1 671 1822 www.gogartys.ie View online map

The Merry Ploughboys

Edmondstown Rd., Rockbrook, Rathfarnham, Dublin 16

T: 00353 1 493 1495 www.mpbpub.com View online map

Johnnie Fox's

Johnnie Fox's Pub. Glencullen, Co. Dublin T: 00353 1 295 5647 www. jfp.ie View online map

maps

Dublin County



City centre

