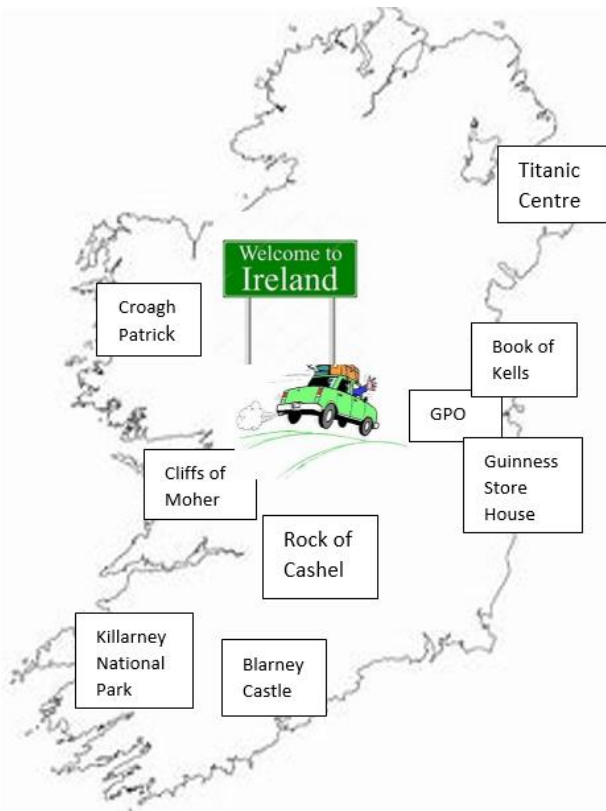




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Road trip around Ireland

To celebrate St. Patrick's Day, we take a trip across Ireland to have a look at some of its most popular and special places that tourists especially love to visit.



Top of the list of Ireland's most popular places to visit are the **Cliffs of Moher** which look out over the Atlantic Ocean on the west coast of Clare. The cliffs cover a distance of 14 km along the world famous Wild Atlantic Way. Visitors are not just surprised by the size of the cliffs but also the view from them which allows you to see right out over the ocean to the Aran Islands. A walking trail which goes from one side of the cliffs to the other gives visitors the chance to take in one of the most beautiful coastlines in the world. The cliffs have appeared in many famous films over the years including Harry Potter.



Just outside the town of Killarney in Co. Kerry lies the world famous **Killarney National Park**.

Covering more than 26,000 acres, the park offers visitors the chance to enjoy the lakes, mountains, woodlands and all the natural beauty that Kerry has to offer. Muckross House and Gardens which date back to the



1800's is situated in the park and can be explored by visitors. All the native Irish trees

and shrubs can be seen here. The park is also home to a herd of red deer.

Close to Cork city is Blarney Castle and

Gardens. Built in the 1400's the castle is home to the world famous **Blarney Stone**



Stone which is built

into the wall of the castle. For hundreds of years people from all over the world have come here to kiss the Blarney Stone in the hope that they will be given "the gift of the gab" and never again be stuck for words. In order to kiss it a person must lean backwards down to the wall of the castle. The word "blarney" can now be found in the English dictionary as a word that means to coax or to flatter someone.

Set on a hill overlooking the vast green



countryside of Tipperary is the **Rock of Cashel**.

Also known as Cashel of the

Kings it was home to the kings of Munster when Ireland was ruled by kings. The most magnificent hand crafted stone buildings to be seen anywhere in the world can be found here. Among them is a castle, a tower and a church all built over a thousand years ago

surrounded by a large stone wall. It has been said St. Patrick himself lived here for a short time in the 5th century.

Croagh Patrick also known as **The Reek** is a 765 metre mountain a few miles outside Westport in Co. Mayo overlooking Clew Bay. For hundreds of years people have been climbing the mountain in honour of St. Patrick who is said to have prayed and fasted for 40 days on the mountain in the year 441.



However, it is believed that as far back as 5,000 years ago people gathered here to celebrate the harvest season. On the last Sunday in July each year known as Reek Sunday more than 25,000 people climb the mountain where mass is said at the small stone chapel at the top of Croagh Patrick. The climb takes about 2 hours each way and is very steep and rocky at the top. Many people climb the mountain on bare feet.



Standing with a commanding presence in the centre of Dublin's O'Connell Street is the **General Post Office (GPO)** the headquarters of the Irish

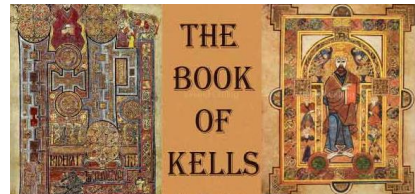
post office. This building which is over 200 years old has a long connection with Ireland's fight for independence from Britain. It was chosen by the Irish Volunteers as their headquarters during the 1916 Rising and was badly damaged. Bullet holes can still be seen on the walls of the building. A museum and visitor centre was opened in the GPO in 2016 to commemorate the 1916 rising and all those who died for Irish freedom.

The Guinness Store house in Dublin is a visitor centre that gives the history of Ireland's most famous drink, the pint of Guinness. It is situated on the site of the old brewery set up in 1759 by Arthur Guinness. The storehouse which covers seven floors has a brewery which shows how the famous drink is made and how to pour the perfect pint. It also has a



shop, museum and at the very top of the building is a bar where you enjoy a pint of Guinness while taking in the view of Dublin city.

The Book of Kells located in Trinity College in Dublin is a book written in Latin by Irish monks around the year 800. It is an account of the four gospels in the bible. The amazing colourful art work and skilful writing makes it



one of the oldest and most precious book to be found

anywhere in the world. The book was written on calf skin and the colours used are thought to have been made from natural materials such as plants, berries, earth and stone. Every year half a million people visit Trinity to have a look at the famous book which is one of Ireland's greatest treasures.

The Titanic Experience in Belfast tells the tragic story of the famous ship which hit an



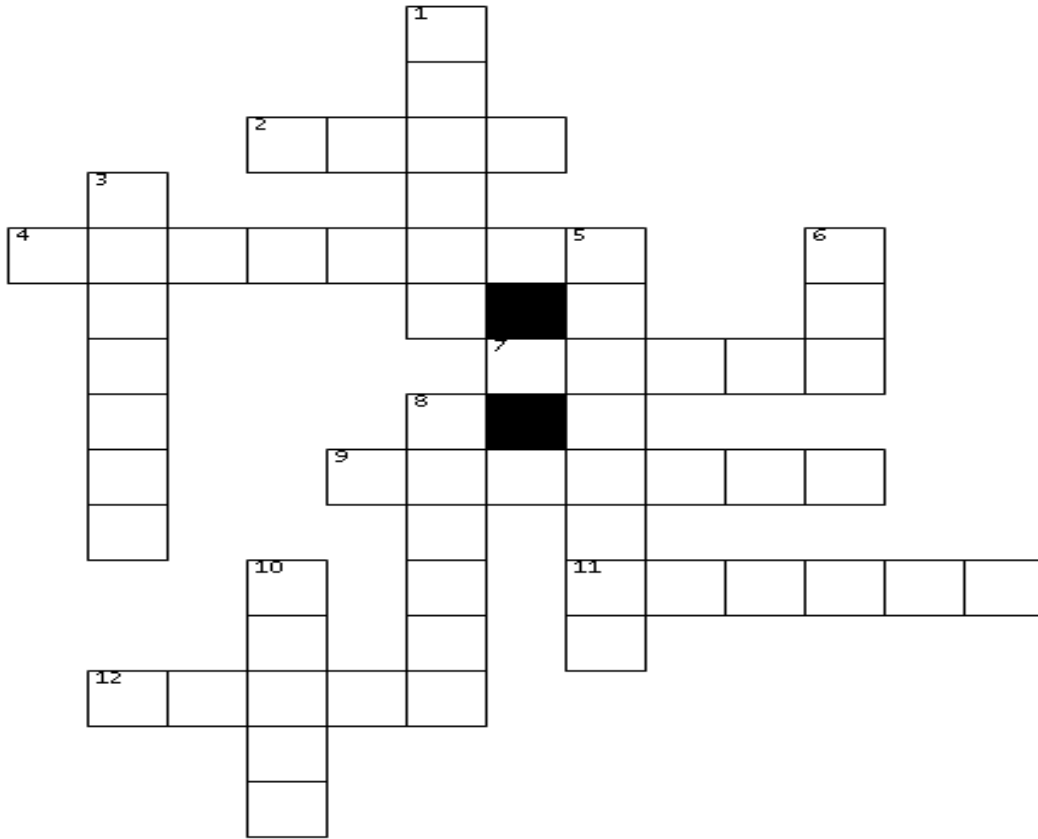
iceberg and sank in 1912 on its very first voyage to America. 1,500 passengers died.

The centre is located on the site of the Harland and Wolff shipyard in Belfast where the Titanic was built. At the time, it was said it was the fastest and most powerful ship ever made and would be "unsinkable".

Visitors get to experience the story of the ship from the time it was built to the finding of the ship wreck 75 years after it sank. The centre was opened in 2012 to mark the 100th anniversary of the tragedy. Every year more than 800,000 people visit the Titanic Centre in Belfast.



The answers to the clues are all things Irish



ACROSS

2.



4 pint of _____



7. Mr _____



9. kissing the _____ Stone



11 Rock of _____



12. Famous book written by monks 1200 years ago Book of _____

DOWN

1.  Used to hit the ball

3.  Black _____

5. 

6 Largest Post office in Ireland -- -- --

8.  _____ of Moher

10. Famous song about a fish seller in Dublin _____ Malone



Find these counties hidden in the word search

o f c u o u t i b j o i n z l
d p p o l f u d o n e g a l q
g w e x f o r d v c p d s o j
c z l c u x p z d d l j y c d
b b a h w k s f s l m a s h x
n n o p a i u q o c m v r e j
w m o x t l h a x l p b y e x
d e k l e d i s v g b r o c k
n e o k r a s m h x a k s o i
j r r y f r l k e r r y p f l
l o o m o e u e e r z f f q k
c c v h r j d p r r i h j n e
h b m s d g p a n c f c b c n
b w f u d i c t k d a f k k n
k r n b t v d p x o f f a l y

- Donegal
- Cork
- Clare
- Limerick
- Wexford
- Offaly
- Mayo
- Waterford
- Kerry
- Kildare
- Kilkenny
- Tipperary

Sudoku Puzzles

Each row across and down must contain the numbers 1 2 3 4 in any order

	4	1	
3			
			1
	3	2	

Be careful it's not as easy as it looks !

		3	
3			1
4			2
	2		