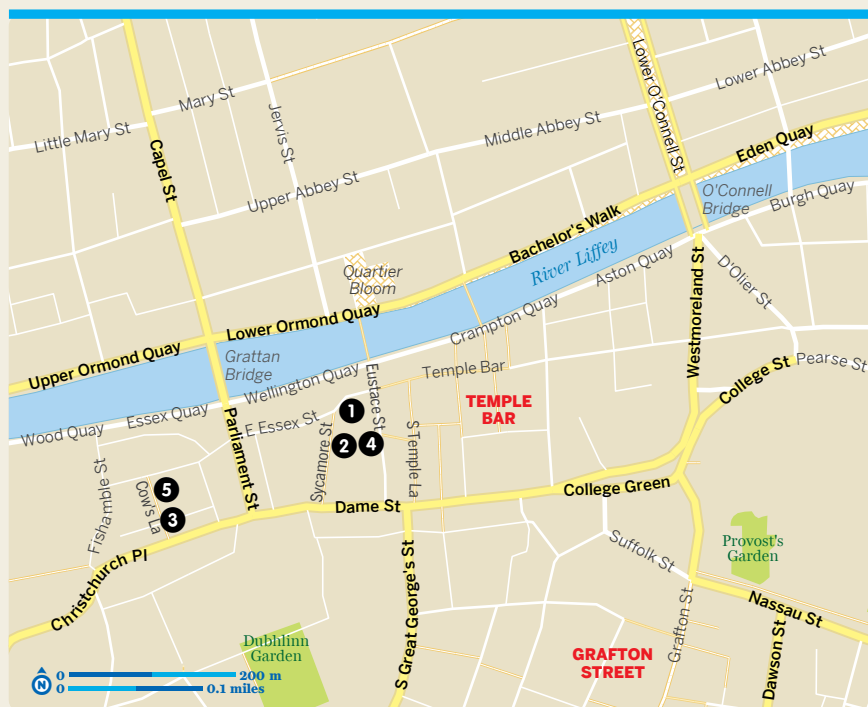



Temple Bar

Neighborhood Top Five

- 1 Temple Bar Food Market** (p107) Feast on organic and exotic nibbles from all over at Dublin's most exciting food market.
- 2 Gallery of Photography** (p103) Explore the creative reach of photography at this small but excellent gallery, with a fine bookshop on the ground floor.
- 3 Cow's Lane Designer Mart** (p109) Rummage for designer gear, radical fashions and oddball knickknacks by local producers at this weekend market.
- 4 Ark Children's Cultural Centre** (p103) Awaken your child's inner performer and creator at this wonderful cultural centre.
- 5 Gutter Bookshop** (p108) This locally owned bookshop is one of the best in town because it is the kind of place that encourages you to browse and linger.



For more detail of this area see Map p240 

Explore Temple Bar

You can visit all of Temple Bar's attractions in less than half a day, but that's not really the point: this cobbled neighbourhood, for so long the city's most infamous party zone, is really more about ambience than attractions. If you visit during the day, the district's bohemian bent is on display. You can browse for vintage clothes, get your nipples pierced, nibble on Mongolian barbecue, buy organic food, pick up the latest musical releases and buy books on every conceivable subject. You can check out the latest art installations or join in a pulsating drum circle. By night – or at the weekend – it's a different story altogether, as the area's bars are packed to the rafters with revellers looking to tap into their inner Bacchus: it's loud, raucous and usually a lot of fun. Temple Bar is also Dublin's official 'cultural quarter', so you shouldn't ignore its more high-minded offerings like the progressive Project Arts Centre, Temple Bar Gallery & Studios and the Irish Film Institute (IFI).

Local Life

- ➔ **Markets** The Temple Bar Food Market (p107) is all about gourmet goodies and organic foodstuffs; the Cow's Lane Designer Mart (p109) is a showcase of local art and clothing; while the Book Fair (p109) is the place to pick up second-hand novels and CDs.
- ➔ **Nightlife** A live-music gig at the Button Factory (p107) or the Workman's Club (p107) is always a great night out, and you can really get your grind on at Mother (p106) on a Saturday night.
- ➔ **Dining** Soaking up the excesses of the night before is a favourite weekend activity, and we recommend the marvellous mayhem at the Elephant & Castle (p105) or the sublime sushi at Banyu (p105), a favourite with the city's Japanese population.

Getting There & Away

- ➔ **Bus** As Temple Bar is right in the heart of the city, all cross-city buses will deposit you by the cobbled, largely pedestrianised streets, making access – and escape – that bit easier.
- ➔ **On Foot** Temple Bar is easily accessible on foot from Grafton St to the southeast, Kilmainham to the west and the north side of the river to the north.

Lonely Planet's Top Tip

Unless you're in for a no-holds-barred, knees-up weekend and don't care too much about sleeping, don't overnight in Temple Bar – hotel rooms are generally more cramped and noisier here than elsewhere. Temple Bar's central location and the city's size mean you can get in and out of here with relative ease.

Best Places to Eat

- ➔ Crackbird (p104)
 - ➔ Bunsen (p104)
 - ➔ Banyu Japanese Dining (p105)
 - ➔ Elephant & Castle (p105)
- For reviews, see p104 ➔

Best Places to Drink

- ➔ Vintage Cocktail Club (p106)
 - ➔ Palace Bar (p106)
 - ➔ Front Lounge (p106)
 - ➔ Mother (p106)
- For reviews, see p106 ➔

Best Places to Shop

- ➔ Cow's Lane Designer Mart (p109)
 - ➔ Gutter Bookshop (p108)
 - ➔ Claddagh Records (p108)
 - ➔ Siopaella Design Exchange (p108)
- For reviews, see p107 ➔