

# INTERNATIONAL CITY TOURS

## UNIVERSITY CAREER ACTION NETWORK



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# Dublin

## **City Overview**

### **Brief History**

([http://www.irelandnet.com/culture\\_dublin\\_history.html](http://www.irelandnet.com/culture_dublin_history.html))

Settled by the Vikings in the ninth century, Dublin grew to be the second largest commercial center in England during the 18<sup>th</sup> century. From the Battle of the Boyne (1690), Protestants (making up 17% of the population) ruled the country over the Catholics (70%) and Presbyterians (13%). In the 18<sup>th</sup> century, all classes in Ireland felt suppressed by the British. Motivated by ideas from the American Revolution (1776) and the French Revolution (1789), the Irish led a multi-denominational, but unsuccessful rebellion in 1798.

With the Act of Union in 1800, Ireland's government moved from Dublin Castle to London. There was an immediate push for Home Rule, which gained and lost popularity in waves throughout the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Some famous names from this period include Daniel O'Connell, who united Catholics in a push for more rights, and Charles Stewart Parnell, who organized a movement for Home Rule in the 1880s. The 19<sup>th</sup> century also saw some of the most tragic years of Irish history- the Famine (1845-50). The worst effects were felt in the west, but the entire country was affected by the 1 million deaths and 1.5 million emigrants, who usually went to the US, Britain, or Australia. Today, there are more people living in the United States that claim to be of Irish descent than there are people in Ireland.

At the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, support was organized again for Home Rule, but the Protestants concentrated around Belfast were strongly opposed to the idea. In the 1916 Easter Rising, Patrick Pearse read a statement from the steps of the General Post Office in Dublin (G.P.O.) declaring Ireland's independence. A War of Independence followed, bringing Britain and Ireland to the negotiating table in 1920. It was decided that six of the nine counties in Ulster (including the city of Belfast) would remain part of the UK, which became Northern Ireland. Fighting in Northern Ireland between Catholics and Protestants is an important piece of the history of Ireland between 1960 and 1998. In 1988 the Good Friday Agreement was signed.

After the Anglo-Irish Treaty had been signed (1921), the south fell into Civil War over a phrase in the Treaty requiring an oath to the British crown. The Civil War ended in 1923, after Michael Collins, a great military leader in the War of Independence and the leader of the Pro-Treaty side, and many others had been killed.

In the 1930s, the Fianna Fáil administration instituted protectionist policies, forcing Ireland's industry to grow to a point where it could sustain the population. After declaring neutrality (in practice, it was pro-ally) in World War II, Ireland joined the United Nations in 1955. When Ireland joined the European Economic Community (EEC) in 1973, it reaped benefits from the Common Agricultural Policy, which dramatically increased income for farmers. Ireland joined the EEC as one of the poorest members and, as a result, received a large amount of aid to improve its infrastructure. Today, Ireland is the second wealthiest nation (GDP per inhabitant) and has recently been acclaimed by The Economist to be the best place to live in Europe.

### **Culture**

Known for its fun-loving pub culture, Dublin has many places to spend an evening while enjoying the company of friends or while making new friends. Temple Bar, which is known for its high density of pubs

and cultural enclaves, is packed on Friday and Saturday nights. People in the city for more than a few nights will quickly find their way to (less expensive) pubs outside of Temple Bar.

Dublin makes it easy for visitors to get a quick, but thorough look at the history the city has to offer. Pub food and an Irish breakfast are as “Irish” as food gets, but the city has taken a liking to cuisines from other countries. Japanese noodle bars, Chinese restaurants, Italian pizzerias, and many others can be found around the city.

## **Weather**

Ireland is known for its green rolling hills because it receives enough rain to keep the grass alive year-round. The summertime sees more rain than the winter. Because of the moderating effects of the surrounding bodies of water, temperatures rarely reach the extremes seen in some climates in the US. In the summertime, temperatures rarely reach beyond 70°F (approx. 20°C) and in the winter, daily highs and lows are just above and just below freezing. It only snows every two to three years. The following is a table with average temperature and rainfall year-round

| Dublin           | J   | F   | M   | A   | M   | J   | J   | A   | S   | O   | N   | D   |
|------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Average Temp °F  | 28  | 30  | 38  | 46  | 55  | 61  | 64  | 64  | 56  | 48  | 38  | 31  |
| Average Temp. °C | -3  | -2  | 3   | 8   | 13  | 16  | 18  | 18  | 14  | 9   | 3   | -1  |
| Rainfall in.     | 0.7 | 0.7 | 0.7 | 1.1 | 1.9 | 2.1 | 2.7 | 2.2 | 1.2 | 1.3 | 0.8 | 0.8 |
| Rainfall mm.     | 18  | 18  | 18  | 27  | 48  | 54  | 68  | 55  | 31  | 33  | 20  | 21  |

## **Exchange Rates**

As of September 2004, the exchange rate was approximately \$1.20/€1.00. By December 2004, the exchange rate was up to \$1.33/€1.00. Market analysts believe that the dollar will continue to depreciate over the next 3-6 months. For updated information, visit [finance.yahoo.com](http://finance.yahoo.com) and go to the ‘International’ section.

## **Cost of Living**

Dublin is one of the most expensive cities in Europe and, especially now that Ireland is regarded as the second wealthiest country in the European Union, this trend will not subside.

Pint of Guinness- €3.80

Groceries for 1 week for 1 person- approx. €30

Costs of living will vary depending upon in what area of Dublin you decide to live and what your accommodations are like. Here are a few websites that offer general information on standard costs of living. Note: It was recommended to me that the cost for housing (renting a room, with or without a roommate) should fall somewhere in between 350 and 500 Euros. Be wary of any offers greater than 500 Euros.

(<http://www.ucd.ie/global/dublin/costofliving.html>) The University College Dublin website offers information on the costs of accommodations and essential items.

([http://www.hvb.ie/english\\_pages/cost\\_Dublin.htm](http://www.hvb.ie/english_pages/cost_Dublin.htm)) Further information on cost of living.

## **Job/Internship Search**

### **Job Boards**

[www.monster.com](http://www.monster.com)

www.nixers.com

Premier  
Accounting and Finance Recruitment  
Tel: +353 (0)1 4321555  
dublin@premier.ie  
www.premier.ie

Parker Bridge  
Banking and Finance Recruitment  
12 Redmond's Hill, Dublin 2  
Tel: +353 1 479 4000  
info@parkerbridge.ie  
www.parkerbridge.ie

### **Internship Boards**

Internships are becoming increasingly popular in Ireland. Although some of these internships may not be listed on-line, companies that offer internships in the US frequently also offer internships in Ireland. Check companies' websites or visit the Career Services offices at Trinity or UCD (services are for students, only) for information.

### **Temporary Agencies**

Brightwater Recruitment Specialists  
36 Merrion Square, Dublin 2  
+353 (0)1 6621000  
recruit@brightwater.ie  
www.brightwater.ie

la crème  
15 Lower Pembroke Street, Dublin 2  
+353 (0)1 4321555  
dublinwest@lacreme.ie

Kelly Services  
21-22 Grafton Street, Dublin 2  
+353 (0)1 679111  
graftonstbranch@kellyservices.ie

Griffin Personnel  
11 Ely Place, Dublin 2  
+353 (0)1 6762719

HRM Recruitment Group  
47 Fitzwilliam Sq West, Dublin 2  
+353 (0) 6321800

Hudson Global Resources  
10 Lower Mount Street, Dublin 2  
+353 (0)1 6765000  
dublin@hudson.com  
www.hudson.com

### **CV & Resume writing information for Ireland**

These are almost the same as in Unites States. However, Irish resumes are allowed to be two pages long.

## **Overview of industries**

The big industries in Ireland are similar to those in the US on a smaller scale- technology (especially software), banking and finance, pharmaceuticals, accounting and consulting.

## **Employers by Industry**

(<http://www.fas.ie/>) This is a link to the FAS website; FAS is Ireland's national training and employment authority. Although the website states that FAS is available to all members of the EU, the website was recommended to me (for use by American students seeking to intern or work abroad) by a man at one of their training facilities.

By clicking on the JobsIreland link, students can sign up to the database and search for available jobs.

By clicking on the Services to Jobseekers link, students can view a more detailed description of the various services that FAS has to offer.

Links to other websites that may help:

|                               |  |
|-------------------------------|--|
| Educational                   | <a href="http://www.educationalposts.com">www.educationalposts.com</a>       |
| Construction                  | <a href="http://www.construction-jobs.ie">www.construction-jobs.ie</a>       |
| Software/Electronics          | <a href="http://www.softwareireland.com">www.softwareireland.com</a>         |
| Accountancy                   | <a href="http://www.accountantsjobs.com">www.accountantsjobs.com</a>         |
|                               | <a href="http://www.accountancysolutions.ie">www.accountancysolutions.ie</a> |
| Financial Services/ Insurance | <a href="http://www.ifsc.ie">www.ifsc.ie</a>                                 |
| Hotel and Catering            | <a href="http://www.hoteljobs.ie">www.hoteljobs.ie</a>                       |
| Medical                       | <a href="http://www.medical-posts.com">www.medical-posts.com</a>             |
| Nursing                       | <a href="http://www.nursingboard.ie">www.nursingboard.ie</a>                 |
| Healthcare Positions          | <a href="http://www.careersinhealth.ie">www.careersinhealth.ie</a>           |
| Top Jobs in Ireland           | <a href="http://www.topjobs.ie">www.topjobs.ie</a>                           |
| Adworld                       | <a href="http://www.adworld.ie">www.adworld.ie</a>                           |
| Irishjobs                     | <a href="http://www.irishjobs.ie">www.irishjobs.ie</a>                       |
| Recruit Ireland               | <a href="http://www.recruitireland.com">www.recruitireland.com</a>           |
| Irish Golden Pages            | <a href="http://www.goldenpages.ie">www.goldenpages.ie</a>                   |
| Students                      | <a href="http://www.3rd-level.com">www.3rd-level.com</a>                     |

## **American Companies Operating**

(<http://www.idaireland.com/home/index.aspx?id=38>) This website provides a complete list of all American companies currently operating in Ireland. If this link does not work, further information is available from the United States Embassy in Dublin Ireland website (<http://dublin.usembassy.gov/ireland/employment.html>)

## **Student Visas & Work Permits**

### **Organizations that provide work visas**

Information about visas in Ireland can be obtained from the US Embassy. The process involves finding and securing an employer before arriving in the country. The employer will be responsible for supporting the visa application. They will have to answer questions concerning why someone from the US must be hired from abroad instead of locally and whether the company knows of any reason that the applicant should not be allowed to stay in the country for a long period of time. The employee will need two permits, one from the Department of Labor and one from the Department of Justice.

For students studying in Ireland temporarily, a passport that is validated through the duration of your stay and a PPP number, which can be obtained more easily than a visa, will permit you to work in the country until your departure date. Passports are not valid for much longer than three months, although some exceptions will be made for people staying just longer than this amount of time.

### **Consulate information**

United States- Irish Embassy  
345 Park Avenue  
New York, NY 10154  
(800)223-6470  
[www.tourismireland.com](http://www.tourismireland.com)

### **Organizations that Provide Work Visas**

(<http://www.irelandemb.org/visa.html>) the Embassy of Ireland website contains information on who qualifies for a visa or work permit and how to obtain that visa or permit.

(<http://www.usit.ie/>) Irish student website

### **Irish Consulate Info**

Consulate General of Ireland  
535 Boylston Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02116  
Tel: (617) 267 9330

## **Housing**

### **Links and Publications**

[www.daft.ie](http://www.daft.ie) allows you to customize your housing search according to various preferences including length of stay, location and type of accommodation (single room, double room, etc.).

The Evening Herald, a popular publication that hits newspaper stands in the early afternoon, offers a lengthy list of possible accommodations

### **Universities**

University College Dublin, Dublin 4, Ireland  
Tel: +353-1-7167777  
[www.ucd.ie](http://www.ucd.ie) main website  
<http://www.ucd.ie/accommodation.htm> offers more detailed information on housing availability and how to acquire information about off-campus housing from the school

Trinity College, Dublin 2, Ireland  
Tel: +353 1 608 1000  
<http://www.tcd.ie/> main website  
<http://www.tcd.ie/Secretary/Communications/Noticeboard/> click the “accommodations” icon to view postings

Dublin City University, Dublin 9, Ireland  
Tel: +353 (0) 1 700 5000  
<http://www.dcu.ie/> main website

<http://www.dcu.ie/accommodation/index.shtml> provides details about on and off-campus housing

## **Insider Tips**

### **Lifestyle**

Dublin is a great city to spend a few months or a few years. In the short term, it is easy to feel at home because of the striking similarities to Boston and the laid back and friendly demeanor of the people. In the long term, if the Irish accent is acquired, becoming an insider is easy. However, be forewarned that most salespeople will be harsh toward people with American accents, as many are people who have climbed off of a tour bus to spend 1.5 days in the city. Once you return to a pub several times, people will be much more welcoming.

Ireland tends to be much slower-paced and laid-back than the east coast of the United States. Dublin is slightly faster-paced than the rest of the country, but still does not compare to New York or Boston. Work usually does not start until 9am and to make sure that people get there on time, pubs are required to close around 11:30 on weeknights. Some pubs have obtained extended licenses in the past several years, but partying does not last as late as it does in New York. On the weekends, pubs close at 2:30 or 4:30.

### **Conveniences (or lack thereof) and Shopping**

Ireland is not full of the convenience of big-box stores. There is no Bed, Bath & Beyond, Target, Wal-Mart, or Lowe. Just recently Ikea, a big-box cheap furniture store, obtained an exception to open a location in the Dublin suburbs. It has been said that no other exceptions will be made because big-box stores pose such a threat to Irish competition. When setting up a flat, check out the department stores (Penny's, Dunnes, or Argos) to find decorating necessities. Dublin is an expensive city. It is best for the mind and heart to forget about converting prices back into US dollars. Shop around a bit, visit several different grocery stores (Tesco and Shop-Rite are recommended over Dunnes) and make an effort to buy the inexpensive brands. Don't expect to find products priced as low as those in the US.

### **Transportation**

Dublin is also a great jumping point for visiting the rest of Europe. Many inexpensive European airlines use Dublin airport as a major hub. Check the airlines' websites to find cheap fares to destinations across Europe. Some of the airlines flying from Dublin include Aer Lingus, RyanAir, German Wings, Easy Jet and Smart Wings. There are plenty of travel agents in town that can provide additional assistance.

The major highways only extend for a short distance outside of Dublin. The infrastructure does not require as many roads and the attitude does not require those roads to be direct routes. In a country of 4 million people, they do not need the infrastructure found on the east or west coasts of the US.

Buy weekly or monthly bus passes

Recommended areas to live within Dublin are Dublin 2, 4 and 6

Elephant and Castle (located in Temple Bar) has excellent American food, mostly burgers and Buffalo wings

Oliver St. John Gogarty's, a pub located in Temple Bar, is one of many pubs to feature nightly live Irish music

Café En Seine, located on Dawson St., off of St. Stephen's Green and parallel to Grafton St. has great coffee and a unique ambience

Dunnes Stores, a department store located on Henry Street and within the St. Stephen's Green shopping center, has extremely low priced clothing and accessories

The universal expression "Cheers" means anything from hello to goodbye to thank you.

## **Attractions/Transportation**

### **Brief Overview**

The main attractions in Dublin are the historic areas, parks (St. Stephen's Green), shopping areas (Grafton Street, O'Connell Street, Henry Street), and pubs. The Guinness Factory will not disappoint, especially for fans of Guinness. The Book of Kells at Trinity College is another big attraction. Kilmainhain Gaol is a sobering, but historically educational visit. The National Museum, National Gallery and Natural History Museum are free to the public. Also worth noting are St. Patrick's Cathedral, Christ Church Cathedral, Dublin Castle, General Post Office, Powerscourt, Hapenny Bridge, Phoenix Park, and the Abbey Theatre. Pick up a guide book (DK Eyewitness Ireland and Lonely Planet are good sources) and get some walking shoes and spend time getting to know the city. Dublin is smaller than Boston and with a free tourist map, it is easy to navigate.

### **Tourist Information**

The Tourist Information center on the corner of Suffolk Street and St. Andrew Street in Dublin 2 is a worthwhile stop. Tickets for transportation and events can be purchased, hotels and hostels can be booked, questions can be answered and souvenirs can be purchased in one stop.

Recommended tours: Viking Tour, Ghost Tour, Literary Pub Crawl

### **Links to Entertainment**

([www.doras.ie](http://www.doras.ie)) Doras is "the world's largest and most comprehensive directory of Irish and Irish related websites." It is a useful tool when looking for upcoming events or finding further information on famous attractions.

(<http://www.ireland.ie/>) Official tourist board website.

### **Links to Transport**

(<http://www.buseireann.ie/site/home/>) Contains bus information for Dublin and all of Ireland. Buses are the main mode of transportation within Dublin.

(<http://www.irishrail.ie/dart/home/>) Information on the Dart, a railway system.

## **Publications**

### **Newspapers and Websites**

The Irish Times ([www.irish-times.com](http://www.irish-times.com)): Jobs supplement on Friday  
Independent newspapers ([www.independent.ie](http://www.independent.ie)): Jobs supplement Thursday and Sunday.  
Sunday Business Post ([www.sbpost.ie](http://www.sbpost.ie))  
Irish Examiner ([www.examiner.ie](http://www.examiner.ie))  
State radio and TV ([www.rte.ie](http://www.rte.ie))

## **Safety**

### **Emergency Contact Numbers**

Note: Dublin phone numbers begin with 01; when dialing from abroad, replace the 0 with the country code (353).

The universal emergency numbers, 999 or 112, will put you in touch with several emergency services including the Fire Department, Garda (police), Ambulance, Irish Marine Emergency Service and Mountain and Cave Rescue.

### **American Embassy Info**

U.S. Embassy, Dublin Ireland  
42 Elgin Road  
Ballsbridge  
Dublin 4  
Telephone: +353 1 668-8777  
Fax: +353 1 668-9946  
([http://dublin.usembassy.gov/ireland/acs\\_unit.html](http://dublin.usembassy.gov/ireland/acs_unit.html))