

# That's Interesting!



A worksheet for adults to practise reading, writing, spelling and numbers

## An Irish road trip



As the tourist season is now in full swing, we take a look at some of the top tourist attractions that people like to visit here in Ireland.



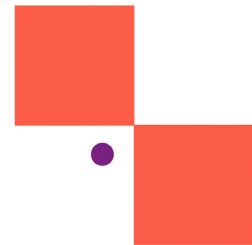
Top of the list of Ireland's most popular places to visit are the **Cliffs of Moher** which look out over the Atlantic Ocean on the west coast of Clare. The cliffs cover a distance of 14 km along the world famous Wild Atlantic Way.



A walking trail along by the cliffs gives visitors the chance to take in one of the most beautiful coastlines in the world, looking out over the Atlantic Ocean and the Aran Islands. The cliffs have appeared in many famous films over the years including Harry Potter.

Just outside the town of Killarney in Co. Kerry is 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** 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. 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 which were all built over a thousand years ago. They are all surrounded by a large stone wall. It has been said Saint Patrick himself lived here for a short time in the 5th century.



**Croagh Patrick**, also known as **The Reek**, is a 765-metre high 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 Saint 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 5000 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 will take you about two hours each way to complete 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.

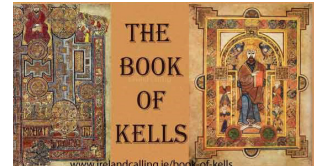
**The Guinness Store House** in Dublin is a visitor centre that gives the history of Ireland's most famous drink, the pint of Guinness. It is situated on the site of the old brewery set up in 1759 by Arthur Guinness.



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. Please drink responsibly.

**The Book of Kells**, located in Trinity College in Dublin, is a book that was 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 books 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.

A visit to Cork city would not be complete without a visit to the famous **English Market**. Set in the centre of the city since 1788, it is said to be the largest indoor market in Europe.



Packed with local produce from local suppliers the best of fish, meat, cheese, fruit and vegetables can be bought at the many market stalls. Thousands visit here daily, from home and abroad, and it became even more famous when the late Queen Elizabeth paid a visit here in 2011 on her official visit to Ireland.

**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.

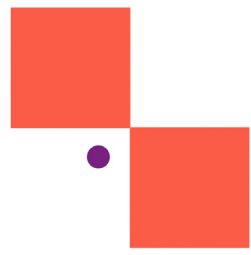
# Summer Quiz

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Read the “Irish Road Trip” story again to find the answers to these questions.

1. In what county would you find The Cliffs of Moher? \_\_\_\_\_
2. How many km do they cover? \_\_\_\_\_
3. What ocean do they look out on? \_\_\_\_\_
4. What island can be seen from the cliffs? \_\_\_\_\_
5. How many acres are in Killarney National Park? \_\_\_\_\_
6. What is the name of the old house that is situated here? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. What animals can be seen here? \_\_\_\_\_
8. In what county will you find the Blarney Stone? \_\_\_\_\_
9. What gift might you get from kissing the Blarney stone?  
\_\_\_\_\_
10. What does the word “blarney” mean in the dictionary?  
\_\_\_\_\_
11. What stone crafted buildings can be seen at the Rock of Cashel?  
\_\_\_\_\_
12. What saint is said to have lived here for a short time? \_\_\_\_\_
13. In what county will you find the Rock of Cashel? \_\_\_\_\_
14. Croagh Patrick is also known by what other name? \_\_\_\_\_
15. Where is it located? \_\_\_\_\_
16. What is the name given to the last Sunday in July each year when many people climb Croagh Patrick? \_\_\_\_\_
17. How long does it take a person to climb it? \_\_\_\_\_
18. What is built at the top? \_\_\_\_\_



19. What do the letters GPO stand for? \_\_\_\_\_
20. Where is it located? \_\_\_\_\_
21. What was it used for in the 1916 Rising?  
\_\_\_\_\_
22. What can still be seen in the walls? \_\_\_\_\_
23. What was set up here in 2016? \_\_\_\_\_
24. What can you learn about at the Guinness Store House?  
\_\_\_\_\_
25. Where would you find the Book of Kells? \_\_\_\_\_
26. Who wrote it and when was it written? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
27. What material was it written on? \_\_\_\_\_
28. What did they use to make the colours? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
29. Where can you find the English Market? \_\_\_\_\_
30. What is sold here? \_\_\_\_\_
31. Who visited the English Market in 2011? \_\_\_\_\_
32. What does the Titanic Experience tell us about? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
33. How many people died on the ship? \_\_\_\_\_
34. Where is the Titanic centre located? \_\_\_\_\_
35. When was the centre opened? \_\_\_\_\_
36. How many people visit the centre every year? \_\_\_\_\_

# Word Search



Find these Irish counties hidden in the word search below.

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

1. Donegal
2. Cork
3. Clare
4. Limerick
5. Wexford
6. Offaly
7. Mayo
8. Waterford
9. Kerry
10. Kildare
11. Kilkenny
12. Tipperary



# Notes

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## Further help is available

If you need help with these worksheets, or with reading, writing, maths or digital skills, you can contact the National Adult Literacy Agency (NALA).



Call us on Freephone **1 800 20 20 80**  
or text **LEARN** to **50050**

You can study online on our Learn with NALA website [www.learnwithnala.ie](http://www.learnwithnala.ie) or with a tutor over the phone or we can give details of your local centre.



National Adult Literacy Agency  
Áisíneacht Náisiúnta Litearthachta do Aosaigh

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That's Interesting! are not  
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