

REPUBLIC OF IRELAND



FACTS & FIGURES

Capital	Dublin
Largest City	Dublin
Official Languages	Irish English
Official Script	Latin
Currency	Euro (EUR)

Geography (estimates)

Population	5,458,600
Pop. Density	104/km ²
Area	76.6 km ²
Time Zone	Summer – IST Winter - GMT

Government

President	Catherine Connolly
Legislature	Oireachtas
Independence or Founding Date	1916

HISTORY OF THE REPUBLIC OF IRELAND

- Ireland was ruled by England, and later Britain, for centuries.
- Irish independence movements grew during the 1800s. The 1916 Easter Rising became a major symbol of Irish independence.
- The Irish War of Independence (1919–1921) led to the creation of the Irish Free State in 1922. Ireland was partitioned, with Northern Ireland remaining part of the United Kingdom.
- Ireland became fully independent as the Republic of Ireland in 1949. Today, the Republic of Ireland is a member of the European Union and has played a key role in the Northern Ireland peace process.





- Traditional Irish cuisine is known for hearty, comforting dishes made with local ingredients such as potatoes, beef, lamb, seafood, and dairy products.
- Popular Irish foods include Irish stew, soda bread, colcannon, and a full Irish breakfast.
- Ireland is also known for its pubs, dairy products, and beverages such as Guinness and Irish whiskey.



- 1 January – New Year's Day
- 17 March – Saint Patrick's Day
- March/April – Easter (Good Friday & Easter Monday) First Monday in May – May Bank Holiday
- First Monday in June – June Bank Holiday
- First Monday in August – August Bank Holiday
- Last Monday in October – October Bank Holiday
- 31 October – Halloween
- 24 December – Christmas Eve
- 25 December – Christmas Day
- 26 December – St. Stephen's Day
- 31 December – New Year's Eve

Language & Religion

Cuisine

Music & Art

Important Dates & Holidays

- The main language of Ireland is English, but Irish (Gaeilge) is also an official language and is taught in schools and used in some regions called the Gaeltacht.
- Irish Gaelic is an important part of national identity, with efforts to preserve and promote its use in culture, media, and signage.
- The majority of people in the Republic of Ireland identify as Christian, with most belonging to the Roman Catholic Church, though religious diversity has increased in recent years.



- Traditional Irish music is an important part of Irish culture and often features instruments such as the fiddle, tin whistle, harp, and bodhrán (drum).
- Ireland is internationally known for its musicians and bands, including U2 and Enya.
- Irish art and literature are highly celebrated, with famous writers and artists contributing to Ireland's strong cultural identity and storytelling traditions.

