



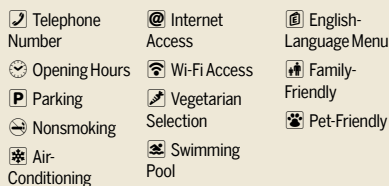
IRELAND'S BEST TRIPS

34 AMAZING
ROAD TRIPS

This edition written and researched by

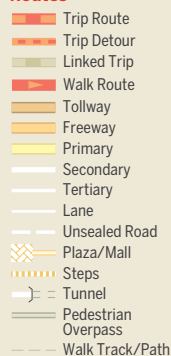
Fionn Davenport, Belinda Dixon
Catherine Le Nevez, Oda O'Carroll

SYMBOLS IN THIS BOOK



MAP LEGEND

Routes



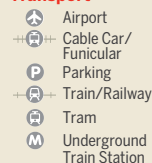
Boundaries



Population



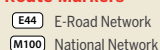
Transport



Trips



Route Markers



Hydrography



Areas



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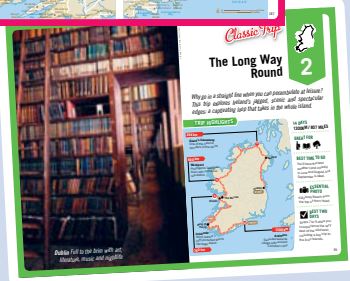
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Classic Trips

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Catherine Le Nevez My wanderlust kicked in when I road-tripped across Europe aged four. I've been hitting the road at every opportunity since, completing a Doctorate of Creative Arts in writing, a Masters in professional writing and post-grad qualifications in editing and publishing along the way. With Celtic connections including Irish and Breton heritage (and a love of Guinness!), I've travelled throughout every county in the emerald isle, and covered 20 of them for various Lonely Planet titles.

My Favourite Trip **15** **Dingle Peninsula** This trip ticks all the boxes: perfect breakers, fresh-as-it-gets seafood, phenomenal scenery and a poetic soul.



Oda O'Carroll From the far-flung reaches of Midwest Ireland, I upped sticks and moved to Dublin to study communications. After a stint as a TV researcher I went on to direct short films and TV documentaries in between travel writing for Lonely Planet and other (lesser!) publications. I've worked on titles like *Britain, France, Corsica, Ireland and Dublin* and now live in Dublin with my husband and three daughters.

My Favourite Trip **21** **Best of the West** It's hard to beat this coastline for sheer scenic diversity: windswept beaches, great stretches of mountains and super-friendly towns.

OUR WRITERS



OUR STORY

A beat-up old car, a few dollars in the pocket and a sense of adventure. In 1972 that's all Tony and Maureen Wheeler needed for the trip of a lifetime – across Europe and Asia overland to Australia. It took several months, and at the end –

broke but inspired – they sat at their kitchen table writing and stapling together their first travel guide, *Across Asia on the Cheap*. Within a week they'd sold 1500 copies. Lonely Planet was born.

Today, Lonely Planet has offices in Melbourne, London and Oakland, with more than 600 staff and writers. We share Tony's belief that 'a great guidebook should do three things: inform, educate and amuse'.



Fionn Davenport It's funny how you can least know that which is most familiar to you. Irish-born, bred and raised, I've lived in and out of Ireland all of my life. But it was only when I began writing about it 20 years ago that I began to really get to know it – and this guide has been especially rewarding. I've taken to the road and focused less on where I was going and more on what I could see along the way.

My Favourite Trip 12 Blackwater Valley

Drive It's as far from my home in Dublin as I got, but on this short trip I finally got to understand what my Waterford mates had told me about their beloved Blackwater Valley.



Belinda Dixon I first visited Northern Ireland 20 years ago, when armed soldiers patrolled the streets. Witnessing the transformative power of the peace process in Belfast and Derry on this research trip has been inspiring. But what is also always appealing is getting off Ireland's main routes onto the cliff-clinging minor roads; sometimes mud spattered, sometimes sand fringed, they're unfailingly memorable drives.

My Favourite Trip 31 Inishowen Peninsula

This is real back-roads Ireland: mountain passes, sweeps of golden beach and tiny, traditional communities. Plus Derry's powerful past, too.

Read more about Belinda at:

www.lonelyplanet.com/members/belindadixon



MORE WRITERS

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