



13: COUNCIL OF NATIONAL
CULTURAL INSTITUTIONS

A self-guided tour of venues

iwalk!



Cultúr!
at the heart of it 

Truly Madly Deeply
Dublin
visitdublin.com



iWalk
CULTÚR

WELCOME TO THE CULTÚR IWALK

INVALUABLE INFORMATION ON
WHERE TO FIND, SEE AND SOAK UP
OUR CULTURAL HERITAGE. YOU
CAN DEVISE YOUR OWN CULTURAL
EXPERIENCE OF IRELAND USING THE
MAP AT THE END OF THE GUIDE.

DUBLIN'S REAL APPEAL IS HER
PEOPLE, SO DON'T BE AFRAID TO
STOP AND ASK FOR DIRECTIONS
ALONG YOUR WALK - DUBLINERS'
HOSPITALITY AND WIT WILL
CAPTIVATE YOU!

WWW.VISITDUBLIN.COM/IWALKS

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Dublin Tourism
DUBLIN REGIONAL TOURISM AUTHORITY



Abbey Theatre

01

Abbey Theatre: The Abbey Theatre, Ireland's national theatre, was founded by W.B. Yeats and Lady Gregory in 1904. It has contributed some of the world's greatest theatrical works from writers such as J M Synge and Sean O'Casey through to contemporary classics from Sebastian Barry, Brian Friel, Tom Murphy, Frank McGuinness, Tom Mac Intyre and Mark O'Rowe. The Abbey Theatre along with its more intimate studio theatre, the Peacock, continues to nurture new writing as well as presenting Irish and international classic drama. An icon of world theatre, the Abbey welcomes many overseas visitors every year. Book your tickets in advance from our Box Office or www.abbeytheatre.ie



The Chester Beatty Library

02

The Chester Beatty Library: Described by the Lonely Planet as not just the best museum in Ireland, but one of the best in Europe, the Chester Beatty Library is an art museum and library which houses the great collection of manuscripts, miniature paintings, prints, drawings, rare books and some decorative arts assembled by Sir Alfred Chester Beatty (1875-1968). The Library's exhibitions open a window on the artistic treasures of the great cultures and religions of the world. Its rich collection from countries across Asia, the Middle East, North Africa and Europe offers visitors a visual feast. The Chester Beatty Library was named Irish Museum of the year in 2000 and was awarded the title European Museum of the Year in 2002. Egyptian papyrus texts, beautifully illuminated copies of the Qur'an, the Bible, European medieval and renaissance manuscripts are among the highlights of the collection. Turkish and Persian miniatures and striking Buddhist paintings are also on display, as are Chinese dragon robes and Japanese woodblock prints. In its diversity, the collection captures much of the richness of human creative expression from about 2700 BC to the present day.



Irish Museum of Modern Art

03

Irish Museum of Modern Art: The Irish Museum of Modern Art is Ireland's leading national institution for the presentation and collection of modern and contemporary art. IMMA presents a wide variety of art in a dynamic programme of exhibitions, which regularly includes bodies of work from its own collection and its award-winning Education and Community programme. It also creates more widespread access to art and artists through its Artists' Studios and National Programme. The Museum is housed in the magnificent 17th-century Royal Hospital building, whose grounds include a formal garden, meadow and medieval burial grounds.



The National Archive

04

The National Archives: The National Archives is the largest and most important institution in the Republic of Ireland with responsibility for the preservation and public availability of archives. It has custody of archives relating to the administration of the state from the late 18th-century to the late 20th-century, and many other archives dating from the 14th-century to the late 20th-century.



The National Concert Hall

05

The National Concert Hall: The National Concert Hall, An Ceoláras Náisiúnta, is Ireland's premier venue for the performance of live music. Over 400 concerts a year take place, from classical to jazz, opera to traditional, as well as staged/semi-staged musicals, dance and world music. Tickets can be booked in advance from the box office or <http://www.nch.ie>. Ensure you visit to see the best of Irish and international musicians and orchestras perform in one of Europe's leading concert halls.



The National Gallery of Ireland

06

The National Gallery of Ireland: The National Gallery of Ireland was founded by an Act of Parliament in 1854 and opened to the public in 1864. It houses some 13,000 works of art, comprising the most important and representative collection of Irish and European master paintings. Among the Irish artists represented are James Barry, Nathaniel Hone, William Orpen, Roderic O'Connor, and Louis le Brocquy, while the European collection is represented by Fra Angelico, Titian, Caravaggio, Rembrandt, Poussin, Vermeer, Goya, Murillo, and Gainsborough. Complementary to the permanent display is a National Portrait Collection and a special room dedicated to the artistic works of Jack B. Yeats. The last decade at the Gallery has witnessed major expansion and refurbishment, most recently with the opening of the Millennium Wing. The Gallery runs a regular programme of exhibitions, education and family activities.



The National Library of Ireland



The National Photographic Archive



National Museum of Ireland - Decorative Arts and History

07

The National Library of Ireland: Exploring Ireland's literary heritage, visiting award winning exhibitions or starting to research one's family history - these are just some of the many reasons to visit the National Library of Ireland. Established in 1877, the National Library's holdings of books, manuscripts, prints and drawings, maps, photographs, newspapers, music, ephemera and genealogical material comprise the most outstanding collection of Irish documentary heritage in the world. The Library's Genealogy Advisory Service is a walk-in service designed to assist visitors who wish to research their family history in Ireland. The multi-award winning exhibition '*Yeats: the life and works of William Butler Yeats*' celebrates one of the greatest poets of the twentieth century using interactive technology and material drawn from the Library's outstanding collections. The library's other exhibition in Kildare Street is '*Discover your National Library of Ireland: Explore, Reflect, Connect*'. This new exhibition invites visitors to explore the richness of the National Library's collections using interactive technology and has four changing displays. It provides a unique opportunity for many people to explore first-hand a selection from the Library's collections of about eight million items, search for newly digitised material and using touch screens zoom in on objects of particular interest. For more information see: www.nli.ie

08

The National Photographic Archive: The National Photographic Archive houses the photographic collection of the National Library of Ireland, comprising approximately 610,000 photographs. While most of the collections are historical there are also some contemporary collections. Subject matter ranges from topographical views to studio portraits and from political events to early tourist photographs. The Library maintains an active collecting policy and additional material is constantly added to the collections. An on-going programme of exhibitions runs throughout the year. For more information see: www.nli.ie

09

National Museum of Ireland - Decorative Arts and History: Collins Barracks could be said to be the National Museum of Ireland's largest artefact, having had a unique history all of its own in another life. It now completes the picture for the National Museum in Dublin and joins the two already famous buildings in the possession of the Museum. Collins Barracks has been completely renovated and restored to become the National Museum of Ireland - Decorative Arts & History - charting Ireland's economic, social, political and military progress through the ages. Artefacts on display range from silver, ceramic and glassware pieces to weaponry, furniture, examples of folk life and costume. The Military History exhibition called '*Soldiers and Chiefs: The Irish at War at Home and Abroad, 1550-2001*.' uses original artefacts, letters, replicas and audio accounts, showing how soldiering and war have affected the lives of Irish people. All of these pieces are displayed with imagination in innovative and contemporary galleries, which entice you to go further, look harder and examine more closely.



National Museum of Ireland - Archaeology

10

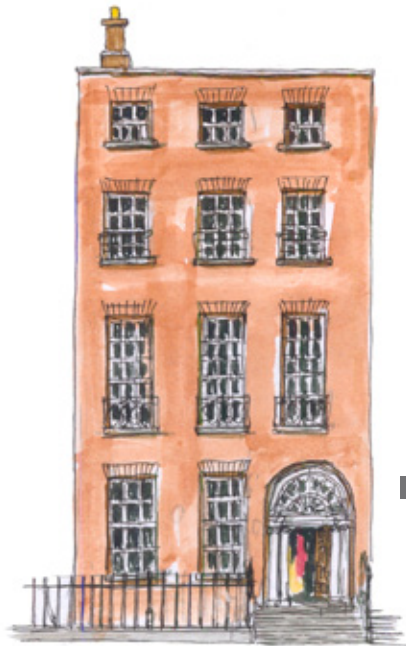
National Museum of Ireland - Archaeology: Opened in 1890, this Museum displays artefacts dating from 7000BC. Collections include the finest prehistoric gold artefacts in Western Europe, outstanding examples of metalwork from the Celtic Iron Age and the world-renowned collection of medieval objects and jewellery. The Brighter Hoard, The Ardagh Chalice, the Tara Brooch and Derrynaflan Hoard are among the masterpieces on display. The fascinating Kingship & Sacrifice exhibition centres on a number of recently found bog bodies dating back to the Iron Age. Displayed along with other bog finds from the Museum's collections, it offers you an opportunity to come 'face to face' with your ancient ancestors. The Museum also houses a rich collection of Egyptian and Viking material.



National Museum of Ireland - Natural History

11

National Museum of Ireland - Natural History: Opened in 1857, this is the oldest purpose-built museum building in Ireland. One of very few Victorian cabinet style museums left in the world, it is home to a rich variety of animals, many of which are endangered or extinct. Accumulated over two centuries and drawn from a collection of over two million specimens, the zoological exhibitions boast outstanding examples of wildlife from Ireland and the far corners of the globe. You cannot miss the imposing skeletons of Giant Irish Deer or the tiny insects hidden under their protective covers. The upper floors house everything from an armadillo to a zebra - indeed the best place to see Spoticus the Giraffe or the 20m long whale skeleton suspended from the roof.

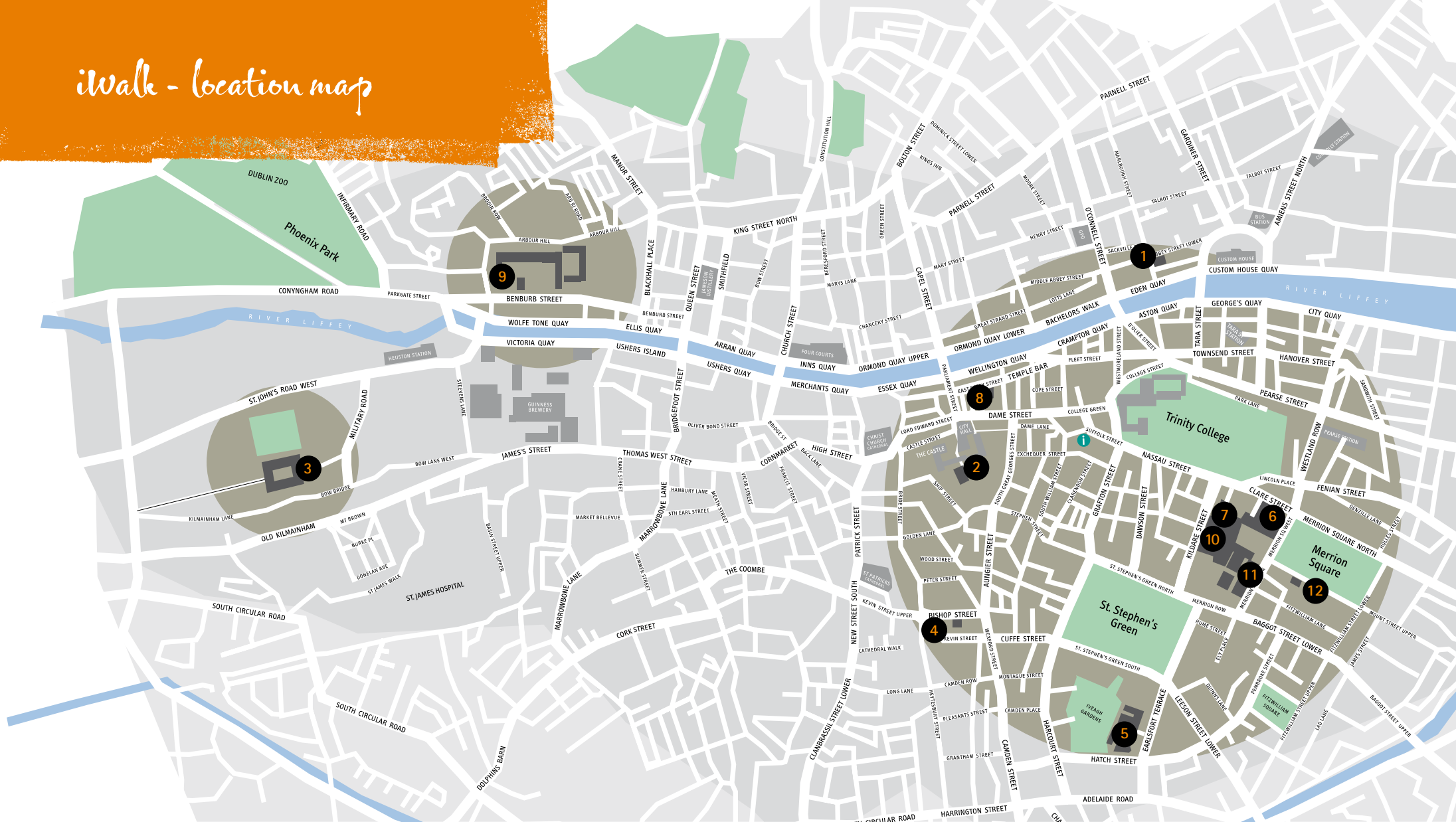


The Arts Council

12

The Arts Council: Based at 70 Merrion Square in Dublin 2, the Arts Council is the Irish government agency for developing the arts. It provides financial assistance to artists, arts organisations, local authorities and others for artistic purposes. It offers advice and information on the arts to government and to a wide range of individuals and organisations. As an advocate for the arts and artists, it undertakes projects and research, often in new and emerging areas of arts practice, and increasingly in co-operation with partner organisations. For more information about events funded by the Arts Council go to www.events.artscouncil.ie

iWalk - location map



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CNCI is a statutory body established under the Heritage Fund Act, 2001. The purpose of the Council is to facilitate the pooling of talent, experience and vision of the Directors of the National Cultural Institutions in furtherance of the national cultural interest and to make recommendations to the Minister for Arts, Sport and Tourism on proposed acquisitions using the Heritage Fund.

For the latest updates on walking tours of Dublin, check out our website: www.visitdublin.com/iwalks.

To learn more about The Council of National Cultural Institutions see: www.cnci.ie

Dublin Tourism offices are located at:
Suffolk Street, Dublin 2
14 Upper O'Connell Street, Dublin 1
Arrivals Hall, Dublin Airport, County Dublin
Dun Laoghaire Harbour, County Dublin.

Thank you for visiting our city.



Dublin Tourism
DUBLIN REGIONAL TOURISM AUTHORITY

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