

Irish Bucket List

Website lists everything you should see and do on a trip to Ireland before you die

There have been parades and the sons and daughters of Ireland will meet for their annual dinners. Saturday is St. Patrick's Day, and this is the time of year that those of us with a little bit of the old sod in their veins think about their ancestral homeland even more than usual.

If you've always wanted to visit Ireland, or even just want to learn more about it, **IrelandBeforeYouDie.com** is a good place to start. The site is run by a group of independent Ireland enthusiasts with the intent of generating interest in traveling there and



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making the most of the trip if you do.

The site is set up as a collection of "best of" -type lists. Here are a few examples from the home page:

- **Top 10 Beautiful Places in Connemara You Need to See Before You Die**
- **Five Pubs in Limerick You Need to Visit Before You Die**
- **Seven Places That Are on Every Irish Bucket List**
- **Top 12 Beers That Everyone Should Try in Ireland**
- **"Game of Thrones" Road Trip in Five Days**

The lists are written in a conversational fashion, sprinkled with Irish slang and wit, like what you might hear in a pub. The term "craic" is used a lot. It's pronounced "crack" and refers to fun, entertainment or good conversation. "What's the craic?" translates to "What's happening?"

The style makes it a little easier to forgive some of the grammatical and typographic errors that are fairly common throughout the copy. Although, when you read the praise the site heaps on famous Irish writers, it makes you think the editors should value clean writing more.

The site is mainly a marketing tool for Irish tourism, so everything is presented in a very positive light. However, it's not as polished as an "official" tourism site, so it feels more like an insider's tour of the country. All of the well-known hot spots are covered, but there are lots of spots off the beaten track as well.

Many of the lists, articles and videos delve into the history and culture of the Emerald Isle. In addition to notable Irish writers being covered, there also are features on music, dance, visual arts, sports, cuisine, popular culture, sightseeing and more.

The site is laid out with galleries of photo links. The links are grouped by category —

such as pubs, road trips or bucket lists. Each photo is paired with a headline and brief description of what the list is about. Clicking on the link takes you to the list. There's an introductory paragraph on the subject, and each item on the list has a photo and description.

Ireland Before You Die is loaded with content and is designed in a way that encourages you to click around from one section to another. It will definitely whet your appetite for a trip to the old country.

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