

Sightseeing in Dublin

By Marco Peris Sa

Founded as a Viking settlement, Dublin evolved into the Kingdom of Dublin and became the island's main city following the Norman invasion. The city expanded rapidly from the 17th century. It was briefly the second largest city in the British Empire and the fifth largest in Europe. Following the partition of Ireland in 1922, the new parliament, the Oireachtas, was located in Leinster House. Dublin became the capital of the Irish Free State and later the Republic of Ireland.

The political situation in Dublin is complicated, because of the troubles with the northern part, which is under the control of the United Kingdom, and for the tensions between Protestants and Roman Catholics.

But in Dublin there are many things to see: the house and the statue of Oscar Wilde, a very famous writer, known all over the world, and the statue of Molly Malone, who is the protagonist of a very popular song in Ireland (considered almost a national anthem).

There is also the Vikings museum, which contains many ancient tools and faithful reconstructions of scenes from everyday life.

The most popular meeting points are two: Temple Bar, located at the centre of the town and a monument in the form of a rod, often used as a meeting place because nearby there is a neighbourhood full of shops.

In the suburbs of Dublin, there is a really good botanical garden, and a faithful rebuilding of an ancient Medieval village, with people dressed up as the people of the Middle Ages.



*« In Dublin's fair city,
where the girls are so pretty,
I first set my eyes on sweet Molly Malone,
As she wheeled her wheel-barrow,
Through streets broad and narrow,
Crying, "Cockles and mussels, alive, alive, oh!"*

*" Alive-a-live-oh,
Alive-a-live-oh",
Crying "Cockles and mussels, alive, alive, oh".*

*She was a fishmonger,
And sure 'twas no wonder,
For so were her father and mother before,
And they both wheeled their barrow,
Through streets broad and narrow,
Crying, "Cockles and mussels, alive, alive oh!"*

*" Alive-a-live-oh,
Alive-a-live-oh",
Crying "Cockles and mussels, alive, alive, oh".*

*She died of a fever,
And no one could save her,
And that was the end of sweet Molly Malone.
Now her ghost wheels her barrow,
Through streets broad and narrow,
Crying, "Cockles and mussels, alive, alive oh!"*

*" Alive-a-live-oh,
Alive-a-live-oh",
Crying "Cockles and mussels, alive, alive, oh".»*