“When I die, Dublin will be written in my heart.”

James Joyce, Irish Novelist and Poet
OVERVIEW
From its origins as a small settlement, Dublin is today at the heart of Ireland as well as its most populous city. Ireland’s capital has proved resilient through the years having undergone numerous political and social changes, and Dubliners are renowned for being warm and welcoming hosts.

In the last two decades, the city has transformed into an internationally acclaimed digital and technology hub, playing host to some of the world’s largest global pharmaceutical, financial and technology companies in the world.

Did you know?

Percentage of the population that are established entrepreneurs.

Number of international companies with bases in the region.

8.6%

1200

+353 is the international dialing code for Ireland, 1 is the area code for Dublin.

Employees in Dublin’s ICT sector.

+ 3 5 3 1

75,000
DUBLIN: A BACKGROUND
One of the fastest growing tourist destinations in Europe, Dublin is an extremely welcoming city offering a range of green spaces, tourist attractions and vibrant nightlife. It is a vibrant, cosmopolitan city, with a high standard of living.

Key stat
Dublin accounts for approximately 38 percent of Ireland’s total GDP.

38%

Did you know?
The name Dublin is derived from the Old Irish Gaelic Dubh Linn, which translates as “Black Pool”.

dubh Linn
Out and about
Dublin has numerous sights of interest for visitors, ranging from historic landmarks scattered throughout the city center to the many parks surrounding it. Unsurprisingly, many visitors head to the Guinness Storehouse to sip a pint of the famous beer right from its source, while Trinity College houses beautiful 18th and 19th century buildings, as well as the Book of Kells dating from around 800 AD. The parks and walks around the city are also popular on a warm day, including St Stephen’s Green, Phoenix Park, and the Royal Canal Way.

Political landscape
The Republic of Ireland is a Parliamentary Democracy, with a President elected to serve every seven years. The president rules over a Prime Minister (Taoiseach) and the Parliamentary system (upper and lower houses). Elected Parliamentary representatives serve five year terms.

Transport
Dublin Airport is the busiest in Ireland, serving over 18 million passengers every year. Once in the city, Dublin is very easy to get around. Its city center is relatively small and can be navigated by foot, and there are also numerous trams and buses.

Economy
The Dublin region is at the center of the Irish economy and, according to Dublin City Council, accounts for approximately 38 percent of the country’s entire GDP. In recent years, Dublin has seen a variety of industries flourish in its economy, including financial services, ICT, telecommunications, digital media, pharmaceuticals and tourism.

Key exports
Home to nine of the top ten US ICT companies, it is no surprise that internet giant Google is Ireland’s largest exporting company – exporting €10.1 billion in 2011.

Key fact
An estimated 50% of Dublin’s residents are under 35 years of age.

Trinity College
— Ireland’s oldest university.
IRELAND’S ECONOMIC HEART

Dublin is the economic center of Ireland with the country’s major financial and industrial businesses located in the city. Dublin is now also a European base for many of the world’s largest corporations.

**Key stat**
Dublin’s financial hub – the International Financial Services Center (IFSC) – handles over €1 trillion a year.

€1tr

**Did you know?**
Dublin’s O’Connell Bridge, which spans the River Liffey, is deemed to be the only bridge in Europe that is as wide as it is long.
The world comes to Dublin
Due to Dublin’s prosperous business environment, companies from sectors ranging from pharmaceutical, healthcare, financial services and ICT have chosen to set-up business operations in the city. Over 1,200 international companies now have a base in the region. In the last 15 years Ireland has enjoyed the highest rate of economic growth among any member nation of the European Union.

Favorable business environment
Dublin, and the wider Irish economy, has benefited from the strong Government support to foster a favorable business climate. The IMD World Competitiveness Yearbook 2012 awarded Ireland 1st place for availability of skilled labor, flexibility of workforce, investment incentives and attitudes towards globalization.

Financial hub
The city plays home to a thriving banking and financial sector, largely due to the presence of the International Financial Services Center (IFSC), a major financial services center, which handles over €1 trillion a year.

The Center is host to half of the world’s top 50 banks and to half of the top 20 insurance companies including Merrill Lynch, Sumitomo Bank, ABN Amro, Citibank, AIG, JP Morgan (Chase), Commerzbank, BNP Paribas and EMRO. The Irish Stock Exchange (ISEQ) and the Irish Enterprise Exchange (IEX) are also located in Dublin.

Workforce
The region boasts a young, skilled, English speaking workforce. Many academic institutions, such as the Dublin Institute of Technology, also continue to make a strong contribution to the ongoing development of skills.

Taxation
Ireland has one of the lowest corporate tax rates in Europe, with a 12.5% headline corporate tax rate. In addition, companies can avail of a 25% tax credit against research and development costs. For further information on taxation in Ireland, visit: www.idaireland.com/invest-in-ireland/tax-regime/

Key fact
At a height of 120 metres, the Dublin spire in O’Connell Street is the world’s tallest sculpture.

International Financial Services Center — which handles over €1 trillion a year.
THE SILICON VALLEY OF EUROPE
Hundreds of technology companies have moved to set up a base in Dublin over the last two decades, attracted by its business-friendly environment. This has enabled the city to become a leading player in the global technology sector.

Key stat
Ireland has invested €8 billion in Science, Technology and Innovation.

€8bn

Did you know?
Dublin rock band U2 has been given ‘the freedom of the Dublin city’ which includes the unusual privilege of being able to graze sheep for free in one of Dublin’s landmarks, St. Stephens Green.
Leading European IT hub
Many IT companies are located in the city and its adjacent counties, including Amazon, eBay, Dell, Facebook, Zynga, LinkedIn, Twitter, Google, EMC, Microsoft, Oracle, PayPal, SAP, Symantec, and Yahoo!. Hewlett-Packard and Intel also have large manufacturing plants in Leixlip, 15 km to the west of the city center.

Encouraging innovation
In addition to hosting a wide variety of established technology companies, Dublin is also home to a vibrant technology start-up scene. The Digital Hub – set up by the Irish government in 2003 – fosters innovation, technological development and creativity in a supportive, entrepreneurial environment. Some of the best-known names in the digital sector – at home and abroad – have shared its campus, including Amazon, Areaman Productions, Daft.ie, Decawave, Gala Networks Europe, Havok, Kavaleer Productions and Faxbox.com.

Global connectivity
Dublin has its own Internet Exchange, INEX, which was founded in 1996. Over 95% of Irish internet users have internet traffic routed through the exchange. The city is also well served by an advanced communications infrastructure including a link to the Hibernia-Atlantic submarine cable which provides low-latency connectivity both to North America and to the UK.

Key digital businesses
The information, communications and technology sector in Ireland continues to attract global investment from the world’s technology giants. As a result, Ireland has one of the highest concentrations of ICT-related activity and employment in the OECD (Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development).

Key fact
Ireland is the largest exporter of computer software in the entire world.

Digital Hub
— home to the technology start-up scene.
TRAVELLING TO DUBLIN?
Make the most out of your trip to Dublin with these essential tips and map.

Key stat
In restaurants a 10% tip is considered generous.

10%

Location
Ireland borders the United Kingdom to the north and east.
Visa requirements
Visitors from the EU, US, Canada, Australia and South Africa only require a passport to enter Ireland. Visas are not usually required, but non-EU citizens are advised to check with the Embassy of Ireland: [www.dfa.ie/home/index.aspx?id=8605](http://www.dfa.ie/home/index.aspx?id=8605)

Tipping
Tipping is not generally expected in the city, particularly when ordering from a bar. In restaurants a 10% tip is considered generous, while tipping taxi drivers is not generally necessary.

Further information
The IDA are responsible for the attraction and development of Foreign Direct Investment in Ireland, please visit: [www.idaireland.com](http://www.idaireland.com)

No vaccinations are required and the emergency number is 112 or 999.

Did you know?
With a 16 km perimeter wall enclosing 1,750 acres, Phoenix Park is one of the largest walled city parks in the world.
Outstanding data centers. Expertise you can trust.

TelecityGroup is Europe’s leading provider of premium carrier-neutral data centers.

www.telecitygroup.com