



The Lycommunication

1ST MARCH 2025



CLOVER CC BY AIVUSH PACHNANDA NC-ND

We love Ireland !

March, what a busy month it is going to be! Remember that there is the ecology week from 17th to 22nd in our school!

Moreover, March is a month for celebrations in Ireland as well. So we have decided to focus on this amazing country. Let us tell you about the history of the Republic of Ireland and guide you through the most famous places to visit: its capital, Dublin, of course, but also the magnificent west coast and its landscapes and islands.

As the island has been split into two parts, we will also show you what to visit in Northern Ireland with an article on the Giants' Causeway and another one on the murals that you can see in the city of Derry.

The visit of Ireland would not be complete without talking about its culture and emblematic figures.

Learn about St Patrick and its celebration on March 17th that our cartoonist has depicted in her comic strip; the Leprechaun, Irish sports, two of the most famous Irish writers and, to finish, the iconic Guinness brand and creator, so emblematic in Ireland.

We hope that, after reading this issue, you will feel like going to this beautiful country.

Enjoy the reading!

Mrs Stotz

NEWS

Scandal at Harrods: Shocking Allegations Against Mohamed Al-Fayed

In September 2024, an explosive BBC documentary entitled "Al-Fayed: Predator at Harrods" exposed serious allegations of sexual misconduct against Mohamed Al-Fayed, the former owner of London's luxury department store Harrods. According to the testimonies revealed in the documentary, more than 20 former female employees have accused Al-Fayed of sexual harassment, assault and even rape in the 1980s, 1990s and 2000s while he was in charge of the store.

The revelations have sent shockwaves through the public, raising questions about how such abuses could have gone unnoticed for so long at one of the world's most prestigious retail institutions.

Decades of abuse and silence

According to the documentary, the alleged assaults took place in several locations, including Harrods offices, where employees were allegedly lured in under false pretences.

They also happened in a private apartment in London, where some victims were taken under the guise of business meetings, or in luxury residences in France, Saint-Tropez and Abu Dhabi, where employees were allegedly subjected to inappropriate behaviour and forced encounters. The latest news has also just unveiled that those abuses also happened at the Ritz hotel in Paris, also owned by the Fayed family.

Several victims described a pattern of coercion and intimidation in which refusal of Al-Fayed's advances could result in job loss or professional repercussions. Others revealed that young female employees were selected based on their appearance and required to do medical examinations as part of the hiring process allegedly to meet Al-Fayed's personal preferences.

The testimonies also suggest that some victims who attempted to report the abuse were silenced, threatened, or ignored, enabling the culture of exploitation.



HARRODS LIT UP FOR THE NIGHT
- CC BY RUTH SHARVILLE



Harrods's Response and Public Outrage

Following the releases of the documentary, Harrods, which is no longer owned by Al-Fayed since 2010, issued a formal apology, stating that they were "deeply appalled" by the allegations. The company acknowledged that employees may not have been adequately protected under Al-Fayed's leadership and pledged to support the victims.

Harrods has since announced the creation of a compensation scheme for former employees affected by the abuse. A spokesperson for the company insisted that Harrods is a very different organisation today and is committed to ensuring that such misconduct can never happen again.

Nevertheless, the revelations have raised serious concerns about corporate responsibility and how companies can prevent abuse by powerful figures within their ranks.

A scandal of historic proportions

▲ MOHAMED AL-FAYED
- CC BY UNKNOWN

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Conclusion

The Harrods scandal is more than a personal controversy, it is a case that highlights the failure of corporate systems to protect employees from abuse. As the investigations and legal proceedings continue, the world will be watching to see how Harrods, the victims, and society at large respond to one of the most shocking revelations in retail history. Moreover, two brothers of Mohammed Al-Fayed have been accused of abuse just like him.

Ireland

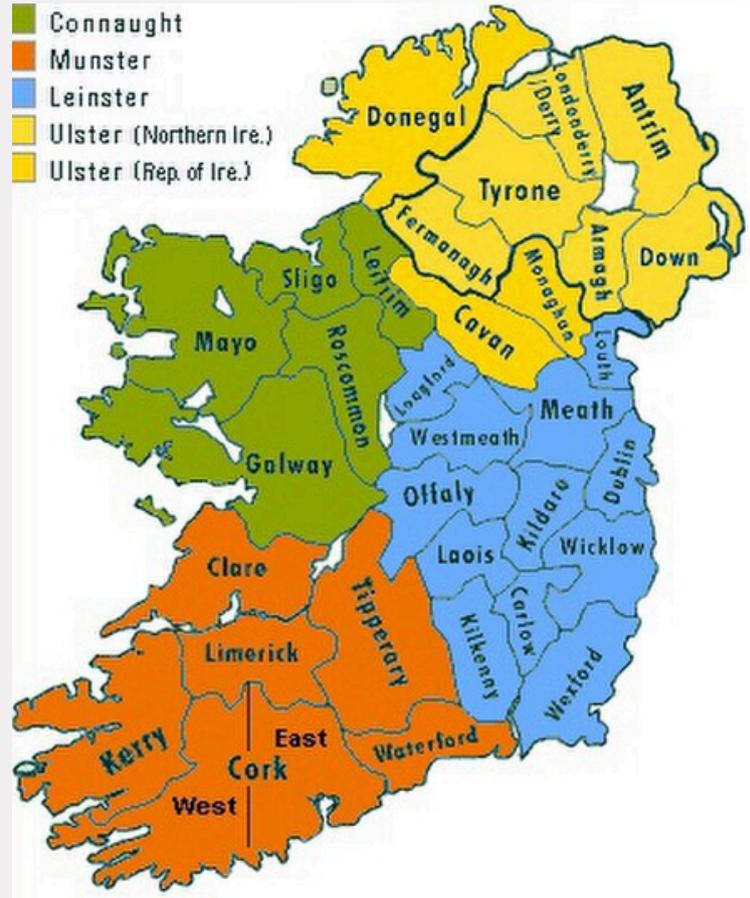
Discover the beauty of Ireland, a land of stunning landscapes, rich history, and unique culture. We will take you through some of its most amazing places.

History

Ireland has a long and eventful history, marked by invasions and great change. One of the most important events was English colonisation, which began in the 12th century and intensified under the Tudors and Stuarts. The English took land from the Irish and gave it to British settlers, especially in Ulster, leading to conflict and rebellion.

This created strong nationalist feelings among the Irish. Ireland changed a lot in the 20th century. After the War of Independence (1919-1921), the island was divided in 1921: the Republic of Ireland became independent, while Northern Ireland remained part of the United Kingdom. This division created two identities: people in the Republic are Irish, while those in the North can be British or have both nationalities. The border was very strict, especially during the Troubles (1960-1998), a period of violence between Catholic nationalists and Protestant unionists. The Good Friday Agreement (1998) opened the border, but Brexit has created new problems. Today, Ireland is a modern and rapidly growing country. The Republic joined the European Union in 1973, attracting major international companies and making Dublin a major technology centre. Despite the peace, Northern Ireland remains divided, but relations with the south have improved over the years.

Tudors and Stuarts: Two royal families that ruled England. The Tudors and Stuarts expanded English control over Ireland, leading to conflicts.



MAP OF IRELAND ARMAGH FROM WIKIMEDIA

Dublin

Dublin, Ireland's vibrant capital, is a city full of history, culture, and unforgettable experience

First, you can visit **Trinity College**: the historic campus, which is ranked 81st in the world and has over 400 years of teaching history is located in the centre of Dublin. It was founded in 1592, and over the years, it has become

Trinity College Old Library
Wikimedia Commonst



one of the most famous universities in the world. The college has beautiful buildings and a large, green campus. One of the most well-known places in Trinity College is the Old Library, which has many old books, including the famous Book of Kells. In addition, Trinity College is not just about history; it is also a place for learning and research. Today, it continues to attract students and visitors from all over the world. As a result, Trinity College is both a historic and a lively part of Dublin.

Then, just a short distance away, **the Guinness Storehouse** gives you a chance to learn about the iconic beer and enjoy breathtaking views of the city over seven floors, from the Gravity Bar. The Guinness Storehouse shares the interesting story of Irish history, culture, and creativity in a new way. With so much to explore, the middle of the tour is a great time to stop by one of the restaurants to try the famous Guinness and Oyster combo.

Pints of Guinness
By Jackmac34, Pixabay



Pixabay.

By Leonhard.Niederwimmer



Afterward, head to Temple Bar, Dublin's lively cultural quarter. The Temple Bar district is a lively area in the centre of Dublin. It is famous for its colourful pubs, restaurants, and shops. Many visitors come here to enjoy traditional Irish music, especially in the pubs, where live bands play. In addition to the music, Temple Bar has many cultural places, like art galleries and theatres. Therefore, it is a great spot to experience Dublin's energy. People from all over the world visit to enjoy the local culture. Whether you want to

relax with a drink or explore art, Temple Bar offers something for everyone.

Finally, Dublin Castle, with its centuries-old history, provides a glimpse into Ireland's past. It was built in the 13th century and has played an important role in Irish history. Today, the castle is used for many different purposes, including government events and ceremonies. Visitors can explore its beautiful rooms, gardens, and courtyards. The castle also has a museum where you can learn about its history and the role it played in Ireland's past. Dublin Castle is a must-see landmark for anyone visiting Dublin, offering a mix of history, culture, and stunning architecture.

Dublin Castle
By Papagnoc, Pixabay



West and Atlantic Coast

Galway is a lively city on the west coast of Ireland, known for its history, friendly people, and beautiful landscapes. It is often called the "Cultural Heart of Ireland" because of its music, festivals, and Irish traditions. The streets are colourful, with many shops, pubs, and restaurants where people can enjoy Irish food and live music. One of the most famous places in Galway is the Spanish Arch, a historic site from the 16th century.

Near the city, visitors can explore the amazing landscapes of Connemara, with its mountains, lakes, and small villages. Galway is also close to the Cliffs of Moher or Kylemore Abbey.

One of the biggest events in Galway is the Galway Summer Festival, a famous horse racing event that happens every year at the end of July and the start of August. This festival lasts seven days and includes important races like the Galway Plate and the Galway Hurdle. Thousands of people from all over Ireland come to watch the exciting races and enjoy the special events. Each day of the festival has a theme, such as Ladies' Day or Mad Hatters Family Fun Day. The racecourse is 6 km from the city centre and the atmosphere during race week is amazing. There are also smaller racing events in September and October, making Galway an important place for horse racing fans

Cliffs of Moher

John Finkelstein, Unsplash

If you're looking for breathtaking views, don't miss **the Cliffs of Moher**.

The Cliffs of Moher are located on the west coast of Ireland, in County Clare. They stretch for 14 kilometres between Liscannor and Doolin. The highest point is 214 metres near O'Brien's Tower. They are not the highest cliffs in Ireland, but they are the most famous. Many tourists visit them every year. The easiest way to get there is by car, as there is a car park near the visitor centre, but you can also take a train to Ennis and then a bus. For people who like to walk, there are great trails along the cliffs. There is a path from Doolin to the visitor or you can take a shorter one from Liscannor. The cliffs are very old, made up of layers of rock such as shale and sandstone. They have been sculpted by wind and rain over millions of years. The cliffs have been a popular tourist spot since the O'Brien Tower was built in 1835. The views from the tower are stunning. However, it's important to be careful as parts of the cliffs can break off due to erosion, so always stay behind the safety barriers. Nearby you can visit Doolin, a village famous for its Irish music, or the Burren National Park with its unique limestone landscape.



Hidden in the wild landscapes of Connemara, **Kylemore Abbey** is a place where history, romance, and nature come together to create a truly magical experience.

Kylemore Abbey is a beautiful and historic site in Connemara, on the west coast of Ireland. It was originally built in 1867 by Mitchell Henry as a romantic gift for his wife Margaret. The castle has 70 rooms, a large Victorian walled garden and even a small church. Sadly, Margaret died young and Mitchell built the Gothic church in her memory. Later, during the First World War, Benedictine nuns from Belgium bought the estate and turned it into a convent and school.

Today Kylemore Abbey is a popular tourist attraction. Visitors can explore the restored rooms, walk through the beautiful gardens and visit the church. The surrounding countryside is stunning, with mountains, lakes and forests. There is also a shop where you can buy handmade chocolates and souvenirs. The best way to get there is by car, as the roads offer stunning views of Connemara. The Abbey is the perfect place to learn about Irish history while enjoying breathtaking scenery.

Kylemore Abbey, Connemara

By Alex Grodkiewicz, Unsplash

The Skellig islands

Presentation of the Skellig Islands :

The Skellig Islands are located around 12 kilometres off the southwest coast of Ireland, in County Kerry. They are composed of Skellig Michael, the largest and most visited, and Little Skellig, which is smaller and not accessible. Skellig Michael is particularly well-known for its 6th-century Christian monastery, located at the top of the island at an altitude of over 200 metres. This historic site offers impressive stone structures and spectacular views over the Atlantic Ocean. The island is also home to a rich fauna, including Atlantic puffins, gannets and shearwaters. Thanks to this biodiversity and exceptional heritage, Skellig Michael has been a UNESCO World Heritage Site since 1996. Access is restricted to preserve the fragile ecosystem and historic site, with guided tours subject to weather conditions.



Little Skellig from the monastery on Skellig Michael. Courtesy of Mrs Stotz





The ruins of the monastery
Mrs Stotz

PHOTO BY [ALEXR195 FROM PIXABAY](#) ▼

The Skellig Islands and Star Wars :

The Skellig Islands, particularly Skellig Michael, have become world-famous thanks to their role in Star Wars. They were the location for several iconic scenes in the films, and today attract many visitors, including fans of the saga, which has boosted their tourist attraction.

Ahch-To in The Force Awakens and The Last Jedi :

In Star Wars: The Force Awakens (2015), Skellig Michael represents the planet Ahch-To, where Luke Skywalker has gone into exile. The island serves as the backdrop for Rey and Luke's final confrontation, including the iconic moment when Rey hands him the lightsabre, symbolizing the Jedi legacy. With its steep cliffs and ancient ruins, Skellig Michael perfectly fits the film's atmosphere.



In The Last Jedi (2017), the island remains a key location as a Jedi sanctuary. Rey continues her training with Luke, and the monastery ruins at the top of the island serve as the Jedi temple.

The porgs :

Porgs, the small fictional creatures introduced in The Last Jedi, were inspired by the Atlantic puffins living on Skellig Michael. While filming, the crew noticed the birds and decided to turn them into animated characters. With their round eyes and fluffy feathers, porgs quickly became a fan favourite.



PHOTO BY LISA FOTIOS FROM PIXABAY

The Giants' Causeway and its story

The Giants' Causeway is a natural site, on the Antrim Coast, in the north coast region of Northern Ireland. It is a unique geological formation composed of 40,000 interlocking basalt columns. The Giants' Causeway is one of the most breathtaking natural wonders in the world, classified as a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1986, known around the world.

According to the legend in Northern Ireland, the Giants' Causeway was created by Finn McCool, a Northern Irish giant, to fight another giant from Scotland named Benandonner. Finn pulled big columns of the Antrim coast together and threw them into the sea, creating a path to cross.



▶ THE COLUMNS OF THE GIANTS' CAUSEWAY

However, when he saw that the Scottish giant was much bigger than him, Finn was terrified and ran back to Ireland, losing one of his shoes which you can see today on the beach. His wife, Oona, had a great idea and disguised her husband as her baby. Therefore, when Benandonner arrived and saw the baby, he thought that if the baby was that big, the father must have been even bigger. He then ran away, smashing the causeway on the way back, so Finn would not be able to follow him and confront him. That is how the Giants' Causeway is said to have been formed.

Nevertheless, the Giants' Causeway, according to the scientific explanation, was formed over 60 million years ago after a volcanic eruption. When the lava cooled and touched the sea, it created layers of basalt columns which are connected to each other. These columns were hexagonal because of the pressure between them.

This natural formation shows the power of nature and continues to amaze people from all over the world. Whether you believe in the story of Finn McCool or the scientific explanation, the Giants' Causeway is definitely a stunning and mysterious place to visit when travelling in Northern Ireland.

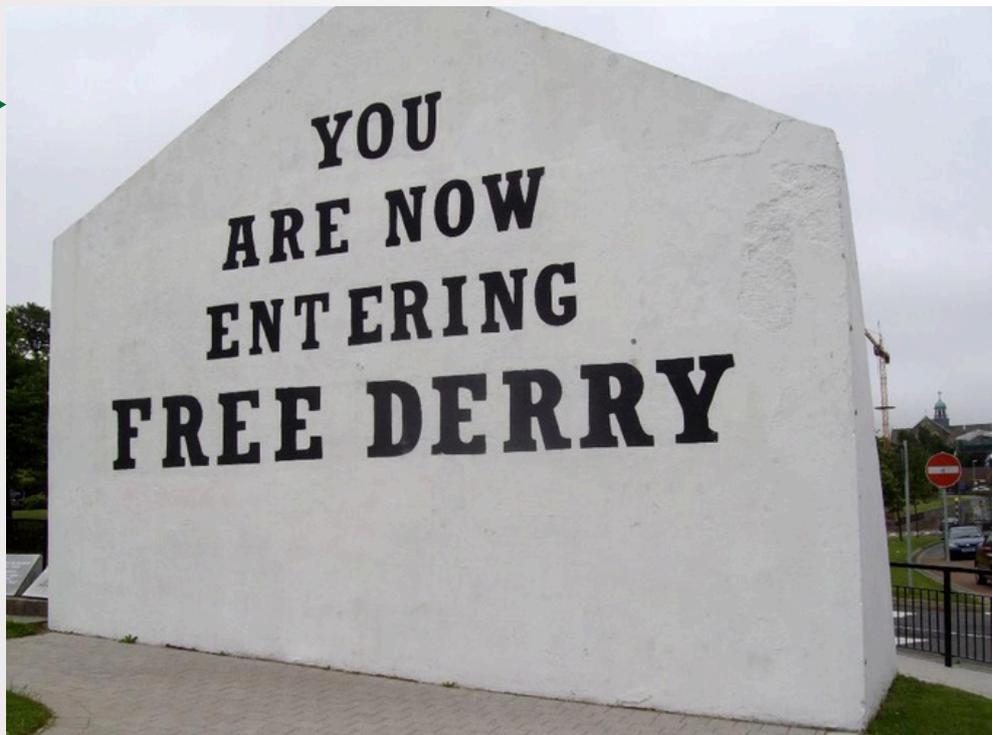
The murals in Derry

Today we travel to Northern Ireland to visit and understand the murals in Derry. Come with us to discover this place.

THIS MURAL MARKS THE ENTRANCE TO THE CATHOLIC QUARTER OF DERRY AND IT IS A REFERENCE TO THE END OF THE BOGSIDE FIGHT BETWEEN THE R.U.C = ROYAL ULSTER CONSTABULARY AND THE DCDA=DERRY CITIZENS DEFENCE ASSOCIATION
COURTESY OF MRS. STOTZ

The city of Londonderry, or more simply Derry, is situated in Northern Ireland on the border with the Republic of Ireland. You may hear the city called Derry or Londonderry, reflecting the historical and political divisions of Northern Ireland: nationalists prefer Derry, while unionists use Londonderry. Historically speaking, it is one of the region's greatest cities, having its celebrated 17th-century city walls that were erected between 1613 and 1619 to protect English and Scottish immigrants from Irish clans.

Today, largely intact, these city walls have helped to play their part in contributing to the city's heritage, symbols of segregation but of resolve as well. One of the most tragic events in Derry's history was Bloody Sunday on January 30, 1972. British soldiers fired on unarmed civil rights demonstrators, killing 14 people and injuring 14 more. Bloody Sunday only served to further escalate the troubles that were occurring in that part of Ireland at that point in time.



The event was memorialized in music in the popular hit by U2, *Sunday Bloody Sunday*. The song condemns Bloody Sunday brutality and calls for peace to reign in that region of Ireland.

The Museum of Free Derry in the Bogside area is dedicated to documenting the city's civil rights movement and how Bloody Sunday has shaped it. Using firsthand testimony, photographs, and artefacts from that period, the museum provides a moving insight into how individuals in the community endured these events. As an educational center that ensures individuals who lived through the conflict have their experiences remembered by future generations, it plays a vital part in promoting peace in the region.

There are 1,400 murals between Belfast and Derry. Do you know the murals in Derry? This is what we will discover today.

After a complicated political period, the people of Northern Ireland wanted to express themselves and share their thoughts. In the beginning, murals served as a form of protest during a time of turmoil. Today, their purpose has evolved to pay tribute to events and people, fostering unity, and easing tensions. The artists behind these murals range from well-known figures, such as Kevin Hasson, to anonymous creators. Kevin Hasson, along with Tom and William Kelly, contributed to The People's Gallery, a collection of 11 murals. Some murals, like The Bloody Sunday Commemoration, are official, while others are more clandestine and sometimes even violent. For example, some murals openly call for joining the Irish Republican Army (IRA). These murals are painted on house walls, making them an integral part of the city's landscape and history.



"The petrol bomber"

(This mural is for the 25th anniversary of the Bogside Fight. We can see a child with a Molotov cocktail during the riot)

"Death of innocence"

Unknown author

(This mural pays tribute to Anette McGavigan who was killed in an exchange of gunfire between British soldiers and members of the IRA. She was 14 years old)



"Bloody Sunday Mural"

(This mural commemorates the 25th anniversary of 'Bloody Sunday' and those who died. The men are carrying the body of Jack Duddy)



"The Runner"

(This mural is dedicated to the memory and heroism of Patrick Walsh. We can see tear gas behind him)



Who was St Patrick ?



ST PATRICK STAINED GLASS BY NHEYOB

Biography of Saint Patrick :

The founder of Irish Christianity and the patron saint of Ireland is Maewyn Succat, also called Saint Patrick, who was born in Kilpatrick, on the island of Britain (now Great Britain), between 373 and 390 and passed away around 460.. He was the son of a decurion (tax collector in the Roman Empire) and a woman called Concessa. At the age of sixteen, around 405, he was captured by pirates, who later sold him into slavery. During his 6 years in captivity, he worked as a shepherd for an Irish clan chief. His family was slaughtered by exiled Scots princes, but Patrick and his two sisters were spared due to their youth, only to be sold into slavery.

He then became a devout Christian following his encounter with God, when one night he had a vision from God, telling him to take a boat. In 411, he reached the coast of insular Britain but his boat ran aground. While his companions were starving and praying to their pagan gods, Patrick prayed to his god and suddenly a herd of wild pigs appeared, leading to the crew's conversion to Christianity and bringing Christianity to Britain.

Saint Patrick's Day is therefore celebrated on March 17 because it is the date of St. Patrick's death.

Another symbol of St. Patrick's Day is the three-leaf clover because it is a symbol of Christianity.

According to legend, the shamrock was used by Saint Patrick for his mission of evangelization. The Saint would have had the idea of using the 3-leaf clover to represent the Holy Trinity to the king in order to convert him to Christianity.

The Holy Trinity is composed of three elements: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. The stem of the clover symbolizes the veneration of a God.

Then, the clover was represented throughout the country, whether on a Celtic cross or to decorate engravings. The British nicknamed this symbol the Irish "shamrogshire" which means "clover of shame".



BY VECTOR

ST. PATRICK'S DAY

St. Patrick's Day: A Worldwide Festival of Irish Pride

Saint Patrick's Day or "Paddy's Day", also known as the Feast of Saint Patrick, is an Irish tradition celebrated on March 17th in Dublin and all around the world, but more particularly in Ireland. It is a religious and cultural holiday* and this date is recognized as the traditional death date of Saint Patrick, the foremost patron saint of Ireland. The holiday commemorates Saint Patrick and the arrival of Christianity in Ireland, and nowadays it celebrates the Irish heritage and culture in general. Some traditions show the connection to Irish culture and its importance. This article is exactly what you need to learn a bit more about them!



By Gooseflats. Pixabay t

How is it celebrated ?

Nowadays, Saint Patrick's Day is a public holiday in many states and is celebrated in many ways. Celebrations often include public parades and festivals such as the Dublin's one held every year, with buildings lit up in green; wearing Shamrocks* or green attires such as green shirts, pants, and accessories, or even more extravagant costumes like Leprechaun hats. Moreover, enjoying Irish food like Irish stew, Shepherd's pie, or drinks like whisky and Guinness; and Irish dances and music are part of the celebrations. Irish music is played with instruments such as the harp, violin, tin whistle, and bodhrán*; and traditional dances like the jig and reel are performed with enthusiasm. In addition, in England, green beers are served in pubs and in Chicago in the USA, they colour the river in green for Saint Patrick's Day because a lot of Irish people live there.

Vocabulary:

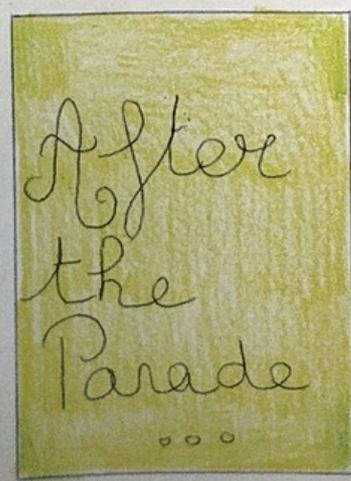
holiday: A holiday is a day or other period of time set aside for festivals or recreation. Public holidays are set by public authorities and vary by state or region.

Shamrock: The Shamrock is a type of clover, used as a symbol of Ireland.

Bodhrán: A Bodhrán is a frame drum which is a musical instrument used in Irish music and may be the first drum to be invented.



COMIC STRIP



cinnamonand

The Leprechaun

The Leprechaun is extremely famous in Ireland, everybody knows him there. A Leprechaun is known to be a supernatural creature that comes from Irish folklore. The Leprechaun is usually represented as a little man with a red beard who wears a green coat and a hat. People say that this supernatural being spends his time making shoes, he is the fairies' shoe maker; counting coins that he hides in a cauldron at the end of a rainbow and making jokes. The Leprechaun prefers to live far from humans, because humans usually want to capture him.

If you capture him, he may grant you three wishes or lead you to the spot where he hides all his gold. The Leprechaun made his first appearance in a medieval tale entitled "Echtra Fergus mac Léti". In this tale we can find a scene in which Fergus mac Léti, a king, woke up in the sea, dragged by three "lúchorpáin". Then, the king captured these three creatures, the "lúchorpáin" granted him with three wishes to trade their release.



Pixabay

Folklore

In Irish folklore, the Leprechaun is represented as a lonely being who lives at the end of a rainbow. As said before, this creature spends his days making jokes. According to William Butler, a poet and playwright, the Leprechaun's wealth comes from cauldrons which were hidden during an old period of war and then found by Leprechauns. Also, according to McAnally, the Leprechaun may be the son of a bad spirit but this supernatural creature is not good and benevolent or bad and mean, this creature is simply tricky and loves making some jokes and pranks. The Leprechaun is also known for his love for music and dance, especially Irish ones.

The representation of the Leprechaun

Nowadays, the Leprechaun is very well- known, and we can find him in plenty of movies, for example horror ones. In total, eight horror movies were made, the first one was released in 1993 by Mark Jones.

This creature is also represented in a saga that everybody knows : Harry Potter. The Leprechaun only makes a really quick appearance in the fourth movie “Harry Potter and the Goblet On Fire”, when the Irish Quidditch team arrives in Hogwarts, they create a huge Leprechaun in the sky. This appearance proves that the Leprechaun has become a kind of symbol of Ireland.

Nowadays he is usually dressed with green clothes and a hat, has a red beard and sometimes we can see that there is a clover with four leaves on his hat. A clover with four leaves is supposed to bring luck when you find one. So we could say that The Leprechaun brings luck.

AI generated picture. Pixabay



IRELAND'S SPORTING HERITAGE: AN INTRODUCTION TO GAELIC GAMES

Gaelic Football

Gaelic football is an Irish sport that combines elements of football and rugby. In the past, the game was played over very long distances and often involved almost all the inhabitants of two villages, who would compete against each other without clear rules. In 1884, official rules were adopted, and the Gaelic Athletic Association (GAA) was founded to organize competitions.

Today, each team consists of 15 players, and the match is played on a large grass field. Players cannot simply throw the ball with their hands like in rugby. Instead, they can carry the ball while running, but they must bounce it on the ground or tap it with their foot after four steps. They can also hit it with their fist or foot to pass it to a teammate or try to score.

The goals have an "H" shape, like in rugby. If a player sends the ball between the posts above the crossbar, they score 1 point. If they manage to send it under the bar, into the net guarded by a goalkeeper, they score 3 points. The team with the most points at the end of the match wins.



DEFENCE FORCES VS BOI GAELIC FOOTBALL
AT SEMPLE STADIUM BY IRISH DEFENCE
FORCES FROM IRELAND



BY SEANINRYAN

Hurling

Hurling is a very ancient sport that comes from Ireland. Originally, it was played to train warriors and for competitions between villages. Today, it is one of the fastest sports in the world, with players running quickly and hitting a small ball over long distances.

The field is between 130 and 145 meters long and between 80 and 90 meters wide. There is a goal protected by a goalkeeper, whose job is to prevent the other team from scoring. The goal is to score as many points as possible: you score 1 point when

the ball passes between the posts above the crossbar, and 3 points if the ball passes under the crossbar and into the net. Players use a wooden stick called a hurley, which is about 90 cm long. It has a curved shape that helps to hit the ball, called a sliotar. The sliotar is small and harder than a tennis ball.

Hurling is an amateur sport, but it is very popular in Ireland. There are competitions between clubs, regional leagues, and highly followed tournaments, like the All-Ireland Championship, one of the biggest sports events in the country.

Today, hurling has become an important symbol of Irish culture.

Camogie

Camogie is a fast-moving team sport played by women. It is very similar to hurling, which is played by men. The game started in Ireland and is now played in many places around the world. Two teams of 15 players



GARDA V DEFENCE FORCES BY IRISH DEFENCE FORCES FROM IRELAND

compete on a large grass field. Each player uses a wooden stick called a hurley to hit a small ball called a sliotar. The goal of the game is to score points. If a player hits the ball over the crossbar, their team gets one point. If they hit the ball into the net past the goalkeeper, their team gets three points. Players can run while carrying the ball, but they must balance it on their hurley. They can pass the ball by hitting it with their hurley or hand. Defenders try to block or stop the opposing team from scoring. All players must wear helmets with faceguards to protect themselves. Camogie is one of the fastest sports in the world. It requires a lot of skill, speed, and teamwork. The sport has a long history in Irish culture. The biggest competition in camogie is the All-Ireland Camogie Championship.



BOWLING ROUNDERS BY ANDREW PASQUALE

Rounders

Rounders is a bat-and-ball game played by two teams. It is similar to baseball and softball. The game has been played for hundreds of years and is very popular in Ireland and the UK. Each team takes turns to bat and field. The batting team tries to hit the ball and run around four bases to score points, called rounders. The fielding team tries to catch the ball and stop the batters from scoring. A player hits the ball with a wooden or metal bat. If they hit the ball, they run to the first base. They can keep running to the next bases if it is safe. If a fielder catches the ball before it touches the ground, the batter is out. The batter is also out if the fielders touch a base before the batter reaches it. A game usually lasts for two innings, with each team getting a turn to bat and field. The team with the most rounders at the end of the game wins.

Guinness: an institution

Meet Guinness, a beer known by most of the bartenders in the world for over 260 years, particularly in the Irish or English pubs. A beer which was created by Sir Arthur Guinness, who gave his name to this drink.

Who was Sir Arthur Guinness ?

The creator of this famous beer is Sir Arthur Guinness, who gave his name to both the museum and the alcoholic beverage. The latter was born in 1725, in Ireland, more exactly in Celbridge, County Kildare. His father was working under Arthur Price, a religious member of the clergy, more precisely a bishop. Price included both his father and Arthur in his will after his death in 1752. After this, Arthur worked in his stepmother's pub before he created his very own brewery. However, in 1759, a financial crisis hit. It created affordable opportunities to obtain property. This pushed Arthur to move to Dublin, and he bought an old brewery. Originally an ale brewery, which produced beer without hops, it became however a porter production in 1778. By 1799, the ale production ceased fully, thanks to the popularity of Guinness's darker beer.

Even outside of his business, Guinness was someone very involved politically and socially. Strongly supportive of the Catholic rights in Ireland, he was yet very much against the Irish Rebellion of 1798. He was a member of the Dublin Corporation of Brewers and his influential position allowed him to petition the Irish House of Commons. The petitioning had for purpose the change of the tax code surrounding the importation of beer.

Guinness had 10 children with his wife, and soon after his death in 1803, his son Arthur Guinness II inherited the brewery and took over the operations left by his father.

The iconic beer and the fun facts about it

The harp

How could we talk about Guinness without talking about the harp? You can now see it as an emblem of Ireland. However it is the brand of the popular beer which took this emblem in the first place in 1860, then the free state of Ireland which took the harp as well as a symbol of Irish culture in 1922.

Have you noticed a difference ? The government had to use the obverse side of Guinness's logo because it was a registered trademark. Sometimes, if you see someone tossing a coin linked to the emblem, you can hear "heads or harps" instead of "heads or tails".



BY PRYLARER AND IDEATIVAS-TLM

The colour

This beer is a stout one, which means it is a beer which is brewed from a mixture characterised by its content of highly roasted malt grains and griddled barley grains, which gives it this black robe. However, if you put the beer under the light, you can see that it is not black but it is a deep red. The foam layer is the result of nitrogen adding during the draught. That is why the taste can be different between a beer that has been draught and a bottle of beer or a can.

The Guinness World Records, which rewards unique records in many domains was invented thanks to Sir Hugh Beaver, who was the managing director of the Guinness Brewery.

According to their website, it “started out as an idea for a book of facts to solve arguments in pubs.”

The Guinness Storehouse, a surprising museum

To be able to better know the iconic beer, a museum was made in the shape of a beer pint. It is set on seven floors.

You can do various activities in the museum. There are of course self-guided visits, where you can visit the museum at your own pace. From the brewing to the advertising, you will be able to surround yourself with the momentous achievements and remarkable history of the Guinness brand. Beer tasting is also possible, where you will be able to discover each beer, each flavour and texture and aroma of the beverage.

From learning how to pour a pint to simply take a break and eat, the museum offers a unique experience for all beer lovers. The Gravity bar is also a must, you can drink your beer while admiring a panoramic view of Dublin. And what kind of museum wouldn't include buying souvenirs ? Of course, you can do it at the end of your visit.

Warning: Alcohol must be consumed with moderation, it can damage your health.