



David McGuffin's
EXPLORING EUROPE

DUBLIN

DESTINATION GUIDE



INDEX

[Dublin's Roots](#) - pg 2

[Trinity College](#) - pg 2

[Dublin Writer's Museum](#) - pg 3

[Temple Bar District](#) - pg 3

[Map](#) - pg 4

[Georgian area](#) - pg 5

Dublin's roots are in an ancient settlement on the River Liffey. Dubh Linn, meaning black pool in the ancient Irish language, has morphed into the word "Dublin" we know today. The city's history and modern charm blend into one fun and cohesive experience. As a tourist, you'll find Dublin the best introduction to the island, its people, and its culture.



In the heart of the city, Trinity College is home to an ancient manuscript penned by monks on the island of Iona. The Book of Kells, a richly decorated manuscript of the four Gospels, dates back to the 9th century. The college's Old Library is a must-see for history and literature enthusiasts. From there, stroll to Dublin Castle, a historic fortress that has stood since the 13th century and now hosts guided tours and cultural events.

Dublin's literary heritage is not just significant; it's legendary. Iconic figures such as James Joyce, W.B. Yeats, and Samuel Beckett, all hailing from the city, have left an indelible mark on the world of literature. Visit the Dublin Writers Museum and the James Joyce Centre to delve deeper into the lives and works of these literary giants. The city also hosts the annual Bloomsday Festival, a celebration of Joyce's masterpiece, "Ulysses."

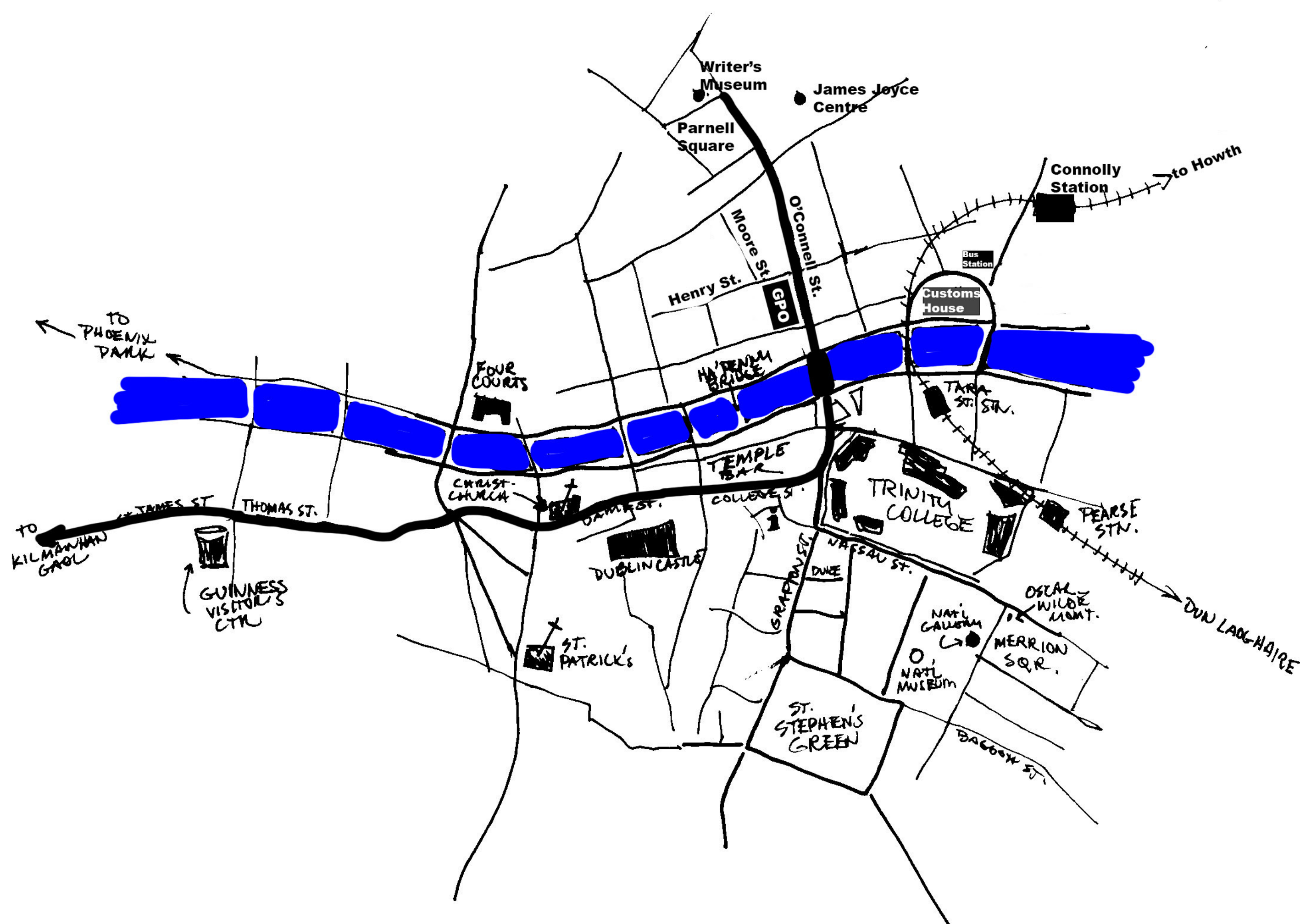


Wedged between Trinity College, Dublin Castle, and the River Liffey is the Temple Bar district. Once derelict and rundown, it is now famous for its lively pubs, traditional music, and nightlife. Just down the road, at St. James Gate, you'll find the Guinness Storehouse, an immersive experience to learn about the famous stout, and even get a sample with panoramic views of Dublin from the Gravity Bar.



[Jump to index](#)

With its warm hospitality, Dublin promises not just a visit, but an experience that will make you feel at home. The city's rich culture, varied history, and diverse attractions ensure that every visitor has an unforgettable stay. Enjoy your time in this dynamic city where every corner has a story, and where you'll be welcomed with open arms.



It is easy to get around in central Dublin. The historic center is compact and best explored on foot or with short bus or tram hops. Using my map, let's examine how the city is organized from a tourist's point of view.

Dublin is divided horizontally by the River Liffey, running east to west. The Liffey divides the city into two very different regions, each with strong allegiance among its citizens. The north side is traditionally considered less developed and poorer than the area on the south side of the river.

[Jump to index](#)

Grafton Street and Westmoreland Street (both south of the Liffey) connect to O'Connell Street (north of the Liffey) by the O'Connell Street Bridge. Dublin is more of an experiential city than one packed with tourist attractions, so wandering just about anywhere will give you a look into life as a Dubliner.

The 16th-century Georgian area centers around Fitzwilliam Square, Merrion Square, and the Ballsbridge neighborhood. This is a great area to wander and see the multi-colored doorways, bricked porticos, and lush public gardens. The National Gallery and the National Museum are nearby, as is Trinity College.

Grafton Street, a pedestrian-friendly shopping street, connects St. Stephen's Green with Trinity College. Just before the O'Connell Bridge, a left turn will take you to the Temple Bar area. This is the place for socializing, pubs, and nightlife.

Along Dame Street, you'll find several historic buildings, such as the Bank of Ireland, City Hall, Dublin Castle, and Christ Church Cathedral. South of Christ Church lies Dublin's own St Patrick's Cathedral.

Farther to the west, the city becomes a drab urban area known as the Liberties. But, forging through this part of town will bring you to the Guinness Brewery and the Gravity Bar. Slightly further out, the Irish Museum

of Modern Art and Kilmainham Gaol are well worth a visit.

North of the Liffey, on O’Connell Street, is the General Post Office building, still bearing the scars of battle during the Easter Rising of 1916. The north side of the Liffey is noted for its strong literary and artistic connections. Parnell Square is at the north end of O’Connell Street, where you’ll find the Dublin Writers Museum and Hugh Lane Municipal Art Gallery. A little way to the east is the James Joyce Cultural Centre, dedicated to the memory of one of Dublin’s most renowned literary figures.