Enjoy a lively city break in Dublin by Sean Burke

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If you are looking to visit a city with its finger on the pulse, then look no further than the capital of Ireland, Dublin. You will be spoilt for choice with a myriad of attractions to take in during the day and many hip restaurants, bars and clubs to frequent at night.

While Ireland has long been a tourists favourite for those seeking a chance to explore the heritage and tradition of the country, there is a growing number of visitors who are flocking to the capital simply to experience the vibrant atmosphere. However, that doesnâ€™t mean tradition has to take a back seat!

Take, for example, the Guinness Storehouse. This is Dublin (and Irelandâ€™s) number one tourist attraction and is surely a must see which will appeal to visitors of all ages and backgrounds. Learn all about the history of the â€˜black stuffâ€™ before taking a trip up to the famous Gravity Bar to drink your complimentary pint (if you are over 18!) while enjoying the spectacular 360Â° views of the city.

If you are on a flying visit and are looking to soak up as much atmosphere as possible in a short space of time, then set off for Temple Bar. Dublinâ€™s self-proclaimed â€˜cultural quarterâ€™ is situated o south bank of the River Liffey and is home to some of the most eclectic shops and markets in the city plus theatres and galleries. And at night, Temple Bar comes alive with its many pubs and restaurants offering everything from traditional fare to Parisian inspired cuisine.

Families can take advantage of attractions such as Imaginosity, Dublinâ€™s interactive (and educational!) museum for children and the Dublin Zoo which is based in Phoenix Park. The park itself offers a great day out for picnicking, bike riding or walking.

Dublin, although a large city, has a relatively small centre which is in the main easily travelled by foot. There is however, a great public transport system in place covered by bus and rail (known as the DART) services so wherever your hotel Dublin is based, you should find it easy to navigate the city.

Whatever your reasons for choosing a city break in Dublin â€“ be it a girly weekend, anniversary or family trip â€“ you can be guaranteed a visit which will be full of excitement and new experiences. From spas to theatre and even a literary pub crawl, there is something to suit every taste.

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