



## 05: TEMPLE BAR & DOCKLANDS

A self-guided walking tour

# iwalk!





## 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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## TEMPLE BAR AND DOCKLANDS

Dublin Tourism Centre	p5
The Central Bank Plaza	p5
Cecilia Street	p5
Curved Street at Eustace Street Corner	p5
Meeting House Square	p7
Millennium Bridge	p7
The Ha'penny Bridge	p7
O'Connell Bridge	p7
O'Connell Monument	p7
Custom House	p9
The Famine Figures	p9
Sean O'Casey Bridge	p9
Viking Ship & Jeannie Johnston	p9
Route map	p10



**Dublin Tourism**  
DUBLIN REGIONAL TOURISM AUTHORITY

# iWalk - Temple Bar & Docklands



Dublin Tourism Centre



The Central Bank Plaza



Cecilia Street



The Ark

01

Dublin Tourism Centre. The tour commences from outside the Dublin Tourism Office on Suffolk Street. The decline of the local population in the second half of the 20th century forced the closure of St Andrew's Church and 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

The Central Bank Plaza: 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. At the pedestrian lights when you come onto Dame Street from Trinity Street cross over to the other side of the road, turn left and walk a short distance until you reach an open space that has the sculpture of a golden ball rising from its stand placed in front of a modern building; the Central Bank of Ireland. Just before reaching this plaza look up at the façade of the last building on the block and see if you can spot a plaque with the carving of a 3-masted ship on it.

03

Cecilia Street: Next walk up the passage between the Central Bank and Commercial Buildings until you come out onto Cope Street, then cross Fownes Street and enter Cecilia Street. Stop opposite Cecilia House. So how did Temple Bar get its name? It started off as just the name of a single street situated not far from here. That street is named after Sir William Temple who lived in a mansion nearby in the early 17th century. His garden ran down to the river banks from where there was a walk-way known as a bar which built up from river sediment. The bar walk-way was called after Temple hence Temple's Bar or Temple Bar. The name appears on a map at least as far back as 1673.

04

Curved Street at Eustace Street: From Cecilia Street take a left into, and an immediate right out of, Temple Lane and walk up Curved Street to the corner with Eustace Street and stop there. You might be interested in knowing that a competition was held in the 1990s to find a name for this new and curved street and guess what the name chosen was? - Curved Street! Eustace Street is named after Sir Maurice Eustace, Speaker of the House of Commons in 1639 and Lord Chancellor from 1644. To the right of the passageway directly opposite to Curved Street are the former Meeting House and School in Eustace Street, which was first opened in 1728 and is the earliest surviving Presbyterian Church building in Dublin. In the mid 1990s it was restored and adapted for use as a children's cultural and theatrical centre known as The Ark.

# iWalk - Temple Bar & Docklands



Ha'penny Bridge



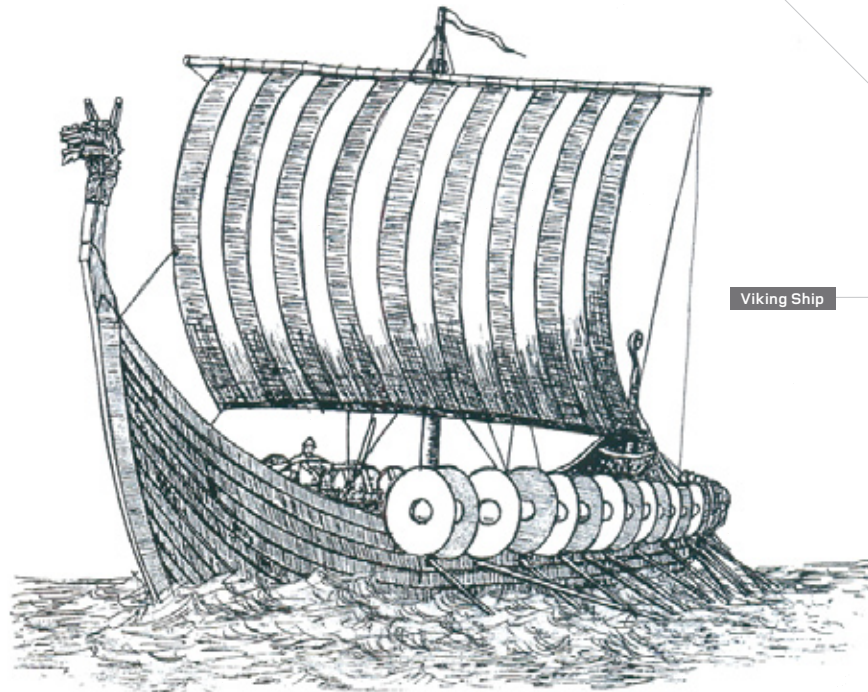
O'Connell Monument

- 05 Meeting House Square: Cross Eustace Street and enter the covered passageway directly opposite. This will bring you into a new square called Meeting House Square, named after the neighbouring Quakers, Meeting House. If you arrive on a Saturday the square will be filled with an organic food market. It is a very popular market featuring fresh food directly from farms, cheese makers, bakers, shellfish sellers from the west of Ireland and a whole plethora of small suppliers who gather from the early hours until around 6.00pm.
- 06 Millennium Bridge: Leave Meeting House Square through the exit on your right passing the National Photographic Archive and turn right onto East Essex Street then almost immediately turn left again to reach the river and cross over onto the pedestrian bridge, the Millennium Bridge, and stop halfway across. Don't worry if the bridge vibrates a bit as people walk over it, that's the way it's meant to be! This is a good spot to take in the whole Temple Bar area. It stretches beyond the next upriver bridge and all the way down past the next bridge until the bridge after that.
- 07 The Ha'penny Bridge: Finish crossing the bridge, turn right and enter the Boardwalk, a pedestrian platform suspended over the River Liffey which is a very popular spot for Dubliners to have a relaxing stroll in the busy city. Walk along the Boardwalk towards the Ha'penny Bridge. This lovely old metal bridge, one of the oldest cast-iron bridges in the world, gets its name from the days when it cost a half penny toll to cross. This toll was collected for 100 years from when the bridge was opened in 1816.
- 08 O'Connell Bridge: Continue along the Boardwalk for a while to have a look at the beautiful stone bridge ahead of you, O'Connell Bridge. O'Connell Bridge is very unusual in that it is wider than it is long. At 70m or 230 feet in width it is over 2.5 times wider than San Francisco's Golden Gate Bridge. The original bridge was too narrow for the increased traffic and had to be rebuilt and widened into its present form in 1882. Dublin's principal Street, O'Connell Street, leads onto the bridge from the northside and radiating out to the southside are D'Olier Street and Westmoreland Street which lead to Trinity College and the famed shopping thoroughfare, Grafton Street.
- 09 O'Connell Monument: Cross to O'Connell Street and then continue across to the central mall and stand in front of the tall monument called the O'Connell Monument. John Henry Foley designed this memorial to Daniel O'Connell which was officially unveiled on 15th August 1882. O'Connell, known as the Liberator, had achieved religious freedom in Ireland through his 1829 Act of Emancipation. Study all the statues closely on all sides and you will discover that each of the winged Victories and many of the higher statues display occasional small round holes. These are bullet holes from the Rising of 1916 when O'Connell Street was occupied by rebels who were fired on from both ends by British troops.

# iWalk - Temple Bar & Docklands



Sean O'Casey Bridge



Viking Ship

10

**Custom House:** You will now have a leisurely, uninterrupted walk along the northside of the River Liffey. Cross over to the far side of O'Connell Street and again over to the quayside, re-entering the Boardwalk. When you reach the next junction cross over Butt Bridge and stop in front of a long and impressive classical building, Dublin's Custom House. The Custom House is one of Dublin's greatest architectural treasures. It was designed by the famous architect James Gandon, who also designed the impressive Four Courts building further upstream. Gandon was a London-born Huguenot who had studied under the renowned Sir William Chambers.

11

**The Famine Figures:** Proceed further downriver. Make your way to an intriguing-looking statue group with their backs to you. This is the Famine Memorial. No event in history has had a more profound effect on Ireland and the worldwide Irish community than that of the Great Irish Famine which lasted from 1845 until 1849. During that time more than one million men, women and children died and a further one and a half million were forced to emigrate. The sculptor was Rowan Gillespie who completed this work in 1997.

12

**Sean O'Casey Bridge:** Walk down a short distance more and stop at the Sean O'Casey Bridge, the newest bridge on the Liffey opened in 2005. It is named after a famous Irish playwright, Sean O'Casey who lived in the locality from 1897 to 1920.

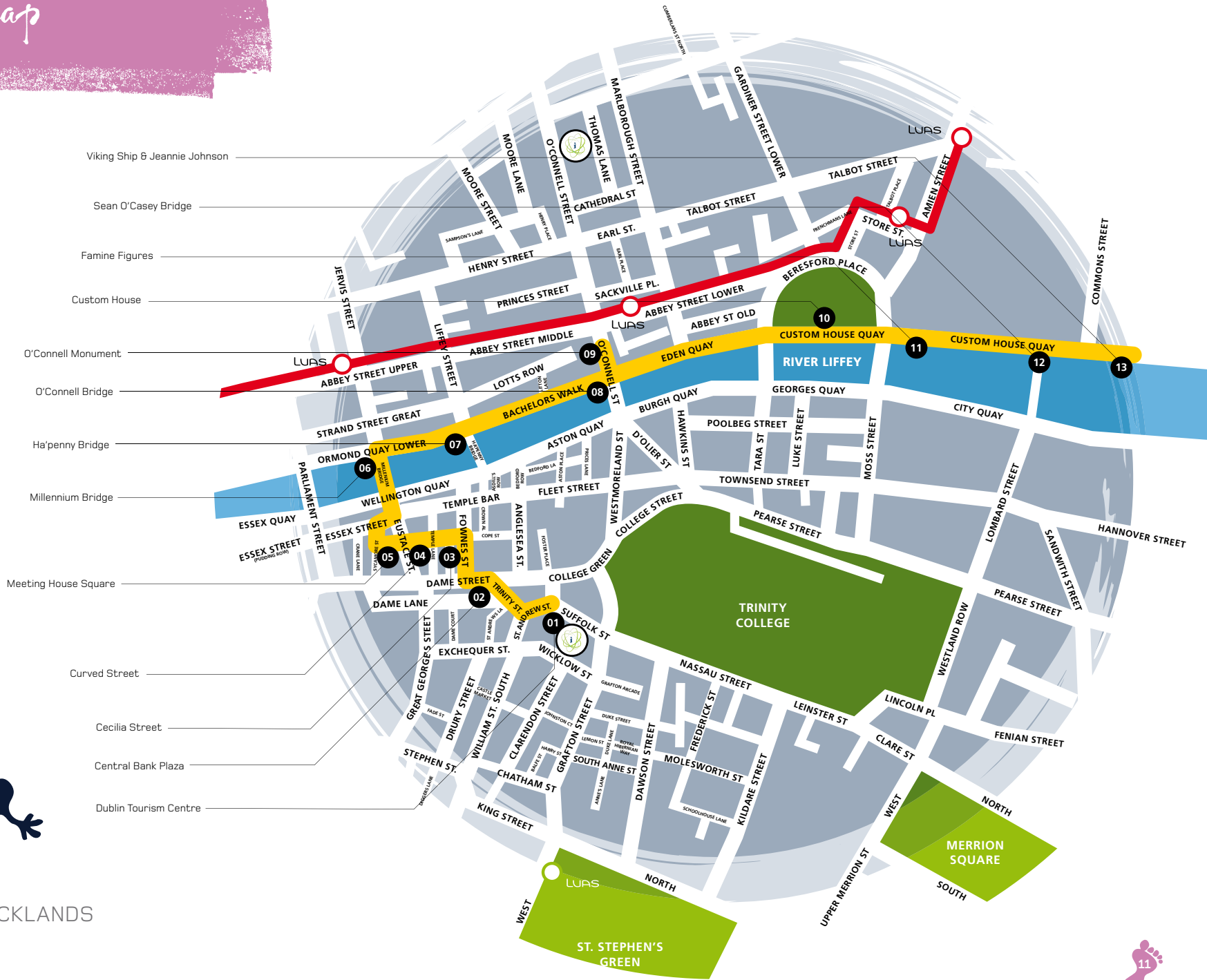
13

**Viking Ship & Jeannie Johnston:** Walk a little further downriver to stand opposite the City Moorings. A replica Viking Ship was constructed by local enthusiasts in 1988, Dublin's Millennium year, to celebrate the 1,000 year anniversary of the Irish conquering the Vikings of Dublin. The Jeannie Johnston is a working ship and therefore there is a possibility it is at sea when you hope you see it. There is however an explanatory board on the quayside with pictures depicting the history of the original ship and the building of the replica.

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You have now reached the end of this walk. You now have a choice for your journey back to the city centre either through the IFSC (Irish Financial Services Centre) or to cross the Sean O'Casey Bridge and walk back upriver on the south side.

# iWalk - route map



- Viking Ship & Jeannie Johnson
- Sean O'Casey Bridge
- Famine Figures
- Custom House
- O'Connell Monument
- O'Connell Bridge
- Ha'penny Bridge
- Millennium Bridge
- Meeting House Square
- Curved Street
- Cecilia Street
- Central Bank Plaza
- Dublin Tourism Centre

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 TEMPLE BAR & DOCKLANDS

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](http://www.walkingtours.ie) and brought to you by Dublin Tourism on [www.visitdublin.com](http://www.visitdublin.com)

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Thank you for visiting our city.



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