



Dublin's flag

Dublin (Irish: **Baile Átha Cliath**, meaning "town of the hurdled ford" and **Dubhlinn**, "Blackpool") is the capital and the largest city in Ireland with a little less than 500 000 inhabitants in centre of town. "Dublin Urban Area" has 1 045 769 inhabitants.

The first time the city is mentioned is about 140, when the da geografer Klaudios Ptolemaios wrote about it under the namne *Eblana*.

St. Patrick visited probably the place around 448, and converted many of the inhabitants to Christianity. During the next four yearhundreds there grew up a city at a fording point in the river Liffey where it was possible to cross with horses.

Around 840, Norse vikings arrived, and they constructed a fortress in the area. The city became the headquarters for a Norwegian kingdom. In 852 Danish vikings took control, and the following years were characterized by fights between the Irish and Danish/Norwegians. The sources varies in their meentioning about who really controlled Dublin; in Norway is often talked about as a Norwegian viking kingdom, while in Ireland and Great Britain speak about them as *Danes*. Historic Irish sources use normally «the strangers from Dublin», *Gaill Áith Cliath*. This continued until 1014, when the Irish won in the battle at Clontarf.



Dublin's coat of arms

Ireland's history starts in the prehistoric times, about 8000 BC, when the first human arrived at Ireland from Great Britain and the European continent. It is possible that it at these times were land connection to Ireland, and then between Scotland and Northern Ireland where it is the shortest distance. There are few tracks from the earliest inhabitant, but their descendants and others, who came to the island, left large neolithic findings as Newgrange.

From the 5. century BC, the christianizing of Ireland, by St. Patrick and a series of other missionaries, starts. Within the year 600, there had come into being a celtic form of Christianity, which from the start contained a number of elements from celtic mythology. The Christianity has later played a significant role in Ireland's cultural and political development.

From about 800, more than a century with viking invasions followed. This cause great damage to the monastic culture and on the regional dynasties. Gradually there grew up new communities where the Norse were assimilated or established their own kingdoms.

In 1169 the Normans came, and during a periode of over 800 years started, when England were strongly involved in the government of the island. From 1541 the English monarch took direct control, and a significant number of settlers from England and Scotland set out. This resulted in that the old nobility were squeezed out, and in that there arosed a religous conflict between the protestantic settlers and the catholic Irish. This conflict has later always been a subject in Irish history.

Ireland got its own parliament, and had a limited self-government, but the power was in the Anglo-Irish, protestantic hands, while the catholic majority had no right to vote. In 1801 the island was incorporated in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and the Irish parliamentet was abolish.

In the beginning of the 20. century the independence struggles were intensified, and in 1922, after the Irish Independence war, the island was divided in two parts. In the north came Northern Ireland into being, a British province that with exception of the periode 1971–1998 has had limited self-government. The area has the whole time had political and religious conflicts, and especially in the periode 1968–1997 there was extensive use of violence that also spread ti Great Britain and to the southern part of the island. In south the British established South-Ireland, while the Irish established The Irish Republic.



Ireland's flag



Ireland's coat of arms



Ireland's plassing i Europa

This time we went with Ryanair from Torp airport at Sandefjord. We travelled by car from Gran and parked on the parking lot at the airport.



Ryanair is an Irish low cost airline, which was established in 1985. In August 2006 the company carried in total 4 002 358 passengers, which makes the company to one of the biggest in Europa. Ryanair is the third largest in number of passengers.

Ryanair started their flights to Torp from London Stansted in 1997.



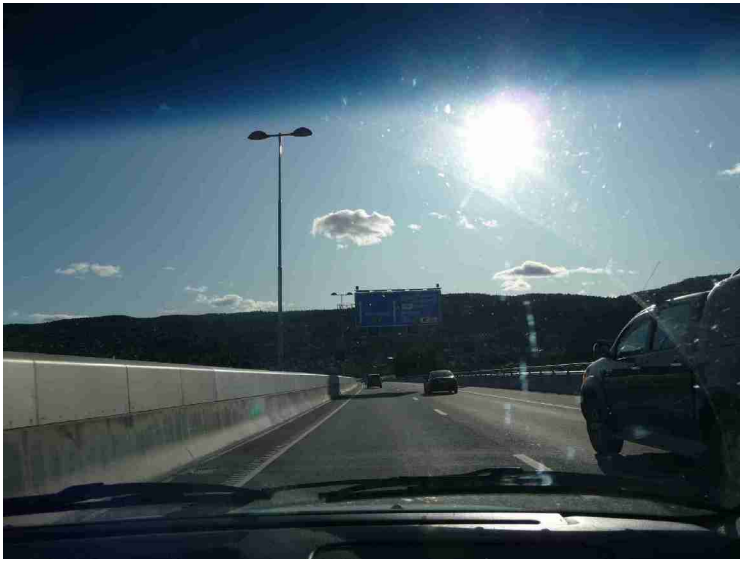
Sandefjord airport, Torp is owned and run by Sandefjord Lufthavn AS. The airport is the second largest in eastern Norway, and lies at Torp in Sandefjord municipality. It has one runway with a length of 2950 m. Sandefjord Lufthavn A/S was elected to the company of the year in Vestfold in 2002.



Here we are driving down the hills to Jevnaker



Here we are at Sundvollen south of Hønefoss



Drammen



Control tower at the airport



The entrance to the terminal



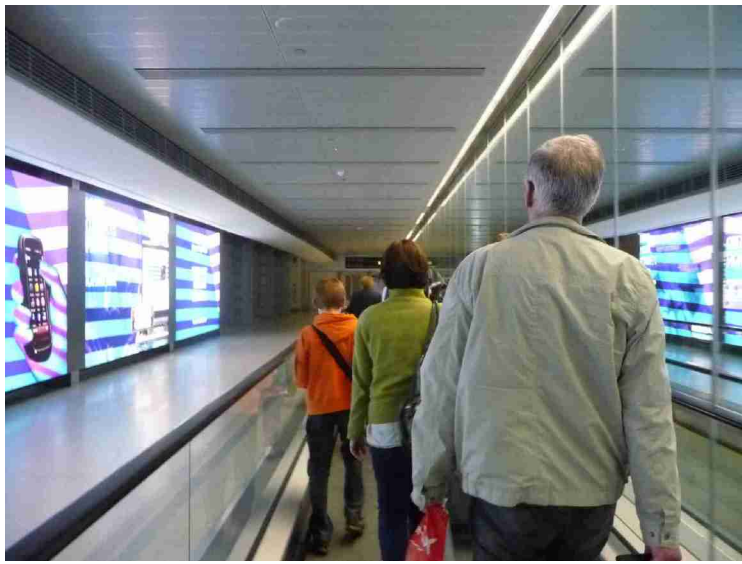
Check-in line



A beer in the sun before going through the security check



On the airport in Dublin



On the way to get the suitcases



Anne Berit is looking for suitcases



The suitcases have arrived



Kjell at full speed

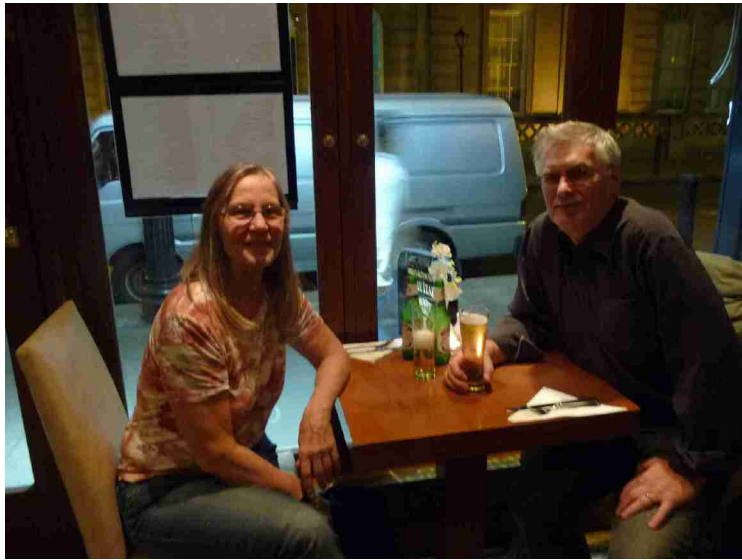
We arrived so late in the evening that we found it best to take a taxi to the hotel. It didn't take more than 15 minutes.



Check-in at Maple Hotel.



We needed some food right away. The pubs had closed their kitchen, but this Italian restaurant was open. They closed the door for new guest just after we had entered.



Waiting for the food



Back at the hotelroom



Many have complained that we almost have no pictures of ourselves in the travelogues. Therefore we took pictures of ourselves here.



We were so well underway with it that we took another one in the same run. Now everybody must be happy.



Breakfast at the hotel



Anne Berit was thinking of buying this suitcase for bringing Kjell as special luggage on the next trip. That would have been much cheaper.



Monument of Light, which is 120 m high and was erected 2002-2003. It was a replacement for a statue of Lord Nelson that was blown away by IRA in 1966.



We went past this sculpture outside Tyrone House



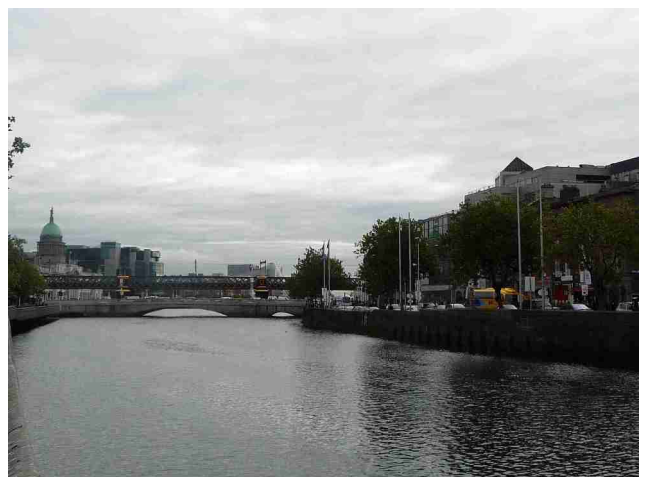
Just before we come out into O'Connell Street, we came past the statue of James Joyce, who is a known writer from Dublin. He is best known for the novel Ulysses.



In the end of O'Connell Street stands this statue of Daniel O'Connell. O'Connell was a known Irish politician and is recognised as the founder of no-violence Irish nationalism. O'Connell Street is one of the broadest streets in Europe.



The main post office is also in O'Connell Street



The river Liffey flows through the city and divides it into a northern and a southern part. The northern part is traditionally said to be the poorest.



There is a nice promenade along the river



Anne Berit is taking pictures



We went on this bridge, O'Connell Bridge



Bank of Ireland



There were many who walked like this, advertising for a restaurant



Tourist buses



The main entrance to Trinity College, which is Ireland's oldest university. The collegium was established in 1592 by Elisabeth I of England. One of Ireland's oldest writings, Book of Kells, is one of the collegium's main attractions, and draw a lot of tourists.



This is the famous Molly Malone from the ballade with the same name, but also known as Cockles and Mussels. The song has become the unofficial hymn for Dublin.



Lot of work with beer containers



Phil Lynott, the Thin Lizzy vokalist who died in 1986.



The Anglican church in Dublin



EU office



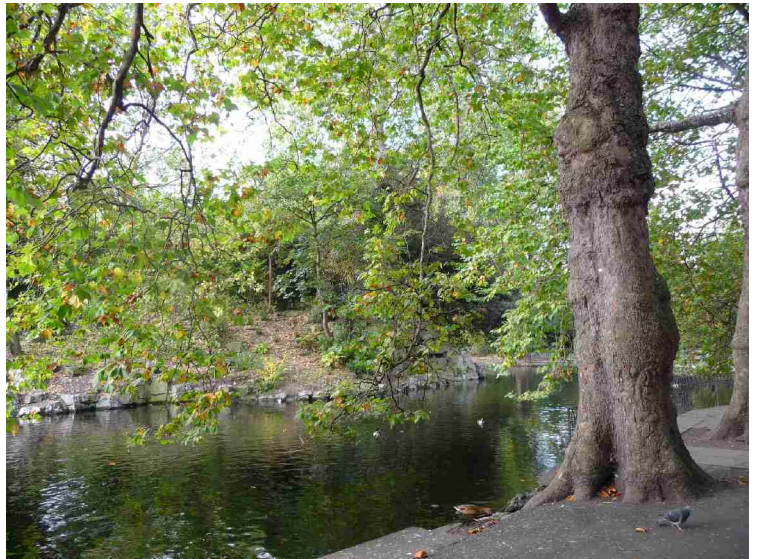
The coat of arm for Dublin is moulded into the cover on at lot of lighting poles.



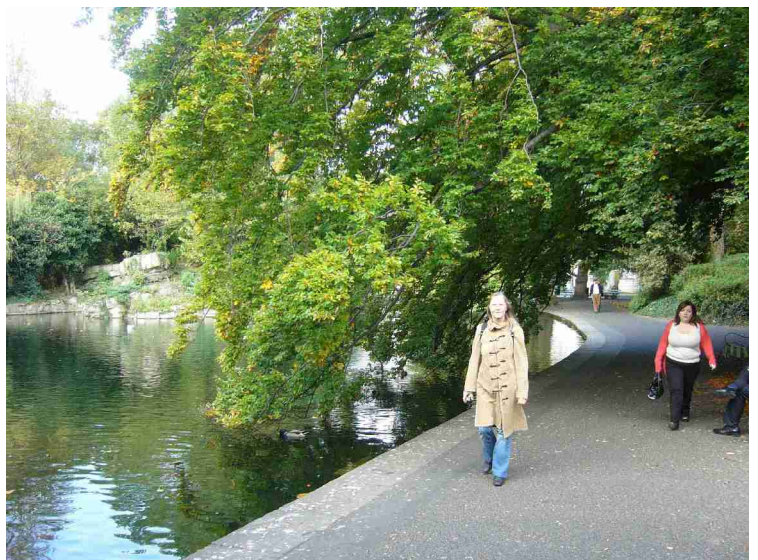
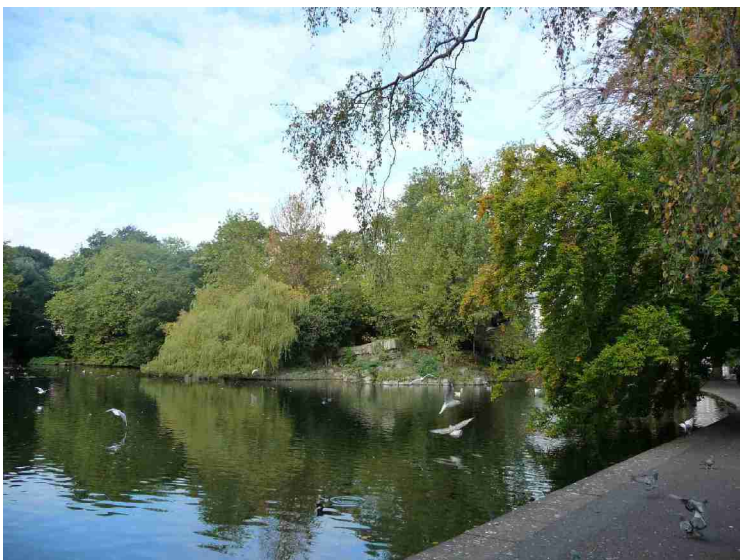
Equivalent to KNA, Kongelig Norsk Automobilforening?



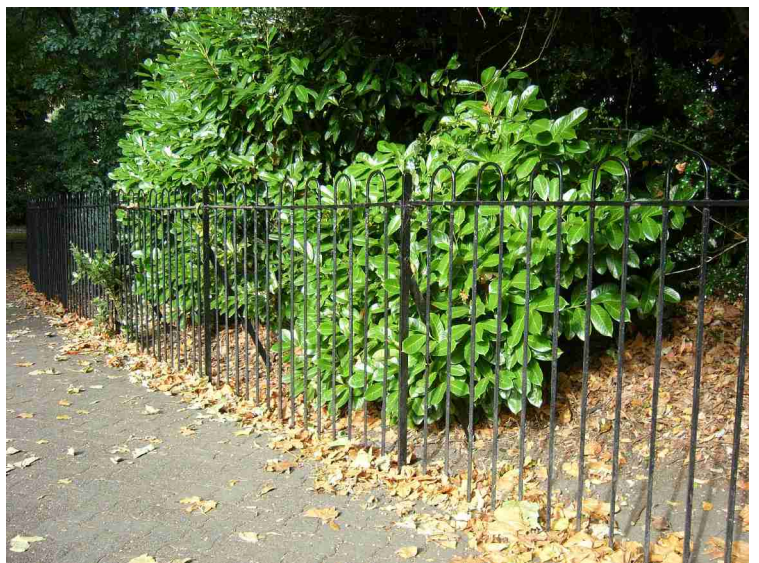
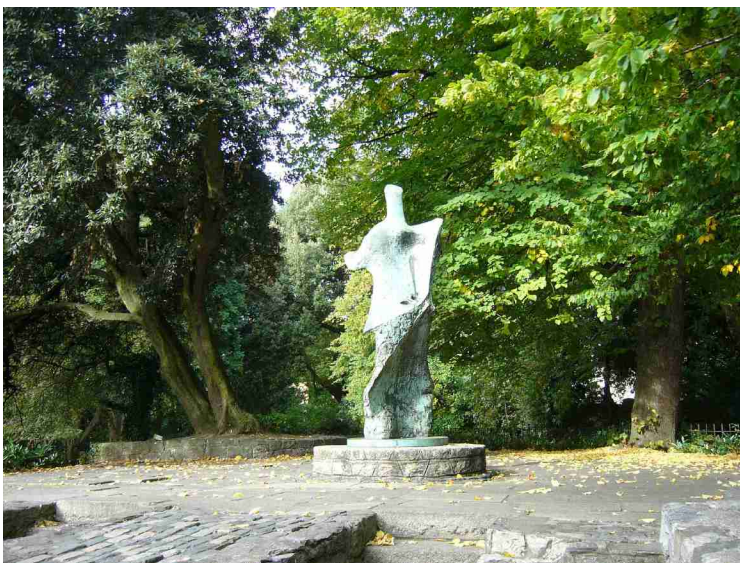
The main entrance to St. Stephens Green, that is a big park.



Below follows a series of pictures from the park.







A bronze statue in honour of the poet W.B. Yeats (1865-1935)

Autumn



Arthur Edward Guinness, 1. Baron Ardilaun, the great great grandchild to he who founded the Guinness brewery. He was a businessman and politician, but is best known for having given this park to the public.



A map of Ireland made of Guinness beer bottles



Very little garbage to see in Dublin.



St. Stephen's Green Shopping Centre that was the first shopping mall in Ireland.



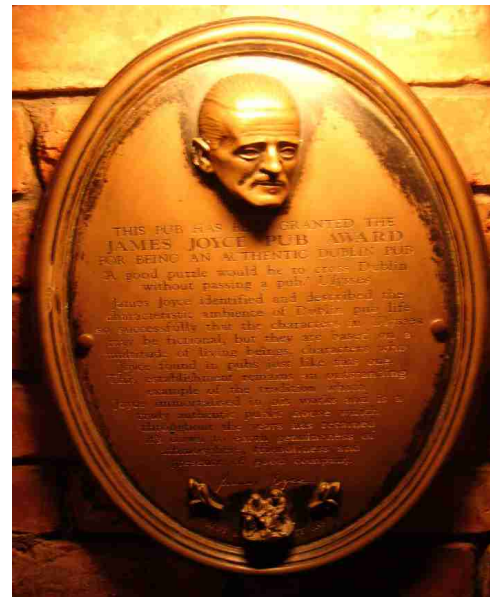
Here we had to have some beer



So happy we are!!



The name of the bar was made in mosaic in the stairs



This plaque tells that the bar was granted James Joyce Pub Award for being an authentic Dublin pub



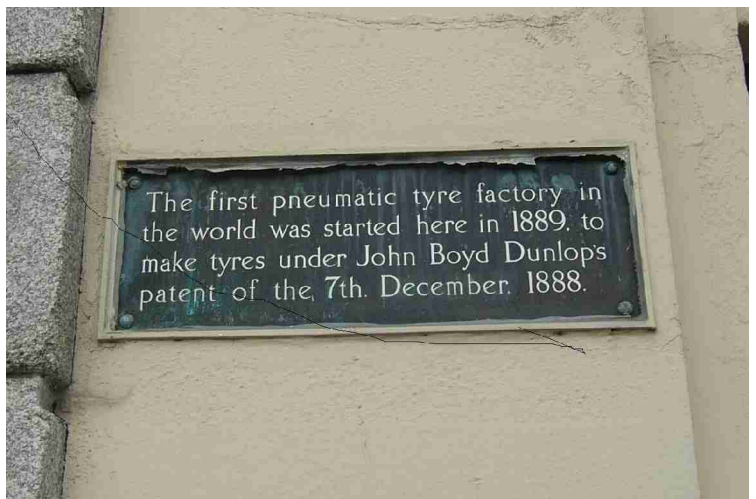
We had to be outside to have a smoke. Ireland was the first country that introduced prohibition against smoking indoor.



Kjell shopping????????????????



It looked like this inside the shopping centre



We went past a building with this sign that tells us that the first tyre factory startet here in 1889.



This lion cub was lying in a window



This was standing beside. Perhaps it was the mother?



St. Patrick's Cathedral is the protestantic Church of Ireland's national cathedral. It is standing at the early Christian wholly place where St. Patrick baptized newly converted in a well in 450.



This is inside the castle courtyard of Dublin Castle, which was headquarters for the British administration in Ireland until 1922.



The figure, which was over the gate is taken from the constellation Libra. See also the picture above.



The medieval tower was built in 1204.



Christ Church Cathedral is Dublin's oldest building from 1038



In a part of the church is Dublinia. It is a display about the life in Dublin in the middle ages.



The Dublinia part is connected with the church with a bridge.



This copper plate was in the pavement outside Dublinia.



These figures were also right beyond. They are a tribute to children in the new millennium.



Afterwards we had lunch at this pub.



Here we have just ordered some food



The view from our table



In the Temple Bar district



The Temple Bar



Wall of Fame is a tribute to the most known Irish musicians. The pictures are lit from behind in the evening.



Nice bar in the Temple Bar District



We went back over the river Liffey on this pedestrian bridge, The Halfpenny Bridge, which has been one of the symbols for Dublin. Once the the cost to cross the bridge was half a penny.



Good temperature in the sun, and people were sitting in just the shorts.



Anne Berit is looking at the sightseeing boat.



The sightseeing boat went up and down the river each hour.



We had dinner at this restaurant/pub. It was right beside our hotel



It had been awarded prizes for the best music pub



We had dinner a bit early, so we were the only guests in the restaurant.



Still more pictures taken of us!! Now it must be OK?



We had a beer in the pub afterwards



There were live music. These two guys played the whole evening.



In a proper music pub is needed various instruments

CONTINUE ON DAY 2