

IRISH AMERICANS

AUTHENTIC IRELAND TRAVEL

Why Visit Ireland

Right now, Ireland has it all. From the haunting beauty of the pure, unspoiled landscapes and the drama of the coastline, to the urban buzz of the country's dynamic cities mixed with the magic of thousands of years' worth of culture and history, Ireland is a country that never fails to surprise.



Wild and beautiful, inspiring and exciting, Ireland's energy and romance will win you over in an instant. And with some of the friendliest people in the world, this perfectly-sized and surprisingly-diverse island will keep you coming back for more. 4 out of every 5 people asked say that Ireland is in their list of top 5 places to visit.

The Island of Ireland is closer than ever, approximately six hours from the US and with 5 airlines now flying directly to Ireland - getting there has never been easier. And when visitors arrive, everyone will do their best to ensure a unique travel experience.

From the fire of the festival to the lure of the literature, Ireland boasts a rich tapestry of arts and cultural activities including world renowned museums and art galleries.

You only have to touch down on Irish soil to realize that the island of Ireland is a relaxed unspoiled place where you can enjoy the outdoor life. A passion for golf and for horses keeps many a visitor out in the air well into the evening.

With lots of water, coastlines and crashing waves Ireland has impressed many a surfer. Or perhaps bass fishing in tranquil lakes is what you'll come for.

Many fine historical establishments showcase contemporary interior design and sophisticated elegance. Ireland boasts a magnificent range of accommodation options, from luxurious five star castles to quaint cottages, and everything in between. Today many of the world's best-known hotel chains are including Ireland in their network, as are many of the world's top ranked spas. The choice is yours.

With a culinary landscape boasting exquisite home-grown ingredients from the sea to the land, top chefs and world-class restaurants will delight the food lover.



Join a Group Tour



Create Your Own Vacation



Take a Driving Vacation



Irish Limericks

May those who love us love us. And those that don't love us, may God turn their hearts, and if he doesn't turn their hearts, may he turn their ankles, so we'll know them by their limping.

May the Irish hills caress you. May her lakes and rivers bless you. May the luck of the Irish enfold you. May the blessings of Saint Patrick behold you.

May your glass be ever full. May the roof over your head be always strong. And may your be in heaven half an hour before the devil knows your dead.



Personalized Claddagh Stein

Price: \$29.99

IRISH AMERICANS

Irish Music & Dance



When we think of Ireland we think of music, and there's a good reason for that. It's our gathering, a place we feel as one people at on a street bench or in a park pubs, parties, or outside playing to the cliffs and sea. The instruments beat and the rhythm, and the human voice lifted high have raised our spirits during hard times, and have been the background of our joy during good times.

Ireland is the only country in the world that has a musical instrument—the harp—as its national emblem. There is a way in which music captures the soul of who we, as Irish, are, and it's a way that seems to touch almost everyone.

Is there any way to separate dance from music? When you hear Irish music, your body wants to move. It's not surprising that traditional Irish dance has not only made a huge comeback in our own country, it's finding its way around the globe!



We love our music festivals. In fact, there are festivals almost year 'round here. The O'Carolan International Harp Festival (County Roscommon) is a total celebration of trad music, song and dance as well as instrumental instruction. The Féile Iorras (County Mayo) is an international folk - arts festival and is another one of our favorites. It is a veritable banquet, showcasing everything from Irish traditional music to Mongolian singing. This festival is in one of the most Irish areas of Ireland, fairly isolated, so when you attend you also get a great glimpse into life on a local level and witness centuries-old traditions. We also like the smaller arts festivals such as Feile Chois Cuain (Louisburgh), the Castlebar Blues Festival (Castlebar), and Siamsa Straide (Swinford).

Music is either free or very inexpensive, offering one of the best values for experience you can get in Ireland. The quality of Irish music, and the sheer joy of life it brings, is unrivaled. Hear enough music and you get the feeling that music is a river flowing through Ireland, renewing our country and bringing it new life. And you would be right. Let go, and enjoy at least one music session, either as an active listener or as a participant. You'll feel the exuberant and vital sense of well-being that only music can bring.

IRISH AMERICANS

Irish Coffee Brownies

Ingredients

- 1-1/4 cups granulated sugar
- 3/4 cup butter or margarine, softened
- 1/2 cup unsweetened cocoa powder
- 2 eggs
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 1-1/2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 1/4 teaspoon baking soda
- 3/4 cup milk
- 1/4 cup Irish Whiskey
- 2 tablespoons instant coffee crystals
- 1 cup chopped walnuts
- 2-1/2 cups sifted powdered sugar
- 2 tablespoons unsweetened cocoa powder
- 1 tablespoon Irish Whiskey
- 1-1/4 teaspoon vanilla
- 3 to 4 tablespoons brewed coffee
- Chopped walnuts (optional)



Irish Coffee Brownies

Directions

1. Heat granulated sugar, butter or margarine, and 1/2 cup cocoa powder in a large saucepan over medium heat until butter or margarine melts, stirring constantly. Remove from heat. Add eggs and 1 teaspoon vanilla; beat lightly just until combined.
2. Stir together flour, baking powder, and baking soda in a bowl; set aside. Stir together milk and 1/4 cup whiskey; stir in coffee crystals. Add flour mixture and milk mixture alternately to the chocolate mixture, beating by hand after each addition. Stir in nuts. Pour into a greased 15x10x1-inch baking pan.
3. Bake in a 350 degree F oven for 15 to 20 minutes or until a toothpick inserted near the center comes out clean. Cool in pan on a wire rack.
4. Meanwhile, for the Irish Coffee Glaze, stir together sifted powdered sugar, 2 tablespoons unsweetened cocoa powder, 1 tablespoon Irish whiskey, and 1-1/4 teaspoons vanilla. Stir in 3 to 4 tablespoons brewed coffee until of drizzling consistency.
5. If desired, sprinkle with additional chopped nuts. Makes 36 brownies.

Nutrition facts

Servings Per Recipe 36 brownies
 Calories 148.6
 Total Fat (g) 6.9
 Saturated Fat (g) 2.9
 Monounsaturated Fat (g) 2.2
 Polyunsaturated Fat (g) 1.8
 Cholesterol (mg) 23.1
 Sodium (mg) 67.7
 Carbohydrate (g) 19.2
 Total Sugar (g) 13.4
 Fiber (g) .4
 Protein (g) 2
 Calcium (DV%) 4
 Iron (DV%) 3
 Percent Daily Values are based on a 2,000 calorie diet

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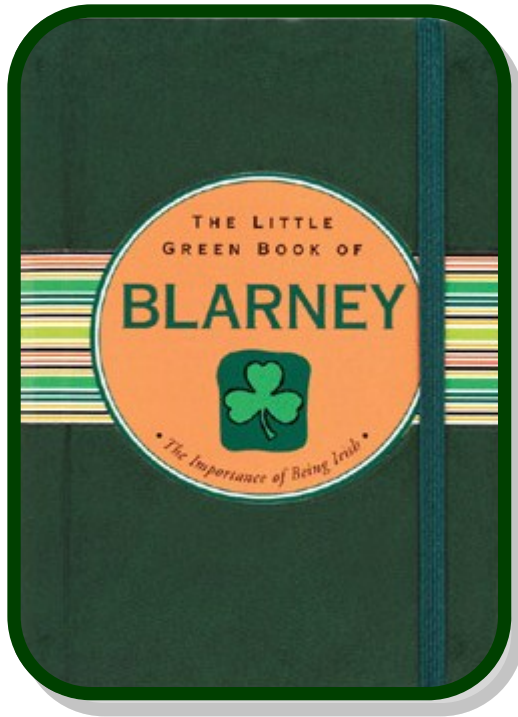
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"Irish Coffee" Coffee Mug
 Price: \$20.99



Irish AMERICANS



Little Green Book of Blarney

Here's a treasure of facts and wisdom about the Emerald Isle and our collective Irish past. You'll explore Irish history, culture and literature as well as beloved Irish folklore and fun in this 144-page book by Ruth Cullen. Only \$ 9.95

THE CELTIC CROSS

The Celtic cross is a Christian cross with a circle around the center where the lines intersect. Popular Irish legend maintains that St. Patrick, Ireland's patron saint, created the first Celtic cross during his missionary work converting the pagan Irish to Christianity. He report combined a circle, the pagan symbol for the sun goddess, with a cross to represent the union of old and new ways. Other theories about the origin and symbolism of the Celtic cross have been the subject of conjecture by scholars and theologians for years. Today, images of the Celtic Cross can be found on everything from jewelry to gravestones, symbolizing both faith and pride in one's ethnic heritage.



Jolly Green Clover Poker Set



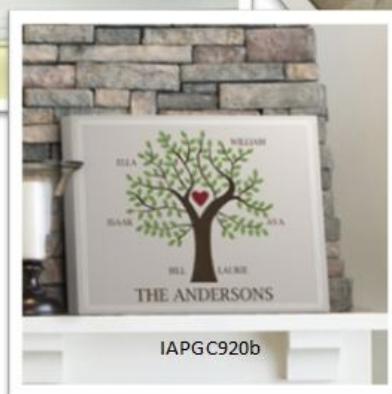
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IRISH AMERICANS



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