

Ireland

4
DAY
ITINERARY



DUBLIN



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4 DAY ITINERARY

Dublin is a compact and vibrant city with a truly epic musical heritage. There's so much to see, experience and taste that you'll need every minute of your visit to savour the city. Some of the world's most extraordinary music legends hail from Dublin including U2, Thin Lizzy, Sinéad O'Connor, The Frames, Imelda May, The Script and Kodaline. We've put together a note-perfect music-themed itinerary to suit every kind of music fan.



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DAY 1

MORNING

Take in a kayak tour on the River Liffey with the **Music Under The Bridges experience**. Enjoy live music from some of the best musicians and artists in town as you paddle along the river under iconic Dublin bridges! Lasting two hours, with unbelievable acoustics and an atmosphere on the water that will give you goosebumps, this experience is sure to leave a lasting impression.

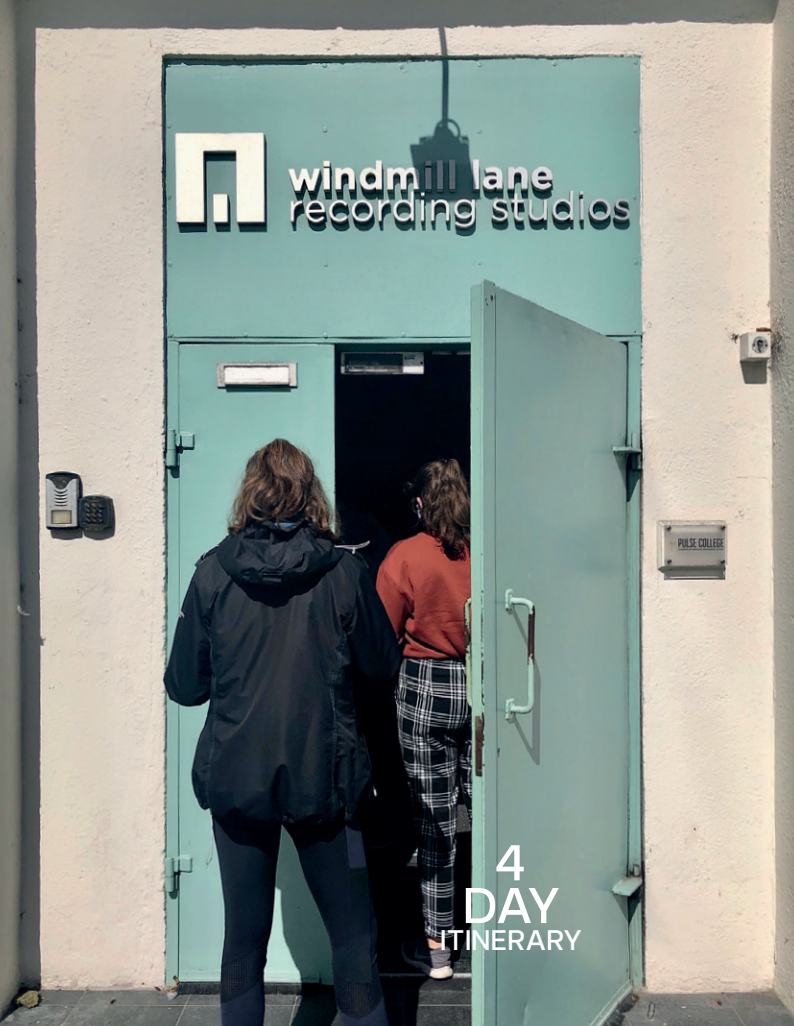
AFTERNOON

Step into the leafy park of St Stephen's Green, which was once a common for grazing sheep and cattle. Wander around the ornamental lake and admire the sculptures of literary figures including James Joyce and WB Yeats. The park is open all year round from morning to dusk. Just beside St Stephen's Green is **The Little Museum of Dublin**, which tells the story of the city in around 5,000 artefacts, highlighting everything from royal visits down to the humble lives of locals. It is also home to U2: Made in Dublin, a fan-curated exhibition which charts the story of the band over the last 40 years and features musical rarities, signed albums, great photography and more. Take a guided tour but be warned, tickets sell out fast so book in advance. Afterwards, stroll past the elegant **Shelbourne Hotel** and head towards Ely Place, an enclave of beautiful Georgian architecture. Here you'll find **Margadh RHA**, a light-filled café with tasty lunch options including salads and sandwiches.

EVENING

Walk through the cobbled lanes of Temple Bar, along Essex Street or down Crown Alley, and you'll hear music everywhere. It spills out through pub doorways, from apartment windows and from buskers in the square. It's all the evidence you need that Dublin is a music mecca.

If you're a fan of being right in the heart of the action, then this part of Dublin is a great place to stay. The **Temple Bar Hotel** Dublin is a four-star hotel offering everything from pod rooms to quad rooms. The hotel is home to the lively Buskers Bar, which serves food, but if you fancy venturing further afield, then you'll have plenty of options on your doorstep. For a fine-dining experience, try the Michelin-starred **D'Olier Street restaurant**, or keep things cheap and super-cheerful with an excellent burger at locals' favourite, **Bunsen**.



DAY 2

MORNING

Start your day off with a tour of the iconic **Windmill Lane Recording Studios**, which offers unprecedented behind-the-scenes access and insights into the creation and production of some of the most renowned albums and songs of the past 40 years by artists including U2, Lady Gaga, REM, Kings of Leon and many more!

AFTERNOON

Explore the Silicon Docks in the Grand Canal area, the digital hub of Dublin with contemporary buildings and a vibrant and cosmopolitan atmosphere. You can walk from here to **EPIC: The Irish Emigration Museum**, where you'll discover that what it means to be Irish expands far beyond the borders of Ireland through the stories of Irish emigrants who became scientists, politicians, poets, musicians, artists and even outlaws all over the world. Uncover tales of adventure, adversity and triumph as you engage with their personal histories across 20 interactive galleries. If you need to stop for something to eat, you have **Urban Brewing** in the same CHQ building.

EVENING

Take in some traditional Irish music in iconic Dublin pubs on your own pub crawl. **Whelan's** on Wexford Street was featured in the hit movie P.S. I Love You and you can view the gallery of its past performers in the main bar – see how many famous faces you can spot! Christy Moore and the Dubliners have spent many a memorable night entertaining music lovers in **O'Donoghue's**. The pub prides itself on its authentic character as it highlights the artistry of real Irish musicians. **The Cobblestone** is located in one of Dublin's oldest neighbourhoods, Smithfield. It offers nightly immersive trad sessions and great pints in a laidback atmosphere.

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DAY 3

MORNING

Start the day with a guided tour of **Croke Park Stadium**. Croke Park is the headquarters of the Gaelic Athletic Association (GAA) and has been at the heart of Irish sporting life for over 100 years. Not only has it been the site of some epic sporting battles on the pitch, but it has also been home to some of the biggest music gigs on the island of Ireland. With a capacity of 82,300, this magnificent stadium is the third largest in Europe. Take an all-access guided tour at field level or if you are feeling daring, the 17-storey high Skyline Tour is Dublin's highest open-viewing platform and offers breath-taking panoramic views of Ireland's vibrant capital from the mountains to the sea. Prepare to be amazed by the incredible view from the platform that's suspended over the Croke Park pitch itself.

AFTERNOON

Become a rock star for the afternoon at the **Irish Rock 'n' Roll Museum Experience** and take a selfie at the Wall of Fame. Experience an access-all-areas tour of one of Dublin's top music venues and recording studios. Be inspired by the museum and studio, then sing your heart out and record your very own demo track. For lunch, you are spoilt for choice in Temple Bar with everything from traditional Irish food to the tastes of the world – the choice is yours.

EVENING

Enjoy a **Musical Pub Crawl** with real Irish musicians. Ireland's traditional folk music is a vibrant, rhythmic affair that tugs at your heartstrings one minute and sets your toes tapping the next. Best described as a moving concert, the Musical Pub Crawl allows you to visit two of Dublin's finest pubs. With the option of enjoying a three-course meal whilst you immerse yourself in the history of Irish music and its influence on contemporary genres, as well as experiencing traditional Irish music and Irish dancing first-hand, this evening out is not to be missed.



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DAY 4

MORNING

Breathe in some sea air in Dalkey, a beautiful little village 13km southeast of Dublin which is home to U2's frontman Bono. The town is easy to reach by DART, Dublin's scenic coastal railway. Dalkey's little shops should inspire some gift ideas and you'll find plenty of cafés and restaurants to indulge in some great Irish food as you relax and watch the world go by. Dalkey is a medieval town but became a resort in the 19th century and still has a quaint feel. Check out [Dalkey Castle & Heritage Centre](#) to find out more. The village overlooks Coliemore Harbour, a hub for kayaking, fishing and boat trips out to nearby Dalkey Island.

AFTERNOON

Head back into the city centre and go to the [Museum of Literature Ireland](#) which is home to immersive multimedia exhibitions and priceless literary artefacts that have been the inspiration behind the songs of many artists. After your visit, pop into the Commons Café which overlooks the adjoining courtyard, while Readers Garden invites you to relax and read in the shade of the ash tree that James Joyce was photographed against in 1902 for his university graduation photo.

EVENING

Visit Phil Lynott's life-size statue located outside the famous [Bruxelles](#) pub on Harry Street, just off bustling Grafton Street. Phil Lynott was best known as the frontman for the highly successful rock band Thin Lizzy. Take a walk down Grafton Street and enjoy the dulcet sounds of buskers in the area.

While you're close by, visit Raglan Road. Walk the canal and visit the leafy street immortalised in Patrick Kavanagh's poem 'On Raglan Road', which was later set to music and turned into a gorgeous song by Luke Kelly and The Dubliners.



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ONE MORE FOR THE ROAD!

You can't visit Dublin without seeing how a pint of the black stuff is made. Head to the [Guinness Storehouse](#) for stunning views from the 360-degree Gravity Bar – which doubles as a music venue! From its origins in 1759 as a brewery with a 9,000-year lease, the Guinness Storehouse has become one of the city's most famous attractions. It hosts a fantastic exhibition on everything from old advertising to the craft of brewing. The tour finishes with a pint of the world-famous stout. You can pre-book tickets for a discount. Tours are self-guided and take about 1.5 hours but relax and take your time. There are some great places to eat inside the Storehouse, offering everything from light snacks to full-on brasserie meals.

*This is a sample itinerary to offer suggestions and ideas for planning trips.
You can contact your local Tourism Ireland representative for further information.*

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