

# Dublin Insights

## Highlights Covered in the Brand g Tour:

In Dublin, experience this 2,000-year-old capital city by exploring some of its beautiful architecture, ancient city walls, and backstreets alive with history, heritage and culture with a local expert. During your Brand g walking tour of Dublin, we will take in the Georgian Squares, Temple Bar, Government Building and a whiskey tasting in the Old Jameson Distillery.

## Dublin Highlights to Explore on Your Own:

[Book of Kells / Dublin Castle](#) – Discover one of the most important highlights of Irish heritage as you learn about the Book of Kells’ rich ornamentation, multi-layered symbolism and meaning. It is known for its world-renowned artistry, as well as its many hidden secrets and mysteries dating back to the 800 AD. Afterward, don’t miss exploring Dublin Castle and its medieval streets located within the original city walls of Dublin.

[Dublin Writers Museum](#) -The Irish literary tradition is one of the most illustrious in the world, famous for four Nobel Prize winners and for many other writers of international renown. Find letters, books, and artifacts covering 300 years of Dublin’s acclaimed literary heritage here, yes: there is more to Dublin than just Oscar Wilde...

[National Gallery of Ireland](#) – Grand collection of European art spanning the 14th to the 20th-century covering all major schools. The National Gallery of Ireland in Dublin boasts some 2,500 paintings and approximately 10,000 other works in different media including watercolors, drawings, prints, and sculpture.

[National Museum of Ireland](#) – The National Museum of Ireland is Ireland’s leading museum institution, with a strong emphasis on national and some international archaeology, Irish history, Irish art, culture, and natural history. Take time at The Treasury which features outstanding examples of Celtic and Medieval art, such as the famous Ardagh Chalice, the Tara Brooch, and the Derrynaflan Hoard.

[National Botanic Gardens](#) – A large area with naturalistic sections, formal gardens, an arboretum and a Victorian palm house. The gardens are famous for their exquisitely restored and planted glasshouses, notably the Turner Curvilinear Range and the Great Palm House, both recipients of the Europa Nostra award for excellence in conservation architecture.

[Irish Museum of Modern Art](#) – Ireland’s leading national institution for the collection and presentation of modern and contemporary art and is the home of the National Collection. The Museum is housed in the 17th century Royal Hospital building in Kilmainham, Dublin, whose beautiful grounds include a formal garden, meadow and medieval burial grounds.

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## Dublin LGBT Bars

In the past Ireland was always considered to be a rather conservative area where the LGBT population was unable to thrive. However, within the recent decades there has been a swing in a more progressive direction. Overall, Dublin has shifted to become one of the world's leading gay cities; here LGBT travelers flock from all parts of the world to visit.

The great part about Dublin is that they have more of a "mix and mingle" attitude. This means that both gays and straights willingly visit straight venues and vice versa. You'll often find both groups visiting a variety of different venues which leads to a strong sense of community. The Temple Bar area is home to most of the popular gay bars. Below are a few to consider for a night out.

**[The George Bar](#)** – (89 South Great Georges St, Dublin) The George is one of the standard go-to gay bars in Dublin for fabulous events, guest performances, friendly crowds and sexy go-go boys. Weekly drag shows, bingo, glitter bomb parties and pumping dance floors most nights.

**PantiBar** – (7-8 Capel Street, Dublin) A stylish bar run by Ireland's most famous drag queen, Panti! Much like Panti, this bar offers an air of sophistication and mystery, but then later in the night it gets, the wilder things become.

**[Street 66 Dublin](#)** – (33-34 Parliament St, Dublin) Dublin's gay-popular bar (formerly "The Front Lounge") still draws in a fun, mixed crowd (many are gay). Street 66 serves a great choice of beers, cocktails and other spirits.

**[Oscars Cafe](#)** – (Smithfield Square and near Christ Church Cathedral) With two locations, one in Smithfield Square the other in Christchurch, this supportive venue has hosted gay weddings and been outspoken in the recent referendum on marriage equality. Named after Irish gay literary icon Oscar Wilde, it's no wonder many from the LGBT community come here for cocktails, innovative pub fare or just a casual pint.

## Gay Saunas in Dublin

In Dublin, the bathhouse/sauna scene has been particularly hard hit and currently, leaving only one true gay sauna in Dublin to visit.

**[The Boilerhouse](#)** –The Boilerhouse sauna is very welcoming to foreigners and will happily explain to you how things work if needed, and there are various discounts displayed on their website. Facilities include the sauna, jacuzzi, coffee bar, play area, steam room, and showers – but there are also private cabins for rent.