Things to See and Do in Dublin by Lek Boonlert

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Visitors of all ages are catered for in the Irish capital and a day of walking about around the city centre within a short stroll of your Dublin hotel is a great way to spend the day, topped off with a few pints of Guinness and a live music session in one of the cityâ€™s hundreds of pubs. Below are just a few examples of the many must-see attractions which Dublin has to offer:

1.Dublinâ€™s Castles â€“ not confined solely to the famous Dublin Castle itself, the Irish capital is home to many superb ancient fortresses and buildings. Dublin castle is of course the most famous, perched as it is on the banks of the rivers Liffey and Poddle, the castle is a spectacular monument to the building skills of centuries gone by and offers the visitor a real taste of what the city might have looked like hundreds of years ago.

2.The Book of Kells â€“ housed in beautlful Trinity College, the Book of Kells is said to have been penned around the time of 800AD and remains one of the finest examples of illustrated manuscripts anywhere in the world. The book is written in Latin and contains the text of the four Gospels taken from the New Testament, and for anyone with an interest in history and ancient manuscripts, it is a must-see. Which is not to mention that Trinity College itself is a pretty breathtaking building!

3.Temple Bar â€“ Dublinâ€™s legendary cultural area and home to no end of bars, pubs and restaurants, Temple Bar is perched on the south bank of the Liffey and is bordered by two of Dublinâ€™s most bustling shopping areas, Grafton Street and Henry Street. Temple Bar is an attraction in itself as it makes for a great place to people watch in the daytime, either on foot or sat at the table of a cafe, while at night it transforms into an entertainment centre. Beware though that the area does tend to be popular with the many stag and hen parties which descend on Dublin these days, so if itâ€™s a quiet night out youâ€™re after and a few pints of Guinness over some good conversation, it might not be quite your bag.

4.Kilmainham Gaol â€“ Located a short distance out of the city centre but still within easy reach of most Dublin hotels, Kilmainham Gaol is best reached by taking the Luas tram system. The Gaol is a reminder of some of Irelandâ€™s turbulent history and operated as a prison for almost one-and-a-half centuries when it was home to many famous Irish political prisoners. When the 1926 Rising took place in the Irish capital the Gaol was subsequently used as a place of execution for many of the prisoners taken captive. The Gaol is a haunting and fascinating place to this day and stands as a reminder of the British occupation of Ireland.

5.Dublin Zoo â€“ popular with adults and kids alike, Dublin boasts Irelandâ€™s largest Zoo. Again easily reached by the Luas, Dublin Zoo is reckoned to be the fourth oldest anywhere in the world and boasts a commitment to conservation and education on animal and environmental issues.

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