

Guided visit to Book of Kells and the Old Library in TCD, and the Bus Tour

On Wednesday afternoon we will show you some of the cultural highlights of Dublin city. **We will meet outside the Old Library, which houses the Book of Kells, at 14.00.** We will split into two groups for guided tours of the Book of Kells and the Old Library in TCD. One group will begin at **14:00** and the other at **14:15**. At **15:15** we will be met by a City Sightseeing open top bus at the Nassau St bus stop for a tour of the city centre and nearby sites.

You will be given a ticket on the bus which will allow you to get off 'our' bus at any of the 23 stops to visit a particular attraction and then get back on any of the other Red Route City Sightseeing buses. Otherwise, you can simply sit back, try to understand the accent of the guide who gives a commentary on what you are passing, and enjoy the ride. The round trip to TCD and back takes about 2–2½ hours.

We will reconvene for a casual drink or coffee from **17:30** in **Lincoln's Inn** at the corner of Lincoln Place and Nassau St., adjacent to the TCD campus.

The City Sightseeing Bus Tour

(https://city-sightseeing.com/en/50/dublin/60/hop-on-hop-off-dublin?utm_source=google&utm_medium=cpc&gclid=CJCOronr89MCFUWT7QodUSolpg)



At **15:15** in **Nassau St**, just outside TCD we all get on the bus together at stop **(3)** on the tour map. We then pass by **Merrion Square (5)** where **Erwin Schrödinger** spent 20 years in the **Dublin Institute for Advanced Studies (DIAS)**, No. 5 Merrion Sq. from 1941. Nowadays that corner of Merrion Square is better known for its association with Oscar Wilde, whose statue reclines on a large rock at the corner of Merrion Square Park (www.dias.ie).

We return to the Front Gate of TCD and proceed up College Green towards **Dublin Castle (9)** and **Christchurch Cathedral (10)**. The **Chester Beatty Library** is located just behind the Castle and it contains the collection of the American mining engineer and collector, who gave it to Ireland posthumously in 1969.

Christchurch Cathedral The Cathedral is open to visitors from 9:30 – 19:00.

Chester Beatty Library According to www.cbl.ie As the only museum in Ireland to win 'European Museum of the Year' and rated consistently in the top 5 of TripAdvisor's list of 'Top things to do in Dublin', the library's rich collections from countries across Asia, the Middle East, North Africa and Europe open a window on the artistic treasures of the great cultures and religions of the world. Manuscripts, miniature paintings, prints, drawings, rare books and decorative arts complete this amazing collection - all the result of the collecting activities of one man - [Sir Alfred Chester Beatty](#) (1875-1968). Egyptian papyrus texts, beautifully illuminated copies of the Qur'an, the Bible, European medieval and renaissance manuscripts are among the highlights on display. In its diversity, the collection captures much of the richness of human creative expression from about 2700 BC to the present day. The Library is open Monday to Friday, 10:00 – 17:00 and entry is free.

Dublin Castle According to www.dublincastle.ie *Dublin Castle is one of the most important buildings in Irish history. From 1204 until 1922 it was the seat of English, and later British rule in Ireland. During that time, it served principally as a residence for the British monarch's Irish representative, the Viceroy of Ireland, and as a ceremonial and administrative centre. The Castle was originally developed as a medieval fortress under the orders of King John of England. It had four corner towers linked by high curtain walls and was built around a large central enclosure. Constructed on elevated ground once occupied by an earlier Viking settlement, the old Castle stood approximately on the site of the present Upper Castle Yard. It remained largely intact until April 1684, when a major fire caused severe damage to much of the building. Despite the extent of the fire, parts of the medieval and Viking structures survived and can still be explored by visitors today.* Entry to the Castle costs €7 for a self-guided tour and €10 for a guided tour. It is open 9:45 – 17:45 (last admission 17:15).

Stop **(12)** is **St. Patrick's Cathedral**, home of Dean Swift, author of Gulliver's Travels. Discover the meaning of the phrase, 'to chance your arm'.

St. Patrick's Cathedral The cathedral is open to visitors from 9:30 – 17:00 Monday to Friday. Entry costs €6.50. www.stpatrickscathedral.ie

The **Guinness Storehouse (14)**, Dublin's most popular tourist destination, is next on our route and is adjacent to the Guinness Brewery.

Guinness Storehouse Learn about how the black stuff is brewed and enjoy a pint and a great view over Dublin in the Gravity Bar. Open 7 days, 9:30 – 19:00, last admission 17:00. A ticket costs €18. www.guinness-storehouse.com

The **Irish Museum of Modern Art (15)** is located in the Royal Hospital Kilmainham, described as the finest 17th Century building in Ireland. It was founded in 1684 as a home for retired soldiers. It is open from 11:30 to 17:30 Tuesday to Friday. The current exhibition is 'As Above, So Below: Portals, Visions, Spirits & Mystic'. *Featuring an exciting selection of modern masterworks, contemporary art and new commissions, IMMA presents a major international exhibition that looks at the role of spirituality in visual art.* www.imma.ie Entry to the museum is free and entry to the current exhibition is €5.

Kilmainham Gaol (16) was the county gaol for Dublin but it has an infamous association in modern Irish history. According to kilmainhamgaolmuseum.ie, *the building symbolises the tradition of militant and constitutional nationalism from the rebellion of 1798 to the Irish Civil War of 1922-23. Leaders of the rebellions of 1798, 1803, 1848, 1867 and 1916 were detained and in some cases executed here. Many members of the Irish Republican movement during the Anglo-Irish War (1919-21) were also detained in Kilmainham Gaol, guarded by British troops. Names such as Henry Joy McCracken, Robert Emmet, Anne Devlin, Charles Stewart Parnell and the leaders of 1916 will always be associated with the building.* The gaol is open from 9:30 to 17:30 all week. Tickets cost €9 (€8 on-line). Admission is by guided tour only and advanced booking is essential.

Our journey now wends its way into the **Phoenix Park (19)** which is home to the President of Ireland, whose residence is Áras an Uachtaráin, and the American Ambassador. The Park is the location of Dublin Zoo, and a large herd of deer roam the Park. In the Park you will also see a tall obelisk. According to www.phoenixpark.ie, *the Wellington Testimonial was designed by Robert Smirke as a testimonial to Arthur Wellesley, Duke of Wellington, who is reputed to have been born in Dublin. It was completed in 1861 and is the tallest obelisk in Europe at just over 62 meters tall. There are four bronze plaques cast from cannons captured at Waterloo - three of which have pictorial representations of his career while the fourth has an inscription at the base of the obelisk.*

Next we pass **Collins Barracks (20)**, named for Michael Collins famous for his role in the fight for Irish independence and brought to the big screen in the eponymous movie. Today the Barracks is home to the Decorative Arts and History section of the Irish National Museum. According to www.museum.ie *Collins Barracks was an army base for nearly 300 years before being renovated for use as a museum. The network of tall, granite-faced buildings occupy an 18 acre site and retain an imposing, military air. The site boasts a rich and varied history. Completed in 1704, it played an important role suppressing uprisings over the centuries. Wolfe Tone, legendary leader of the failed 1798 Rebellion against British rule, was court martialled and imprisoned here. During the [1916 Easter Rising](#), troops based here tackled rebel positions on Usher's Island, at the Four Courts, and in the GPO. Perhaps the clearest historical link is in the site's name. Collins Barracks is named after Michael Collins, the first Commander-in-Chief of the Irish Free*

State Army. He had previously displayed heroic leadership during the [1920-21 War of Independence](#), only to be assassinated in 1922, during [the Irish Civil War](#), aged just 31. Today, Collins occupies legendary status in modern Ireland. All four Irish National Museum sites are open Tuesday to Saturday, 10:00 - 17:00. Admission is free.

Bow St. in Smithfield (**21**) is home to another famous Irish brand name – **Jameson's Whiskey** www.jamesonwhiskey.com/ie The Bow St Experience is a 40 minute guided tour featuring whiskey tasting, whiskey making and ends with a drink in JJ's bar and it costs €18. Advance booking is advisable.

The **Hugh Lane Gallery (23)** is next on our tour in Parnell Square. The Gallery is open Tuesday to Thursday 9:45 – 18:00 and Friday 9:45 – 17:00. Admission is free to permanent collections and the current exhibition also. According to www.hughlane.ie *The Hugh Lane is delighted to present Colours of the Wind: Ariadne's Thread, an exhibition of recent works by Anne Madden. Madden's abstracted landscapes see imaginative and emotional responses to place and memory. Her colour-saturated paintings are imbued with symbolic potency, dwelling on the complexities of the natural order and the tragedy of existence.*

Part of the famous Hugh Lane Collection is a group of eight paintings by renowned French Impressionist painters. This group is shared in a unique agreement with the National Gallery London. Four paintings recently returned to Dublin are: Les Parapluies by Auguste Renoir, Portrait of Eva Gonzales by Edouard Manet, Jour d'Ete by Berthe Morisot, View of Louveciennes by Camille Pissarro. The Gallery also holds a reconstruction of Francis Bacon's studio, with 7,000 artefacts removed and transplanted from the artist's studio in London to Dublin.

Finally, we return to TCD and will reconvene from 17:30 in **Lincoln's Inn** at the corner of Lincoln Place and Nassau St. **Right by stop (4) on the map and adjacent to the TCD campus.**

Other sites to visit near TCD

The **National Gallery** www.nationalgallery.ie is just outside the vehicle entrance to TCD at Lincoln Place. Entry is free and you will find the main cafeteria a good place to eat lunch just off campus.

The **National Museum** www.museum.ie is in three sites in Dublin: **Decorative Arts and History**, Collins Barracks Wolfe Tone Quay, stop (20) on bus tour; near TCD there is **Archaeology**, Kildare St. (Bronze Age gold, bog bodies, ceramics, glass, Viking artefacts, etc.) and **Natural History**, Merrion St. (Irish Fauna and Mammals of the World). Entry to all sites is free. Open Tuesday to Saturday 10:00 – 17:00.

Some places to eat near TCD

Sandwiches, wraps, tea and coffee will be available in the Fitzgerald Library at lunch time. For larger meals or more variety, some nearby places are listed below.

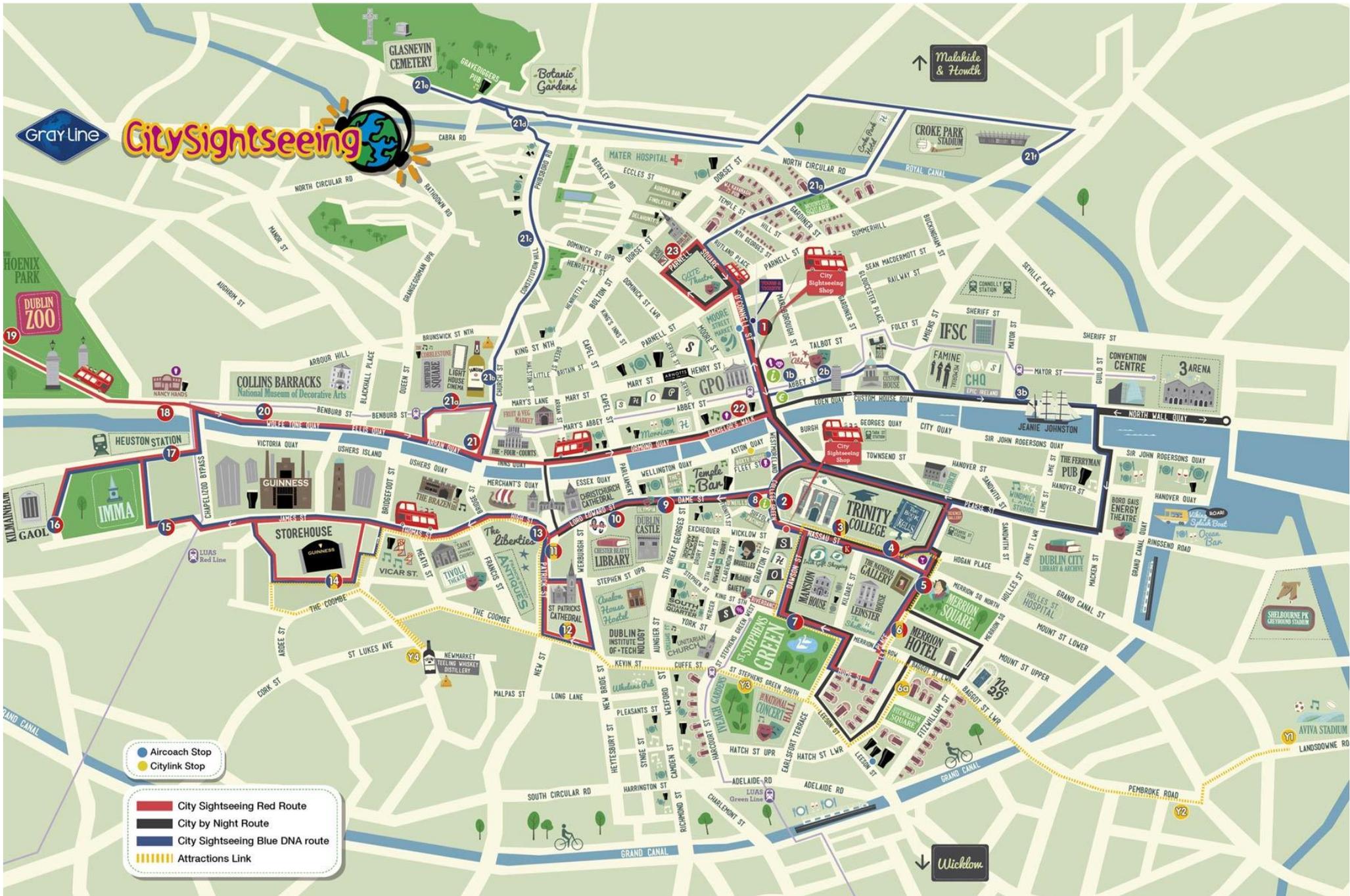
The **TCD College Buttery** is a student refectory off Front Square. 5 minutes from the School of Physics, entry is to the right of the steps to the Dining Hall in Front Square. Hot and cold food is available at lunch time – can't beat the student prices.

Café Trivia is located at the south end of Westland Row where it meets Lincoln Place. Soup, sandwiches and good coffee. 50 m from TCD's Lincoln Place vehicle exit.

The **Science Gallery** at TCD's pedestrian exit onto Pearse St. has soup, sandwiches, pizza, etc.

Café Napoli, 41 Westland Row, www.napoli.ie Italian café/restaurant with a genuine Italian accent.

Dunne and Crescenzi's, 28 Molesworth St., off Nassau St. 5 mins from Lincoln Place vehicle exit. www.dunneandcrescenzi.com Italian restaurant and wine bar, great for an evening out.



CitySightseeing

GrayLine

● Aircoach Stop
● Citylink Stop

- City Sightseeing Red Route
- City by Night Route
- City Sightseeing Blue DNA route
- - - Attractions Link

Malahide & Howth

Wicklow

DUBLIN ZOO

COLLINS BARRACKS
National Museum of Decorative Arts

GUINNESS

STOREHOUSE

CHRISTCHURCH CATHEDRAL

TRINITY COLLEGE

THE NATIONAL GALLERY

3 ARENA

SHELBOURNE PK
GOLFERS CLUB

AVIVA STADIUM

HOENIX PARK

GAOL

HEUSTON STATION

GUINNESS

THE LIBERTIES

CHRISTCHURCH CATHEDRAL

TEMPLE BAR

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