

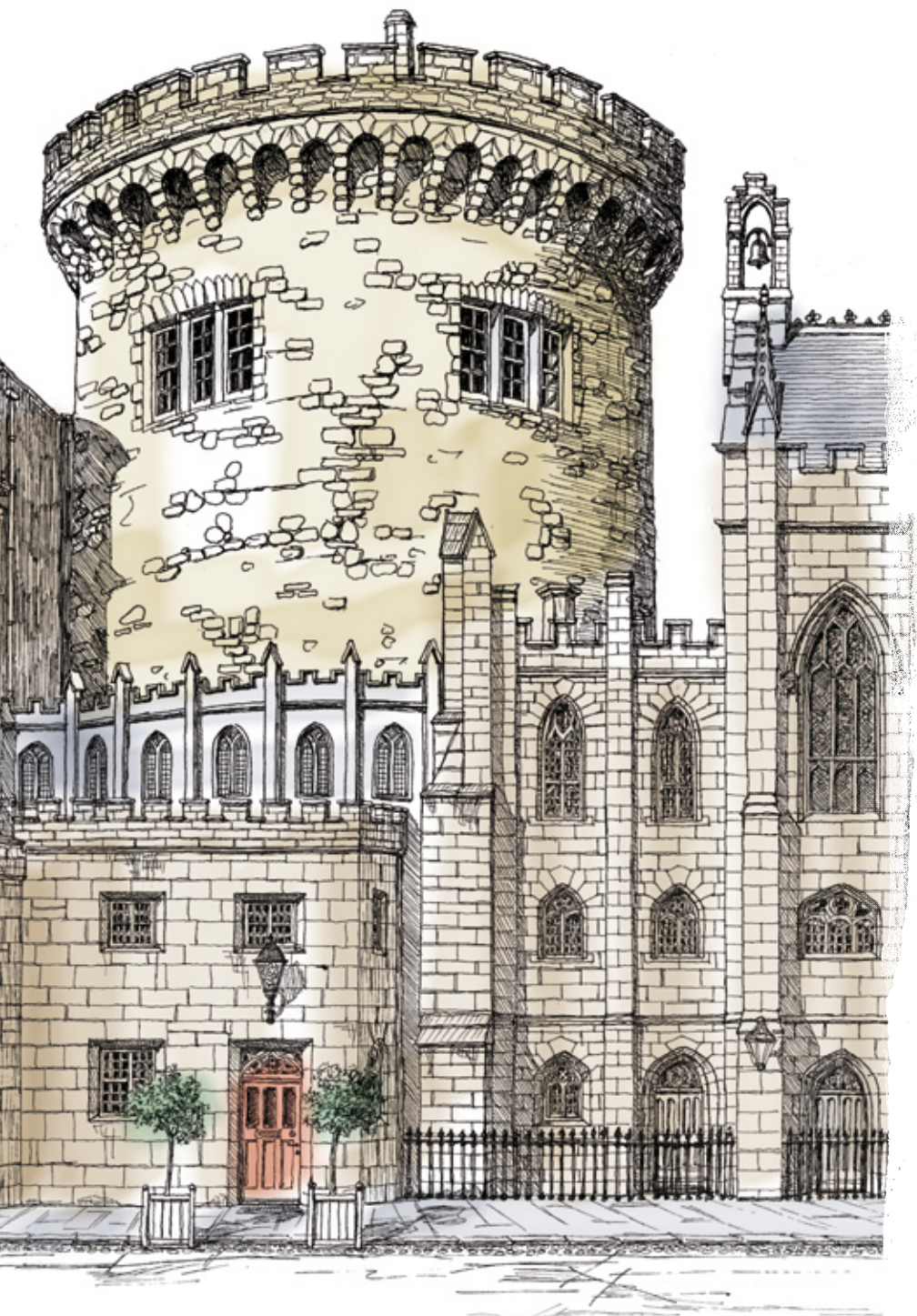


04: CASTLE & CATHEDRAL

A self-guided walking tour

iwalk!





iWalk CASTLE & CATHEDRAL

WELCOME TO DUBLIN.

WE HOPE THAT AS YOU TAKE TIME TO WALK AROUND AND EXPLORE OUR CAPITAL CITY YOU WILL SOON DISCOVER THE IRISH CAPITAL IS AT THE VERY HEART OF IRISH CULTURE AND OFFERS ENDLESS CHOICES TO OUR VISITORS.

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

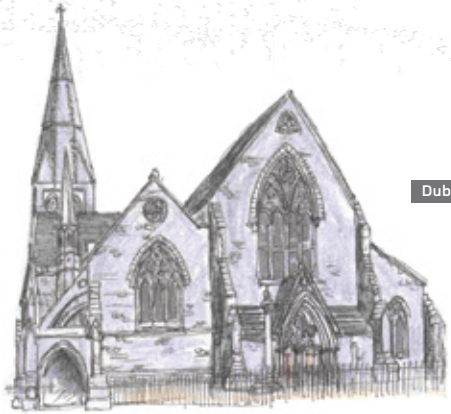
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Dublin Tourism
DUBLIN REGIONAL TOURISM AUTHORITY

iWalk - Castle & Cathedral



Dublin Tourism Centre



City Hall



Dublin Castle

01

Dublin Tourism Centre. The tour commences from outside the Dublin Tourism Centre on Suffolk Street. If you are wondering why the offices of Dublin Tourism are situated in a former church it is because the decline of the local population in the second half of the 20th century forced the closure of St Andrew's Church. In 1996 it was beautifully refurbished and re-opened as a tourism centre by its new owners, Dublin Tourism. The church has a direct connection to the Vikings as it stands on the site of the former Thingmote, a large mound of earth raised by the Norsemen in the 10th century as their assembly place for settling disputes and passing laws.

02

Palace Street. Commence walking along Suffolk Street towards the direction of the Post Office on Andrew Street and cross over at the next junction and walk down the short, narrow street called Trinity Street. This will lead down to Dame Street where you will turn left. To ensure that you are walking in the right direction Trinity College will be behind you. After crossing South Great Georges Street keep going along Dame Street, which is, incidentally named after a medieval dam which was located near to here, and then turn by the Allied Irish Bank building into Palace Street and stop before the quaintly named Sick & Indigent Roomkeepers Society building.

03

City Hall. Return towards Dame Street and continue over the plaza of the modern office block until you come to the next building which is the imposing pile of City Hall. Enter by the side door into the building and note the coffee shop inside. This is the way into one of the city's most interesting historical exhibitions called 'The Story of the Capital'. 1,000 years of administrative history is on display here including the 13th century city seal, the war sword of King Henry II, the 3rd century old mayoral chain of office which carries the effigy of William of Orange. There are many other items of great interest on view and films from the turn of the last century attempt to explain the struggles for Irish freedom. Climb the winding staircase (or use the glass lift) to gain the upper floor and here enjoy one of the most splendid neo-classical interiors that you will find in any city.

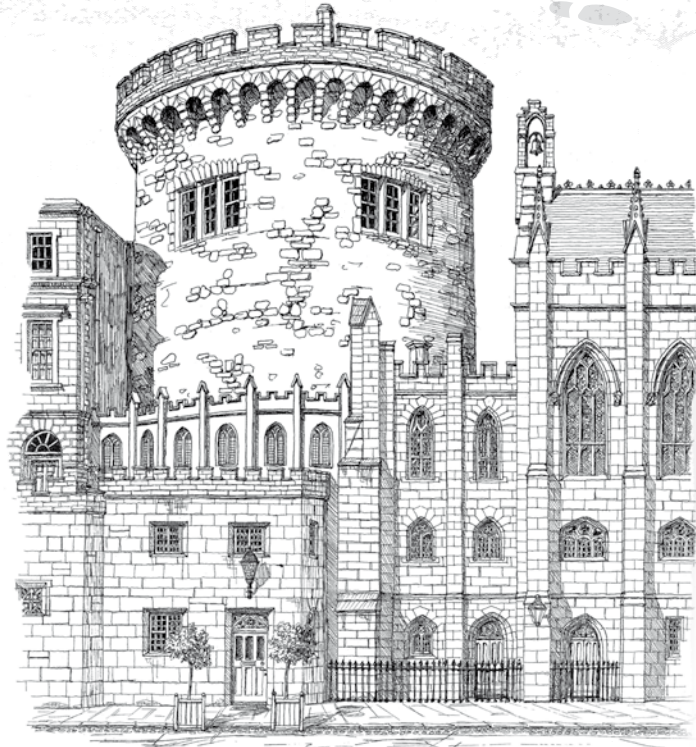
04

The Entrance to Dublin Castle. When you are ready to depart from City Hall exit via the side doors leading to Cork Hill, you cannot mistake the correct door if you exit between O'Connell's and Lucas' statues. This will bring you into the street beside the entrance into Dublin Castle. Turn left and enter through the castle gates. If for any reason the gates are closed retrace your steps to the Sick & Indigent house and enter by the Lower Yard gates.

05

Upper Yard, Dublin Castle. Now pass through the gates and stand somewhere around the middle of the courtyard, more or less in front of the gates through which you just entered.

iWalk - Castle & Cathedral



Dublin Castle Record Tower



Ship Street

06

Lower Yard, Dublin Castle. Now turn around and head for the open archway which will bring you into the Lower Yard. When you come out from under the arch pause for a few minutes to look at one of the survivors of the medieval castle, the Record Tower.

07

Dublin Castle Gardens. Proceed to the end of the courtyard, turn right around the chapel and right again to walk alongside the west wall of the church. After about another 50 metres turn left through an open gateway into an open garden area. This section of the castle is known as the Dubh Linn Garden

08

The Bermingham Tower. Walk around by the clock-tower building, turn left around its front and head towards the arched gateway. Just before you leave the castle precincts stop at the last tower which has a stone lower end and a plastered blue-painted top. This is the remains of the south-western bastion called the Bermingham Tower.

09

Ship Street. Now you are ready to leave the castle so proceed through what is known as Ship Street Gate which today is the main 'business' and vehicle entrance into the castle and dates from c.1808. It was designed by Francis Johnston, the same architect who was responsible for the Chapel Royal. Immediately outside the gate stop at the archway which opens onto what is known as the Castle Steps.

10

Golden Lane. Walk along Little Ship Street by more sections of Dublin's medieval walls and a protruding tower called Stanyhurst Tower. James Stanyhurst was one of the boy hostages taken by Silken Thomas's men during his rebellion. Later he became Mayor of Dublin and Speaker of the Irish House of Commons. He also worked for a time in the Castle as 'Recorder of the City'. Some of the walls are in bad condition but will be restored in Dublin City Council's new Conservation Plan for the walls and towers of medieval Dublin. The street follows the line of the underground River Poddle. When you reach the top of the road, taking care of any traffic, turn left into Bride Street. As you walk along the pavement and about 50 metres along the way you will reach an apartment block with something unusual about it. About halfway up and stretching the length of the façade are fixed large round sculptured disks. These are terracotta roundels or medallions, eight in all, depicting scenes taken from an 1899 edition of Jonathan Swift's famous story "Gulliver's Travels". Jonathan Swift was Dean of St Patrick's Cathedral where we are now heading. When you reach the next junction and when the traffic lights are in your favour, cross straight ahead over a street known as Golden Lane. The monument straight ahead commemorates Irish composer John Field.

iWalk - Castle & Cathedral



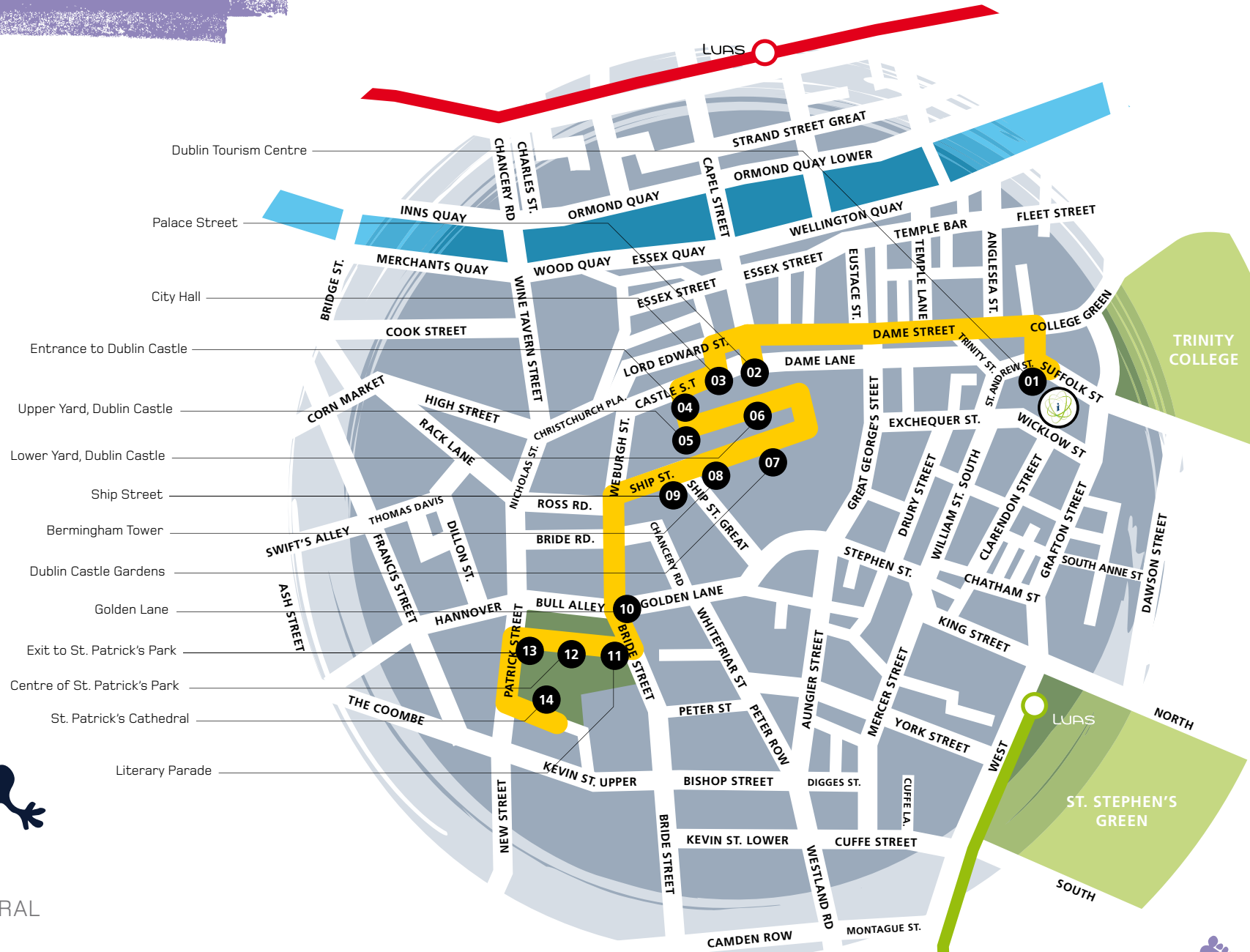
St Patrick's Cathedral



Kevin Street

- 11 Literary Parade, St Patrick's Park. Next cross again over towards the opposite railed-in park, St Patrick's Park, and enter by the corner gate and proceed down the steps until you reach a decorative brick-faced wall on your left. Walk along this wall and admire the various plaques inset into each arched niche. This stretch of wall is known as the Literary Parade of Irish Writers.
- 12 Centre of St Patrick's Park. When you have finished looking at the Literary Parade move across to the centre of the Park to take in the panorama which is, of course, dominated by the full side view of St Patrick's Cathedral, the largest church in Ireland. First look to your right, that is with the cathedral to your left.
- 13 Inside the Exit Gate from St Patrick's Park. When you have taken in the sights and enjoyed the amenities of the park proceed to the exit gate beside the cathedral. Pause for a few moments just inside the gate and look down to your right. This is possibly the site of the well where St Patrick drew water to baptise his converts.
- 14 St Patrick's Cathedral. We have now almost reached the end of our journey. Walk out of the park, pass by the West Front of the cathedral and turn left into St Patrick's Close from where you can enter into the cathedral to see, not alone its wonderful interior, but also the many interesting displays laid out around the aisles. There is no need to tell you on this podcast anything about the interior itself as there are wonderful explanatory brochures available inside and every display is explained to the highest museum standard. But before you lose yourself in the tranquil and prayerful cathedral have a look at some of the historic places in St Patrick's Close.
- Kevin Street. You have now reached the end of this guided tour. After your visit to St Patrick's Cathedral you can return to the start by the way you came, visiting the Chester Beatty Library Galleries, the State Apartments of Dublin Castle and City Hall. Alternatively, you could also continue along St Patrick's Close, turn left into Kevin Street and continue on straight until you reach St Stephen's Green.

iWalk - route map



- Dublin Tourism Centre
- Palace Street
- City Hall
- Entrance to Dublin Castle
- Upper Yard, Dublin Castle
- Lower Yard, Dublin Castle
- Ship Street
- Birmingham Tower
- Dublin Castle Gardens
- Golden Lane
- Exit to St. Patrick's Park
- Centre of St. Patrick's Park
- St. Patrick's Cathedral
- Literary Parade



iWalk
CASTLE & CATHEDRAL

We hope that you enjoyed this walk which was narrated by its author, Pat Liddy, who may be visited on his website www.walkingtours.ie and brought to you by Dublin Tourism on www.visitdublin.com

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

Our 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
Baggot Street, Bridge Dublin 2.

Thank you for visiting our city.