

IRELAND

Everyone who has had the opportunity to visit Ireland knows: the Irish grow naturally the pleasure of hospitality. When we think of Ireland you can see the green heath, Guinness, their famous beer, the Cliffs of Moher, the Ring of Kerry and its breathtaking landscapes! It will cover the corners of the island to visit the hidden villages and wild peninsulas and find the turning of a Gaeltacht (area where people speak Gaelic), the true warmth of the Emerald Isle. It shares the island of Ireland with Northern Ireland (six counties) remained a constituent part of the United Kingdom. The Republic of Ireland Celtic claimed their identity so that, culturally, it is usually considered the island of Ireland as one of six "Celtic nations".



Capital: Dublin

Population: 47.2 millions

Languages: The official language is Irish, but English is widely used

Entry requirements: A Canadian passport valid for at least the expected duration of your stay in Ireland is required. Please refer to: www.travel.gc.ca

Time change: GMT + 1

Currency: the local currency is Euro. In Northern Ireland it's the Pound Sterling.

Electricity: The electricity is 240 volts; therefore, an adapter and/or converter will be required

Best buys: Belleek porcelain, bottle of Jameson or Bushmills Whiskey, the oldest distillery in the world; flaxseed Irish Linen Centre, lace, and of course, the famous Irish salmon, fresh or smoked. For something a little special, try The Cowshed Studios in Kesh, County Fermanagh, where you can find unusual items, batik fabrics or Celtic garden sculptures.



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CITIES IN IRELAND



Dublin

The capital has changed enormously in recent years - as has the country - but the city still manages to combine the old with the new. Even though the city center has a metropolitan feel to it, visitors here will still get a sense of Dublin's history. A tourist in Dublin will never be stuck for things to do. St. Patrick's Cathedral, Christ Church Cathedral, Kilmainham Gaol and Dublin Castle are all must-sees. Culture vultures, as well as history buffs, will also delight in Ireland's capital as there are plenty of galleries and museums to choose from, including the National Gallery of Ireland.

Ring of Kerry

The Ring of Kerry is the Kerry tourist trail and part of the mystical & unspoilt region of Ireland that has attracted visitors for hundreds of years. Its spectacular beauty is beyond question and it is a natural centre for outdoor pursuits that include golf, water-sports, cycling, walking, running, riding and the very best fishing in freshwater rivers. The Ring of Kerry has some of the Europe's finest beaches that provide all the facilities for a traditional seaside holiday. Above all, the Ring of Kerry provides an amazing insight into the ancient heritage of Ireland



Belfast (Northern Ireland)

One of the most visited cities in the UK, and second most visited on the island of Ireland, according to Irish Tourism. Belfast is the capital of, and the largest city in Northern Ireland. Only in Belfast City can you trace the Titanic story to its source, discover the passion and pride of those who designed and built her and relive the excitement of the Titanic era when the city was at the height of its powers.

Giants Causeway (Northern Ireland)

The Giant's Causeway is an area of approximately 40,000 interlocking basalt columns, the result of an ancient volcanic eruption; however the legend is more convincing for those who prefer a more colorful story. The Giant's Causeway plays a major part of Ireland's heritage, The Giant's Causeway has often been described as the Eighth Wonder of the World and was declared as Ireland's first World Heritage site by UNESCO in 1986.



For further information, visit the official tourist board website of Ireland : www.ireland.com

