

An insider's guide to Dublin the way the locals live it

Insider Guides

Gay Dublin

Today, nestled among a compact, if diverse gay scene, you'll find straight bars that positively welcome gay and lesbian clientele and gay bars playing happy host to hetero couples who just want to get away from the straight and narrow.

Alongside the bar and club scene, gay Dublin has a strong community ethic. The gay centre, **OutHouse**, on Capel Street hosts a vast array of meetings for groups of all shapes and sizes and has a drop-in centre with Internet access, coffee shop and someone always ready for a chat.

In fact, the chief attraction of gay Dublin is that you'll always find somebody ready for a chat. Dublin's gay scene is a haven of friendliness, there's always somebody who will come up and break the ice, and before a night is through you'll most likely have a whole new group of friends.

The flourishing nightlife happens in two areas. the older and more established Pink Triangle, south of the river and the newly cosmopolitan Capel Street, north of the river. The George on South Great George's Street, which has the distinction of being Ireland's oldest gay pub and club, has expanded over the past decade to become a mega-pub and club over two floors, with three bars, a dance floor, stage and a chill-out area! The main venue has resident DJ's playing different styles of music on different nights for a party-on crowd of all ages. Dublin's popular drag queens perform on most evenings, the most beloved show being **Shirley Temple** Bar's Bingo! on Sundays. The George is also the only venue in Dublin to bring in international music acts and artists such as Alexandra Burke, Kelis and Kazaky. The other points on the Pink Triangle are Dragon and The Front Lounge.

Slap bang in the middle of the Triangle is **The Boilerhouse**, the city's most famous gay sauna, open daily.

A big indication of the city's new diverse population is the blossoming of **Capel Street** as an area where a cornucopia of bars and restaurants catering to all nationalities have sprung up in the past number of years.

Most hotel accommodation in Dublin is gayfriendly with same sex couples booking double rooms an everyday occurrence. Simply because of its location **The Temple Bar Hotel** is a gay favourite. Around the corner **The Clarence Hotel**, is owed by members of the band U2. The Clarence provides a kind of high-end luxury that many gay visitors to the city like to access.

You'll find that most eateries in the city centre don't shy away from gay clientele. In the Pink Triangle area, in the vicinity of **The George**, there are several cafes and restaurants that cater heavily to a gay clientele. **Brasserie Sixty Six** is a large and busy restaurant that always has its fair share of gay diners. It's quirkily decorated and serves good down-home food with a modern edge, and host regular gay speed dating evenings!

Dublin's gay scene is a constantly evolving arena. Pantibar, WAR, Glitz at Dandelion are some more options. The ever-evolving gay one-nighter club scene is difficult to keep tabs on so you will find regular gay nights in many of the straight clubs dotted around the city.

The International Gay Theatre Festival (May 7th – 20th 2012), Dublin's gay theatre festival has grown to become a two-week showcase of the best in gay and lesbian theatre performance from across the world.

The Dublin LGBTQ Pride Festival (June), Dublin Pride does the city proud for two weeks annually. The festival culminates with the Pride Parade winding its immensely colourful way through the streets of Dublin, the next biggest street celebration to the St. Patrick's Day Parade.

GAZE: Dublin International LGBT Film Festival (July/August), GAZE has grown from strength to strength to become the largest LGBT film event in Ireland, and one of the most respected in the world.

Béar Féile (March) is a weekend festival for gay men who identify as Bears or admirers. The Festival promotes Irish culture and music.

Out4Tennis International Tournament (May)
This three day international tennis tournament orgnaised by the Gay & Lesbian Tennis Alliance with players from all around Europe, the US and, of course, Ireland.

So be sure to go beyond the city on your visit and see all that Dublin has to offer!

Remember if you want to discover more suggestions and tips check out www.visitdublin.com for ideas.





top tips

Quick reference

Outhouse

105 Capel Street, Dublin 1 www.outhouse.ie

The George

89 South Great Georges Street, Dublin 2 T: 00353 1 671 3289 www.the george.ie

The Boilerhouse

Crane Lane, Temple Bar, Dublin 2 www.the-boilerhouse.com

The Temple Bar Hotel

Fleet Street Temple Bar Dublin 2 T: 00353 1 677 3333 www.templebarhotel.com

The Clarence Hotel

6-8 Wellington Quay, Dublin 2 www.theclarence.ie T: 00353 1 407 0800

Quick reference

Brasserie Sixty6

66 – 67 South Great Georges Street T: 00353 1 400 5878 www.brasseriesixtv6.com

International Dublin Gay Theatre Festival

www.gaytheatre.ie

The Dublin LGBTQ Pride Festival

www.dublinpride.ie

GAZE: Dublin International LGBT Film Festival

www.gaze.ie

Out4 Tennis International Tournament

www.outinireland.net.out4tennis

What's On at The George!

Monday: Promotions Night

Tuesday: Boogie Woogie - classic 80s hits

Wednesday: Space N Veda

Thursday: Davina's The 11 O'Clock Show

Friday: Mischief Club Night

Saturday: SaturGays & Beauty Spot Karaoke Sunday: Bingo with Shirley Temple Bar

For more info www.thegeorge.ie

Official Tourist Information

А

Dublin Tourism Centre, Suffolk Street, Dublin 2 Dublin Tourist Office.

В

Upper O'Connell Street, Dublin 1

1 Outhouse

2 The George

3 The Boilerhouse

The Temple Bar Hotel

5 The Clarence

Brasserie Sixtv6

map

City Centre



