

# 2night

magazine

freetimeguide  
**DUBLIN**  
**MARCH 2011**

*A touch  
of class!*

30 great places  
to enjoy a  
top-drawer meal.



# Welcome

to our March issue. After a brief break to publish our 2011 Guide (you can still pick up our round-up of 40 great venues in selected spots across Dublin, or download it from [2night.ie](http://2night.ie)), 2night magazine is back! For our special feature this month, we're all about quality, featuring 30 great places to enjoy fine city dining. When you're treating yourself, after all, you want a genuinely special experience, and you can't go wrong with the 30 venues we've picked out. We've also picked out an extremely promising band in reggae outfit The Barley Mob. Their lead singer, Adam Daly, chatted to us about playing a style that differs from most Dublin bands, being politically plugged in, and why he's stopped watching the news. Daly's crew aren't the only band under the spotlight this month - our event listings are packed with news of great gigs, the biggest club nights, and all the other events making a stir in March. Speaking of a stir, Mel Gibson has made his comeback this month with comedy drama *The Beaver*. Wondering if that's as dreadful as it sounds? You can check out our review, along with advance word on the other major film releases this month, on page 12! Between that, and our signature mix of snarky commentary, great competitions and inside tips, you'll find this little tome pretty useful. If you like what you're reading, check out our website - [www.2night.ie](http://www.2night.ie). It offers the inside track on even more great events and venues across the city.

**2night**  
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### 2night on the go!

Download our free iPhone app for up-to-the-minute advice on restaurants, venues, events and everything happening in Dublin. You can search our comprehensive database by venue type, cuisine and more, or even find venues near you: read our reviews, find out what other users think, and check out the pictures.

The 2night app is absolutely free.



# A touch of class!

2night rounds up 30 great places to enjoy a top-drawer meal.

Most of us aren't getting out as much as we'd like to. So, when we do, we want to make the most of it, and dropping €50 for a sub-par dinner just doesn't cut it anymore. We expect service that makes us feel welcome, surroundings with a hint of luxury, a menu offering new experiences, and chefs that deliver in the kitchen.

Luckily for us, many Dublin eateries are delivering precisely that. Fellow foodie John McKenna has said that good restaurants are benefiting from a kind of "Darwinism", as less-than-stellar places shut their doors to leave more room for the cream of the crop – we've observed the same thing happening here, as many of our favourite establishments continue to thrive.

This month, we're celebrating those places, and the great dining experience they offer. We've rounded up 30 restaurants offering a touch of class – and often a side-dose of value – at dinner. Our list is pretty eclectic, ranging across ethnicities and cooking style, but all 30 places have one thing in common: they're a little bit special.

FOODIE



Name: Dee Laffan  
2night username: Deebee

#### What makes a great meal for you? Service, interesting dishes, or the execution in the kitchen?

I think it is a combination of so many things but top three would be as follows: firstly atmosphere, and a simple way of creating this in a restaurant is with lighting, temperature and music. Secondly, good staff and service is an important ingredient (sorry for the pun!) in making a meal great. Lastly, the obvious one, is the quality of the food. Even with a limited menu or the simplest dishes, you can have a great meal if the chef knows how to cook food properly and uses the best ingredients. These three simple things can ruin a meal or make it great!

#### How do you think Ireland's top restaurants compare internationally?

I think that Ireland's restaurants' standards have really improved in the past ten years and also the amount of amazingly-skilled chefs has also increased vastly with the likes of Ross Lewis and Stephane Robin definitely leading the way in terms of Michelin-starred cuisine. Comparing our average, moderately-priced restaurants to international ones, I think that Ireland is still far behind; our cities have lots of excellent restaurants, and popular tourist areas too, but often local menus can be a let-down.

#### When you're feeling flush, where is your favourite place to eat in Dublin?

A week before pay day flush – FXB on Crow Street, Temple Bar; just got paid flush – Fire, in the Mansion House on Dawson Street; spoil yourself flush – Chapter One on Parnell Square (Ross Lewis is a magician with food!).

have your say  
2NIGHTERS AND THEIR NIGHTLIFE

EXPERT



Oscar Holguin  
Head Chef, Il Posto

#### What, for you, makes a meal out special?


I always like to try new places but for a special night out: it's the company and the ambience that makes the difference for me.

#### Does the drive to value put pressure on chefs who try to keep quality high across the menu?

The drive to create and offer good quality and value has certainly become more of a challenge for chefs. Being imaginative and using seasonal fare is a good way to offer both. I also like to go to the market myself which cuts out the cost of the middle man.

#### Aside from Il Posto, of course, where do you like to eat out when you're treating yourself?

One of my favourite restaurants is Seagrass off Portobello Bridge. It's owned by a very talented and resourceful chef who cooks there himself everyday, it's cosy and the staff are very welcoming and friendly.



**BALZAC**  
35, Dawson Street -  
Dublin 2  
Tel: 016774444

Provided you're not averse to pink, you'll like what the owners have done here to recreate the ambience and glamour of a Parisian brasserie. Most of the staples are here, along with some creative little dishes (who would have thought that a crab creme brulee would work?). Desserts – particularly the roasted plums with cinnamon and oatmeal crumble – are generally considered the highlight.


Opening hours: Open Monday to Saturday, from 18:00 to 23:00 (23:30 Saturday).



**BANG RESTAURANT**  
11, Merrion Row –  
Dublin 2  
Tel: 014004229

The new Bang has the cosmopolitan-but-relaxed vibe that made the original so popular. The food is centred high-end Irish fare with continental twists sprinkled across the menu: the roast wild venison loin with red cabbage, pumpkin puree and braised celery (€28), is our tip when it's in season.

Opening hours: Open seven days a week. Lunch served Monday to Saturday from 12:30, dinner served Monday to Saturday from 17:30 (16:00 Sunday).



**BELLAGIO**  
103, East Terenure  
Road - Dublin 6  
Tel: 014920041

Bellagio's dining room – all sharp angles, pale colours and richly-finished wood – has a modern vibe, in common with many of the top establishments in contemporary Lombardy, though it serves dishes from across the country including many old favourites. The insalata caprese (with a particularly fine fresh mozzarella), seafood linguine and lamb cutlets are specialities.


Opening hours: Open seven days a week, from 12:30 to 22:30 (23:00 Saturday, 22:00 Sunday).



**BIJOU**  
46, Highfield Road -  
Dublin 6  
Tel: 014961518

This deceptively sprawling place features a high-end restaurant, a more informal bistro, a cocktail bar and even a little deli and bakery on the corner. If you can get into the restaurant, grab the rump of lamb or confit pork belly, though the daube of beef in the downstairs bistro runs them close.


Opening hours: Open seven days a week. Restaurant opened Wednesday to Sunday, from 17:00 (12:00 Sunday) to 23:00 (18:00 Sunday), Bistro open from 10:00 to 23:00.



**CHAPTER ONE**  
18-19, Parnell Square  
- Dublin 1  
Tel: 018732266

Since setting up in the 1990s, Martin Corbett and Ross Lewis have turned a Georgian basement into a little beacon of culinary excellence. The menu changes constantly to ensure ingredients are fresh and in season but, if it's on offer, make sure to try the Conemara mountain lamb.

Opening hours: Open Tuesday to Saturday. Lunch served from 12:30 to 14:00, Tuesday to Friday. Pre-theatre dinner served from 18:00 to 19:00, dinner from 19:30 to 22:30.



**DARWIN'S**  
80, Aungier Street -  
Dublin 2  
Tel: 014757511

Darwin's has crossed the street and is already thriving in its new, larger premises. It's still got that classy-but-unpretentious feel going on, with a conservative décor but very welcoming staff, and a fair hum of unpressed conversation. The lamb plate, a char grilled half rack and roasted eye fillet marinated in garlic and rosemary and served with a mint jus, is as popular as ever.


Opening hours: Open Monday to Saturday, from 17:00 to late.



**DAX**  
23, Upper Pembroke  
Street - Dublin 2  
Tel: 016761494

Dax may boast an elegant and tasteful décor, but it's more than just a pretty face – the restaurant has a compact, well-thought-out menu that mixes Irish staples with great French cuisine – and the chance to grab a ballotine of slow roasted suckling pig as a starter will always win us over. As you'd expect, the wine list is also excellent.


Opening hours: Open Tuesday to Saturday. Lunch served Tuesday to Friday from 12:30 to 14:30, dinner from 18:00 to 22:30.



**HARRY'S**  
22, Dawson Street -  
Dublin 2  
Tel: 016394889

One of the liveliest dining rooms in Dublin is small enough to feel intimate, while giving patrons plenty of room to breathe. Mediterranean wines and a menu mixing Italian and Irish cuisine has plenty of zing. The spicy Italian sausage pasta (€16.95), and the lobster linguini (€18.95) are prime examples of their style.

Opening hours: Open Tuesday to Sunday. Lunch served from 12:00, dinner from 17:00. Brunch available Saturday and Sunday.



**IL POSTO**  
10, Stephen's Green -  
Dublin 2  
Tel: 016794769

This Italian restaurant has brought in great value lunch and early dinner menus. The deals are striking, but they wouldn't be quite as impressive if Il Posto hadn't already earned itself a reputation for authentic, tasty fare – the fegato (lamb's liver) and polpetta (beef meatballs with a spicy pepper sauce) come highly recommended.

Opening hours: Open Monday to Saturday. Lunch served from 12:00 to 14.30, early dinner from 17:30 to 19:00, dinner from 17:30.



**L'GUEULETON**  
5 Fade St - Dublin 2  
Tel: 016753708

Even in a city where French food abounds, L'Gueuleton stands out. There's all the typical Gallic fare on offer: snails, foie gras, French onion soup and Toulouse sausages. There's also a highly recommended helping of slow roasted pork belly and a wonderful warm beetroot salad creation. The service is professional and the pricing is still keen – particularly for food of this quality.

Opening hours: Open seven days a week, from 12:30 (13:00 Sunday) to 22:00 (21:00 Sunday).



**LA CUVÉE**  
1, Burton Hall, Mayor  
Square - Dublin 1  
Tel: 016360616

The dining room at this restaurant above Eno Wines is eminently sensible – comfy chairs and lots of lustrous wood dominate – without being boring, and plenty of spark is provided by the food. A menu of French classics and Irish dishes given a contemporary twist includes everything from skewered gambas with mango and chilli (€9.50) to the ubiquitous slow roasted pork belly (€18).

Opening hours: Open Monday to Saturday, from 12:00 to 22:00.



**LA MAISON**  
15, Castlemarket  
Street - Dublin 2  
Tel: 016727258

The original Maison des Gourmets has made way for this sit-down restaurant. La Maison still offers excellent French cuisine at manageable prices, just with a little more... je ne sais quoi. This place is very welcoming at both lunch and dinner, with an intimate atmosphere and good-quality service.

Opening hours: Open from Tuesday to Saturday. Lunch from 12:00 to 15:00. Dinner from 18:00 to 01:00 (22:30 Tuesday and Wednesday).



**LE BON CRUBEEN**  
81, Talbot Street -  
Dublin 1  
Tel: 017040126

It's good French food without a prohibitive price tag - where else in town can you get a fine pot roast guinea fowl or a grilled sea bass with wilted spinach, fondant potato and a caper butter sauce for €12.50? By far our favourite dish, though is the five-spiced pork belly - it's slightly pricier at €17.80, but still a relative snip. You'll also fall hard for a perfectly prepared vanilla brulée.

Opening hours: Open seven days a week, from 12:00 to 21:30.



**PEARL BRASSERIE**  
20, Upper Merrion  
Street - Dublin 2  
Tel: 016613572

Setting up a high-end restaurant on the same street as The Merrion and Guildbaud's can't be easy, but Kristen Batt and head chef Sebastian Masi have done it in style. Irish and French dishes dominate, though there's also the odd Spanish delight in there too. The fillet and beef and rabbit loin are worth repeat visits to savour.

Opening hours: Open Tuesday to Sunday. Lunch served Tuesday to Friday from 12:00 to 14:00. Dinner from 18:00 to 22:00.



**RESTAURANT PATRICK GUILBAUD**  
21, Upper Merrion  
Street - Dublin 2  
Tel: 016764192

Patrick Guilbaud and his pair of Michelin stars don't disappoint. The menu here is a mix of inventive and classic French cuisine with a distinctly decadent streak. Particularly noteworthy is the fillet of Irish beef with roast foie gras with green apple and lime jus - rarely does a dish costing €60 leave you feeling you got your money's worth.

Opening hours: Open Tuesday to Saturday. Lunch served from 12:30 to 14:14, dinner from 19:30 to 22:15.



**THE ANGLER'S REST**  
Strawberry Beds,  
Knockmaroon Hill -  
Co Dublin  
Tel: 018208314

Sitting near the picturesque village of Chapelizod, this restaurant has a ground floor that looks like the ideal Irish local and an elegant dining room upstairs. It's the ideal setting for enjoying great quality seafood - enjoy the platter for two if you really like your fish - and other fine dishes. Opening hours: Open seven days a week, from 12:00 to 21:00 (22:00 Thursday to Saturday). Bar open to 23:30 (23:00 Sunday).



**LES FRÈRES JACQUES**  
74, Dame Street -  
Dublin 2  
Tel: 016794555

This place has been near the top of Dublin's culinary heap since opening in 1986, and a great early bird - with two courses for €18, and three for €23 - lets ordinary folk sample head chef Richard Reau's delights. The menu's specialties include grilled blue lobster, and a mean haunch of wild venison bourguignonne.

Opening hours: Open Monday to Saturday. Lunch served from 12:30 to 14:30, Monday to Friday. Dinner served from 18:00 to 22:30.



**PICHET**  
14-15, Trinity Street -  
Dublin 2  
Tel: 016771060

Literally feet away from the bustle of Temple Bar, Pichet has a breezy, refreshing dining room. The food itself is creative: discovering a crispy hen's egg with Serrano ham and Caper Vinaigrette on the starters section of the menu (the latter is available as a main course too) should be a good sign that you've found a special little place.

Opening hours: Open seven days a week, from 08:00 (10:00 Saturday, 12:00 Sunday) to 22:30 (23:00 Saturday, 21:00 Sunday).



**RUSTIC STONE**  
17, George's Street -  
Dublin 2  
Tel: 017079596

Dylan McGrath's new place is focused on healthy eating - the menu even offers copious notes on the dietary features of each dish. The fun begins with full or half-portion bites starting at €3.25, and continues through the main event: choice cuts of meat from €21 cooked on a hot stone, with marinades used rather than heavy sauces.

Opening hours: Open seven days a week. Lunch served from 11:00 to 16:00, dinner from 18:00 to 22:30.



**THE BLACKBOARD BISTRO**  
4, Clare Street -  
Dublin 2  
Tel: 016766839

The menu at this charming little place changes with the seasons, though there's a reliable emphasis on rustic French fare. Their poulet Basquaise, a traditional hot pot from the Basque country, is great when it's on, and there's a good spread of game, traditional meats and fish. The experience is enhanced by a cosy, chilled-out and perfectly lit dining room.

Opening hours: Open Tuesday to Saturday. Lunch served Tuesday to Friday, dinner from 18:00 to 22:00.



**MERMAID CAFE**  
69, Dame Street -  
Dublin 2  
Tel: 016708236

"Take the best ingredients, then don't mess it up" is this restaurant's stated philosophy - it's a good one. Head Chef Gavin Pederson presides over one of the best places for seafood in town, with a varied mix of dishes offered: New England Crab cakes, squid with lemon and chilli, and fried cockles are all very tempting.

Opening hours: Open seven days a week. Lunch served Monday to Saturday from 12:30 to 14:20. Dinner from 18:00 to 22:30 (21:00 Sunday).



**RESTAURANT FORTY ONE**  
Residence, 41,  
Stephens Green -  
Dublin 2  
Tel: 016620000

For all the schadenfreude heaped on Residence when the exclusive members club slipped into examinership, anyone who actually visited Restaurant Forty One (which is open to the public) would miss it if it vanished. Head Chef Graham Neville dishes up a fine menu - which includes a €28 lunch - in an elegant setting.

Opening hours: Open Tuesday to Saturday. Lunch served from 12:30 to 14:00, dinner from 17:30 to 22:30.



**SHANAHAN'S ON THE GREEN**  
119, Stephens Green -  
Dublin 2  
Tel: 014070939

Dropping big money on a fillet mignon may give some people a sour taste, but some of the best steak in Ireland will clear it right away - that's the magic of Shanahan's, an American style top-tier steakhouse. The dining room is as impressive as you'd expect, while the 'oval office' is loaded with historical curios.

Opening hours: Open Monday to Saturday from 17:30 (18:00 Friday and Saturday) to 22:00. Lunch served on Friday from 12:30 to 14:00.



**THE CLIFF TOWNHOUSE**  
22, Stephens Green -  
Dublin 2  
Tel: 016383939

This luxury hotel on the green also includes a downstairs restaurant with a stylish dining room - high ceilings, with pink walls set against deep blue leather chairs - and an atmosphere heavy on the elegance. The menus change seasonally, with a strong emphasis on Irish meat and seafood: three varieties of oyster on offer should tell you all you need to know.

Opening hours: Open seven days a week, from 12:00 (18:30 Monday) to 23:00 (21:00 Sunday).



**THE LOBSTER POT**  
9 Ballsbridge Terrace  
- Dublin 4  
Tel: 016680025

You'd be forgiven for writing off lobster in these recessionary times, but The Lobster Pot has been through this before: established in 1980, it's been one of the city's top seafood establishments for a good 30 years. The lobster Thermidor is, obviously, the highlight, though they do a fine steak Tartare and minute steak Diane too. Opening hours: Open Monday to Saturday from 18:00 to 22:30. Early bird set menu served Monday to Friday until 19:30.



**THE PIG'S EAR**  
4, Nassau Street -  
Dublin 2  
Tel: 016703865

Head chef Stephen McAllister (of One Pico, The Restaurant and The Afternoon Show fame) has put together a menu that mixes Irish favourites with creative international dishes. Contrasting highlights include a Boston crab and chorizo salad, and the Jane Russel's beef & Guinness sausage cooked to perfection. Opening hours: Open Monday to Saturday. Breakfast served from 09:00 to 12:00, lunch from 12:00 to 15:00, and dinner from 17:30 to 22:00.



**THE TEA ROOM**  
The Clarence Hotel,  
6-8, Wellington Quay  
- Dublin 2  
Tel: 014070813

Don't be overawed by the hotel's imposing facade – or the splendour of the dining room. The Tea Room's menu may have an edge of luxury, but it's not pretentious: Irish classics like the rich rib-eye, mixed grill and butterfly breaded rainbow trout dominate. Opening hours: Open seven days a week. Lunch and weekend brunch served from 12:00 to 17:00, dinner from 18:00 to 22:00 (21:30 Sunday, 22:30 Thursday to Saturday).



**THE WINDING STAIR**  
40, Ormond Quay -  
Dublin 1  
Tel: 018727320

This Michelin-endorsed eatery is still going strong since reopening in 2006 – and yes, it still has that sweet bookshop downstairs. The emphasis here is on good Irish food with organic direction, there's a beautiful view over the Liffey if you can reserve a window seat, and a great value lunch deal offers two courses for €17.95. Opening hours: Open seven days a week. Lunch from 12:00 to 17:00 (15:30 Friday and Saturday), dinner from 17:30 to 22:30.



**TOWN BAR AND GRILL**  
21, Kildare Street -  
Dublin 2  
Tel: 016624800

After February 26, most of us are sick of manifestos, but we can get behind Town's: their pledge to "use only the best, the freshest, and most inspiring Italian and local produce as possible" is followed through, making the rib-eye and monkfish fillet real treats. The intimate cellar dining room is also a delight. Opening hours: Open seven days a week. Lunch served from 12:30 to 15:00 (17:30 Friday to Sunday), dinner from 17:30 to 23:00 (22:00 Sunday).



**WRIGHT'S FINDLATER HOWTH**  
Findlater House Howth Road - Co Dublin  
Tel: 018384488

This revamped old bar features a very impressive restaurant upstairs in The Findlater Grill. As you can imagine, fish features prominently on the menu – the Findlater fish pie and chowder are specialties, though there are plenty of dishes that appeal to landlubber tastes too. A fine wine bar on the top floor means you can pass the entire evening under one roof. Opening hours: Open seven days a week, from 12:00 to 23:30 (02:30 Friday and Saturday, 23:00 Sunday).



FREE TICKETS

# COMPETITIONS

WIN FREE TICKETS AND GREAT NIGHTS OUT WITH 2NIGHT!

## CREATE YOUR NIGHT

A great way to enjoy a hassle-free night on the town, Create Your Night works with the best bars and clubs in Dublin, putting together parties for groups ranging from small, intimate get-togethers to big-time blow-outs. Packages can include special attractions like go-karting, free VIP access to clubs, and great drink discounts. To find out more about Create Your Night, just visit [www.createyournight.com](http://www.createyournight.com) or call 0879195525. However, one lucky 2nighter can enjoy a night out with four friends organised by Create Your Night absolutely free.

## THE DANGER IS

High-energy strummer Niamh Danger (née Farrell) is an Irish act to watch for 2011. Fresh from an art course at NCAD, Danger has poured plenty of energy and emotion into well-crafted pop songs that are already generating plenty of online buzz. Now, she's set to play her biggest Dublin gig to date, rolling into Crawdaddy on March 5. Support comes from Versechorusverse, and we're giving away two tickets to see this rising star!

## THE NAKED AND FAMOUS

The hotly tipped New Zealand five piece have topped charts back home, and already scored hits with single Young Blood and debut album Passive Me, Aggressive You. The group also featured in the BBC's Sound of 2011 Poll, and NME's New Stars of 2011 issue. Now, David Beadle, Thom Powers, Aaron Short, Jesse Wood and Alisa Xayalith have announced a UK and Ireland tour, which will include their Dublin debut on March 5. The gig has already been moved from Crawdaddy to The Button Factory due to demand, so we're delighted to have a pair of tickets for one lucky reader to win!



## HOW TO ENTER

Entering our competitions is easy and free – simply head to the 'free and promo' section of our site, [www.2night.ie](http://www.2night.ie), and answer the question posed in the competition. We'll select an entry, and announce the winner on our Facebook page. We'll ask for your contact details to get in touch when you've won, but will respect your privacy – have a read of the privacy policy on our site by all means.

# THE FRONT ROW

2NIGHT PREVIEWS THE MAJOR FILMS HITTING DUBLIN SCREENS THIS MONTH.

## MARCH 4

### THE ADJUSTMENT BUREAU

As he passes the 40 mark, Matt Damon is difficult to pigeon-hole. Good looks and a flair for generating sympathy make him a natural for dramas like *Good Will Hunting*. But he's got a knack for adrenalin soaked flicks like *The Bourne Identity*, and is distinctly plugged in to current affairs – his free-wheeling rant about Sarah Palin was a political hit of 2008, and he's done plenty of less controversial stuff too. *The Adjustment Bureau* tries to merge all these strands by casting Damon as David Norris, a charismatic U.S. Congressman who seems destined for the top until he meets beautiful ballet dancer Elise Sellas (Emily Blunt). But strange forces – specifically, a gaggle of middle aged, near-omnipotent snappy dressers – conspire to keep them apart for fear their love will endanger Norris' career. Told like that, *The Adjustment Bureau* sounds preposterous. It is. For all the natural chemistry between Blunt and Damon, or the clever camera work for the action scenes, this never quite finds a balance between the worlds of sci-fi and drama, while the message of love conquering all (even an all-knowing group with the power to shape time and space, apparently) seems even more hokey than usual.

## FAIR GAME

Political thrillers – particularly efforts sparked by the Iraq war – all too often fall into the bear trap of their own self-righteousness, populating the screen with panty villains and goodies, while reducing complex issues and shades of grey to the altogether blander black-and-white. The case of Valerie Plame – A CIA agent outed by White House officials after her husband, Joseph Wilson, pooh-poohed a story about Iraq buying uranium – is as close to a goodies-and-baddies tale that the Iraq invasion of 2003 threw up. So, with Naomi Watts and perennial white knight Sean Penn in tow as Plame and her hus-

band, Joseph Wilson, you'd be forgiven for expecting a cringingly earnest effort. However, *Fair Game* elevates itself above fare like *Lions for Lambs* and *Green Zone* by making its protagonists into real people: Sean Penn plays Wilson with a hint of both paunch and egomania, while Watts seems to fall apart personally in line with her career. The historical accuracy of the film has been called into question, but as a portrait of two people under siege for their beliefs – and drawn into conflict with each other too – *Fair Game* is exceptional.

## UNKNOWN

January Jones (aka *Mad Men*'s Betty Draper) is an actress that divides audiences and critics alike. Some love her acting style, reliant on subtle expression and reaction – others claim she's wooden on screen, and good at playing a stuck-up child in the same way that a midget is good at being short. *Unknown*, even in the small time on screen it grants her, gives more weight to the lovers than the haters. She's in a relatively peripheral role as the wife of Dr. Martin Harris (Liam Neeson), who awakens from a coma after a car accident in Berlin only to discover that another man (Aidan Quinn) has assumed his identity. Harris is written off by the authorities as a madman and pursued by shadowy figures, but sets out to prove his story aided by an unlikely ally played by Diane Kruger. *Unknown* does, at times, stretch credibility. However, aided by a strong lead performance and excellently ramped-up tension, the film overcomes this to be genuinely fulfilling, if not earth-shattering.

## MARCH 11

### WORLD INVASION: BATTLE LOS ANGELES

Special effects have come on a long way since Independence Day, so it was probably inevitable that a big-budget alien invasion flick would arrive soon enough. *World Invasion: Battle Los Angeles* certainly looks the part – special effects are jaw-dropping as the beasties roll in to the great cities of the world. The bulk of the film, though settles on a platoon of marines and airmen who take on the aliens in Modern day Los Angeles. Aaron Eckhart, Michelle Rodriguez, Bridget Moynahan and Ne-Yo all feature but, in reality, actors and a story seem peripheral here. This is a straightforward blaster flick and, in that context, works perfectly well.

## MARCH 18

### THE LINCOLN LAWYER

It's been some time since we saw Matthew McConaughey in anything decent – *Tropic Thunder* aside, he seems to have ditched off-beam stuff for by-the-numbers rom-coms. *The Lincoln Lawyer* seems to promise a return to form: he plays Mickey Haller, a slick criminal defense lawyer who does business from the back of his car, and lands a major client in Louis Rolet (Ryan Phillippe), the playboy son of a businessman facing a very beatable charge. However, as Haller starts to realise that his client may well be guilty, he gets drawn into a tense psychodrama with Rolet. McConaughey is perfectly good in this, though he's overshadowed by strong supporting performances from both Ryan Phillippe and William H. Macy, and the plot is unfortunately predictable for legal-thriller buffs. For relative novices, though, this is a pretty handy introduction to the genre.

## MARCH 23

### THE BEAVER

What does a man do when he's accused of being an abusive racist and all-round nutter? Well, if you're Mel Gibson, you emerge on screen as a man who becomes emotionally dependent on a glove-puppet. In *The Beaver*, Walter Black (Gibson) was a happy family man and successful executive who falls irrevocably into a depression. However, he rediscovers his mojo through the chance discovery of the aforementioned puppet, and the feel-good comedy/drama ensues. Even if it had better characters, a less predictable plot, or a marginally less shallow view of family life, *The Beaver* would be frankly offensive for its use of mental illness as a foil for hackneyed comedy – even before the puppet comes in, it's unbelievably crass stuff. When news of Gibson's unpleasant side first broke with a 2006 DUI arrest, he came back with a directorial tour-de-force in historical adventure, *Apocalypto*. As a comeback from the latest string of allegations, however, *The Beaver* may well be Gibson's worst career move since speeding down an L.A. highway drunk as a newt five years ago.

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# THE WIND THAT



# SHAKES

2NIGHT TALKS TO ADAM DALY, LEAD SINGER WITH RISING REGGAE STARS THE BARLEY MOB.

Adam Daly and the Barley Mob have had a busy year. Barely five months after forming, they featured at 'Trenchtown Village', the reggae stage at Electric Picnic 2010, and are currently bringing their energetic brand of reggae to venues large and small around Ireland. The band is set to perform at this summer's Electric Picnic and Oxygen, in talks to perform at the Glastonbury festival, will headline before a crowd of thousands at this year's Dublin City Soul Festival. 2night sat down with 27-year-old singer-songwriter and frontman Adam Daly to find out more.

**Looking at your own background, you were a singer songwriter before getting the band together. What would your influences have been?**

I grew up in a house where, my older brother was in a rock band – my memories are of listening to Guns and Roses, Jimi Hendrix, stuff like that. That's where my early influences started. So, when I started playing the guitar at seven years of age – after playing the piano for a year – I got very involved in blues, Irish bands like Thin Lizzy. The more I got interested in music, and the more I got into the writing side of things, I was looking further back to the likes of John Lennon, Jim Morrison and The Doors. They had their own unique way of putting their thoughts across.

**So how did you get into reggae?**

It just happened through a mix of different things going on in my life, around me, in the country. Seeing what way things were going. I've always been interested in all sorts of music but it seemed to be the one that's most relevant to the way things are going for everybody. Reggae typically is music about political and economic oppression, and that's how I felt about things. It wasn't something I'd thought long and hard about – it just seemed to make sense. There are a lot of bands that are into rock and pop. That's fine as well, whatever people are into. But I think for representing something that I was going to create, the truest form for the times we're in now is reggae music, and that's how it came about.

**And would you have been plugged in politically beforehand?**

I would in a sense. Don't get me wrong – we're not going out waving any flags or that kind of thing. I had an interest in what was affecting me and affecting the people around me to the same level as anyone would. But I made a decision, going back maybe a year and a half ago, to stop watching the news and reading the newspapers – because it can have an effect on your everyday life, how positive you can be. If you're having a good day but you see something horrific on the news, it can change your outlook, and

have an effect for a couple of days. As important as politics is, it can serve as a negative thing for people if they clue in too much to it – because there are other things going on that are better. It's important, but there are other things that Irish people have besides how bad the economy's doing. That can be said all over the world, and there



are a lot of countries in worse situations where there's still a lot of positivity.

**Dublin has plenty of rock and indie bands – not too many playing Jamaican music...**

Don't get me wrong, there are people doing reggae, and bands have done it before The Barley Mob, but we're putting an Irish rootsy and folk influence onto what we're doing to take it away from being just a replica of what

they do in Jamaica. They came up with the reggae process in the same way as Irish people came up with their traditional music. That comes from their history, their oppression, and it's relevant to what we've gone through – obviously not in the same sense – Jamaica's a third world country.

who are constantly fighting, and that's where that music is coming from. But there's a mark of respect to their struggle, and where those people are coming from.

**Is there a decent following for reggae?**

I think so, yeah, based on our own experience over the last year. We've almost insisted on not charging people in at the door, because the whole idea is that we're trying to represent ordinary, normal people. And people don't have the money to be paying in at the door for gigs. It's different if you're going in to a nightclub but I think that, if you're going to see live music and an Irish band, people are getting shafted enough! So we've done just over 80 live shows, and almost all of them were free. We just went down, played, the venue we were at looked after the transport costs, and that was it.

**So is there a CD in the pipeline?**

We've been demoing songs from day one – at this time, we're working on 15 or 16 of our songs that we've recorded. But we've a lot of gigs and we're going to be pretty busy up to the summer and through the summer. Ideally, we'd love to have a week or two off to work on it, but that's not really looking likely!

**Does playing music that comes from such a different tradition make you nervous?**

Yeah – there's always a thing about authenticity, and that's why we're not going out flying a Rastafarian flag or saying that what I'm writing about is a direct reflection of what's happening where reggae was born. It would be disrespectful, first of all, to do that and say we're an out-and-out reggae band. There are so many artists in Jamaica alone

# EVENTS

WEEK | 1 - 6 MARCH



MARCH 1-5

## STOMP\*

Blending the body and ordinary objects to create a physical theatre performance, the dance troupe Stomp is the most exciting live entertainment troupe to emerge from Brighton in quite some time. The brainchild of Steve McNicholas and Luke Cresswell won instant acclaim when it debuted in the summer of 1991, going on to impress audiences across the UK and internationally: a successful run at New York's Orpheum Theatre in 1994 (where it snagged an Obie Award and a Drama Desk Award for Most Unique Theatre Experience) and an appearance at the 1996 Academy Awards were impressive enough, though it's been onwards and upwards since. 2007's Vegas run saw an expanded cast performing inside a \$28 million theater specially created for the production, and now it's Ireland's turn to experience the action. The latest incarnation of Stomp runs here up to March 5.

From €20, 19:30

Grand Canal Theatre. Grand Canal Square. Dublin 2

**LIVE MUSIC** **CLUBBING** \*ONGOING EVENT  
**EATING AND DRINKING** **THEATRE** **ARTS**

## MARCH 1

### THE FIFTIES LECTURE SERIES

Eoin O'Brien delivers a talk on Neville Johnson, an artist adrift in fifties "Baggotonia", at the Uí Chadhain Theatre. €5, 19:30

Arts Building. Trinity College Dublin - Dublin 2

### THE WHIGS

After impressing a sold-out 02 crowd as support for Kings of Leon, the Georgia garage-rockers enjoy their debut Dublin headline. The group are touring in support of their third studio album, *In The Dark*, which arrived at the end of January. €20, 19:00

### THE CRIPPLE OF INISHMAAN\*

A new Abbey commission, Nancy Harris's play promises a tender-but-funny story about the secrets people keep, even in the closest of relationships. It features all the absurdities, hypocrisies and vulnerabilities that course through everyday lives, strung together by experienced director Wayne Jordan. No Romance

direction of Garry Hynes, the revival of this comic masterpiece has already won nine major international theatre awards, including the Joe A. Callaway Award for Outstanding Direction, Best Production and Outstanding Ensemble. The story is set on the island of Inishmaan in 1934, with a cast of eccentric islanders reacting to news of a Hollywood movie being filmed on neighbouring Inishmore. From €25, 19:30

The Olympia Theatre. 72, Dame Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016793323

## MARCH 2

### NO ROMANCE\*

A new Abbey commission, Nancy Harris's play promises a tender-but-funny story about the secrets people keep, even in the closest of relationships. It features all the absurdities, hypocrisies and vulnerabilities that course through everyday lives, strung together by experienced director Wayne Jordan. No Romance

will run throughout the month on the Peacock Stage and, after last night's sold-out opening, this will be your earliest chance to see it. From €25, 19:30

The Abbey Theatre. 26, Lower Abbey Street - Dublin 1. Tel: 018872200

### THE SATURDAYS

The British girl group are touring their mini-album, *Headlines!*, released last autumn. From €29.50, 19:30

The Olympia Theatre. 72, Dame Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016793323

## MARCH 3

### LEVELLERS

The Folk-punk veterans are generating quite a bit of buzz as they tour to celebrate the 20-year anniversary of their seminal album, *Levelling The Land*. The band are playing the 1991 platinum album in its entirety for the very first time, and following that up with an encore of live favourites from

their extensive back catalogue. €28, 19:00

The Academy. 57, Middle Abbey Street - Dublin 1. Tel: 018779999

### CHOICE MUSIC PRIZE

The Meteor Awards may have packed it in after a decade on the go, but there's still one major show giving recognition to top Irish acts. The Choice Music Prize, celebrating the Irish album of the year, will be presented tonight at a show featuring video packages on all the nominees, plus live entertainment. €22, 19:30

Vicar Street. 57, Thomas Street - Dublin 8. Tel: 017755800

## MARCH 4

### CIRCOLOCO

Dan Genachia and Davide Squillace come over from Circoloco's Ibiza heartland to deliver an a-list set. €20, 23:00

Tripod. Old Harcourt Street

Station, Harcourt Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 014763374

### IRISH MOTORBIKE AND SCOOTER SHOW\*

The speed-junky's dream kicks off a weekend-long stint at the RDS, showcasing off new motors, classic machines and high-energy live entertainment. €17.60, 15:00

RDS Main Hall. Merriem Road, Ballsbridge - Dublin 4. Tel: 016680866

### LEINSTER V SCARLETS

The boys in blue continue their Magner's league quest against the Welsh team coached by Nigel Davies. From €20, 19:35

RDS Arena. Merriem Road, Ballsbridge - Dublin 4. Tel: 016680866

### THE DECEMBRISTS

The Portland indie-country outfit are touring latest album, *The King Is Dead*, which already has critics drooling, and features bluegrass royalty in Gillian Welch. €23, 20:30

Vicar Street. 57, Thomas Street - Dublin 8. Tel: 017755800

### LITTLE COMETS

The North-east quartet play what they call "kitchen sink indie": Debussy, Roald Dahl, Ella Fitzgerald and Paul Simon are all cited as influences. They're currently touring debut album *In Search of Elusive Little Comets*. €12, 19:30

The Academy. 57, Middle Abbey Street - Dublin 1. Tel: 018779999

### RAY LAMONTAGNE AND THE PARIASH DOGS

The raspy-voiced star has carved out quite a niche for himself, and in double-quick time for a folkster: his 2004 debut, *Trouble*, has sold some 400,000 copies worldwide, while third album *Gossip in the Grain* stormed into the Billboard charts at number three. Fourth

album *God Willin' and the Creek Don't Rise* landed in August. From €44.20, 19:30

The Olympia Theatre. 72, Dame Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016793323

### GHOSTPOET

Signed to Gilles Peterson's Brownswood Records, this MC has recently unveiled debut album *Peanut Butter Blues & Melancholy Jam*, which showcases a singularly languid style. €10, 20:00

The Grand Social. 35, Liffey Street - Dublin 1. Tel: 018740076

### HALVES

Brian Cash, Elis and Tim Czerniak and Dave Scanlon use all manner of toys to create their signature sound, from straightforward guitars to loop samplers and a big bag of effects. Current album *It Goes, It Goes*, got a boost from making the Choice Music Prize shortlist. €10, 20:00

Whelan's. 25, Wicklow Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 014780766

### SURFER BLOOD

The Palm beach rockers made an instant splash with debut single *Swim* - named in 37th spot of Pitchfork's 100 Best Songs of 2009 - and 2010's debut album *Astro Coast* has also gained favorable reviews. A new EP, entitled *Third Eye Blind*, arrives this year. €10, 20:00

The Academy. 57, Middle Abbey Street - Dublin 1. Tel: 018779999

## MARCH 5

### DAVID MCSAVAGE

The savage one is as well known for his antics harassing passers by in Temple Bar - some of us still chuckle when we remember how he got beaten up for it in 2008 - but has made the transition to the rather safer confines of the studio. *The Savage Eye* is going strong on RTÉ, and he's now hitting the stage. €25, 19:00

Vicar Street. 57, Thomas Street - Dublin 8. Tel: 017755800

### BRODINKSI + MIXHELL

Transmission brings over two exciting DJs in the French master of melody Brodinski and the remix-loving Brazilian Mixhell. €17.50, 23:00

Tripod. Old Harcourt Street Station, Harcourt Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 014763374

### THE DANGER IS

High-energy strummer Niamh Danger (nee Farrell) is an Irish act to watch for 2011. Fresh from an art course at NCAD, Danger has poured plenty of energy and emotion into well-crafted pop songs that are already generating plenty of online buzz. Now, she's set to play her biggest Dublin gig to date, rolling into *Crawdaddy* on March 5. Support comes from Versecrosser, and we're giving away two tickets to see this rising star! €10, 19:30

*Crawdaddy*. Old Harcourt Street Station, Harcourt Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 014763374

### YURODNY

The group kick off a brand-new residency at the Grand Social, showcasing Balkan party music and many more influences, from Bela Bartok, nu-electronica, Dmitri Shostakovich and noise art to John Zorn. €10, 20:00

The Grand Social. 35, Liffey Street - Dublin 1. Tel: 018740076

### THE NAKED AND FAMOUS

The hotly tipped New Zealand five piece have topped charts back home, and already scored hits with single *Young Blood* and debut album *Passive Me, Aggressive You*. This gig has already been moved due to high demand so expect a fair bit of buzz. €14, 20:00

The Button Factory. Curved Street, Temple Bar - Dublin 2. Tel: 016709202

### THE RIPTIDE MOVEMENT

Having first emerged with a clever wheeze to coincide with 2009's local elections - posters for The RipTide Movement had pundits wondering if a new party had emerged, and stayed on lampposts for weeks - the Dubliners play two Academy 2 gigs. A mainline show takes place at 14:00, but this is the main event. €10, 19:30

The Academy. 57, Middle Abbey Street - Dublin 1. Tel: 018779999

### THE CRUCIBLE

It's your last chance to catch Silver Owl's new production of Arthur Miller's classic, searing political parable, which has enjoyed a short run here from March 2. €10, 20:00

The Teacher's Club. 36, Parrell Square West - Dublin 1. Tel: 018726944

## MARCH 6

### BABALONIA

The ever popular club night rounds out its first Dublin Carnival with a blow-out party at South William. DJs, live music, food, cocktails and movies all feature in a weekend of Brazilian-themed revelry. Free, 12:00

South William. 52, South William Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016725946

### TRAILER PARK BOYS

The comedy threesome are touring a brand new show, in which Bubbles tries to create a new career for himself in the movie industry, Julian puts his latest money-making scams into action and Ricky has an idea that can (he thinks) change the world. Due to strong demand for tickets to another show on March 3, this extra date has been added to the tour. From €27, 20:00

The Olympia Theatre. 72, Dame Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016793323

# EVENTS

WEEK | 7 - 13 MARCH



MARCH 12

## CAGE CONTENDER

In a little over a year, boxing promoter John Ferguson has managed to build up Cage Contender into one of the biggest Mixed Martial Arts (MMA) promotions in Europe. Touring regularly across the British Isles, and with events regularly broadcast via Setanta, it's spearheading a drive into the mainstream here that the sport has already made in the United States. Cage Contender's first Dublin show last summer sold out the National Basketball Arena and, as anyone who caught that event will tell you, there's much more skill and athleticism involved in MMA than its more virulent critics claim. This show sees Dubliner Chris "The Killing" Fields facing John Redmond for the Middleweight Title, Cathal Pendred and Liam Shannon fighting for the Welterweight Title, and plenty of fights from featherweight to light heavyweight class.

From €30, 18:00

National Basketball Arena, Tymon Park, Tallaght, Dublin 24

## MARCH 7

### JEKYLL AND HYDE

Former Wet Wet Wet man and successful solo artist Marti Pellow makes a welcome return to the Irish stage in this major new tour of the hit Broadway musical. Written by Frank Wildhorn with a book and lyrics by the Academy Award-winning composer Leslie Bricusse (Scrooge, Doctor Dolittle), the stage retelling of the dark Victorian tale managed to breathe life and a measure of sexiness into proceedings, while still retaining the brooding tone and the sense of a deeply personal play about one man battling his own demons. Pellow, for all his multi-platinum success with Wet Wet Wet and critical acclaim as a solo artist, can surely empathise with that – having fallen hard with addiction, he's risen in style, and has already won rave reviews for his performance as the brilliant

but obsessive scientist whose sadistic alter ego wreaks havoc across Victorian London. Tonight is opening night, and the musical will run through to March 12. From €20, 19:30  
**Grand Canal Theatre.** Grand Canal Square, Docklands – Dublin 1. Tel: 01 6779999

### THE HAUNTING

The spine-tingling tale by Charles Dickens hits The Gaiety as part of the new season. When a young book dealer, David Filde, is employed by a former associate of his uncle to catalogue an impressive library, he finds an incredible array of rare and antiquated books. However, a series of strange and unexplained events conspire to keep Filde from his work, and he struggles to convince his sceptical employer that the mysterious phenomena he's experiencing are real. Filde realises that, to win over his new boss, the pair will have to dis-

cover the mysterious source of the night-time terrors. Paul Nicholas and Charles Clements have been recruited to star in the play, which will run from tonight to March 12. From €17.50, 19:30  
**The Gaiety Theatre.** 46, South King Street – Dublin 2. Tel: 01 6777477

### D'UNBELIEVABLES

After a few years of slogging away solo, Pat Shortt and Jon Kenny have reunited for a limited run of shows. The comic duo sparked a rush for tickets when they announced plans for a one-off tour, and the reaction to a February run at Vicar Street was so enthusiastic that they're returning this month. The pair – who wowed audiences nationwide with their surreal, slightly creepy and frequently hilarious look at Irish rural society – will perform from tonight to March 12. €32.50, 20:00

**Vicar Street.** 57, Thomas Street – Dublin 8. Tel: 01 7755800

## MARCH 8

### JUSTIN BIEBER

At 2night, we find it hard to understand the hate directed towards Justin Bieber. Teenage heartthrobs with cringe-inducing dance moves and silly hair have been around since time immemorial (Aaron Carter anyone?) and, if you don't like him, there's probably one very good reason: you're not a 13-year-old girl. Among his audience, of course, Canada's pop juggernaut is still untouchable in the wake of second album MyWorld 2.0. As night follows day, he's cashing in with a world tour, which will take in concerts tonight and tomorrow. From €59.80, 20:00

**The 02 Arena.** North Wall Quay – Dublin 1. Tel: 01 8198888

## BRENDAN GRACE

The master comic and singer may be pouring energy into outside projects – an Irish bar and restaurant in Florida, and his 2009 autobiography – but remains a consummate showman. He plays two intimate shows, tonight and tomorrow, at this venue. €30 (€28 concessions), 20:00  
**Draíocht.** The Blanchardstown Centre, Blanchardstown – Dublin 15. Tel: 01 8852622

## MARCH 9

### BRUNO MARS

The Hawaiian sensation plays his first-ever Irish headline concert, following hard upon the release of debut album Doo Wops & Hooligans earlier this year. Mars, who first attracted attention after lending his vocals and co-writing the hooks for Nothin' on You by B.o.B and Billionaire by Travie McCoy, has now scored hits in his own right too, including platinum selling single Just The Way You Are. €21.50, 19:30  
**The Olympia Theatre.** 72, Dame Street – Dublin 2. Tel: 01 6793323

## MARCH 10

### GILBERT O'SULLIVAN

Waterford's diminutive favoured son is still enjoying one hell of a comeback. Sixteenth studio album A Scruff At Heart arrived in 2007, returning him to the charts, and his latest effort, Gilbertville, landed early this year. From €35, 19:15  
**The Olympia Theatre.** 72, Dame Street – Dublin 2. Tel: 01 6793323

## MARCH 11

### LAETITIA SADIER

The sometime lead vocalist for Stereolab is currently touring her solo debut, The Trip. Support comes from the Choice Music Prize nominee Valerie Francis and local electronic man Si Schroeder. €12, 19:30  
**The Grand Social.** 35, Liffey Street – Dublin 1. Tel: 01 8740076

### THE SCRIPT

Dublin's latest soft-rock exports drop in to the 02 for a three-night stand, kicking off last night and ending tomorrow. Good luck scoring tickets, though – they've been sold out since October. €33.60, 18:30  
**The 02 Arena.** North Wall Quay – Dublin 1. Tel: 01 8198888

### RICARDO VILLOLOBO

The Chilean-German electronic wizard – who began with the bongos at age ten but found himself drawn into minimal techno and microhouse – has almost 30 years under his belt as a DJ and producer, along with seven studio albums. He's perhaps better known, however, for his remixes, which have included new takes on Beck's Cellphone's Dead, What Time Is Love? by the KLF, and Depeche Mode's The Sinner in Me. €29.50, 23:15  
**The Academy.** 57, Middle Abbey Street – Dublin 1. Tel: 01 8779999

### STIFF LITTLE FINGERS

These Northern Irish punk legends may have many miles on the clock, but they're still storming, as their Roaring Blaze Tour 2011 demonstrates. Since forming in 1977, the group have made their mark with punk classics including Suspect Device, Wasted Life and, of course, Alternative Ulster. Their infectious energy and distorted

guitar hooks have also been a major influence on bands such as Green Day, Bad Religion, Sugar, Rancid and fellow Ulstermen Therapy?. It's been six years since latest album Guitar and Drum – the delay is down to Jake Burns scrapping a batch of songs he was writing in 2007 – but their live shows are still eagerly anticipated. €26, 19:00  
**The Academy.** 57, Middle Abbey Street – Dublin 1. Tel: 01 8779999

### THE PASSING

It's the opening night for this intimate play by Paul Mercier, a companion piece to The East Pier, which is also playing at The Abbey this season. This play focuses on Catherine, a woman reassessing her relationship with the family home – and her family – as it goes up for sale. Empty rooms, memories and long-buried emotions are all resurrected in this poignant play, with Derbhle Crotty in the lead and Mercier himself directing. The play runs until March 16. From €13, 19:30  
**The Abbey Theatre.** 26, Lower Abbey Street – Dublin 1. Tel: 01 8872200

## MARCH 12

### THE CHIPPENDALES

For possibly the least-sleazy strip show around (and yes, that is rather like being the tallest pygmy in the village), The Chippendales have a colourful history. Originally founded by self-made Bengali entrepreneur Somen Banerjee, in Las Vegas, Chippendales originally grew as a network of strip clubs until Choreographers Steve Merritt and Mark Donnelly came in. The duo hit on the idea of an ultra-safe, all female, environment, with Broadway-style production values and a distinctly harmless feel to

all the titillation – the rest is history. Even the death of Banerjee, who ended up committing suicide in a jail cell, couldn't derail the growth of a global phenomenon. Chippendales tours have played around the world to appreciative audiences. Their Most Wanted tour sees the troupe hitting Dublin for a single night of harmless titillation. €34.50, 20:00  
**The Olympia Theatre.** 72, Dame Street – Dublin 2. Tel: 01 6793323

## MARCH 13

### FABRICE EBOU

Already a hit in his native France, the high-energy comic continues to build an international audience at small, intimate gigs like this one. €17.50, 20:00  
**The Sugar Club.** 8, Lower Leeson Street – Dublin 2. Tel: 01 6787188

### SEX, LIES AND THE KKK

Comedian Abie Philbin Bowman prides himself on having interviewed the Ku Klux Klan on the night Barack Obama was elected president. That should serve as notice that, in sharp contrast to the comedians who give raging controversy a wide berth, Bowman makes a bee-line for it. Then again, anyone who saw his previous shows (including Jesus: The Guantanamo Years) could tell you that. Sex, Lies and the KKK promises the same irreverent, off-beam take on contemporary issues that has clued-in critics gushing about the Dubliner. €14, 20:00  
**Whelan's.** 25, Wicklow Street – Dublin 2. Tel: 01 4780766

# EVENTS

WEEK | 14 - 20 MARCH



MARCH 19

## THE COMMITMENTS

The original cast of the surprise soul hit *The Commitments* have embarked on a run of tours to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the classic film's release. The film, centred on a motley crew of unemployed dubs who form a soul band, seems strangely in tune with 2011, so the timing couldn't be better. Andrew Strong, Robert Arkins, Angelina Ball, Bronagh Gallagher, Michael Aherne, Glen Hansard, Felim Gormley, Dave Finnegan, Ken McCluskey and Dick Massey (everyone bar backing singer Maria Doyle Kennedy, in other words) will have played at Mayo, Kerry and Belfast before finishing off with this triumphant homecoming. They're promising a veritable soul extravaganza, featuring hit songs from the movie (over 12 million people have copies of the soundtrack, after all) and several surprises. A donation will be made to the Irish Cancer Society for every ticket sold.

From €55.80, 20:30  
The 02 Arena, North Wall Quay, Dublin 1

LIVE MUSIC | CLUBBING \* ONGOING EVENT  
EATING AND DRINKING | THEATRE | ARTS

## MARCH 14

### IRON & WINE

Sam Beam has been busy since crafting the sparse-but-tender version of *The Postal Service's* *Such Great Heights* that introduced many people to the singer-songwriter: *The Shephard's Dog* landed in late 2007, to plenty of acclaim, and *Kiss Each Other Clean* just emerged in January. This all-seater show is a hot ticket. €27.40, 19:00

The 02 Arena, North Wall Quay, Dublin 2. Tel: 016793323

### BENJAMIN FRANCIS LEFTWICH

The York singer-songwriter has a floaty, melancholic quality that invites comparison with Elliot Smith and Jose Gonzales. €15, 19:30

The Academy, 57, Middle Abbey Street - Dublin 1. Tel: 018779999

## MARCH 15

### GOGOL BORDELLO

Having finally arrived after strikes in mainland Europe forced them to reschedule the first leg of their tour, the New York gypsy-punks (who include former Elijah Wood squeeze Pamela Racine) hit *The Olympia*. A tenuous connection to a-list celebrity isn't the only thing they have going for them. Five studio albums - including major label debut *Transcontinental Hustle* - an EP, and several TV appearances have shown a band with plenty of creativity and live energy. €32.50, 19:30

The 02 Arena, North Wall Quay, Dublin 2. Tel: 016793323

### BOYZONE

Dublin's original heartthrob fivesome are back - not even a tabloid sting could derail the vibe of triumphant homecoming at

this concert. Last year's release, *Brother*, was unsurprising hit, and a new solo effort from Ronan Keating is due next month. From €49.20, 18:30

The 02 Arena, North Wall Quay - Dublin 1. Tel: 018198888

## MARCH 16

### CARL CRAIG + LUCIANO (20 YEARS OF PLANET E)

Grammy nominee Carl Craig celebrates 20 years behind the decks with a major name from contemporary techno in tow. A back to back four-hour set is promised, with support coming from Giles Armstrong. €25, 22:00

Tripod, Old Harcourt Street Station, Harcourt Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 014763374

### DEATH VESSEL

The Sub Pop and ATP Recordings artist previously toured the UK and Ireland in support of *Low and Jose Gonzalez*, and also appeared at the ATP Vs Fans weekend in 2007, but is now on his first headline tour of these parts. Support comes from Zoi Plain of Fence Collective. €14, 20:00

Crawdaddy, Old Harcourt Street Station, Harcourt Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 014763374

### FIDDLER ON THE ROOF

Jim Molloy Promotions bring this new staging of the classic musical *The Gaiety*, with a score featuring all the favourites from *Tradition* to *If I Were a Rich Man*. Tonight is opening night, and the play runs until April 2. From €18.50, 19:30

The Gaiety Theatre, 46, South King Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016771717

### ASLAN

It wouldn't be Paddy's eve without Ross O'Carroll Kelly's worst nightmare playing a gig, 2010 saw them touring Australia, Dubai, Germany, France and the UK, before packing out Vicar street for a triumphant homecoming gig just after Christmas. Support comes from Dave Morrissey and Orion. From €25, 19:30

The Olympia Theatre, 72, Dame Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016793323

### 2MANYDJS

Fresh from sold-out appearances at *The Olympia* and *Belsonic*, the Dewaele brothers - otherwise known as 2manyDJs - made their name through a celebrated series of mashups. They've plenty of releases under their belts as *The Flying Dewaele Brothers* and the altogether rockier group *Soulwax*, but the Ghent duo are best known in these parts for their work behind the decks. This late night gig will be a great chance to check out some of their new material, along with some of the crowd-pleasers. €29, 23:00

The Academy, 57, Middle Abbey Street - Dublin 1. Tel: 018779999

### MCFLY

Back when Busted came on the scene, the rock'n'roll media spat out their collective comflakes before decreeing smugly that blending pop-punk with a boy band would never work. Not for the first time, they were wrong. When these chaps followed in their footsteps, they were pegged as the callow Westlife to Busted's Boyzone. In much the same way, they've had greater commercial success, even as crusty music critics weep bitter tears. From €39.20, 18:30

The 02 Arena, North Wall Quay - Dublin 1. Tel: 018198888

### RAEKWON THE CHIEF

The sometime Wu Tang Clan member released his solo debut, *Only Built 4 Cuban Linx*, back in 1995. The long-awaited follow-up (part II) arrived in 2009 to critical acclaim, and he's back in the touring game. €22.50, 19:30

The Button Factory, Curved Street, Temple Bar - Dublin 2. Tel: 016709202

## MARCH 17

### HERCULES & LOVE AFFAIR

Already highly-touted within New York's vibrant disco scene, this dance duo have set about conquering the UK and Ireland after releasing their second album, *Blue Songs*. The new LP, according to main man Andy Butler, is "a softer record in some ways, and at other moments a more aggressive record too." The album features Bloc Party's Kele Okereke as a guest vocalist, and he's been lined up for the tour to perform with a tweaked line-up: Butler, Kim Ann Foxman, Shaun Wright, and Aerea Negrot, will be performing their latest material along with the floor fillers that made their 2008 self-titled debut album a major hit. €22.50, 19:30

The Button Factory, Curved Street, Temple Bar - Dublin 2. Tel: 016709202

### SWAN LAKE

The Russian State Ballet deliver one of the most popular dance pieces ever in sumptuous surroundings. From €25, 19:30

Grand Canal Theatre, Grand Canal Square, Docklands - Dublin 1. Tel: 016777999

## MARCH 18

### DUBLIN SWELL

As part of the St Patricks Festival, this cultural evening celebrates Dublin being designated a UNESCO City of Literature. From €15, 19:30

The Convention Centre, Spencer Dock - Dublin 1. Tel: 018560000

### THE MAINE

These Arizona natives are making major inroads into international success - second album and major label debut *Black & White* hit the *Billboard* Top 20 - but they're not forgetting their fans in this part of the world. The rockers, who made waves with their 2008 debut album *Can't Stop Won't Stop*, drafted in major help for their follow up in producer Howard Benson (*My Chemical Romance*, *Papa Roach*, *Daughtry*), and the results are striking: added to the exuberant sound are echoes of old-school punk. "We're trying to go for more of a raw feel - really up for the tour to perform with a tweaked line-up: Butler, Kim Ann Foxman, Shaun Wright, and Aerea Negrot, will be performing their latest material along with the floor fillers that made their 2008 self-titled debut album a major hit. €16.50, 18:00

The Academy, 57, Middle Abbey Street - Dublin 1. Tel: 018779999

### ENRIQUE IGLESIAS

The Spanish pop megastar is back on tour. This is the first of two *Olympia* dates. From €49.50, 18:30

The 02 Arena, North Wall Quay - Dublin 1. Tel: 018198888

## MARCH 19

### 2 DOOR CINEMA CLUB

The northern outfit's mix of indie-rock and electronica has found a willing audience in Dublin, it appears - they sold out a pre-Christmas gig at Tripod easily, and a December 8 show at *The Olympia*. Having received many demands for an all-ages show, they're opening the doors of this gig to the young 'uns, though under-16s must be accompanied by an adult. From €22, 19:30

The Olympia Theatre, 72, Dame Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016793323

## MARCH 20

### WOMBATS

After deciding to defer a January Academy show (they're currently putting the finishing touches to their upcoming second album), the energetic indie rockers finally arrive on these shores. Already regarded as one of the most exciting live acts to emerge from Britain in the last few years, the band have begun their comeback in style with the release of new single *Tokyo* (*Vampires & Wolves*). The song is a good preview of their latest album, which adds darker and more aggressive elements to the catchy, punky vibe that made 2007's *A Guide to Love, Loss and Desperation* an underground sleeper hit. All original tickets purchased are valid for the new date. €20, 19:30

The Academy, 57, Middle Abbey Street - Dublin 1. Tel: 018779999

# EVENTS

WEEK | 21 - 31 MARCH



MARCH 22-23

## KYLIE MINOGUE\*

Fun-size pop sensation Kylie Minogue returns to Dublin as part of her Aphrodite – Les Folies Tour. The singer, who last played in these parts five years ago, has promised a spectacular show on her new tour. "The reaction to Aphrodite [her new album] has been absolutely incredible and has inspired me and my creative team to develop a new show that will take all of us on a euphoric journey of joy, excitement and glamour. I can't wait to get on the road and see all my fans in 2011," said the singer. Early reports from recent shows bear this out – the setting is superb, the dancing is energetic, and Kylie herself is in full throat, having bounced back in style from her cancer battle of a few years ago.

From €59.80, 20:00  
The O2 Arena, North Wall Quay, Dublin 1

**LIVE MUSIC** **CLUBBING** \*ONGOING EVENT  
**EATING AND DRINKING** **THEATRE** **ARTS**

## MARCH 21

### PATRICK WOLF

The London singer songwriter uses a number of instruments, from the ukulele to the piano and viola, to craft songs ranging from romantic folk to techno-pop.  
€18, 20:00

The Sugar Club, 8, Lower Leeson Street – Dublin 2. Tel: 016787188

### BARBARA DICKSON

She's one of the biggest names in classical music, and one of the biggest voices in the entertainment world, and Barbara Dickson OBE is set to bring her live show to The National Concert Hall on March 21. Dickson, who's had hits including Caravans, Another Suitcase in Another Hall and her chart-topping duet with Elaine Paige, I Know Him So Well, can also look back on two prestigious Olivier awards from a forty-year career: celebrated roles include Anita Braithwaite in TV's Band of Gold and the original Mrs Johnstone in Willy Russell's long-running musical Blood Brothers. These days,

however, the West End legend is sticking to the singing, and will bring a personally-chosen repertoire of her favourite songs to the Dublin stage.  
From €38, 20:00  
The National Concert Hall, 2, Earlsfort Terrace – Dublin 2. Tel: 01470077

## MARCH 22

### THE SLUTCRACKER

Winner of the 2009 Edinburgh Comedy Award Tim Key drops in for a small show tonight and tomorrow. He's promising to combine poetry, film and athletic clambering.  
€12 (€10 concession), 20:15  
Project Arts Centre, 2, Essex Street East – Dublin 2. Tel: 018819613

### CHESS

The story of two great chess masters battling it out against the backdrop of political intrigue may no longer have the Cold War tension, but the Webber's score together with the writing of Tim Rice and ABBA's Björn Ulvæus and Benny Andersson has a

timeless quality that shines through on classic songs including I Know Him So Well, One Night in Bangkok and Pity the Child. The cast is an accomplished mix of West End stars such as James Fox of Jesus Christ Superstar, Pippa Tierney (Mary Poppins and Aspects of Love) and James Graeme (Phantom), while direction comes from Strictly Come Dancing's Craig Revel Horwood. The all-singing, all-dancing musical production will play from tonight until March 26.  
From €20, 19:30  
Grand Canal Theatre, Grand Canal Square, Docklands – Dublin 1. Tel: 01 6777999

## MARCH 23

### BETWEEN HONEY AND ASHES

It's your last chance to catch this exhibition from Miroslav Balka. His work, usually made with industrial materials and such elemental things as ash, soap, and salt, deals with issues related to history and memory. For this, Balka has created a video entitled apple T.

Free, 12:00  
Douglas Hyde Gallery, Trinity College Dublin – Dublin 2.

## MARCH 24

### BLAZE AWAY

It's a good day to see this exhibition, which examines duelling in Ireland and the work of two Irish families – the Rigbys and the Reads – who made swords and guns in Dublin in the nineteenth century.  
Free, 10:00  
National Museum of Decorative Arts & History, Collins Barracks – Dublin 7. Tel: 016777444

### PILGRIMAGE FROM SCATTERED POINTS

Mary Cremin's latest work is unveiled in this exhibition, which is beginning to wind down – it all finishes up on March 26.  
Temple Bar Gallery, 5, Temple Bar – Dublin 2. Tel: 016710073

## MARCH 25

### DEERHUNTER

These Georgia rockers, currently touring September's release Halycon Digest, are celebrating a decade on the go – once you leave out their brief hiatus in 2009 – and have plenty of material to draw on from a career that's incorporated sounds from art rock and shoegazing to straight-up pop-punk.  
€20, 21:00

The Button Factory, Curved Street, Temple Bar – Dublin 2. Tel: 016709202

### GET BACK: THE STORY OF THE BEATLES

Song-and-dance tributes to pop legends of yesteryear remain in vogue, so it was only a matter of time before somebody took on perhaps the biggest group of them all. Get Back: The Story of the Beatles promises a musical journey from Liverpool's Cavern Club to their final sessions.  
From €30, 20:00  
The Olympia Theatre, 72, Dame Street – Dublin 2. Tel: 016793323

### THE VACCINES

The London alt-rockers will be celebrating the release of their debut album, What Did You Expect from The Vaccines?, on Columbia earlier this month. The Ramones comparisons have already been bandied about.  
19:30, €15  
The Academy, 57, Middle Abbey Street – Dublin 1. Tel: 018779999

### EDDIE HALLIWELL

With residencies at Goodgrief and Gatecrasher, this Brit is a perennial in dance bible Mixmag's DJs of the year poll. The former BBC man still does some radio work, but is largely plying his trade on the top tier of the dance circuit.  
€25, 23:00  
Tripod, Old Harcourt Street Station, Harcourt Street – Dublin 2. Tel: 014763374

### THE NUALAS

The popular comedy trio have reunited after a decade-long hiatus for this new tour entitled 'Older, Wiser & Heaftier' – the jokes are as sharp and lean as ever, though.  
€25, 20:30  
Vicar Street, 57, Thomas Street – Dublin 8. Tel: 017755800

### THE QUARE LAND

It's your last chance to catch this play written by John McManus, in which loot and avarice features prominently. Old-timer Hugh Pugh receives a visit from Rob McNulty, a developer on the make and keen to buy one of his fields, sparking off a caustic battle of wits.  
€18 (€14 concessions), 20:00  
Draiocht, The Blanchardstown Centre, Blanchardstown – Dublin 15. Tel: 018852622

## MARCH 26

### JOSH T PEARSON

Currently touring debut solo album Last Of The Country Gentlemen, this Texan drops into his happy Dublin hunting ground.  
€12, 20:00  
The Workman's Club, 11, Wellington Quay – Dublin 2. Tel: 016706692

### SHAYNE WARD

Following a strong performance at the Cherrios Childline Concert before Christmas and an X Factor comeback, Ward has released his third album, Obsession, and returns to Dublin with his all-seater gig.  
From €39.20, 19:30  
The Olympia Theatre, 72, Dame Street – Dublin 2. Tel: 016793323

### THE FUREYS AND DAVEY ARTHUR

Genuine trad royalty rolls into Vicar Street: Between them, folk's first family and Arthur have more albums under their belt than just about anyone in the game.  
€30, 20:30  
Vicar Street, 57, Thomas Street – Dublin 8. Tel: 017755800

### FREAKS ON FRIDAY

FM104's hit dance show celebrates a decade on the go with this party.  
€20, 23:00  
Tripod, Old Harcourt Street Station, Harcourt Street – Dublin 2. Tel: 014763374

### SHEN YUN

The world's premier classical Chinese dance company showcases plenty of talent in the all-new convention centre. The group also perform on Sunday.  
From €54.50, 19:00  
The Convention Centre, Spencer Dock – Dublin 1. Tel: 018560000

## MARCH 27

### TAYLOR SWIFT

Swift's easy-to-listen sound is country in the same way that marijuana is a gateway drug: purists may moan about the classification, but experts on the outside see the genre's classic themes and instruments that rarely make it into an X-Factor spawned single even amidst the classic pop hooks and soaring vocals. Third album Speak Now arrived October.  
From €33.60, 18:30  
The O2 Arena, North Wall Quay – Dublin 1. Tel: 018198888

## MARCH 28

### KATY PERRY

Yet another O2 appearance sees the quintessential California girl and Mrs Brand pleasing her Irish fans.  
From €33.60, 18:30  
The O2 Arena, North Wall Quay – Dublin 1. Tel: 018198888

### WARRIOR SOUL

These unreconstructed heavy-metalers have outlasted the Grunge era, and even survived the murder of drummer Mark Evans in 2005. 2009's Destroy the War Machine found the politically-conscious rockers in typical form.  
€18.85, 19:30

Crawdaddy, Old Harcourt Street Station, Harcourt Street – Dublin 2. Tel: 014763374

## MARCH 29

### THE PHIL LYNOTT EXHIBITION

Time is running out if you want to catch this exhibition of memorabilia related to a legend of Irish rock – it all finishes up on April 3.  
€10, 12:00  
Stephen's Green Shopping Centre, Grafton Street – Dublin 2.

## MARCH 30

### THE FRAMES

A decade after unveiling their critically acclaimed effort, For The Birds, Glen Hansard and chums reunite to play the album in its entirety.  
€30, 20:30  
Vicar Street, 57, Thomas Street – Dublin 8. Tel: 017755800

## MARCH 31

### ELBOW

Elbow have long been the bridesmaid rather than the bride at the alternative rock knees-up; even as endorsements pile up from major artists like Radiohead, R.E.M., Velvet Underground man John Cale and more, major commercial success has mainly eluded them internationally. Here in Ireland, however, there's a larger-than-usual audience for Guy Garvey's softly-spoken, candid songs, as this O2 headliner demonstrates.  
€44.20, 18:30  
The O2 Arena, North Wall Quay – Dublin 1. Tel: 018198888

# EVENTS

## REGULAR EVENTS

### MONDAYS

#### LOUNGE LIZARDS

The ever-popular Lounge Lizards sees guest DJs step up to the plate and spin their favourite tunes for lounging. Expect a chilled-out evening with a surprise guest on occasion.

Free, 20:00

**Solas.** 31, Wexford Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 014780583

#### THE HEP CAT CLUB

The Grand Social swings to the strains of Jazz era classics, kicking off with a beginners Swing class.

€8, 20:00.

**The Grand Social.** 35, Liffey Street - Dublin 1. Tel: 018740076

#### SKA NIGHT

It's not just Ska on the menu - there's a bit of rocksteady and house to be danced to at this evening.

Free, 20:30

**Thomas House.** 86, Thomas Street - Dublin 8. Tel: 016772619

#### KING KONG CLUB

The top musical gameshow is now in its third year, with free live music and a knock-out tournament to win a free recording sessions.

Free, 21:00

**The Village.** 26, Wexford Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 014758555

#### PISS UP WITH PEACHES

A student-friendly gay night, with all drinks €4 or less, and three Jagerbombs for €10.

Free, 21:00

**The George.** 87-89, South

Great Georges Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 014782983

#### TASTE

Lady Jane takes over the Solas decks, spinning soul classics and a few more modern tunes.

Free, 21:00

**Solas.** 31, Wexford Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 014780583

#### DOLLY DOES DRAGON

This evening of €4 cocktails, candy, and fabulous tunes has been presided over by the inimitable Dolly since 2006. Together with DJ Lee, Dolly entertains the crowd until the wee hours. Admission free. This evening of €4 cocktails, candy, and fabulous tunes has been presided over by the inimitable Dolly since 2006. Together with DJ Lee, Dolly entertains the crowd until the wee hours. Admission free.

Free, 22:00

**The Dragon.** 64, South Great George's Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 014781590

#### HEFTY HORSE

A simple concept for a Monday night club - live music and bands playing their own DJ sets to 02:30 - is made all the sweeter by cheap drinks and free admission. The line-up varies, but the post-gig atmosphere is almost always rocking.

Free, 22:00

**Whelan's.** 25, Wicklow Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 014780766

#### MAKE AND DO WITH PANTI

The queen bee of Dublin drag does arts and crafts with her adoring fans.

Free, 22:00

**Pantibar.** 7-8, Capel St - Dublin 1. Tel: 018740710

### TUESDAYS

#### SHEBEEN FLICK

A new film night showing much-loved Irish films and some unseen work. Each night has a short film followed by a full-length feature.

Free, 19:30

**Shebeen Chic.** 4, South Great George's Street - Dublin 2.

#### TASTE

Classics, Soul and more make for an easy Tuesday night.

Free, 20:00

**Solas.** 31, Wexford Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 014780583

#### THE IRISH BLUES CLUB

Rather like it says on the tin, these guys do great straight-up blues every Tuesday night.

€8, 20:00

**JJ Smyths.** 12, Aungier Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 014752565

#### SUBTERANNEAN

Rock, punk and metal sounds are on at Thomas House.

Free, 20:30

**Thomas House.** 86, Thomas Street - Dublin 8. Tel: 016772619

#### ANDREW STANLEY'S COMEDY

##### MISH-MASH

Comedy laissez faire with a laid-back evening of stand-up, sketches, songs, messing about and free biccies hosted by Comedy Cellar man Andrew Stanley.

€TBC, 21:00

**The International Bar.** 23, Wicklow Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016779250

#### BATTLE OF THE AXE

Looking to start in comedy? Look no further than this open-mike night at the Ha'penny Bridge Inn.

€7, 21:00

**The Ha'penny Bridge Inn.** 42, Wellington Quay - Dublin 2. Tel: 016770616

#### GENTLE TUESDAYS

The Mighty Stef and chums sing their favourite songs on our out-of-tune acoustic guitars.

Free, 21:00

**The Workman's Club.** 11, Wellington Quay - Dublin 2. Tel: 016706692

#### GROOVALIZATION

Brazilian food and music fill this hopping club every Tuesday.

Free, 21:00

**South William.** 52, South William Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016725946

#### THE RUBY SESSIONS

This singer-songwriter night has been on the go for over 10 years and features some great performers in an intimate setting.

€6, 21:00

**Doyles.** 9, College Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016710616

#### WHITE CHOCOLATE

Classic rock and modern covers are on offer from a soulful outfit.

€TBC, 21:30

**The Mezz.** 23, Eustace Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016707655

#### JUICY BEATS

The Village's resident DJs churn out the best of indie, rock, classic pop, synth pop and electro music at this weekly Tuesday night club.

€5, 22:00

**The Village.** 26, Wexford Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 014758555

#### C. U. NEXT TUESDAY

There's more than just a naughty name to recommend this new club night - indie, electro, pop and dance tunes make a varied mix.

€12/5, 23:00

**Crawdaddy.** Old Harcourt Street Station, Harcourt Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 014763374

### WEDNESDAYS

#### THE WORKMAN RESIDENTS

Indie and Alternative sounds are on offer at the venue bar, while electro predominates on the first floor.

Free, 18:00

**The Workman's Club.** 11, Wellington Quay - Dublin 2. Tel: 016706692

#### LAUGH OUT LOUD

A regular comedy night featuring MC Aidan Kilian and special guests.

€7/€5, 20:30

**Anseo.** 18, Camden Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 014751321

#### SONGS OF PRAISE

It's karaoke, Jim, but not as we know it. This long-running DIY rock'n'roll night has moved to Wednesdays after tiring of kicking everyone out early on Sundays. Check out the full playlist on [www.therescuesquad.com/songsofpraise](http://www.therescuesquad.com/songsofpraise).

Free, 21:00

**The Village.** 26, Wexford St - Dublin 2. Tel: 014758555

#### SPACE'N'VEDA

Veda Beaux Reeves and Davina Devine rule the big gay roost at this club-cum-cabaret evening.

Free before 22:00/€10, 21:00

**The George.** 87-89, South Great Georges Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 014782983

#### THE SONG ROOM

Hamlet Sweeney presents this showcase of up-and-coming artists at The Globe.

Free, 21:00

**The Globe.** 11, South Great Georges Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016711220

#### THE ZODIAC SESSIONS

An acoustic showcase featuring some promising talent at Bruxelles.

Free, 21:00

**Bruxelles.** 7-8, Harry Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016775362

#### SEVEN DEADLY SKINS

Ignore the lame pun in the name, and focus on the musicianship of this quality reggae cover band.

€TBC, 21:30

**The Mezz.** 23, Eustace Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016707655

#### INTERGALACTIC

Indie and electro bliss is on offer at the Whelan's late club.

Free, 23:00

**Whelan's.** 25, Wicklow Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 014780766

#### VOGUE

Pop, pop, and more fantastic pop - with lots of drinks promotions.

€8 (€6 with flyer), 23:00

**ALT - Andrew's Lane Theatre.** 9-17 Saint Andrew's Lane - Dublin 2. Tel: 016795720

### THURSDAYS

#### PHANTOM 105.2 DJs AND GARAGE BAR RESIDENTS

Dublin's favourite alternative

music station provides the tunes downstairs, while 60s sounds are on the first floor.

Free, 18:00

**The Workman's Club.** 11, Wellington Quay - Dublin 2. Tel: 016706692

#### ISOTOPE

Dublin's longest-running jazz session is still going strong.

€10, 20:00

**JJ Smyths.** 12, Aungier Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 014752565

#### THE ODEON MOVIE CLUB

Relax to classic films while being pampered by a full bar and waiter service. To reserve seats or a table, e-mail [hello@odeon.ie](mailto:hello@odeon.ie)

Free, 20:00

**The Odeon.** Old Harcourt Street Station, Harcourt Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 014782088

#### GARAGE INC

The clue is in the name - good garage tunes in a cool setting.

Free, 20:30

**Thomas House.** 86, Thomas Street - Dublin 8. Tel: 016772619

#### MASH

Matjazz, LexWoo, Baby Dave, Marina Diniz and friends spin late into the evening at South William.

Free, 21:00

**South William.** 52, South William Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016725946

#### MUZIK

An unabashed student night, Muzik is packed with upbeat indie and electro tunes, with plenty of drinks promotions to get the party going in earnest.

€6, 21:00

**The Button Factory.** Curved Street, Temple Bar - Dublin 2. Tel: 016709202

#### OCTOPUSSY

Resident DJs, an 18-foot pool, twister, and charting hits recommend this new club.

€8 (€4 early bird, €5

students), 22:00

**The Academy.** 57, Middle Abbey Street - Dublin 1. Tel: 018779999

#### THE PANTI SHOW

Pantibar's fabulous proprietor takes to the stage in all her glory every Thursday, with Bunny and some special guests for support. A medley of music, dramatic reconstructions, connect 4 (yes, that one throws us too) and puppets makes for a very dramatic night.

Free, 22:00

**Pantibar.** 7-8, Capel St - Dublin 1. Tel: 018740710

#### TANKED UP

Dublin's biggest student night in an ideal location. You'll find drinks promotions aplenty.

€5, 22:30

**Tramco Brewery.** 121, Lower Rathmies Road - Dublin 6. Tel: 014968050

#### PARTY ANIMAL

Gorillas with vodka guns, all drinks costing €3.50, and the hot and sweaty Andrews Lane Theatre dancefloor.

€8 (€6 concession), 23:00

**ALT - Andrew's Lane Theatre.** 9-17 Saint Andrew's Lane - Dublin 2. Tel: 016795720

#### THE LITTLE BIG PARTY

DJ Brendan Conroy takes over the decks at Ri Ra, beneath the Globe bar, every Thursday. An eclectic mix of soul, indie and rock prevails.

Free, 23:00

**Ri-Ra.** 11, South Great George's St - Dublin 2. Tel: 016711220

## FRIDAYS

### THE CRAIC PACK COMEDY IMPROV

Peter O'Byrne is the MC for this regular, energy-filled comedy evening. €TBC, 21:00  
The Bankers, 16, Trinity Street – Dublin 2.

### FRIDAYS AT MY HOUSE

The master room includes upcoming DJs Ray Shah, Keith Feely and Rafiq. €TBC, 23:00  
Buck Whaleys, 67, Lower Leeson Street – Dublin 2.

### LECTROSOUL

Richie Rock, Mark Kiernan and Warren Kiernan hit the decks from 23:00 to 03:00, with a set from Marina Diniz. Free, 23:00  
The Exchequer, 3-5 Exchequer Street – Dublin 2. Tel: 016706787

### SHAKEDOWN

A hot new Friday club with 70s-influenced rock'n'roll from original bands playing lengthy sets. The line up varies from week to week. Free, 23:00  
Pacinos, 18 Suffolk St - Dublin 2. Tel: 016775651

### WAR

The popular Spy club night relocates to Andrew's Lane. Drinks promotions abound, and the first 40 people (and the first 40 to show up with dog tags or warshirts) get in free. €5 before 00:00 (€10 thereafter), 23:00  
ALT – Andrew's Lane Theatre, 9-17 Saint Andrew's Lane – Dublin 2. Tel: 016795720

## SATURDAYS

### THE MATINEE BRUNCH CLUB

Another Odeon film club, this time featuring more family-friendly movies. But then again, who wouldn't like to see Up over brunch with a pint? Free, 12:00  
The Odeon, Old Harcourt Street Station, Harcourt Street – Dublin 2. Tel: 014782088

### SERGE MOLOTOV

The talented Russian is on piano and singing, dabbling in jazz, lounge and a bit of Bossa Nova at the former White Horse Inn. €TBC, 20:30  
Dark Horse Inn, 1, George's Quay - Dublin 2. Tel: 016751862

### DADDY OR CHIPS

Techno, house and hip hop are all offered across three rooms at this new club. €8, 22:00  
The Good Bits, 1, Store Street – Dublin 1. Tel: 018197635.

### INDIETRONIC

DJ Eamonn Barrett promises the soundtrack to your big Saturday night out, mixing classic rock, indie anthems and big beat electro tunes. Free, 22:00  
The Grand Social, 35, Liffey Street – Dublin 1. Tel: 018740076

### MICROFUNK

A hopping clubnight in the bowels of this cavernous bar and club. €5, 22:00  
Pygmalion, Powerscourt Townhouse, South William Street – Dublin 2. Tel: n/a

### PROPAGANDA

The legendary club night now has a Dublin colony in The Academy. €10/8, 22:30  
The Academy, 57, Middle Abbey Street – Dublin 1. Tel: 018779999

## GOSSIP

Yes, the popular Spy club night has moved – it's still loaded with indie-pop and fun times though. €TBC, 23:00  
ALT – Andrew's Lane Theatre, 9-17 Saint Andrew's Lane – Dublin 2. Tel: 016795720

### PENTAGON

Local residents and special guest DJs play across five rooms of the Tripod complex. €12, 23:00  
Tripod, Old Harcourt Street Train Station, Harcourt Street – Dublin 2. Tel: 014780225

### TRANSMISSION

This club night is on a mission to break down the barrier between guitar and DJ culture in the city. Good luck with that, we hear you say, but it's made a great start thus far. €12, 23:00  
The Button Factory, Curved Street, Temple Bar – Dublin 2. Tel: 016709202

## SUNDAYS

### PLAY!

DJ Ronan O' does a mix of classic 80s and 90s tracks, drawing on disco, pop and feel-good tunes. Cocktails are available from €5. Free, 18:00  
The Odeon, Old Harcourt Street Station, Harcourt Street – Dublin 2. Tel: 014782088

### M.A.S.S

Power FM curates a blessed-out night of music, arts, sights and sounds. Free, 19:00  
Hogan's, 35, South Great Georges Street – Dublin 2. Tel: 016775904

## SUNDAY SUSHI

Jazz is dished up with a Far Eastern flavour. Free, 19:30  
Yamamori Sushi, 38/39, Lower Ormond Quay – Dublin 2. Tel: 018720003

### COMEDY CRUNCH

Free comedy + free food = great night. Free, 21:00  
Shebeen Chic, 4, South Great George's Street – Dublin 2.

### SAUCY SUNDAYS

A new weekly live music session running in the loft venue. Free, 14:00  
The Grand Social, 35, Liffey Street – Dublin 1. Tel: 018740076

### SWING NIGHT

The Dublin City Jazz Orchestra has a new home on Sunday nights in the Tivoli. A 17 piece big band plays from 21:00, and novices can enjoy a free lesson. €10, 20:00  
The Tivoli Theatre, 135 – 138, Francis Street – Dublin 8. Tel: 014544472

### DANCEHALL STYLES

The Button Factory becomes Reggae Central on Sunday nights from 23:00, with foundation reggae, dancehall classics and contemporary Jamaican music getting an airing. €5, 23:00  
The Button Factory, Curved Street, Temple Bar – Dublin 2. Tel: 016709202

## THE WRIGHT VENUE

South Quarter, Airside Business Park – County Dublin  
Tel: 018900099

The Wright Venue continues to pay back its owners for the bold gambit of opening a massive club outside the city centre. With a capacity of 2700, it's truly on an epic scale and its location adjacent to the airport means that it's only 15 minutes from the city centre via the port tunnel. The venue houses a spacious club and performance area, a terrace bar, a classy members-only Penthouse Club, and the laid-back Purple Room. It also boasts The Cities – luxurious private hire booths with plasma screens, gaming consoles and pre-stocked fridges. Top Irish and International DJs appear regularly, and the venue has already won international kudos as a must-visit place for anyone stopping off in the city – just ask Westlife, Peaches Geldof, Rihanna or Pixie Lott, who've all visited following Dublin gigs.

Opening hours: Open every Wednesday, Friday, Saturday and Bank Holiday Sunday from 22:00. Also available for private hire, launches and film shoots.



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HASSLE FREE DUBLIN NIGHTS

# BEST OF DUBLIN

## AFTER WORK

**AMIR'S DELIGHTS.** 5, Bloom's Lane, Ormond Quay – Dublin 1. Tel: 0863536404. Excuse the pun, but this is a delightful little place for enjoying Turkish coffee or shisha.

**ANSEO.** 18, Camden Street Lower - Dublin 2. Tel: 014751321. A very old-school music bar that also features a regular comedy club.

**BORDERLINE RECORDS.** 17, Temple Bar – Dublin 2. Tel: 016799097. One of the most popular punky record stores around, and deservedly so.

**BOWES BAR.** 31, Fleet Street – Dublin 2. Tel: 016714038. An old-school pub, with a warm welcome and a fine collection of whiskeys.

**BREWBAKERS CAFÉ.** 23, South Frederick Street – Dublin 2. Tel: N/A. A very popular spot for a sandwich – the chicken and bacon effort is simply delicious.

**BUTLER'S CAFÉ.** 24, Wicklow Street – Dublin 2. Tel: 016710599. Hot drinks, and some of the best little chocolates around: it's a winning combination.

**BUSY BEAN CAFÉ.** Talbot Street – Dublin 1. Tel: N/A. A fun café that's bustling without being too frantic. There's a selection of sandwiches and whatnot, plus daily specials.

**BUSYFEET & COCO CAFÉ.** 41-2, South William Street – Dublin 2. Tel: 016719514. A characterful little place with a particularly nice atmosphere after dark.

**CAFÉ 7.** 7, St Andrew's Street – Dublin 2. Tel: 016792988. A welcoming place with a great selection of wines.

**CAFÉ AROMA.** 84, Middle Abbey Street – Dublin 1. Tel: N/A. A very pleasant little place just off O'Connell Street.

**CAFÉ EN SEINE.** 40, Dawson St - Dublin 2. Tel: 016774017. The club/restaurant is as enjoyable as ever – now with added elbow room.

**CAFFÈ CAGLIOSTRO.** Millennium Walkway, Abbey Street – Dublin 1. Tel: N/A. A decidedly authentic Italian café.

**CAFÉ URBANO.** 4, Upper Abbey Street – Dublin 1. Tel: 018786823. Part of a popular new chain of coffee shops.

**CAFÉ WERBURGH.** 2, Lord Edward Street – Dublin 2. Tel: N/A. A very welcoming little spot, and a great place to linger a while.

**CHORUS CAFÉ.** Fishamble Street – Dublin 2. 7, Scarlett Row, Fishamble Street – Dublin 2. Tel: 016167088. A bright little place to enjoy a quick sandwich or salad.

**COBBLER'S CAFÉ.** Leeson Lane - Dublin 2 Dublin City. Tel: 016785945. Popular lunchtime café. Soups are particularly favoured by office worker crowd.

**COFFEE SOCIETY.** 2, Lower Liffey Street – Dublin 1. Tel: 014781064. A favourite coffee shop for many years now among shoppers seeking a little refuge.

**DICEY'S GARDEN BAR.** 21-25, Harcourt Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 014784066. There's nothing dicey about this popular bar, which boasts an impressive beer garden.

**DAME CAFÉ.** Centra, Dame Street – Dublin 2. Tel: N/A. You might think that a café based in a convenience store wouldn't be a nice place to while away a few hours. You'd be wrong.

**DANDELION.** St Stephens Green West - Dublin 2. Tel: 014760870. A popular club with cheap cocktails, celeb appearances and contemporary music.

**DARKY KELLYS.** The Harding Hotel, Fishamble Street – Dublin 2. Tel: N/A. The official bar and bistro of the Harding Hotel.

**DOHENY & NESBITT'S.** 5, Baggot Street Lower - Dublin 2. Tel: 016762945. The classic local-for-a-listers is a lot bigger than it used to be, but it still consistently packs out.

**DOYLES.** 9, College Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016710616. A traditional bar by day and student mecca by night. Opens late at weekends.

**DUBLIN TOURISM.** O'Connell Street – Dublin 1. Tel: 1850230330. Searching for something to do in Dublin? Look no further.

**DUBLIN TOURISM CENTRE.** Suffolk Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 1850230330. An excellent source of information for both tourists and curious Dubliners about the city.

**DYLANBAR.** The Dylan Hotel, Eastmoreland Place - Dublin 4. Tel: 0166603000. A stylish cocktail bar that's worth the journey out to D4.

**ELY.** CHQ, IFSC, Docklands - Dublin 1. Tel: 016768986. Another branch of the successful Ely wine bar chain.

**ELY WINE BAR.** 22, Ely Place - Dublin 2. Tel: 016768986. Ever-trendy wine bar with a hearty food menu and an impressive range.

**FIXX COFFEE HOUSE DAWSON STREET.** 17, Dawson Street – Dublin 2. Tel: N/A. A great place to enjoy award-winning coffee.

**GERARD'S CAFÉ.** 4, Lower Leeson Street – Dublin 2. Tel: 016615703. It's nice to see an independent little coffee shop like this continue to thrive.

**GILBERT & WRIGHT, MALAHIDE.** 1, Ross Lane, Malahide – County Dublin. Tel: 018456580. There's a hint of 70s retro chic at this stylish bar in a seaside village.

**GIN PALACE.** 42, Middle Abbey Street - Dublin 1. Tel: 018748881. Obviously a place for some gourmet gins, but you'll find a lively bar and some nice tapas here too.

**GRAND CENTRAL.** 10/11, O'Connell Street - Dublin 1. Tel: 018728658. A Dublin landmark, this place is packed out by post-work drinkers most evenings.

**HAIRSTYLE.** 12, South William Street – Dublin 2. Tel: 016706202. Want a chic haircut? Just hop in here.

**INSOMNIA.** 2, Lower Mayor Street – Dublin 2. Tel: 016720320. This place dishes up a much-needed caffeine fix for docklands workers.

**INSOMNIA.** 40-43, Nassau Street – Dublin 2. Tel: 017071582. Stuck for a place to rest just off Grafton Street? Look no further.

**INSOMNIA.** 51B, Dawson Street – Dublin 2. Tel: N/A. An excellent spot for people-watching over coffee – grab the bay window if you can.

**INSOMNIA.** 9, Wexford Street – Dublin 2. Tel: N/A. A branch of the popular coffee chain on Ireland's premier gigging strip.

**INSOMNIA.** Custom House Quay, IFSC, Docklands – Dublin 1. Tel: 016720320. Another great place to grab a coffee near the Liffey.

**INSOMNIA.** Pembroke Street – Dublin 2. Tel: N/A. A handy location makes this place a top spot among workers in the nearby offices.

**INSOMNIA.** Spar, Capel Street – Dublin 1. Tel: N/A. Another branch of the popular coffee chain that's teamed up with a convenience store.

**INSOMNIA.** Spar, Dame Street – Dublin 2. Tel: N/A. Got the shopping? Reward yourself with a nice cuppa.

**KENNEDY'S.** 31, Westland Row – Dublin 2. Tel: 016611124. You'll find this place packed out at lunchtimes – they do some of the best pub-grub in town, and have a hopping late club too.

**LA BOULANGERIE.** 6, Chatham Court, Chatham Street – Dublin 2. Tel: N/A. A great place for sweet treats with your coffee fix.

**LA CORTE.** Custom House Square, IFSC – Dublin 1. Tel: N/A. Whisper it – this little place does some of the nicest Italian coffee in the area. And in Dublin, for that matter.

**LA CUVÉ.** Burton Hall, Mayor Square, IFSC - Dublin 1. Tel: 016054912. A renamed and revamped wine bar in the heart of the docklands.

**LA DOLCE VITA.** 5, Music Hall, Cow's Lane – Dublin 2. Tel: 017079786. A wonderful little café and wine bar just away from the bustle of Temple Bar.

**LASER DVD.** St Andrew's Street – Dublin 2. Tel: N/A. A great place to pick up some obscure or foreign movies.

**MADIGAN'S.** 4, Lower Abbey Street – Dublin 1. Tel: 018745456. A traditional pub with a good pint to offer.

**MUNCHIES.** 2, South William Street – Dublin. Tel: 018733455. The original Munchies restaurant, this place has recently started serving late night tapas.

**MUNCHIES.** Harbourmaster Place – Dublin 1. Tel: N/A. The IFSC branch of Munchies sees plenty of action, particularly at lunchtime.

**MUNCHIES.** Lower Baggot Street – Dublin 2. Tel: N/A. With a perfect location, this branch of Munchies draws queues of office workers.

**NATIONAL COLLEGE OF IRELAND.** Custom House Square, Lower Mayor Street – Dublin 1. Tel: 014498500. A well-regarded institution with a range of full and part-time courses.

**O'BRIEN'S SANDWICH BAR.** 34, Lower Abbey Street – Dublin 1. Tel: 018747868. Sitting right by the Luas line, this branch of the sandwich chain sees plenty of business.

**O'BRIEN'S SANDWICH BAR.** Harbourmaster Place, IFSC – Dublin 1. Tel: N/A. A conveniently-located sandwich bar for IFSCers.

**O'DONOGHUES.** 15, Merion Row – Dublin 2. Tel: 016607194. A legendary trad music pub that was loved by The Dubliners, and is still popular today.

**OLESYA'S WINE BAR.** 18, Exchequer Street – Dublin 2. Tel: 016724087. Well-stocked wine bar with a mix of Irish and continental fare.

**PANTIBAR.** 7-8, Capel Street – Dublin 1. Tel: 018740710. The fabulous Panti presides over this popular gay bar.

**PETER'S PUB.** 1, Johnson Place – Dublin 2. Tel: 016778588. A surprisingly cool little city-centre bar.

**QUEEN OF TARTS.** 3-4, Cow's Lane – Dublin 2. Tel: 016334681. Known internationally for both savoury tarts and sweet treats. This is the larger of the two twinned restaurants, and the original Queen of Tarts is based on Dame Street.

**RED ROSE CAFÉ.** 23, Dawson Street. Tel: 0863704873. A cosy, welcoming café has taken on the space once occupied by an O'Brien's sandwich bar.

**READER'S CAFÉ.** First floor, Waterstones, Dawson Street – Dublin 2. Tel: 016791260. Lovely scones and high-quality cooking make this ideal for enjoying a first flick through a freshly-bought book.

**RHUBARB.** 18, Upper Merion Street – Dublin 2. Tel: 016767870. A bright and airy coffee shop.

**RON BLACK'S.** 25, Dawson Street – Dublin 2. Tel: 016728231. A still-chic cocktail and champagne bar.

**RUSH BAR.** 65, South William Street – Dublin 2. Tel: 016719542. It's not as frantic as the name suggests, but that's no criticism of this well-run bar.

**SABOTAGE.** 14, Exchequer Street – Dublin 2. Tel: 016704789. A clothes shop with some refreshingly different looks on offer.

**SHAKES.** 15, Dame Street – Dublin 2. Tel: N/A. Dublin's very first milkshake bar has a wealth of recipes to choose from and very efficient staff.

**SHEBEEN CHIC.** 4, South Great George's Street – Dublin 2. Tel: 016799667. Don't let the shabby décor fool you – this is a very happening bar and restaurant.

**SIMON'S PLACE.** 22, South Great George's Street – Dublin 2. Tel: 016797821. A bohemian café with lots of charm and delightful cheesecake.

**SIN É.** 14/15, Upper Ormond Quay – Dublin 1. Tel: 018787079. A very popular music bar and pub, this place unusually comes to life on Sunday afternoons and early evenings.

**SOUP DRAGON.** 168, Capel Street – Dublin 1. Tel: 018723277. A great place for hearty and creative soups, as well as some indulgent sweets.

**TASTE OF EMILIA.** 1, Lower Liffey Street – Dublin 1. Tel: 0876402448. A great place for a rustic, Italian-style aperitif.

**THE BAGEL FACTORY.** 34, Lower Liffey Street – Dublin 1. Tel: 018782935. Shoppers surely appreciate this convenient place for grabbing bagels on the go.

**THE BAGEL BAR.** Unit 1, Custom House Square, IFSC – Dublin 1. Tel: 016739923. Great value bagels are served with a smile at this Docklands place.

**THE BAGEL FACTORY.** Lower Mayor Street, IFSC – Dublin 1. Tel: 016119730. There's plenty of variety in the bagels from here, along with seating room if you want to eat in.

**THE BAGGOT INN.** 143, Lower Baggot Street – Dublin 2. Tel: 0166618758. A much-loved older pub that's received a successful renovation in recent years.

**THE BAGEL FACTORY.** Nassau Street, 2, Nassau Street – Dublin 2. Tel: 016611806. A conveniently-located branch of the popular bagel chain.

**THE BAILEY.** 2, Duke Street, Dublin 2. Tel: 016773055. This hip place also serves a nice little food menu.

**THE BANK.** 20-22, College Green – Dublin 2. Tel: 016770677. This lovingly-restored bank building now houses a very popular bar and restaurant.

**THE BERNARD SHAW.** 50/51, South Richmond Street – Dublin 2. Tel: 0857128342. Imagine an old-man bar on powerful hallucinogens. It's better than you think.

**THE BLEEDING HORSE.** 24, Camden Street Upper – Dublin 2. Tel: 014752705. One of the oldest pubs in the city, this place is spacious, grand and lively.

**THE BLOODY STREAM.** 14, West Pier, Howth – Dublin 13. Tel: 018395076. A cosy pub that makes the most of its setting, just a few short yards away from the picturesque Howth Harbour.

**THE BOAR'S HEAD.** 149, Capel Street – Dublin 1. Tel: 014752705. A very popular spot for lunch and a pint, this is also fun to visit after work.

**THE BRAZEN HEAD.** 20, Bridge Street – Dublin 8. Tel: 016779549. Apparently the oldest pub in Dublin, this place does great food and has friendly staff.

**THE CELT.** 81, Talbot Street – Dublin 1. Tel: 018788655. A welcoming, traditional pub.

**THE CLARENDON.** 32, Clarendon Street – Dublin 2. Tel: 016170060. A stylish bar with some nice grub during lunchtime and early evening.

**THE CONFESSION BOX.** Malborough Street – Dublin 1. Tel: N/A. Don't be put off by the genuinely teeny interior. Staff is efficient, and it's great fun here once the trad session gets going.

## THE MERCANTILE

28, Dame Street – Dublin 2  
Tel: 016707100

Under its new management, the Mercantile is making its mark on the after-work and late night scene, featuring top DJs plus international and up-and-coming Irish acts in its live music venue. As part of a revamp, those old Victorian era features – holdovers from the building's days as home to the Mercantile Credit Corporation – have been given a welcome makeover to bring out their natural class. Meanwhile, a revamped food menu combines with those aforementioned live acts and cool club nights to offer both foodies and post-dinner revellers somewhere new to enjoy at the heart of the city. Opening hours: Open seven days a week, from 10:30 (12:00 Sunday) to 01:30 (02:30 Thursday, Friday and Saturday). Lunch served seven days a week, from 12:00 to 16:00, dinner from 16:00 to 22:00. Check [www.2night.ie](http://www.2night.ie) or [www.mercantile.ie](http://www.mercantile.ie) for listings.



**THE FOGGY DEW.** 1, Fownes Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016779328. A traditional bar that's retained its atmosphere through modernisation. Still great for a singsong on special nights.

**THE FRONT LOUNGE.** 33, Parliament Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016704112. A relatively quiet – but nonetheless fun – gay bar.

**THE FXB BULL & CASTLE.** Christchurch Place - Dublin 2. Tel: 014751122. A huge gastropub with a great range of craft beers.

**THE GAITYTHEATRE.** South King Street – Dublin 2. Tel: 016771717. This stately old theatre is host to some innovative shows and musicals.

**THE GINGERMAN.** 40, Fenian Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016766388. Inspired by the JP Dunleavy novel, this place has a strong literary theme and a warm, moody atmosphere.

**THE GLOBE.** 11, South Great Georges Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 0167711220. Also home to the popular student night Rí-Rá, the globe is a consistently-packed bar with a friendly vibe all round.

**THE GOOD BITS.** 1, Store Street – Dublin 1. Tel: 018197635. Formerly known as Radio City, this live venue remains hugely popular.

**THE HAIRY LEMON.** 42, Lower Stephen Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016797724. An extensive pub with plenty of nooks and crannies for a quiet conversation.

**THE INTERNATIONAL.** 23, Wicklow Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016779250. Home to the legendary International Comedy Club and a very nice little bar in its own right.

**THE MARKET BAR.** 14a, Fade Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016139094. No piped music, a tapas menu, and a surreal decorative display of foot measures. You can't accuse it of being unoriginal!

**THE OLD STAND.** 37, Exchequer Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016777220. Apparently a favoured haunt of Michael Collins in the day, you'll see why from a visit to this traditional pub.

**THE OLYMPIA THEATRE.** 172, Dame Street – Dublin 2. Tel: 016793323. The popular live venue and theatre still heaves with action on gig nights.

**THE ORMOND WINE BAR.** 6, Ormond Quay Upper - Dublin 7. Tel: 018749778. A recently-opened gem, this place has frankly stunning décor and a great range of wines.

**THE PEMBROKE.** 31-32, Lower Pembroke Street – Dublin 2. Tel: N/A. A handily-located pub with plenty of character and some interesting design features.

**THE PLOUGH.** Lower Abbey Street – Dublin 1. Tel: N/A. A cosy and charming pub that reopened its doors to a grateful public in 2008.

**THE PORTER HOUSE.** 16-18, Parliament Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016798495. You'll find a breathtaking array of beers at this massive pub/brewery.

**THE PURTY KITCHEN.** 34, Essex Street East - Dublin 2. Tel: 016770945. A large pub and club with live music.

**THE QUAYS.** 11-12, Temple Bar – Dublin 2. Tel: 016713922. Get over the griping about Temple Bar being a tourist trap, and you'll find this pub very nice for a night out.

**THE REAL COFFEE COMPANY.** Talbot Street – Dublin 1. Tel: N/A. Like it says on the tin – real coffee, making a real treat.

**THE STAG'S HEAD.** 1, Dame Court - Dublin 2. Tel: 016793701. Space is at a premium here but it's worth persevering – once you sit down, this old-school pub is impossible to leave.

**THE TEMPLE BAR.** 2, Temple Bar - Dublin 2. Tel: 016725286. A consistently packed tourist pub, this offers live music and plenty of atmosphere.

**THE TURKS HEAD.** Junction of Parliament Street and Essex Gate, Temple Bar - Dublin 2. Tel: 876764657. Criminally underrated nightspot with lashings of atmosphere and a fun crowd.

**THE VILLAGE.** 26, Wexford Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 014758555. A worthy addition to the Camden/Wicklow Street Strip, this place has booze, music and atmosphere in abundance.

**THE WOOLSHED.** Unit 4, Parnell Centre, Parnell Street - Dublin 1. Tel: 018724325. A popular sports bar with many drinks promotions on quieter nights.

**THE VAULTS.** 1, Harbourmaster Place, IFSC - Dublin 1. Tel: 016054700. This sprawling venue features a restaurant, bar, and late night club at weekends.

**THE STREAT.** The Campshires, North Wall Quay - Dublin 1. Tel: 016700073. A nice little café for grabbing a quick coffee and watching the Docklands traffic passing.

**THE SWEETEST THING.** 17, Bachelor's Walk – Dublin 1. Tel: 018720233. It's high time there was a dedicated chocolate café in the heart of Dublin, we say. These folks agree.

**THE TEMPLE BAR HOTEL.** 13-17, Fleet Street, Temple Bar - Dublin 2. Tel: 016773333. Handy, centrally-located hotel with some good last-minute deals.

**TGI FRIDAYS.** St Stephens Green West - Dublin 2. Tel: 014781233. Cheap cocktails and a consistently-lively atmosphere make this a handy hangout for the young.

**TOSS'D.** CHQ Building, Custom House Quay, Docklands – Dublin 1. Tel: 018291607. A great place for fresh noodles and salads, Toss'd gets particularly busy at lunchtime.

**WEST COAST COFFEE.** 21, Lower Camden Street – Dublin 2. Tel: 014756144. Whether you're sobering up – or just trying to stay awake – this coffee shop is mighty handy.

**WEST COAST COFFEE.** Bachelor's Walk – Dublin 1. Tel: N/A. A lovely little spot to enjoy good coffee while looking out onto the Liffey.

**WEST COAST COFFEE.** Westland Row – Dublin 2. Tel: N/A. Just a few minutes walk from Trinity, this place is a handy spot for a cuppa away from the bustle.

**WHELANS.** 25, Wexford Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 014780766. A long-standing indie music pub, this place is increasingly featuring innovative live acts.

## DINNER

**101 TALBOT.** 101, Talbot Street - Dublin 1. Tel: 018745011. Fresh and contemporary Irish, continental and African cuisine.

**ACAPULCO.** 7, South Great Georges Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016770733. Popular Tex Mex establishment with quality ingredients.



## CAFÉ CARLO

63, O'Connell Street – Dublin 1  
Tel: 018880856

So you're headed to a gig on Abbey Street, the theatre or even the 02 – but where can you get good-value, high-quality food in the north city centre? Sitting in the shadow of the Spire, Café Carlo answers the question emphatically. It's a friendly little Irish-Italian joint, with a fresh décor and a menu with flavour to spare. The atmosphere here is warm and laid-back – though there's a pleasant buzz at evening times – while the service is snappy without rushing people through their meals. For added value, check out the pre-theatre menu, giving two courses for €12.95 and three courses for €16.50, while their new 'steak on a stone' offer is a real treat at €19.95.

Opening hours: Open seven days a week, from 12:00 to 23:00.

**BAR ITALIA.** 26, Bloom's Lane, Lower Ormond Quay - Dublin 1. Tel: 018741000. An unpretentious Italian restaurant with authentic, well-prepared ingredients.

**BOOJUM.** Millenium Walkway, Abbey Street - Dublin 1. Tel: 018729499. A great little burrito bar, which even offers frozen margaritas.

**BROADWAY PIZZA PARLOR.** Unit 6, Custom House Square, IFSC - Dublin 1. Tel: 016721812. It's always buzzing at this place - taste the pizzas or calzonés to find out why.

**BURRITOS & BLUES.** 2, Wexford Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 014254022. Heading to a gig on this strip? This is a great spot for a quick meal beforehand.

**CACTUS JACKS.** Millenium Walkway, Middle Abbey Street - Dublin 1. Tel: 018746198. Fun Tex-Mex spot with an outlet in Galway. Great margaritas.

**CAFÉ AZTECA.** 19-22, Lord Edward Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016709476. Great burritos and more are on offer from this informal restaurant.

**CAFÉ CARLO.** 63, O'Connell Street - Dublin 1. Tel: 018880856. You can get more than just Italian stuff at this cosy, central spot - they do some mean Irish dishes too.

**CAFÉ DES IRLANDAISE.** 12, George's Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016664567. So long Cafebardeli, make way for this new French restaurant.

**CAFÉ DETOPOLIS.** 37, Parliament Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016704961. A wonderfully atmospheric pizzeria and Italian restaurant.

**CAFÉ IRIE.** 11, Fowmes Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016725090. Indie-esque coffee shop and sandwich bar which shares a building with lots of intriguing stores.

**CAFÉ MAO.** 2-3, Chatham Row - Dublin 2. Tel: 016704899. An excellent Asian restaurant, with a branch in Dun Laoghaire too.

**CAFÉ NOVO.** The Westbury Hotel, Harry Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016463353. An elegant restaurant in one of the city's most-loved hotels.

**CAPTAIN AMERICAS.** 44, Grafton St - Dublin 2. Tel: 016715266. Long-standing American style cookhouse and bar.

**CASA NOSTRA.** 85, Malborough Street - Dublin 1. Tel: 018728143. A relatively new Italian kid on the block.

**CARLUCCIO'S.** 52, Dawson Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016333957. The first Irish branch of a popular UK chain, this venue blends a coffee shop, foodhall and Italian restaurant.

**CHAPTER 1.** 18, Parnell Square North - Dublin 1. Tel: 018732266. Quite possibly the best restaurant in this fine city. Top food at very competitive prices.

**CHATHAM BRASSERIE.** Chatham Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016790055. A new new-york style restaurant with a twist of personality. Ideal for brunch.

**CHEZ MAX.** 133, Baggot Street - Dublin 4. Tel: 016618899. Max's full-scale bistro is one of the nicest spots on Baggot Street.

**CHEZ MAX.** 1, Palace Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016337215. A wonderful little French bistro, with an intimate atmosphere.

**CIAO BELLA ROMA.** 25, Parliament Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016770004. A great place for a late night, sit-down pizza that's fresh and authentic.

**CORNUCOPIA.** 19 Wicklow Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016777583. An all-vegetarian restaurant with lots of tricks up its sleeve. Also offers a cookbook for sale if the recipes appeal to you.

**DUNNE & CRESCENZI.** 16, South Frederick St - Dublin 2. Tel: 016773463. Popular Italian wine bar and restaurant, with an extensive range.

**FALLON & BYRNE.** 2, Exchequer Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 014721000. A mix of wine bar, gourmet food hall and high-class restaurant, this place is packed with little treats for yourself.

**FIRE.** Mansion House, Dawson Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016767200. Fire has food to do its beautiful setting justice. The flatbreads are particularly worth a try.

**FLANAGAN'S.** 61, Upper O'Connell Street - Dublin 1. Tel: 8731388. A great family restaurant in the shadow of the spire.

**FXB RESTAURANT.** 2, Lower Pembroke Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016764606. A high-quality steakhouse that also does a mean bit of seafood and offers great value.

**GOTHAM CAFÉ.** 8, South Anne Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016795266. A menu packed with delicious salads, innovative pizzas and other treats ensures Gotham is packed out even on weeknights. A great place for a weekend brunch.

**GOVINDAS.** 83, Middle Abbey Street - Dublin 1. Tel: 018727463. Vegetarian restaurant with a varied menu. Branches are also on Merrion Row and Aungier Street.

**GREEN NINETEEN.** 19, Camden Street Lower - Dublin 2. Tel: 014789626. Popular good value restaurant. All main courses cost €10.

**GRUEL.** 68, Dame Street - Dublin, 2. Tel: 016707119. Wilfully unpretentious and hearty food. The 'roast in a roll' is a lunchtime treat.

**HARD ROCK CAFÉ.** 12, Fleet Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016717777. Dublin's outlet of the popular franchise does well from both tourists and temple bar revellers in need of a refuel.

**HARRY'S MEDITERRANEAN CAFE & WINE BAR.** 22, Dawson Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 012808337. Popular post-work café bar with a branch in Dun Laoghaire.

**HAVANA.** Georges Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 014005990. An unpretentious tapas bar with a Cuban twist.

**HELL.** 36, Wexford Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 1890456666. A recently opened gem of a pizza place, offering both eat-in and take-away deals.

**HONEST TO GOODNESS.** George's Street Arcade, George's Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016337727. Simple home-style recipes and great ingredients are an ideal formula for a successful little restaurant.

**IL POSTO.** 10, Stephen's Green - Dublin 2. Tel: 016794769. Outstanding Italian food is on offer here in a very atmospheric underground dining room.

**JUICE CAFÉ.** 73, George's Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 014757856. A great spot for veggie grub in the heart of the city.

## PYGMALION

Powerscourt Townhouse, South William Street - Dublin 2  
Tel: 016334479

This Paddy's day, Pygmalion will be celebrating two years on the go and, in a city where the bar-and-club formula is difficult to get right (places often just end up as a room full of sloppy drunks, with a tiny dance floor hosting even sloppier dancing), this place has nailed it. So what's the secret? It's difficult to pin down, but we'd fancy that a quality-first approach coupled with a lack of pretension (despite the name referencing Shaw's send-up of the British class system) is the key. The warren-like interior of what used to be Ba Mizu has been stripped back, leaving a functional but fairly comfortable space - and resident DJs churn out a mix of house, techno, disco, indie, and whatever they consider worthwhile. Guest international DJs also drop in regularly, and the recently opened 'pyg café' serves breakfast from 10:00.

Open seven days a week, from 12:00 to 00:30 (03:00 Friday and Saturday, 01:00 Sunday).



**JUST OFF FRANCIS.** 78, Thomas Street – Dublin 8. Tel: 014738807. A friendly restaurant serving a mix of Irish and international cuisine – prices are great for high-quality fare.

**KOH.** 7, Jervis Street, Millenium Walkway - Dublin 1. Tel: 018146777. This Thai restaurant and cocktail bar has a constant hum of activity.

**KOKORO SUSHI BENTO.** 19, Lower Liffey Street – Dublin 1. Tel: 018728787. A great new place for reasonably-priced sushi.

**KUDOS.** Clarion Hotel, IFSC - Dublin 1. Tel: 014338866. The Clarion's Kudos restaurant has considerable style.

**KYLEMORE AT THE SPIRE.** 1, Upper O'Connell Street – Dublin 1. Tel: 018780498. This Dublin institution has benefited greatly from a major sprucing-up.

**LA CAVE.** 28, Anne Street South - Dublin 2. Tel: 016794409. Long standing wine bar and restaurant with a loyal clientele.

**LA MAISON.** 15, Castle Market - Dublin 2. Tel: 01727258. A dedicated French restaurant opened where the much-loved Maison des Gourmets once stood.

**LA MED.** 22, East Essex Street – Dublin 2. Tel: 016707358. This promises a bit of sunshine and delivers with a selection of Italian and international dishes.

**LAGOONA.** Mayor Square, IFSC - Dublin 1. Tel: 017918928. A burger and a pint from here is an unexpected delight.

**LE BON CRUBEEN.** 81-82, Talbot Street - Dublin 1. Tel: 017040126. A stylish and (thank heavens) affordable brasserie, and a welcome addition to the northside.

**LEMON.** 66, South William Street – Dublin 2. Tel: 016729044. Before a host of pretenders started serving crepes, there was this place, which is still dishing up savoury and sweet snacks from South William Street.

**MAMMA'S PIZZA.** 4, Talbot Street – Dublin 1. Tel: N/A. Quick, hearty pizza on the go will float anyone's proverbial boat.

**MILANO.** 38, Dawson Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016707744. The first outlet of Milano's (Pizza Express in the UK) to make it over to these shores.

**MILANO.** 6, Excise Walk, Clarion Quay - Dublin 1. Tel: 016119012. A spacious and airy branch of the successful Milanos chain.

**MONGOLIAN BBQ.** 7, Anglesea Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016703802. An all-you-can eat restaurant with fresh Mongolian fare cooked in front of you.

**MUNCHIES.** Millenium Walkway, Middle Abbey Street - Dublin 1. Tel: 018733455. The perfect spot for grabbing a quick and healthy sandwich on your break.

**MYO.** Lower Mayor Street, IFSC - Dublin 1. Tel: 016721031. Create your own wraps, sandwiches or even pizzas from a good buffet of ingredients at this innovative new spot.

**NYONA.** 76, Dame Street – Dublin 2. Tel: 016707200. A great place for truly Malaysian cuisine.

**O'BRIEN'S SANDWICH BAR.** Custom House Square, Docklands – Dublin 1. Tel: N/A. The sausage toastie from this branch of the O'Brien's chain is hard to beat.

**ODESSA.** 13, Dame Court - Dublin 2. Tel: 016707634. A mouth-watering menu and a laid back atmosphere makes this a perfect 'unwinding' restaurant.

**ONE PICO.** 5/6, Molesworth Place - Dublin 2. Tel: 016760300. A delightful little restaurant, that knows it's a little bit special. Great French-influenced food.

**PABLO PICANTE.** Pembroke Market – Dublin 2. Tel: N/A. Top-class burritos just off South William Street.

**PACINO'S.** 18, Suffolk Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016775651. A very lively Italian restaurant and club just off Grafton Street.

**PASTA FRESCA.** 2, Chatham Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016792402. Good value, fresh Italian food in the heart of the city.

**PICNET.** 14-15, Trinity Street – Dublin 2. Tel: 016771060. A popular restaurant and café with a modern dining room.

**RUSTIC STONE.** 17, George's Street – Dublin 2. Tel: 017079596. Dylan McGrath's new place has an emphasis on straightforward, healthy fare.

**SABA.** 26-28, Clarendon Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016792000. One of Dublin's coolest Thai restaurants, with an award winning cocktail bar to boot.

**SALAMANCA.** 1, St Andrew's Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016774799. A fantastic long-standing tapas restaurant. Doesn't usually take reservations.

**SAMSARA CAFÉ BAR.** 35, Dawson Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016774444. Thai food café bar, with a strong cocktail menu.

**SHERIE'S CAFÉ.** 3, Lower Abbey Street – Tel: 018747237. A welcoming café bar that's open conveniently late.

**SIAM THAI.** 14-15, St Andrew's Street – Dublin 2. Tel: 016773363. Fresh, healthy and enjoyable Thai cuisine is served amid stylish surroundings.

**SUSHI KING.** Baggot Street Dublin 2. Tel: 016449836. Cheap – and tasty – sushi will always appeal to tastebuds. This smaller Baggot place is ideal for grab-and-go.

**SUSHI KING.** 13, Dawson Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016752000. You can grab a seat at this outlet from the increasingly-popular Sushi King.

**SWAI.** Unit B, The Campshires, North Wall Quay - Dublin 1. Tel: 018561633. A modern Malaysian restaurant set with views over the Liffey.

**TASTE.** 39, South William Street – Dublin 2. Tel: 016798475. Simple, straightforward-but-tasty food served up by friendly staff.

**THE ANGLER'S REST.** Strawberry Beds, Castleknock – County Dublin. Tel: 018204351. Elegance is the predominant theme at this easy-going restaurant.

**THE BAD ASS CAFÉ.** Temple Bar Square, Temple Bar - Dublin 2. Tel: 016712596. There are great pizzas to be tasted, along with plenty of unpretentious fare at this spot in Temple Bar Square.

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**THE CEDAR TREE.** 11, St Andrew's Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016772121. An authentic Lebanese restaurant with a rich and intriguing décor. An early bird menu also offers good value.

**THE CHILLI CLUB.** 1 Anne's Lane, South Anne Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016773721. Reportedly Dublin's first Thai restaurant, and still a popular choice.

**THE COFFEE CO.** 13, Dame Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016797141. This place does exactly what it says on the tin: a great cup of the black stuff.

**THE EPICUREAN FOOD HALL.** Corner of Liffey Street and Middle Abbey Street - Dublin 1. Tel: N/A. You'll find a great selection of food from across a range of traditions at this hall.

**THE EXCHEQUER.** 3-5, Exchequer Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016706856. Brilliantly restored hotel bar with a very strong food menu using Irish-sourced ingredients.

**THE FARM.** 3, Dawson Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016718654. This organic-themed restaurant also has a pleasant little cocktail menu.

**THE ITALIAN CONNECTION.** 95, Talbot Street - Dublin 1. Tel: 018787125. A lovely, wholesome restaurant with a cosy dining room.

**THE ITALIAN CORNER.** 23, Wellington Quay - Dublin 2. Tel: 016719114. One of Temple Bar's favourite Italian joints.

**THE MILL STONE.** 39, Dame Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016799931. An intimate, warm restaurant with some surprisingly creative pizzas.

**THE PANTRY.** 64, Talbot Street - Dublin 1. Tel: N/A. This hidden gem does one of the best breakfasts in the city.

**THE PIG'S EAR.** 4, Nassua Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016703865. An excellent new little bistro, with hearty fare and charming views of Trinity College.

**THE STEPS OF ROME.** 1, Chatham Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016705630. A great place for hot slices of pizza to go.

**THE UNICORN.** 12, Merion Row - Dublin 2. Tel: 016624757. Established long ago and still going strong, the Unicorn repays Dubliners' continued affection with hearty Italian fare.

**THE WINDING STAIR.** 40, Lower Ormond Quay - Dublin 1. Tel: 018726576. The restaurant above this well-loved bookshop has gone all upmarket in recent years, with considerable success. Some great value lunch deals are on offer.

**THUNDER ROAD CAFÉ.** Fleet Street, Temple Bar - Dublin 2. Tel: 016794057. A big restaurant with big portions and big rock'n'roll playing.

**TOSCANA.** 3, Cork Hill Dame Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016709785. Authentic Tuscan food served in very-pleasant surroundings.

**TOTO.** 8, Talbot Street - Dublin 1. Tel: N/A. A surprisingly nice restaurant and pizzeria.

**TOWN BAR & GRILL.** 21, Kildare Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016624800. A fun New York style eatery, Town's strong menu and service ensures it packs out most evenings.

**TROCADERO.** 3, St Andrew's Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016775545. The famous restaurant for a special pre-theatre meal is still going strong.

**URBAN PICNIC.** George's Street Arcade, George's Street - Dublin 2. Tel: N/A. A wilfully unpretentious spot for cheap eats.

**VENU.** 2, Anne's Lane, South Anne Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016706755. This brasserie-cum-cocktail bar is nothing if not stylish, with both the food and cocktail menus having plenty of appeal.

**WOLFES.** 153, Capel Street - Dublin 1. Tel: 018749570. This lovely little food and wine store has a cosy feel and plenty of treats - it's now serving dinner too.

**YAMAMORI SUSHI.** 38-39, Lower Ormond Quay - Dublin 1. Tel: 018720003. Excellent spot for sushi from the same folks behind the George's Street restaurant.

#### AFTER DINNER

**4 DAME LANE.** 4, Dame Lane - Dublin 2. Tel: 016790291. Yummy cocktails and great DJs make this place a winner.

**AGAINST THE GRAIN.** 11, Wexford Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 014705100. A new bar with a host of craft beers on offer.

**BIABAR.** 30, Lower Stephens Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 014053653. Appealing food, great drinks on tap, and live music are on offer here.

**BRANNIGANS.** Cathedral Street - Dublin 1. Tel: 018725315. An old-school Northside pub with a friendly welcome.

**BRIAN BORU.** 5, Prospect Road, Glasnevin - Dublin 9. Tel: 018304527. A welcoming northside bar.

**BRUXELLES.** 7-8, Harry Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016775362. A favoured indie/metal music

bar, this place gets packed out by 18:00 most evenings.

**CAPITOL.** 18/19, Lower Stephen Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 014757166. A popular cocktail bar, particularly with the younger crowd - we think drinks for €5 may have something to do with it.

**CARR & O'DONNELL.** Bachelor's Walk - Dublin 1. Tel: N/A. Formerly known as Panama, this bar does just as busy a night-time trade as its predecessor.

**CITIBAR.** 46-49, Dame Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016794455. An enjoyable bar, club, and hotel located right at the heart of things - their 'Irish tapas' is also an interesting twist.

**COPPER ALLEY BISTRO.** 2, Lord Edward Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 0167965000. Linked to the Harding Hotel, this place has a great menu which isn't too pricey either.

**DAKOTA.** 9, South William Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016727690. This trendy place still packs them in on Fridays - it's just as nice for a lunchtime visit if you don't fancy a crowd.

**DAME TAVERN.** 18, Dame Court - Dublin 2. Tel: 016793426. A homey place for a relaxing pint.

**DAVY BYRNES.** 21, Duke Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016775217. A literary pub with a great bar food menu.

**ENOTECA DELLE LANGHE.** Blooms Lane - Dublin 1. Tel: 018880834. A welcoming and authentic Italian wine bar.

**FITZGERALD'S PUB.** 22, Aston Quay - Dublin 2. Tel: 016779289. A handy, welcoming place that's just a little bit off Temple Bar's beaten track.

## BOWES

31, Fleet Street - Dublin 2.  
Tel: 016714038

The sister pub to Doyles around the corner seems to set the bar for old school charm: lovingly crafted furniture and panelling, 1850s green leather cushions, and even a chandelier would make Bowes feel a little bit like a gentleman's club or library if it weren't solidly unpretentious. You're more likely to hear people discussing football than Foucault here, which is no bad thing, though they also do a fine line in high-end whiskeys. You can usually get a table to yourself, which is nice, and the bar staff seem to know everyone who's visited more than twice. On any day off (or just an off-day) you can do a lot worse than spending the afternoon here reading the papers, drinking away a few productive hours, and yes, watching the football. Opening hours: Open seven days a week, from 16:00 to 23:30 (00:30 Friday and Saturday, 23:00 Sunday).



**FITZSIMONS BAR AND HOTEL.** 21-22, Wellington Quay, Temple Bar - Dublin 2. Tel: 016779315. Even if you're not looking for a room, the relaxing bar is a nice place to spend an evening.

**GRAINGERS.** 51, Talbot Street - Dublin 1. Tel: 018363249. A great place for a slightly-off-the-beaten-track pint.

**HOGANS.** 35, South Great Georges Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016775904. The former jazz club is beloved by the over-thirties, and rightly so: it's still wonderfully mellow and the service is top-notch.

**JACK NEALON'S PUB.** 165, Capel Street - Dublin 1. Tel: 018723247. Nealon's traditional pub is a welcome - and welcoming - sight in these parts.

**JAMES JOYCE CAFÉ BAR AND ULYSSES VENUE.** 52, Middle Abbey Street - Dublin 1. Tel: 018728188. A lively and fun café bar with a great food menu and a tasty selection of cocktails, plus regular gigs and club nights.

**J MCNEILL'S.** 140, Capel Street - Dublin 1. Tel: 018747679. Another popular bar on the perpetually-rocking Capel Street Strip.

**KARMA STONE.** 40, Wexford Street - Dublin 2. Tel: N/A. Bracken's Corner Stone has made way for this more student-friendly bar.

**KATE'S COTTAGE.** 1, Amiens Street - Dublin 1. Tel: 871315291. A traditional Irish pub with a warm atmosphere.

**KEOGHS.** 9, South Anne Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016778312. A very popular bar and lounge for old-school atmosphere.

**KNIGHTSBRIDGE BAR.** Bachelors Walk, O'Connell Bridge - Dublin 1. Tel: 014970111. A welcoming traditional-style pub.

**LEMON JELLY.** 11, Essex Street East - Dublin 2. Tel: 016776297. Delicious crepes and more are available at this trendy café.

**LOTS BAR.** 9, Lower Liffey Street - Dublin 1. Tel: 018727669. A mixed décor of a traditional and modern café bar, and a trendy crowd.

**MCDAIDS.** 7, Harry Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016794395. A haunt of no less than Brendan Behan in its day, this is one of the oldest pubs in the city and one of the best.

**MCGOWAN'S.** 18, Phibsboro Road, Phibsboro - Dublin 7. Tel: 018306606. This family-owned pub in Phibsboro also features a hopping nightclub.

**MERCANTILE BAR AND GRILL.** 28, Dame Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016707100. With a revamped food menu - plus a cracking live venue - this place has enjoyed a new lease of life in recent months.

**MESSRS MAGUIRE.** 1-2, Burgh Quay - Dublin 2. Tel: 018041205. A massive pub set on many levels, with a good bar food menu and some excellent Messrs-brewed beers.

**METRO.** 43, South William Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016794515. A coffee shop that feels like it's been here for decades. Lovely espresso, even lovelier leather seating.

**O'DONOGHUE'S.** Suffolk Street Dublin 2. Tel: 016770605. A very popular spot with people who want that 'local pub' feel in Dublin 2.

**O'NEILLS.** 2, Suffolk Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016793656. A sprawling pub with oodles of atmosphere and a mean selection of gourmet beers.

**O'SHEAS.** 19, Talbot Street - Dublin 1. Tel: 018365670. A veritable treasure trove of a pub, with many cosy little spaces.

**OLIVER ST JOHN GOGARTY'S.** Fleet Street, Temple Bar - Dublin 2. Tel: 016711822. A traditional pub that's very popular with tourists.

**PEADAR KEARNEY'S.** 64, Dame Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016753971. Looking on the outside like any salty boozier, Peadar Kearney's actually attracts a reasonably young crowd for some great music nights.

**PORTERHOUSE NORTH.** Cross Gunnes Bridge, Glasnevin - Dublin 11. Tel: 018309922. Part of the growing Porterhouse chain of bars, Porterhouse North features all the craft beers and cocktails that make the city centre establishments so popular.

**PYGMALION.** Powerscourt Townhouse Centre, South William Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 014539890. This place has taken over Bar Mizu's prime location, and offers a great atmosphere.

**Q-BAR.** 1-2, Burgh Quay - Dublin 2. Tel: 016777835. One of the first places to serve good-quality cocktails at prices to compete with a pint, Q-Bar is still a fun venue.

**SOLAS.** 31, Wexford Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 014780583. A cocktail bar with a bit of outsider charm - and a very nice lunch menu.

**SOUTH WILLIAM.** 52, South William Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016725946. Trendy club with a pie-themed food menu, extensive cocktails and varied club nights.

**SUFI'S CAFÉ.** 45-50, Lower Stephen Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016798577. A continental-style café with a secluded atmosphere.

**SWEENEY'S.** 2, Dame Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016350058. The boutique hotel-cum-cocktail bar and Jazz club has recently undergone a very good revamp.

**THE ARLINGTON HOTEL AND LEGENDS.** 16, Lord Edward Street, Dublin 2. Tel: 016708777. A popular tourist hotel with Irish dancing seven nights a week.

**THE ABBEYTHEATRE.** 26, lower Abbey Street - Dublin 1. Tel: 018962335. Ireland's National Theatre is well-furnished and has plenty going on.

**THE BACHELOR.** 31, Bachelor's Walk - Dublin 1. Tel: 018731238. A popular bar right by the boardwalk.

**THE BANKERS.** 16, Trinity Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016793697. A welcoming little bar with a great weekly comedy club.

**THE CHURCH.** Junction of Mary Street and Jervis Street - Dublin 1. Tel: 018280102. Excellent pub-cum-restaurant-cum-club that ticks all the boxes.

**THE CLARENCE HOTEL.** 6-8, Wellington Quay - Dublin 2. Tel: 014070800. One of the city's best hotels and home to both the Tea Rooms and the Octagon Bar.

**THE CZECH INN.** Essex Gate, Temple Bar - Dublin 2. Tel: 016711535. Czech-themed bar with plenty to appeal to everyone, including an extensive beer range.

## DOYLES

9, College Street - Dublin 2  
Tel: 016710616

This easy-going pub with traditional fittings has been a popular student hangout since time immemorial, which makes sense when you think about it. The location - within five minutes of Trinity College - plays its part, of course, as does the upstairs room: it hosts late events all through the week, including the Ruby Sessions (a great singer-songwriter night) on Tuesdays, and DJs who know their Kaiser Chiefs from their Arctic Monkeys. If you're more in the mood for a quiet evening, though the ground floor bar remains laid-back even when it's packed and is a great place to watch any matches taking place before pulling a late one. Opening hours: Open seven days a week, from 12:00 to 02:30 (23:00 Sunday).



**THE DARK HORSE INN.** 1, George's Quay – Dublin 2. Tel: 016751862. Formerly known as the White Horse Inn, this old sea dog's haunt has been transformed into a cool venue for jazz and other live music.

**THE DAWSON LOUNGE.** 25, Dawson Street – Dublin 2. Tel: 016771487. An antidote to the trendiness of the Dawson Street strip, The Dawson lounge claims to be the smallest pub in the city. We believe it.

**THE DICE BAR.** 79, Queen Street, Smithfield – Dublin 7. Tel: 016746710. Part-owned by fun loving criminal Huey Morgan, this cool little bar has a lot of noo yawk charm.

**THE DRAGON.** 64, South Great George's Street – Dublin 2. Tel: 014781590. A relatively new kid on the gay bar block, this pub has a packed event programme.

**THE DUKE.** 8-9, Duke Street – Dublin 2. Tel: 876764657. A nice large traditional pub with good service and a trad evening on Sundays.

**THE FLOWING TIDE/NEPTUNE BAR.** 9, Abbey Street Lower – Dublin 1. Tel: 018744108. Very popular with the post-theatre crowd, and home to a comedy club that's generating considerable buzz.

**THE GARAGE BAR.** East Essex Street, Temple Bar – Dublin 2. Tel: N/A. 1930s style petrol pumps, sawdust on the floor, and surprisingly good cocktails.

**THE GEORGE.** 89, George's Street – Dublin 2. Tel: 014782983. The grand dame of Dublin gay bars is as popular as ever.

**THE GRAFTON LOUNGE.** Unit 2, Royal Hibernian Way, Dawson Street – Dublin 2. Tel: 016796260. Opened where the popular Cocoon once stood, this has a rather more laid-back feel than its predecessor.

**THE GRAND SOCIAL.** 35, Lower Liffey Street – Dublin 1. Tel: 018740076. Since taking over Pravda, this live music bar – which hosts a range of other events has gone from strength to strength.

**THE HARBOURMASTER.** Customs House Dock, IFSC – Dublin 1. Tel: 016701688. Great coffee by day and a crackling atmosphere by night make this a winner.

**THE HUT.** 159, Phibsboro Road, Phibsboro – Dublin 7. Tel: 018302238. A decidedly old school bar – in a good way. Friendly service and a fine pint of Guinness are both on offer.

**THE LONG HALL.** 51, South Great Georges Street – Dublin 2. Tel: 014751590. A popular pub with impeccable traditional credentials.

**THE MARBLE BAR.** The Westbury Hotel, Harry Street – Dublin 2. Tel: 016791122. Just off Grafton Street lies one of the most relaxing and best-staffed cocktail bars in the city.

**THE MINT BAR.** Westin Hotel, Westmoreland Street – Dublin 2. Tel: 016451322. This underground bar has a cosy atmosphere and great drinks – try the elderflower Collins.

**THE PINT.** 28, Aston Quay – Dublin 2. Tel: 018745255. Neighbourhood bar with a varied live music mix.

**THE PORT HOUSE.** 64, South William Street – Dublin 2. Tel: 016770298. A gorgeous little tapas bar with candlelight, and some innovative dishes.

**THE MORGAN HOTEL.** The Morgan Hotel, 10, Fleet Street – Dublin 2. Tel: 014757166. This place is very popular, and it's easy to see why – the cocktails are frankly fantastic.

**THE ODEON.** 57, Harcourt Street – Dublin 2. Tel: 014782088. With more room to breathe, you can appreciate the wonderfully restored décor

of this place all the better – arrive before the late-night rush.

**THE PALACE BAR.** 21, Fleet Street, Temple Bar – Dublin 2. Tel: 016717388. One of the most welcoming traditional pubs to survive in Dublin city centre.

**THE SECRET BAR.** 3, Fade Street – Dublin 2. Tel: 017645681. The city's worst-kept secret doesn't even need a name badge to draw in the punters.

**THE TEA GARDEN.** 7, Lower Ormond Quay – Dublin 1. Tel: 0862191010. A veritable oasis from noisy pubs and clubs in the city centre, this place is ideal for enjoying gourmet teas or shisha.

**THE WORKMAN'S CLUB.** 10, Wellington Quay – Dublin 2. Tel: 016706692. One of the city's newest – and best – live venues.

**THOMAS READS.** 1, Parliament Street – Dublin 2. Tel: N/A. Still a very popular bar among clued-in people who don't fancy the full-on Temple Bar night out.

**UKIYO.** 7-9, Exchequer Street – Dublin 2. Tel: 016334071. Karaoke, sushi and cocktails may be an unconventional recipe, but it certainly works.

**WRIGHT'S FINDLATER HOWTH.** Findlater House, Howth – County Dublin. Tel: 018324488. A striking outdoor facade offers a hint at the stylish café bar that lies within.

### LATE NIGHT

**ABBEY COURT HOSTEL.** 29, Bachelor's Walk – Dublin 1. Tel: 018780700. Good budget accommodation by the Liffey with free wifi.

**ALEXANDER HOTEL.** Merion Square – Dublin 2. Tel: 016073900. A handy place to stay just off Nassau Street.

**BOOMERANG'S BAR AND NIGHT CLUB.** 13, Fleet Street – Dublin 2. Tel: 016773333. A popular late spot in the heart of Temple Bar.

**BROOKS HOTEL.** 59-63, Drury Street – Dublin 2. Tel: 012788093. A boutique hotel just off Grafton Street, you say? Yeah, we'll take that.

**BUCK WHALLEYS.** 67, Lower Leeson Street – Dublin 2. Tel: 016334200. Popular wine bar, now with a full bar license and late opening.

**CAMDEN COURT HOTEL.** Lower Camden Street – Dublin 2. Tel: 014759666. Good accommodation at a competitive price.

**CELTIC LODGE.** 81-82, Talbot Street – Dublin 1. Tel: 018788810. Great facilities, bars and restaurants nearby, and a spot by the Luas are all in this establishment's favour.

**CITI HOTEL.** Dame Street. 46-49, Dame Street – Dublin 2. Tel: 016794455. Sitting within a stone's throw of the Central Bank, this place is hard to top for location.

**CLUB NASSUA.** 1-2, Nassau Street – Dublin 2. Tel: 016794388. The 'home of the slow set' plays old school hits from the 1980s and other decades every week.

**COPPER FACE JACKS.** 29, Harcourt Street – Dublin 2. Tel: 867816251. Many a romance has begun (and ended) in this heaving Dublin club.

**CRAWDADDY.** Old Harcourt Street Train Station, Harcourt Street – Dublin 2. Tel: 014780225. An intimate live venue downstairs at the POD complex.

## KOH

7, Jervis Street - Dublin 1  
Tel: 018146777

Between a packed dining room and a crackling cocktail bar, there's an enjoyable atmosphere here throughout the week. A menu of modern Thai cuisine has dishes to tempt both novices and true spice-lovers, and a pre-theatre menu too: two courses for €19:50 or three dishes for €23 represents great value for food of this quality. The cocktail menu, whether you're drinking over dinner or just hitting the bar, is extensive and the drinks are well made: the Pink G&T, winner of the Martin Millers Gin Classic Competition, is a speciality. Opening hours: Open seven days a week. Lunch served from 12:00 to 17:00, dinner from 17:00 to 23:00 (22:30 Sunday and Monday, 23:30 Friday and Saturday). Late cocktail bar.



**DAY'S INN.** 95-98, Talbot Street – Dublin 1. Tel: 018749202. A handily located hotel, particularly for 02 concert-goers.

**DTWO NIGHTCLUB.** 60, Harcourt Street – Dublin 2. Tel: 014764603. A popular bar and nightclub for hard-pressed office workers.

**GILBERT & WRIGHT, DUN LAOGHAIRE.** 128, Lower Georges Street, Dun Laoghaire – County Dublin. Tel: 016636148. One of the newest additions to the Dun Laoghaire social scene has drawn new nightlife-lovers to the seaside town.

**GRAFTON CAPITOL HOTEL.** Lower Stephen Street – Dublin 2. Tel: 016481100. Good rooms, great rates, and helpful staff – it's all anyone really needs from a city-centre hotel.

**HARCOURT HOTEL.** Harcourt Street. 60, Harcourt Street – Dublin 2. Tel: 014783677. Tired after a night on the tiles? Rest your head here.

**JACOB'S INN HOSTEL.** 21, Talbot Place – Dublin 1. Tel: 018555660. A welcoming, youth-orientated hostel.

**KINLAY HOUSE HOSTEL.** 2-12, Lord Edward Street – Dublin 2. Tel: 016796644. A very handy place to kip just off the edge of Dame Street.

**HARDING HOTEL.** Fishamble Street, Christchurch - Dublin 2. Tel: 016796500. This place has all the benefits of a location just on the edge of Temple bar, but without all the noise you'd get right in the centre of it.

**HOTEL ISAACS.** 1, Store Street – Dublin 1. Tel: 018134700. A handy little hotel for anyone in the O'Connell Street area, with a great live venue in The Good Bits.

**HOWL AT THE MOON.** 7-8, Lower Mount Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016345460. A spacious club with many levels – and lots going on most evenings.

**ICE BAR.** Four Seasons Hotel, Simonscourt Road - Dublin 4. Tel: 016654000. You can now get top-drawer sushi at this stylish cocktail bar – we're amazed nobody thought of the combination before.

**KRYSTLE.** 21-25, Harcourt Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 014784066. A club clearly aiming for the high-class, high-spending market, and hitting it right on the button.

**LILLIES BORDELLO.** Adam Court, Grafton Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016799204. The playground for the super-rich is increasingly letting in the hoi-polloi. Just don't try approaching the celebs.

**MEZZA.** 13, Parliament Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016706424. Late night Lebanese cuisine is understandably popular.

**MOLLOY'S.** 59, Talbot Street – Dublin 1. Tel: 018550017. An old-school Irish pub.

**NORTH STAR HOTEL.** Amiens Street, Dublin 1. Tel: 018363136. A convenient location makes this an ideal place for travellers by bus.

**O'CALLAGHAN DAVENPORT HOTEL.** Fenian Street – Dublin 2. Tel: 016073900. A great, cosy hotel bar makes this place a winner.

**O'SHEA'S HOTEL.** 19, Talbot Street – Dublin 1. Tel: 014568901. A hotel promising great food, drink and fun within walking distance of O'Connell Street.

**PARAMOUNT HOTEL.** Parliament Street & Essex Gate, Temple Bar – Dublin 2. Tel: 01479900. This Temple Bar Hotel is just as lively as you'd expect.

**RADDISSON BLU HOTEL.** Golden Lane – Dublin 2. Tel: N/A. A very impressive hotel within a short walk of the city centre.

**RÍ-RÁ.** 11, South Great Georges Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016711220. A hugely popular student nightclub.

**RIPLEY COURT HOTEL.** 37, Talbot Street – Dublin 1. Tel: 018365892. A new three-star hotel based in the centre of the city.

**SIN.** 17-19, Sycamore Street - Temple Bar - Dublin 2. Tel: 016334232. Uber-popular Temple Bar nightclub with a mixed music policy.

**THE ABBEY HOTEL.** 52, Middle Abbey Street – Dublin 1. Tel: 018728188. Good quality, good value accommodation right on the luas line and in a central location.

**THE ACADEMY.** 57, Middle Abbey Street – Dublin 2. Tel: 014751895. A cool club and live venue that makes the most of its space.

**THE BUTTON FACTORY.** Curved Street, Temple Bar - Dublin 2. Tel: 016709202. The refurbished and revamped Temple Bar Music Centre is a great place for smaller gigs.

**THE DRURY COURT HOTEL.** 28-30, Lower Stephen Street – Dublin 2. Tel: 014751988. Sitting close to the heart of the city, this is a lively hotel with some delicious food on offer too.

**THE MEZZ.** 23, Eustace Street, Temple Bar - Dublin 2. Tel: 016707655. Formerly the mezzanine bar, this Temple Bar club is winning many new converts.

**THE SUGAR CLUB.** 8, Lower Leeson Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016787188. An intimate live venue with comfy seating, a pleasant bar, and a strong event line-up.

**THE TWISTED PEPPER.** 54, Middle Abbey Street - Dublin 1. Tel: 018734038. This venue gives a welcome stage to some cutting edge electronic musicians and DJs. Regular club nights Pogo and Mud are also great fun.

**THE WRIGHT VENUE.** Airside, Swords - Co. Dublin. Tel: 018900099. A gigantic, Miami-style club. Buses are available as transport to the venue from the city centre.

**TRAMCO BREWERY.** 121, Lower Rathmines Road - Dublin 6. Tel: 014968050. A purveyor of craft beer by day and hip student club by night,

this place ticks two very different boxes very well.

**TRINITY LODGE HOTEL.** 12, South Frederick Street – Dublin 2. Tel: 016170900. A hotel with excellently appointed rooms in a great location.

**TRIPOD.** Old Harcourt Street Train Station, Harcourt Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 014763374. One of the best clubs and live venues in the city, Tripod hosts some top international acts along with more offbeat artists.

**VANILLA NIGHTCLUB.** 19-21, Morehampton Road – Dublin 4. Tel: 016739805. A stylish boutique club with great private booths.

**WRIGHTS CAFÉ BAR.** The Plaza, Swords – County Dublin. Tel: 018406744. One of Ireland's original superpubs remains a fun place both for a cocktail (try the Wright Flirt) or good Irish food.

**WYNNS HOTEL.** 35-39, Lower Abbey Street – Dublin 1. Tel: 018745131. A very comfortable hotel that still manages to have a lovely historic feel.

**ZAYTOON.** 14-15, Parliament Street - Dublin 2. Tel: 016773595. One of the best kebab places in Dublin, and just off Temple Bar. Enough said.



## THE MORGAN BAR

10, Fleet Street - Dublin 2  
Tel: 016437000

Sitting on the fringes of Temple Bar, this place has attracted an altogether sleeker crowd than one might expect. Assembling one of the longest (and tastiest) cocktail menus in Dublin 2 has helped quite a bit, along with the funky décor – it's rare to find a place with features that can, by themselves, spark up a conversation. A tapas menu is there if you're feeling peckish, and DJs can get things going as the night moves on: house, soul, and the odd dose of disco give the place a hopping feel. As a post-dinner experience in Temple Bar goes, it's hard to match for sheer class.

Opening hours: Open seven days a week, from 12:00 to late. Lunch served from 12:00 to 15:00, dinner/tapas served from 15:30 to 22:00.

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