

North of the Liffey

Neighborhood Top Five

1 Dublin City Gallery – Hugh Lane (p133) Nodding sagely at the exquisite collection of modern and contemporary art.

2 Old Jameson Distillery (p134) Sampling a snifter of the hard stuff – that’s whiskey to you and me – after discovering how it’s made in this converted distillery museum.

3 Abbey Theatre (p144) Spending a night at the spiritual home of Irish theatre, being entertained by plays both old and new by the great dramatists as well as emerging talent.

4 National Museum of Ireland – Decorative Arts & History (p134) Wandering about the glorious yard of Collins Barracks, without

forgetting the collection itself – which includes fascinating exhibits on Ireland’s struggle for independence as well as the history of design.

5 Tantalising your taste-buds (p141) Eating in the north side’s new breed of restaurants, like Cotto or Fish Shop.



For more detail of this area see Map p252 ➔

Explore North of the Liffey

With the biggest geographical spread of any neighbourhood, a little planning and a bit of transport will be required to fully explore Dublin north of the Liffey. O'Connell St and its attractions are pretty straightforward and can be explored with ease on foot, with the biggest demand on your time being the fabulous collection at the Hugh Lane gallery and the collection at Collins Barracks. The north side's other attractions are to the west, and the best way to get to them is by Luas, which will reduce your journey to mere minutes. The Old Jameson Distillery and Collins Barracks are within walking distance of each other, on either side of Smithfield, but you'll be under your own steam to explore Europe's largest enclosed city park, home to the president, the US Ambassador, the zoo and a herd of red deer, not to mention visiting Dubliners when the weather is good.

Beyond the Royal Canal, which encloses the northern edge of the city centre, are a bunch of attractions that are well worth the effort: you could devote the guts of half a day each visiting the Croke Park museum, Glasnevin cemetery and the National Botanic Gardens; an excursion to Marino to see the famous Casino is also worthwhile, and you can get there via the DART suburban train.

Local Life

- ➔ **Hang-out** Go to Brother Hubbard (p141) on Capel St for great coffee and an easy-going atmosphere; equally good is Third Space (p141) in Smithfield.
- ➔ **Food** The northside's culinary credentials are elevated by the likes of Oxmantown (p141), Cotto (p141) and Fish Shop (p141) – but don't ignore stalwarts such as 101 Talbot (p141) either!
- ➔ **Park Life** Do as Dubliners do on a fine day and take in the massive expanse of Phoenix Park (p130), where you can run, cycle, play, walk or just lie down, depending on your fancy.

Getting There & Away

- ➔ **Bus** All city centre buses stop on O'Connell St or the nearby quays. City buses serve Glasnevin and Croke Park, while national bus services, operated by Bus Éireann, arrive and depart from the Busáras (p217) depot on Store St.
- ➔ **Tram** The Luas runs east to west parallel to the Liffey from The Point to Heuston Station.
- ➔ **Train** The DART runs from Connolly Station northeast to Clontarf Rd, which is handy for the Casino at Marino. Mainline trains for the north and northwest go from Connolly Station (p217).

Lonely Planet's Top Tip

The area between the northern end of O'Connell St and Gardiner St to the east as far up as Dorset St is best avoided late at night, as the potential for drug- or alcohol-fuelled trouble is heightened in a neighbourhood beset by the ills of urban deprivation.

Best Places to Eat

- ➔ M&L (p141)
- ➔ Chapter One (p142)
- ➔ 101 Talbot (p141)
- ➔ Oxmantown (p141)
- ➔ Fish Shop (p141)

For reviews, see p141 ➔

Best Places to Drink

- ➔ Walshe's (p143)
- ➔ Dice Bar (p143)
- ➔ Pantibar (p143)

For reviews, see p143 ➔

Best Places to Shop

- ➔ Arnott's (p145)
- ➔ Winding Stair (p145)
- ➔ Jervis Centre (p145)

For reviews, see p145 ➔