

SMARAGDZÖLD ÍRORSZÁG

2023. március 29. – április 10.

Cardiff - Dublin - Galway - London – Párizs



Powerscourt Estate Garden

Bajáki Borbála 10.A

Powerscourt Estate is a significant country mansion in Enniskerry, County Wicklow, Ireland, famous for its residence and stunning landscaping. On April 2nd 2023, my school group and I visited this gorgeous residence, mostly its garden. We wandered around, I mostly went with my best friend, we truly enjoyed our time there.

How did we end up there?

My name is Borbála Bajáki, I am 15 years old, it was my first time visiting Ireland. I am in 10th grade and the secondary grammar school I attend in Hungary organised a 14 day long trip to mostly Ireland, yet we visited London and Paris as well. There were many of us, a travelling agency made up a quite busy, but enjoyable time table for us. Our tour guide, András, led us through this awesome experience. We went by a coach, travelled on a ferry between the islands, and walked a bit in the cities. Sadly, our stay there was short, like in any other facility, but one of my most remembered outings was there.

The map of the garden

The garden consist of several parts (as the map shows), Julius Memorial, The Walled Garden, Dolphin Pond, Pet Cemetery (where the owners previous companions are buried), Triton Lake (in the middle a fountain shaped like Triton) , The Japanese Garden(my 2nd favourite, as good as the 1st, but not as significant as the first), Tower Valley, and my least liked, The Italian Garden(it is nothing amazing or show stopping; a simple garden with nice



flowers beds and a mosaic stony road, it was nice but I was let down a bit) and after these we have arrived back to the entrance.

This big garden was filled with stunning flowers, bushes, and trees. We started our circa 70 minutes long walk at 9:40 am. We took off and went on the route the map had suggested. I

also managed to get my friend to go on the rhododendron walk with me, which was the most beautiful part of the garden.



My rating of the garden:

1. *The Rhododendron Walk*
2. *The Japanese Garden*
3. *Tower Valley*
4. *The Walled Garden*
5. *Julius Memorial*
6. *Dolphin Pond*
7. *Triton Lake*
8. *Italian Garden*

All of them are definitely worth a revisit. I enjoyed my rise there, I would consider staying a few nights in the hotel, it is so gorgeous, just like the garden. I recommend dropping by when anyone is in Ireland. I took many photos, so I will create an album to show them.

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/JKYNhQPYmifnGVMo6>

Salisbury, and my experiences there.

Salisbury is a city which I visited during the trip to Ireland. I feel like this one city stuck out to me the most. Even though we didn't even spend a whole day there, I enjoyed my whole stay in the city.

Before I talk about my own personal experiences I would like to write a bit about the history of the cathedral and the city itself. Salisbury is located in Wiltshire, England and has a population of a bit over 40.000. Now some facts about the cathedral itself; it was built in only 38 years between 1220 and 1258, which is mindblowing considering it's size. The spire is approximately 123 meters tall, and is the tallest in the UK. The Cathedral is the seat of the Bishop of Salisbury, and also a burial spot for the Bishops of Salisbury, Earls, Prime Ministers and many more famous or noble people. The cathedral contains one of the oldest working clocks in the world. Also it has one of the four original copies of Magna Carta. The main building has early English gothic features. These signs can be seen in the Lancet windows in the north transept, as well as the four-part rib vaults at the meeting point. Other than these two it can also be noticed in the decorated central tower.

Now let's jump into my experiences. I arrived in Salisbury, got off the bus and went to the Cathedral with my group. We took a group picture before entering, than seperated and looked around in the cathedral on our own. There were a lot if interesting places to see, but I do not want to get into too much detail, I think everyone should check it out for themselves as it is definetly one of the best places to visit in England.

After my visit to the Cathedral, me and some frineds went in the city, where we checked out multiple book shops and bakeries. It really surprised me how low the prices were. I had some pastry there as well, it was delicious. We went all over the city, checking out anything that we found. I loved how the some of the houses looked. They had bare brick walls, with no paint over them, clearly showing signs of Georgian architecture. I also checked out bridges that went over the rivers that flow through the town, small streets and local shops. Unfortunately I spent too much time going around the place, so I didn't have time to visit the Salisbury History Centre, and a local restaurant, The Chapter House which I had planned on visiting.

Even though I did not get to do everything I had planned on doing, my stay in the city was really memorable for me. Maybe it is because Salisbury was the first major stop of our trip, but I do not think so. If I could go again, I would definetly visit more museums, and learn more about the importance of the city in the first and second World Wars.

Bán Levente 10.A

Architecture on the British Islands

In this essay, I will discuss the stunning buildings and street views that can be observed in England, Wales, and Ireland. I will begin with a history and description of Georgian era houses, followed by my personal opinion, which encompasses structures found in cities as well as the charming countryside.

Anglo-Saxon architecture is a fascinating subject that spans several centuries, reflecting the evolution of architectural styles and societal changes. One such significant period is the Georgian era, which lasted from 1710 to 1815. This essay will delve into the key characteristics and contributions of Georgian architecture, exploring its influence, distinctive features, and lasting legacy.

The Georgian Era:

The Georgian era, named after the successive British monarchs George I, George II, George III, and George IV, witnessed a transition in architectural styles from the Baroque and Palladian influences of the early 18th century to the neoclassical aesthetic that dominated the later years. It was a time of prosperity, refinement, and cultural expansion, and the architecture of the period reflects these ideals.

Key characteristics of Georgian architecture embraced a restrained and harmonious design language, drawing inspiration from classical antiquity. The symmetry, proportion, and order of classical architecture, particularly ancient Roman and Greek styles, formed the basis of Georgian buildings. This adherence to classical principles was driven by a desire to evoke a sense of dignity, order, and grandeur.

One of the defining features of Georgian architecture was the use of mathematical precision and symmetry in building facades. The exteriors often exhibited a central entrance with evenly spaced windows on either side. The Palladian window, with its central arched opening flanked by two smaller rectangular ones, was a popular element seen in Georgian buildings. This style contributed to the elegance and balance that defined the era.

Georgian architects also emphasized proportionality in their designs. Buildings were constructed with careful attention to scale, ensuring that different elements harmonized seamlessly. This focus on proportion extended to interior spaces as well, with well-proportioned rooms and graceful staircases becoming hallmarks of Georgian architecture.

Georgian architecture incorporated several distinctive features that set it apart from previous styles. One notable characteristic was the use of local building materials, such as brick, stone, and slate, which were readily

available and more affordable than imported materials. This preference for local resources resulted in a distinct regional identity for Georgian buildings.

Another notable feature was the development of the sash window, a significant innovation in architectural design. Sash windows consisted of vertically sliding panels that allowed for improved ventilation and made the use of larger glass panes easier. This innovation not only enhanced the aesthetic appeal of Georgian buildings but also improved the comfort and functionality of interior spaces.

Georgian architecture also witnessed the rise of elegant townhouses, particularly in urban areas. These townhouses featured grand facades, often adorned with decorative elements such as cornices, pilasters, and intricate doorways. The interiors of these townhouses showcased the wealth and refinement of their inhabitants through ornate plasterwork, elaborate moldings, and well-crafted furniture.

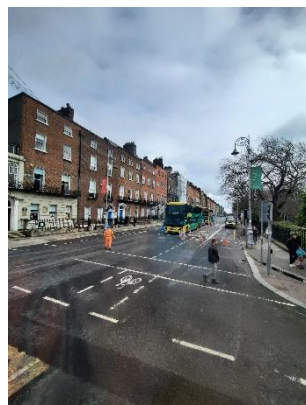
In conclusion, the Georgian era left an undeniable mark on Anglo-Saxon architecture, showcasing a harmonious blend of classical inspiration, local materials, and refined elegance. The period's architectural achievements laid the foundation for subsequent styles and continue to captivate and inspire to this day.

Personal Experience:



Throughout my journey on the British Islands, I had the opportunity to experience the architectural wonders firsthand. Our well-informed tour guide shared fascinating facts, and one aspect that intrigued me was the flats in London. As our bus left the harbor, I was immediately enchanted by the flourishing green grassy hills. Traveling through the countryside, I fell in love with the lush meadows often dotted with flocks of sheep, the charming little cottages, and the stone walls and hedges dividing the properties.

Készítete: Fekete Balázs



Both in villages and cities, buildings usually lacked plaster due to the rainy weather. While some might find the monotone color of bricks and stone dull, I believe it holds a certain allure.

I was fortunate enough to stay in average homes in London and Dublin. What surprised me the most was how similar the layouts of both houses were. Stepping through the front door, a staircase led up to the bedrooms and the bathroom. To the right, a small corridor led to the kitchen and living room. Opposite the front door was a back door leading to a small garden. In front of the house, between the pavement and the building, there was a fence and a small garden. Personally, I found the knockers and door knobs to be the best parts of the flats, followed by the bay windows.



The overall view of the streets was captivating. Our guide emphasized that land on the British Islands is expensive, which is evident in the houses' size. They tend to have a small base paired with a narrow and tall figure. Sometimes, the first floor is smaller than the levels above, resulting in an overhang. The houses in a street looked alike, and the uniformity was broken by the greenery of parks and street art in (larger cities).



In conclusion, there wasn't a place on the Islands where I did not love the view of the streets. It is the little things that count, and there is plenty of them. In the end seeing these things incorporated into the architecture made it even harder to leave at the end.

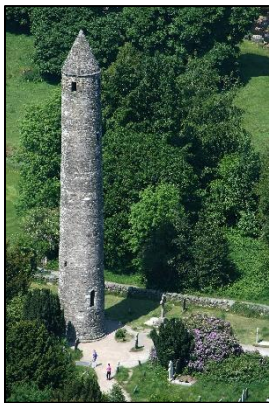
Baranyi Panka 10.A

COMPARING THE ELIZABETHAN ENGLISH, IRISH, AND FRENCH ARCHITECTURE

Architecture is a reflection of culture and history. The Elizabethan era in England, architecture in Ireland, and France all have their own characteristics that stem from their different history, culture, and traditions. In this article, I will compare English Elizabethan, Irish, and French architecture, highlighting their similarities and differences.

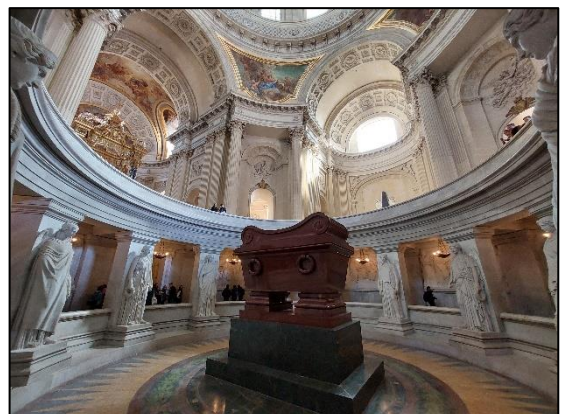
Elizabethan architecture emerged during the reign of Queen Elizabeth I in the late 16th century and was noted for its grandeur, symmetry, and intricate ornamentation. Elizabethan architecture is characterized by beautiful roofs, tall chimneys, and mullioned windows.

Many Elizabethan homes were built in a symmetrical style, with a central entrance and a square floor plan. Perhaps the most famous example of Elizabethan architecture is the Great Bell of the Great Clock of Westminster also known as, the Big Ben, built in 1858 and known for representing the mentioned above.



Ireland's architecture has been shaped by its complex colonial history, religious conflicts, and economic growth. The earliest examples of Irish architecture are the round towers built by Irish workers in the early Middle Ages. The towers served many purposes, including watch-towers, clock towers, and shelters during Viking raids. The Tower of Glendalough sets an example for the following statements. Irish architecture also includes examples of Gothic Revival and Georgian styles, with traditional Irish houses known for their thatched roofs and plastered walls.

On the other hand, French architecture is known for its elegance, refinement, and artistic expression. French architecture has been influenced by the country's long history, from medieval Romanesque and Gothic styles to 20th-century classicism and modernism. French architecture is known for its grand entrances, courtyards, gardens, and beautiful decorations such as sculptures, reliefs, and friezes. The Dome of the Invalides is an astonishing building complex that was built in the 17th century by



Louis XIV, is perhaps the most famous example of French architecture with its flamboyant façade, intricate interiors, and large gardens.

Despite the differences, there are some similarities between English Elizabethan, Irish, and French architecture. A special feature is the use of symmetry seen in many Elizabethan buildings, Irish round towers and French castles. Additionally, all three architectures use decorative materials, including carvings, sculptures, and reliefs. These decorative elements help enhance the beauty and elegance of buildings and reflect the culture and ideas of the people who built them. Another similarity between the three architectures is that they are associated with power and authority.

Many of the largest houses in Elizabethan England were built by nobles and wealthy merchants who displayed their wealth and status. Likewise, in France, the building of great castles is often commissioned by the king or nobles as a sign of their power and influence. Environmentalism in Ireland is often associated with monasticism, which has been a powerful force in Irish society for centuries.

In conclusion, English Elizabethan, Irish, and French architecture are manifestations of their culture, history, and culture. Despite their differences, these architectural styles have some similarities, such as their use of symmetry, decorative objects, and connotations of power and authority. By examining different architectural styles, we can appreciate the diverse heritage of our world and the ways that architecture reflects and shapes our shared history.

Sources:

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- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Architecture_of_the_United_Kingdom
- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Architecture_of_Ireland
- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Irish_round_tower

Ireland

IN MY PRESENTATION I CHOSE TO PRESENT THE UNIQUE STATUES WHICH WE FOUND ON THE SCHOOL TRIP.

The dockers

- ▶ The Dockers statue is situated on Howley's Quay in Limerick.
- ▶ The statue was commissioned by the Limerick City Council.
- ▶ In honor to the dockers who labored for years unloading cargo boats on the River Shannon.
- ▶ The inclusion of shovels and a bollard in the sculpture symbolizes the tools and equipment used by the dockers during their work.



Oscar Wilde & Eduard Vilde Statue

- ▶ These bronze sculptures of Irish writer, Oscar Wilde (left) and Estonian writer, Eduard Vilde (right) are iconic to streets of Galway City.
- ▶ They appear to be conversing, but the two men are not related and never met. The Eduard Wilde statue was presented to Galway when Estonia joined the EU in 2004.



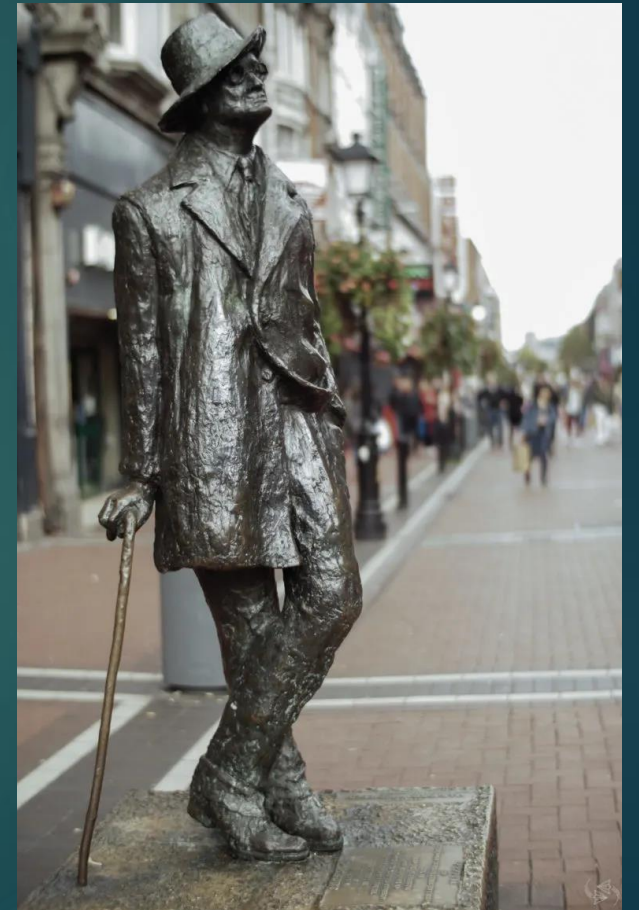
Galway girl

- ▶ The statue is located on Quay Street in Galway, Ireland. Quay Street is a vibrant and bustling street known for its shops, pubs, and lively atmosphere.
- ▶ The girl is positioned as if she is observing the passersby or enjoying the surroundings.
- ▶ The statue is often seen as a representation of the city's charm, inviting visitors and locals alike to pause, rest, and take in the vibrant street life of Galway.
- ▶ The statue has become a popular spot for visitors to take photographs.



The James Joyce statue

- ▶ The James Joyce statue is located on North Earl Street in Dublin.
- ▶ It captures the iconic image of the renowned Irish writer and serves as a tribute to his literary contributions.
- ▶ The statue was created by Marjorie Fitzgibbon, an Irish sculptor known for her bronze sculptures.
- ▶ The James Joyce statue stands as a symbol of Dublin's rich literary heritage and pays homage to one of its most celebrated writers.



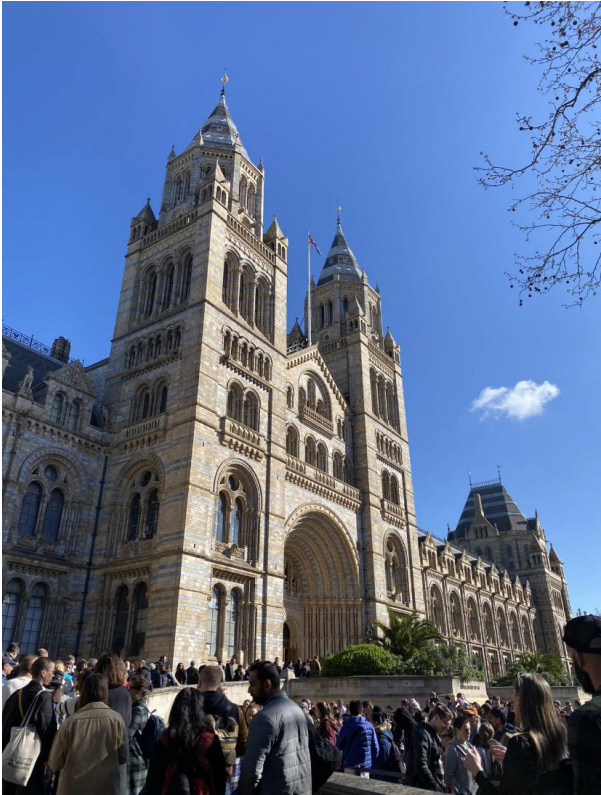
Thank you for your attention

▶ Made by Koppány Bujdosó 11.A

MY FAVOURITE DAY

My name is Lilla Deák (8.A) and I'm going to tell you about my favourite day.

We were in London and the first thing we went to see is the National History Museum



It was wonderful! We tried to see everything but it was really big and we had only 2 hours. My favorite exhibitions were the dinosaur and the crystal ones.



It's a full size model of T rex. This dinosaur was really scary and lifelike!



In the museum there were over 2000 minerals, rocks meteorites and gems. They were beautiful! I'm really disappointed that we couldn't spend more time there, but what we saw afterwards makes up for it.

We went to Buckingham Palace which was gorgeous



and then we walked to Trafalgar Square where we got free time so we went to see the Big Ben



And just walked around the city.



after free time we went to the London eye



where we had to stand in line a lot but we had a good time and the view was also very nice



after the London Eye we went to the Piccadilly Circus where we had free time again.





**It was so lively and the people were so nice!
We watched these dancers for quite a while because they were amazing.**



They moved so well and created such an atmosphere! It was very good.

After that, we went to China Town, where there were a lot of people, but this part was a special experience with the lanterns and restaurants, so we had a great time!



We went to buy a drink because we were very thirsty. The drink was very exotic.



After that, unfortunately, we had to go home, but we looked around from the bus. The family where we were staying was very cute and that evening we had pizza for dinner, which was very delicious. After that we went up to our room and talked with the girls some more. This was without a doubt my favorite day. Everything was perfect: the company, the city, the programs!

I am very glad that I came on this trip because we had an unforgettable experience, new friends and the teachers were kind and understanding throughout. The programs were also well organized. I feel like I'm telling my grandchildren about this trip too!

MY FAVOURITE PICTURE – POWERSCOURT ESTATE



Powerscourt Estate is located in Enniskerry, County Wicklow, Ireland. The castle was built in the 13th century for military purposes. What is really interesting that the main reception rooms were not on the ground floor, where they are usually placed, but on the first floor.

In the 16th century, the building came into the hands of the Powerscourt family, and in the 18th century, 1st Viscount Powerscourt decided to remodel the medieval castle, because he wanted to be an important part of history. He commissioned Richard Cassels to design a mansion, which is located around the castle. It is in the style of Palladian architecture and has baroque dome-roofed towers on either sides-

In 1844, the 7th Viscount Powerscourt inherited the estate when he was 8 years old. Around that time, new gardens were established, which include the Tower Valley, Japanese gardens, Triton Lake, pet cemetery, Dolphin Pond, walled gardens, Bamberg Gate and the Italian Garden. He visited several palaces, such as the Palace of Versailles and Schönbrunn Palace before the renovations for inspiration. Due to his age, the 7th Viscount Powerscourt couldn't take part in the work, but on 13th October 1843, he laid the foundation stone of the Italian Garden. Some of its cobbles come from nearby Bray beach.

In 1961, the 9th Viscount Powerscourt sold the estate to the Slazenger family, who still own it now. The house was destroyed by fire 13 years later and had to be renovated again. Today only two rooms can be visited by the public as they once appeared while the house still had residents. The rest of ground floor and first floor are retail units.

In 2011, Tara's Palace Museum of Childhood relocated from Malahide Castle to Powerscourt House. In the museum, you can find dollhouses, miniatures, dolls and historic toys. It is one of the largest dollhouses of the world,

There is a waterfall near the estate, although the two pieces of land is no longer connected, mainly because it is seven kilometres away from Enniskerry. Moreover, a hotel takes places in the Powerscourt Estate. It is a 5-star hotel which has a neo-palladian style with 203 bedrooms.

I think this was my favourite attraction of the ones we saw during the trip. I feel like you could spend several days there and not get bored the place. The gardens are truly majestic, but in my opinion the Japanese garden is the most impressive. It fully evokes Japanese culture with its unique flowers and trees.

Demeter Emma 10.A

29. March -
10. April,
2023

IRELAND TRIP '23

1.
edition

Petra Domián & Luca Kovács 8.A

Together

NUREMBERG

On the first day while we travelled across a peaceful town in Germany called Nuremberg we got to know about the trials that had happened there. Here was the German Empire's military and economic leaders' fate decided.

In the beginning there were 24 convicts. 12 of them got death sentence, 7 of them had to go to prison and 3 of them were acquitted. Some of the 24 convicts didn't get to go to the trial because of different reasons.



Nuremberg Trials



Cliffs of Moher

Luca Kovács

Salisbury

The tallest spire in England

Salisbury Cathedral, in formal, the Cathedral Church of the Blessed Virgin Mary is an Anglican Cathedral. It is the seat of the Bishop of Salisbury. Salisbury Cathedral is a very good example for the early English Gothic architecture. Its main body was built for 38 years, from 1220 to 1258, in the shape of a cross – an important symbol of Christianity. Its spire was built in 1320 and it's 123 metres tall, so it is the tallest spire in the United Kingdom since 1561.

In 1991 Salisbury was the first cathedral to create a girls' choir.

In the Chapter House where key cathedral staff traditionally would have met daily, now you can find the Magna Carta. It's a legal document, written in 1215, about the rights of the English people against the severe rule against King John.



Salisbury Cathedral

Glendalough

Glendalough is a glacial valley in County Wicklow, Ireland. It's known for a monastic settlement from the Early Middle Ages found in the 6th century by Saint Kevin. People visit this place because of the Glendalough Ruins and the view. The part of Glendalough Ruins are the Round Tower, the Glendalough Cathedral, St Kevin's Cross, St Mary's Church, St Kevin's Kitchen. Glendalough's patron saint is Saint Kevin, and there's a cross named after him. The circle around the cross symbolises the sun, because when he spread Christianity he could explain better to the pagans God as a synonym of the sun. In Glendalough you can walk to the Upper Lake or the Lower Lake and you'll have a beautiful view during your trip regardless which lake is your destination.

Petra Domián

The country of the red dragon

About Wales

We travelled through Wales, which is part of the United Kingdom. It only has 7 cities which are very important in the country's life. These are Cardiff, Swansea, Newport, Wrexham, Bangor, St. Asaph and St. Davids. Cardiff is the Capital city of Wales and it's also important for its economy.

Wales physical geography is characterised by a varied coastline and a largely upland territory. Wales' most important river is the River Wye.

Officially Wales is not part of the European union since in the 2016 referendum the Welsh people voted for leaving it. But Wales didn't have the best relationship with the UK for quite a while. In 2016, YesCymru was launched. A non party-political campaign for an independent Wales which held its first rally in Cardiff in 2019. An opinion poll in March 2021 showed a record 39 per cent support for Welsh independence when not looking at the don't knows. But Wales still might feel a little left out, after all it is the only country whose flag's symbols are not included in the UK's flag.

In Wales there are 2 official languages English and Welsh. Welsh is in the indo-european language family and part of the Celtic language. And although it is true that it isn't spoken by as many as English, Welsh is still the only celtic language which is not in big danger, at least according to UNESCO, since they only ranked it Vulnerable. Wales is also valued very much for its unique history, culture, language and music. Well it is not like it's called the country of music for nothing.



Petra Domián

Trinity College

The university of Dublin

While we spent time in Dublin we also got to visit the Trinity college. It is considered one of Europe's elite institutions, Trinity is one of Ireland's most reputable universities, in part due to its long, important and famous history

An old student of Bányai gave us a small tour mostly from the outside, since she has been studying there, that's how we also got to know about some myths the college carries.

One of these myths included a bell what is located in the middle part of the building, outside. It is said that if a virgin stands or walks under it the bell rings, and if a person walks under it while the exam period, they'll fail all of their classes in the semester. That is why most students avoid passing under it.

But since the colleges main campus - which is in the heart of Dublin - is often said to be in the most iconic looking on the whole world it has been very important scene in many novels, films and urban legends as it has been already told.

Sadly we didnt have a lot of time so we only got to know about the basics of the college.

Academically it is divided to 3 faculties and its mostly known in law, literature and humanities.

Luca Kovács

Temple Bar

The borough of fun

Temple Bar is a borough in Dublin, but other cities in the United Kingdom also have boroughs named Temple Bar. It is the part of the city where you can find the most pubs. If it rains and it's in the afternoon, everybody will go to a pub so it's almost impossible to get in. I think the most popular is The Temple Bar which has a really good vibe. But if you're underage it's really hard to find a pub where they don't kick you out so let me recommend you one. It's called Mary's Bar, on the upper floor you can find the bar, but if you go downstairs there's a bistro, so if you stay there, they won't kick you out.

Luca Kovács

Saint Patrick's Cathedral



St. Patrick's Cathedral is located around the heart of Dublin. It is the National Cathedral of the Church of Ireland, a member church of the Anglican Communion.

St. Patrick was captured by Irish pirates from his home in Britain and taken as a slave to Ireland when he was about sixteen years old, according to *Confessio*, which is a book written by St. Patrick about his life.

He lived in Ireland for six years and worked as an animal herder before he escaped and went home. After he became a cleric he returned to Ireland to spread Christianity in the northern and western part of the country. According to tradition, he used a nearby well to baptise converts to Christianity. That's how he became the patron saint of Ireland.

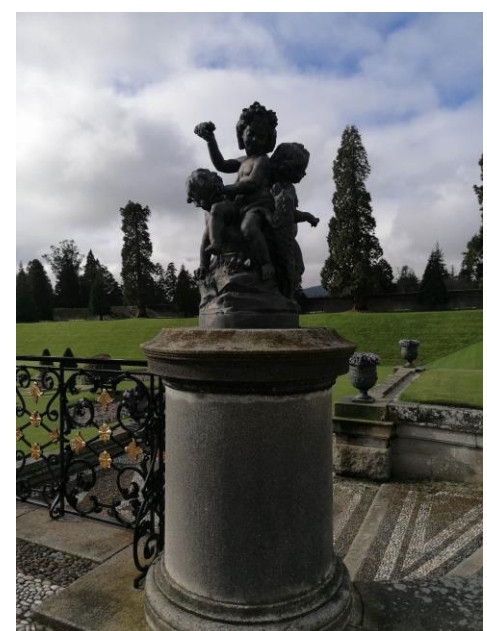
There's a tree inside the cathedral, called the Tree of Remembrance. It was created in 2014 to commemorate the centenary of World War One. It represents the stark destruction of war. Visitors are invited to leave a message beside the tree to a loved one who has been affected by conflict.



Petra Domián

Cliffs of Moher

The Cliffs of Moher are located at the edge of Clare county, Ireland. Its name comes from an old promontory fort called Mothar or Moher, which once stood on Hag's Head, now the site of Moher Tower. Moher is mostly made of namurian shale and sandstone, and the oldest rocks are at the bottom of the cliffs. It is one of the most visited parts of Ireland. That means about 1.5 million visitors every year! And the thing is, that's not just because it has an amazing view - though we can not deny that - but you may also discover the Cliffs of Moher in extremely popular and famous films. The best example is *Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince*.



Petra Domián

Powerscourt

The most beautiful place in Ireland

While going on our trip in Ireland we also visited Powerscourt. Powerscourt Estate is located Enniskerry, Wicklow county. The building is also very stunning, but its garden is the main attraction. These magnificent 47 acre gardens, were voted 3rd best gardens in the World and they are only 35 minutes from Dublin. Powerscourt Gardens include The Walled Gardens, The Italian Garden, The

Dolphin Pond, The Japanese Gardens, Pets Cemetery and Pepperpot Tower, among other features and attractions. This estate has one of the biggest Pet Cemetery that we know about. Managed by Head Gardener, Alex Slazenger and a team of four gardeners, Powerscourt Gardens were designed from 1731 onwards, with the desire to create a garden which was part of the wider surrounding landscape.



Kilkenny

Petra Domián

Kilkenny

The city itself

Kilkenny is cozy, homey and has its own special vibe. Its art galleries, historic buildings, craft and design workshops, theatre, comedy, public gardens and museums are some of the main reasons Kilkenny has become one of Ireland's most visited towns and a base from which to explore the surrounding countryside.

Kilkenny Castle

In this town we had the opportunity to visit the castle. It was built in 1195 to control a fording-point of the River Nore and the junction of several routeways. In 1967, Arthur Butler, 6th Marquess of Ormonde, sold the castle for £50 to the Castle Restoration Committee for the people of Kilkenny. The castle and grounds are now managed by the Office of Public Works, and the gardens and parkland are open to the public.

While on a tour inside I found it really interesting to see how furnitures and interior architecture were back in the day. One furniture that was unique was a stand near the fireplace. It was used to be put in front of the ladies' faces whom were sitting next to the fire, when their makeup started to melt, because makeup were made out of wax.



Malahide Castle

Luca Kovács

Malahide

Malahide Castle is in Ireland and it is on the old Talbot-estate. It gave home for the Talbots for 791 years, from 1185 to 1976. Every Talbot who lived in the castle, built new parts for it. It has a beautiful garden which worth a walk. You can have a tour in the castle with a tourguide and you can learn new interesting informations about the Talbots and the castle too.

You can see a painting of 3 siblings in the castle, and they say you will always feel the youngest girl is staring at you.

There's a legend about the castle's dining room. It says that if you take photos there and you watch them later you'll see a ghost on it. This is the ghost of that man who killed himself by hanging himself on the railing of the gallery.

Malahide is also known for cricket. Cricket venue is located on the Lady Acre field and it's a home to Malahide Cricket Club. It also attracts international matches with teams such as Australia, England and Pakistan.

Luca Kovács

Bunratty

The name Bunratty comes from Bun Raite or Bun na Raite which means river basin of the Ratty in Irish. This river, alongside the castle, flows into Shannon estuary. You can have a tour in Bunratty Castle with a tour guide or on your own. Bunratty Folk Park is a lovely place with furnished houses and in The Tea Room you can eat delicious apple pie with whipped cream.



Bunratty



Domían Petra

Ireland

Ireland is part of the UK with 5.13 million resident. From that 5 million people approximately 2.1million people live in the Greater Dublin area. But there are other meaningful cities too.

Ireland is an advanced economy and one of Europe's major financial hubs is centred on Dublin. Ireland ranks among the top ten wealthiest countries in the world in terms of both GDP and GNI per capita.

This special language, the Irish language is a native language in Ireland. It is a Goidelic language of the Insular Celtic branch of the Celtic language family, which is a part of the Indo-European language family. In April 2016 the total number of persons (aged 3 and over) who claimed they could speak Irish in was 1,761,420, representing 39.8% of respondents. But of these, 418,420 said they never spoke it, while a further 558,608 said they only spoke it within the education system. If we look at UNESCO Atlas of the world languages in danger, there Irish was in the Definitely Endangered area, which is surprising if looking at Welsh.

Also Ireland is one the least forested countries in Europe. Of course it was not like that always. There used to be plenty of them until the Middle age when the natives species' forests (for example: oak, ash, hazel, birch, alder, willow, aspen, elm, rowan and hawthorn, Scots pine, yew, holly and strawberry trees) were formed for agricultural use. Today, only about 10% of Ireland is woodland, most of which is non-native conifer plantations, and only 2% of which is native woodland. The average woodland cover in European countries is over 33%. That is why you can see so many farm animals like sheep which is kind of a trademark of Ireland although the most common farming in Ireland is beef production and specialist sheep farms are only on second place.

Another thing Ireland is well known for is alcohol. To be specific beer and whiskey. And do not say whiskey without an e. From what I was told I know they very much won't like that. Just like if you do not agree when they say they are the biggest beer drinkers in the world. Even if you know that it isn't true. Actually Czech people are the biggest beer drinkers. Ireland is only in the 9th place, while Hungary is in the 26th place.

If we think about beer in Ireland we'll probably think of Guinness - well the young people might think of Guinness records - or their most famous red beer the Smithwicks'. The funny thing about Guinness, that it is probably worth millions right now and still the original territory for the factory, located in Dublin cost 45 pounds and was bought for 9000 years. Fact is that Irelands crest has the harp that is basically the crest of Guinness.

But how are the Guinness beer and the Guinness records connected?

It was back in 1951, when the director of the brewery at the time, Sir Hugh Beaver was doing his favorite sport, hunting, and him and his companions started to argue about if either the grouse or golden plover are the fastest flying birds. That is how he got the idea of making a book for lots of kind of records.

Petra Domián

Bath

The city became a spa when the Romans came and built baths and a temple in the valley of the River Avon, although hot springs were known before then. That is where the city got its name from. The city became fashionable in the 18th century and the population grew. Fun fact is Jane Austen lived in Bath in the early 19th century.

It is in the 10 most visited cities by overseas tourists, with 6 million visitors every year. And although its baths are the ones it is mostly famous for, we could also mention its museums, galleries, theaters, festivals, art and just for the city's buildings. So because of Bath's historical and cultural value and beauty of the whole city, Bath is part of the UNESCO World Heritage.

The Roman Baths

Archaeological evidence indicates that the site of the baths may have been a centre of worship used by Celts, the springs were dedicated to the goddess Sulis, whom the Romans identified with Minerva. The water is sourced from rainfall on the nearby Mendip Hills, which then percolates down through limestone aquifers to a depth of between 2,700 and 4,300 metres. Geothermal energy raises the water temperature here to between 69 and 96 °C.

Nowadays visitors can tour the baths and museum and get the feeling of the life that the Romans used to live. In the museum are artefacts and objects such as the 12 000 piece debark coins from the Roman period, that were thrown into the Sacred spring. These were probably thrown there a gifts for the goddess. A very important part of the bath is the terrace where the late 19th century carvings lie of Roman Emperors and Governors of Roman Britain. Sadly since October 1978 nobody can enter the water because of a deadly pathogen that caused a young girl's, the last person's who got to swim in the baths death.

Bath Abbey Church

In the past Abbey Church was a Benedictine monastery, but right now is a parish church of the Church of England and a popular tourist site.

The Abbey was founded in the 7th century, was reorganised in the 10th century and rebuilt in the 12th and 16th centuries and is built of Bath stone, which gives the exterior its yellow colour, and is not a typical example of the Perpendicular form of Gothic architecture. As this building was to serve as a monastic church, it was built to a cruciform plan, which had become relatively rare in parish churches of the time. Yet the first thing anyone would notice are the extraordinary windows from which there are 52 of.

Petra Domián

Buckingham Palace

Buckingham Palace is a symbol and home of the British monarchy, an art gallery and a tourist attraction. Located in the City of Westminster, the palace is often at the centre of state occasions and royal hospitality. Originally known as Buckingham House, the building at the core of today's palace was a large townhouse built for the Duke of Buckingham in 1703, but after it was acquired by King George III. it has been in queens and kings hands and over the years wings and various other building parts were added to make it like it is today.

There are 775 rooms, including 188 staff bedrooms, 92 offices, 78 bathrooms, 52 principal bedrooms and 19 state rooms. It also has a post office, cinema, swimming pool, doctor's surgery, and jeweller's workshop. The Royal family occupy a small suite of private rooms in the north wing. At the back of the palace is the large and park-like garden, which together with its lake is the largest private garden in London.

Luca Kovács

Natural History Museum

Natural History Museum is one of the most famous English museums. I think its' most popular exhibition is about the dinosaurs and I really liked it. My favourite was the T-Rex copy which moved and made noises like the real ones. It shares many interesting informations with you about each species. The museum has exhibitions about all kind of animals and there's a part which is about the formation of the Earth. There're exhibitions about crystals and minerals too. We only spend 1,5 hours there but I think if you want to see everything you should spend there almost a day.



Natural History Museum



Bath



Buckingham Palace

Luca Kovács

London

London is the capital of England, but there are other reasons why it is well-known. It has 5 airports and before Covid-19 it had 135 million visitors a year, not just tourists, many people came here for business conferences or for financial reasons.

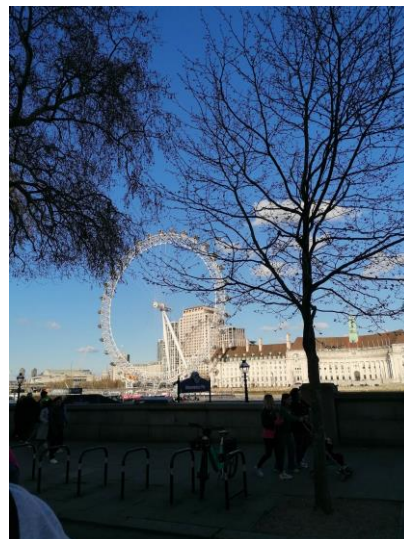
If you come here for sightseeing, you should sit on London Eye which is a cantilevered observation wheel with 32 cabins which equals with the number of the districts in London. The cabins are numbered from 1 to 33 excluding number 13 for superstitious reasons. They brought London Eye to London first only temporarily, but they earned a lot of money with it so they decided to keep it. When you are in London you can't walk on the street without seeing a double-decker. They were formed this way because buses were used by many people and long buses did not fit on the roads.

London is also well-known because it is the only city which organised Olympic Games 3 times.

Its' cozy borough is China town and it has a very positive atmosphere although there are many people. You can find an M&M's and a Lego shop there too, but don't be surprised if you have to wait in a queue. Maybe it's weird for you, but English people love to stand in a queue.

Here are some other interesting informations:

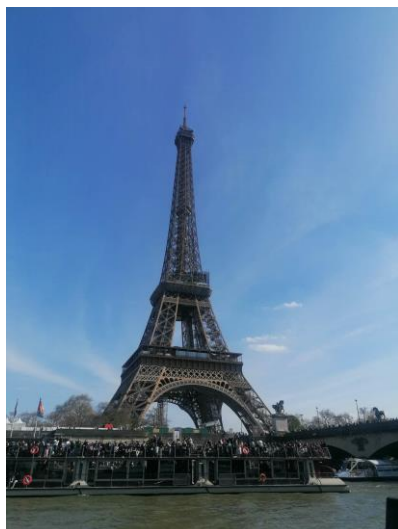
1. It has 43 universities, so it is the city which owns the most universities in the world.
2. There is only one building which is built from wood, it is the Globe Theatre and they only have one building from wood because of the conflagration.
3. The number of the Hungarian Embassy House is 35.



Luca Kovács

Paris

Paris is the capital of France and one of the most famous cities in the world. It has 16 metro lines, 20 districts, but that's not why we know Paris so well. The real reason is that its' historical monuments are fascinating and very interesting. Dome of Invalids is the gravesite of Napoleon Bonaparte. It has a fancy exterior and inside the dome, on the ceiling, you can see very beautiful paintings. Another historical monument is the Eiffel-tower, and I think you should visit it once in your life because the view from it must be wonderful. The city's most famous museum is the Louvre which has 10 million visitors a year. You can go on a cruise on the Seine, and you can also go to a restaurant or a confectionery and try French food.



Quiz

After you have read these articles we would be interested in how many informations can you remember from them, so we made a quiz to find it out.

1. For how long was the Guinness territory bought?
 - a) 200 years
 - b) 5000 years
 - c) 9000 years

2. Which food is Bunratty famous for?
 - a) pancake
 - b) apple pie
 - c) chocolate cake

3. Where is Powerscourt Estate located?
 - a) in Wicklow county
 - b) in England
 - c) in Kilkenny

4. How many universities does London have?
 - a) 34
 - b) 43
 - c) 31

5. Where was a scene shot for Harry Potter and the Half-blood Prince?
 - a) Powerscourt
 - b) Natural History Museum
 - c) Cliffs of Moher

6. Which country's symbol can't you find in the UK's flag?
 - a) England
 - b) Wales
 - c) Scotland

7. Where can you see the Magna Carta?

- a) Salisbury
- b) Malahide
- c) London

8. Which priest symbolized God with the sun?

- a) Saint Patrick
- b) Saint Kevin

9. What is the name of the place where Napoleon's grave is?

- a) Madeleine Church
- b) Dome of Invalids
- c) Église Saint-Sulpice

10. Which city is part of the UNESCO World Heritage?

- a) Kilkenny
- b) Bath
- c) Paris

The correct answers:

1.c	6.b
2.b	7.a
3.a	8.b
4.b	9.b
5.c	10.b

Thanks for reading!

Temple Bar

Everything (important) to know about Irish pubs

Készítette: Ecsédi Dániel, Fejes Gergő

The origin of Temple Bar district

- The Temple Bar district is a popular destination located in central **Dublin, Ireland**.
- Its origins can be traced back to the 17th century when it was named after **Sir William Temple**
- He was a famous English statesman and diplomat who lived in the area in the early 1600s.



History of Temple Bar

- The district was originally a residential area for **wealthy** Dubliners, but it gradually became **more commercialized** with the establishment of businesses such as:
 - Breweries
 - Distilleries
 - Law firms
- By the **19th century**, it was a bustling hub of commerce and trade, and it continued to evolve over the years.



Changes in Temple Bar

- In the **20th century**, however, the Temple Bar area began to **decline** as many of its buildings became dilapidated and rundown.
- In the 1980s, the government launched a major redevelopment project aimed at revitalizing the area and transforming it into a **cultural and entertainment center**.
- Today, the Temple Bar district is known for its lively **pubs, restaurants, galleries, and theaters**, making it a popular destination for locals and tourists alike.



Nightlife in Temple Bar

- **Services** featured in the district include:
 - Lively pubs and bars with a variety of music genres
 - Late-night entertainment and **performances** at the many theaters, pubs and music venues (often by other guests)
 - **Outdoor** seating areas and beer gardens
 - Cocktails, craft beer, and Irish whiskey tastings
 - **Personal experience:** The atmosphere was very nice and everyone was very enthusiastic about the place. The chips were amazing, perfectly cooked and very tasty



Drinks of Ireland

- **Guinness:** A dark, creamy **stout** beer that has been brewed in Dublin since 1759. It is made with water, barley, hops, and yeast and is known for its distinctive flavor and **smooth** texture.
- **Jameson Irish Whiskey:** A popular Irish **whiskey** that is distilled in Cork and matured in oak barrels. It is known for its smooth, **mellow** taste and is often enjoyed on the rocks or in cocktails.
- **Bailey's Irish Cream:** An Irish whiskey and cream-based **liqueur** that is often used as a dessert topping or added to coffee. It has a **sweet**, creamy flavor.
- **Smithwick's Ale:** A red **ale** that is brewed in Kilkenny since 1710. It has a **malty**, slightly sweet flavor with a hint of hops.
- **Irish Coffee:** A hot **cocktail** made with coffee, Irish **whiskey**, sugar, and whipped cream.



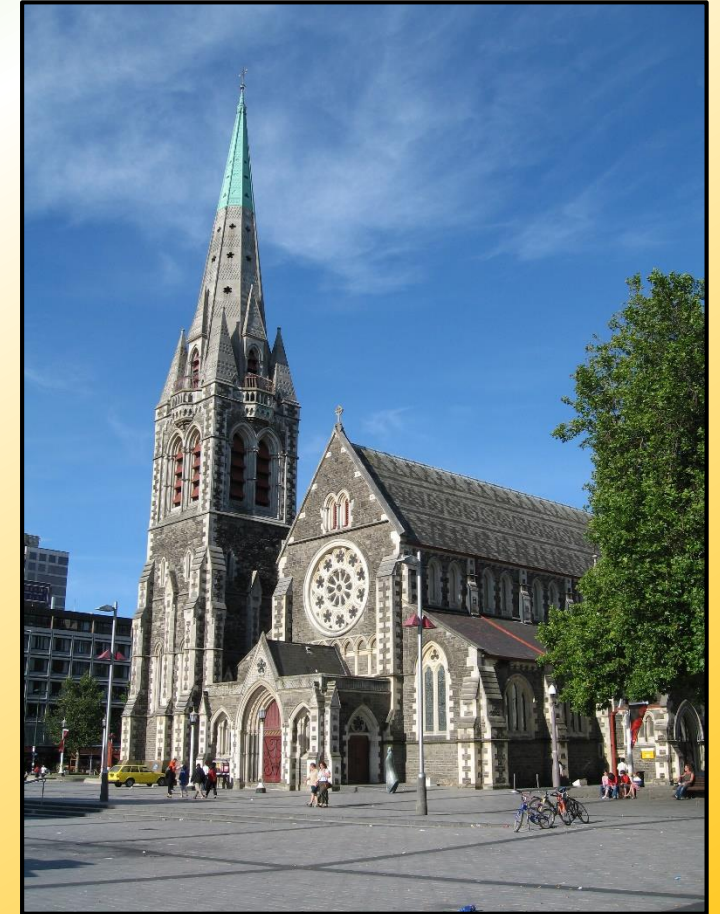
Foods of Ireland

- **Shepherd's Pie:** A traditional Irish dish made with minced **lamb or beef**, vegetables, and mashed potatoes.
- **Irish Stew:** A hearty **soup-like** dish made with lamb or beef, potatoes, onions, and carrots.
- **Bangers and Mash:** A classic Irish dish made with **sausages** (bangers) and mashed potatoes.
- **Corned Beef and Cabbage:** A St. Patrick's Day favorite made with **beef brisket** that has been cured in **brine** (corned) and boiled with cabbage and potatoes.



Landmarks/attractions in Temple Bar

- **The Temple Bar Pub:** One of the **most iconic** pubs in Dublin, known for its lively atmosphere and traditional music sessions.
- **Meeting House Square:** A vibrant public space that hosts **cultural events** and **festivals** throughout the year.
- **Christ Church Cathedral:** A stunning cathedral that dates back to the **11th century** and is a popular tourist attraction.
- **The National Photographic Archive:** A unique **museum** that showcases Ireland's photographic history and culture.



The image features two thick black L-shaped bars. One is positioned in the top-left corner, and the other is in the bottom-right corner. They are oriented towards each other, creating a large, open rectangular frame that encompasses the central text.

MY TRAVELOGUE

The Natural History Museum and The Cliffs of Moher

Made by: Farkas Kornél 8.A

Natural History Museum

- I was really excited for this museum because when I was in London with my family we wanted to visit the museum but we couldn't because we ran out of time.
- I went around the museum with Marci and we agreed that it was one of the best sights we saw on the trip.
- My favourite things in the museum were:
- The minerals, and the dinosaurs

Some minerals that I liked



My favourite dinosaur: The Saltopus

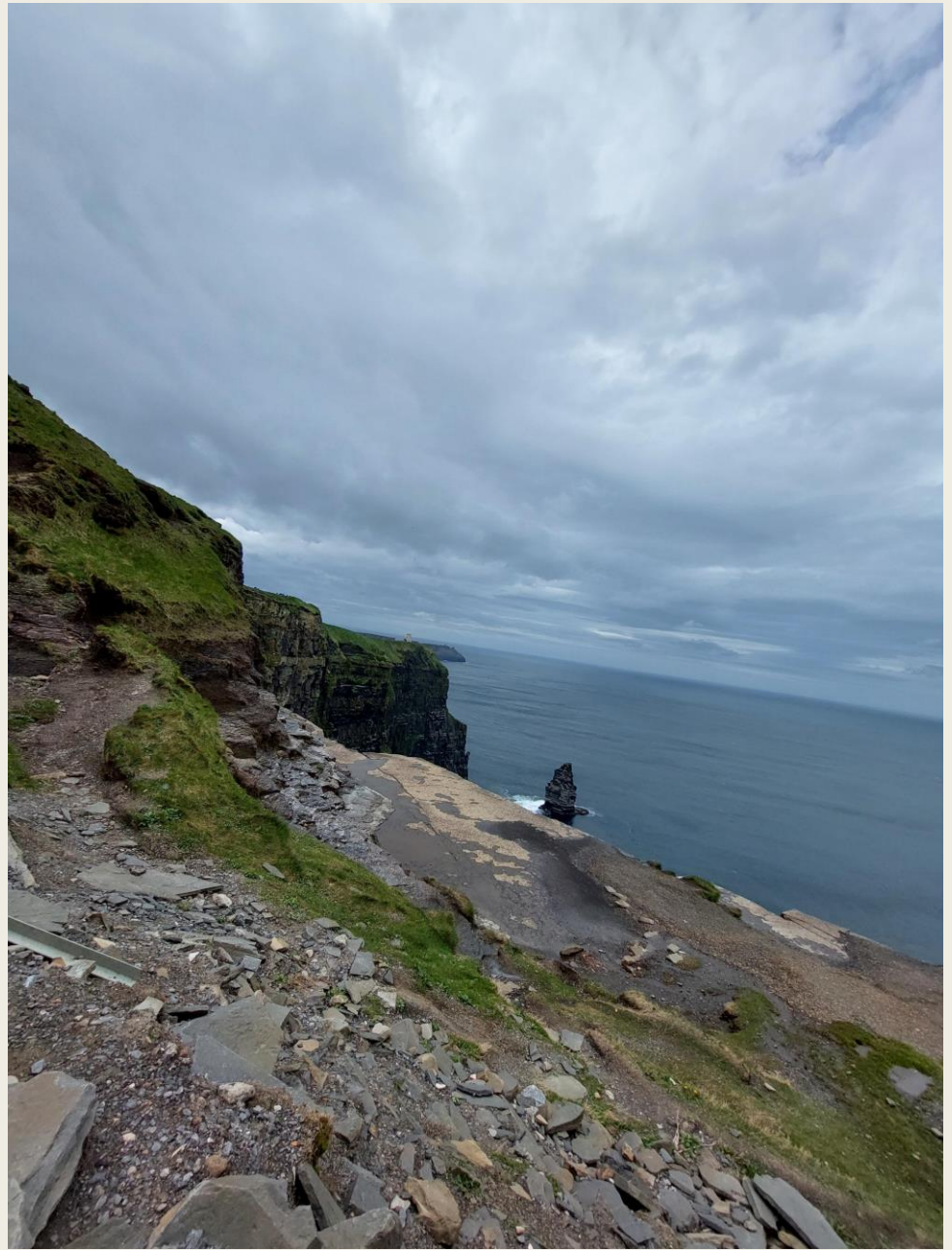
The saltopus is a small-sized, fast moving dinosaur with long hind legs.

It was about the size of a domestic cat, and would have been roughly 80–100 centimetres (31–39 in) long. It had hollow bones like those of birds and other dinosaurs. It may have weighed around 1 kilogram. Preyed small reptiles and insects.



Cliffs of Moher

- I think it was the most beautiful thing we saw in Ireland, it was truly beautiful. I am not that big of a photo guy, but I took a lot of pictures.
- I even bought 3 fridge magnets and gave it to my family when I arrived home
- As I said I took a lot of pictures so I am gonna show some





The image features two large, thick black L-shaped corner brackets. One is positioned in the top-left corner, and the other is in the bottom-right corner, framing the central text.

THANK YOU FOR
YOUR ATTENTION

Have a nice day!

Religion in Ireland

During our school trip to Ireland, we have visited many picturesque cities, parks, buildings, etc. A great deal of which had some sort of a religious purpose or past, which has inspired me to dive into Ireland's vast history of Christianity and religion. (I will only touch on medieval saints and places since that's what we mostly learned about and visited.)



the inside of the cathedral

First, in Dublin we paid visit to St. Patrick's Cathedral. This was a very beautiful and interesting sight to visit with a rich history (just to name one thing, Jonathan Swift used to work here). On this day our tour guide told us a bit about St. Patrick's life. He is one of, if not the most known religious figure of Ireland. He's the man who spread Christianity among the pagan Irish population in the fifth century, the "Apostle of Ireland". (Although I'm sure most of us are familiar with the name merely because of St. Patrick's Day.)

He was taken by Irish pirates and spent years as a slave. During these years he found comfort in religion and later decided to convert the people of Ireland to Christianity.

There are many legends about the life of St. Patrick. He is connected to a very iconic symbol of Ireland, the shamrock. According to sixteenth century sources, St. Patrick used to demonstrate and explain the holy trinity to the Irish by pointing out the three leaves on the shamrock. On our trip we mainly came across this symbol in souvenir shops and I'm sure most of us now have something with a shamrock on it here at home.

On our fourth day in Ireland, we visited a place also related to the life of St. Patrick. We went to this cluster of medieval buildings, Rock of Cashel. It was allegedly here that the Apostle of Ireland converted the king of the southwest region of Ireland. St. Patrick baptized the king by accidentally driving his pastoral staff right through the ruler's foot.



Rock of Cashel



the cemetery in Glendalough

We then visited Glendalough, an old monk town. It was founded by St. Kevin, who discovered this place while avoiding his followers. He lived a few years here alone, then later spent his time by teaching, fasting and praying.

This town had an old cemetery, filled with lots and lots of Celtic crosses (and we saw many others at many other places later on). This type of cross can be seen all over Britain but it was widespread due to Irish missionaries. The ring around the cross represents the sun, to make a connection between Christianity and pagan beliefs, and therefore make it easier for the Irish to convert. On some crosses a heart can be found in the middle of the circle to represent unity.

I am of the firm belief that one doesn't have to be religious (neither am I) in order to really appreciate the many Christian sights and atmosphere Ireland has. Although Hungary is also considered to be mainly religious, Ireland had a different and special spiritual charm that I was fortunate enough to experience.



Celtic cross



Phoenix Park, hopefully the picture doesn't come off too cheesy considering the theme



A Trip To Ireland

Made By Karmen Feher 8.A

The Trip To Ireland

- We started our trip on 29th March, at 1:30am. When everybody got into a comfy position the bus started it's way to the Hungarian border. I sat in the back of the bus with my friends. We tried to sleep but of course it wasn't the comfiest place i've ever slept. When the sun got up we had our first stop. The time was going way to fast so when it got dark we had arrived to the hotel in Belgium. For me it was a very scary night. I was in the same room as my best friend so we expected it to turn out good. Well it didn't. The room was a mess and we could smell the scent of cigarettes, there was fresh paint on the bed, the bathroom door couldn't close. However we had a fun night because we made lots of friends.
- Then the other day our goal was Cardiff, but we first got on a furry. We had a tasty breakfast there then we went to chek the duty-free shop. Luckily we weren't seasick so it wasn't a bad experience. Then we went to Salisbury and visited a cathedral. We arrived to Cardiff at the night and it was beautiful so we went for a late night walk. It was fantastic! When we got back we realised it's going to take a lot of time when every girl takes a shower because we were in a hostel but we were fast and could go to bed early.
- On the 3rd day we got to Ireland. Of course we had to take a furry and travel a lot by bus. The furry was horrible! First we had to wait plus an hour because there was a big storm. Everybody was seasick and felt awful. In the first 2 hours i was alright but then in the rest 2 hours i felt seasick and dizzy, but we made it and got to Ireland. After a few hours we got to our host families.

Our Time In Ireland

- Our family was very nice but their rules were too cruel. They had a very cute dog and we instantly made friends with her. On the 1st day we went sightseeing and we visited a campus, then we had free time to go shopping. After our free time run out our task was to try and get into a PUB. Our 1st try went horrible...they kicked us out. Then we got lucky and found a normal PUB. Personally, I didn't like it. It was smelly and crowded. I don't understand the hype around it.
- The other day we went to Powerscourt. This place has a lot of lovely gardens and outdoor areas. Then we went to The Malahide Castle. It was spooky but still very exotic. We also went to the Glendasan River. It took a lot of time to get there for literally nothing what made me feel kind of disappointed.
- The 3rd day was very funny for our friend group. First we went to the Cliffs of Moher. It was very windy. When I say windy I mean very windy, like the wind caught me and a man helped me to get into a little building. After that we went to a city where we had free time for shopping, eating. We were very lucky because my friend wanted a donut. We also wanted to ask for directions because we were lost a little bit. The worker helped us and we looked at him confused when he gave our friend a big box of donuts. We asked our friend how much did she bought and she said only one. Then the worker told us that he is closing so he would have to throw those donuts away so he gave it to us for FREE! We were very happy and it very tasty so we can say we laughed a lot and were very touched by his gift.

Our Time In Ireland

- For me the best day in Ireland was the 4th. I got to know a person who is still very close to me and means a lot. But back to the point we went to a renaissance building. There weren't many things but it was fun. Then we went to a castle where they told us the story of the castle. They had very good apple pies there but I ate an ice cream. One of our friends even got chased by a duck what was a very funny moment.
- Then the 5th day has come. Our last day in Ireland. We visited the Kilkenny Castle. This castle is my favourite. It has a very interesting story and this castle is awesome: What I mean is it's very pretty and well made. Again we had free time. Well where should I start? Me and my best friend were hungry and we wanted to eat Mc Donalds except it was very far away so none of our friends wanted to come, but we were very hungry so we walked 30 minutes for a Mc Donalds and it was worth it! After that we started our way home and we got on the ferry what took us back to Wales. We went to the same hostel in Cardiff. It was very late when we got there so we went to bed exhausted.

London And Paris

- In the morning we went for a sightseeing and shopping for breakfast. After a few hours we got to the roman baths. It was very fascinating and very well made. Later we got to London and again we met our host families.
- And our day in London started. This day is my favourite day in the whole trip. The our first stop was at Natural History Museum. It was fantastic! I was amused. It's huge and very exciting. Me and my best friend even got scared by one of our teachers. Then our free time was the funniest. I got a rose but it was much more expensive than it should have been. The Big Ben was very pretty but the London Eye was better. I could see everything, it was an unforgettable experience. We were very tired after a day like that.
- The next day we travelled a lot but we also visited a cathedral what was very beautiful. Later, in the afternoon we got on the ferry and went to France. In the evening we got to our hotel.
- The day in Paris was amazing. Of course we went to the Eiffel Tower to take pictures and take a look at it in real life. Then We visited Napoleon's monument. It was nice but I would rather have gone to the Louvre. After that we went to Notre-Dame Cathedral. We had free time so we went to eat a kebab. Later we went on the River Seine by boat. It was an amazing day and i was very happy that i was in Paris with my best friends.

Back Home

- We woke up early to start our way back home. We only travelled. It was boring but i tried to make it fun and somehow i survived. We arrived home on the 10th April, at 11:00 pm with lots of unforgettable experiences and memories. And after I got my suitcase and backpack, said bye to my friends my journey ended.
- I still think about it and this trip had and still has an influence in my life. I want to relive it because it caused my lots of joy.

What have I learned...

- *What have I learned?* – That is the first question that comes into my mind when I think about our trip to Ireland. As it was a school trip, I should have learned so much in the time while we were there, but when I really think about it, there was no such thing as something to really learn except of a few expressions and new words. It might be easier to look at the trip from day to day, and then we may get a closer look at the changes on us too:



At the first day we mostly just were on the bus, but as we went through Austria and Germany and stopped at gas stations, I had to learn that they sell those zero-cherry-cokes which are no longer available at home and were my favourites. I also learned that I love German as a language.

Secondly, we went to the UK by ferry, where I learned that Starbucks is very overrated, and I prefer small coffee houses and bakeries, like those what we saw in Salisbury at the same day. (It is also mentionable that the meat pie can be very stinky so you should never leave it anywhere near you for a long time.)



Nothing really happened during our third day except that it was horrible to get across the Irish sea with a ferry.

At the fourth day we went to the Trinity College and the Grafton Street and then we had some free time which we could spend by going to pubs and try them out as one of the main things of the Irish culture.

That was one of my favourite times of the entire trip, because nothing really happened as we planned, but it was still really good. It had some magic in it when we ran on the streets of Dublin to not get so wet in the heavy rain as we actually did. It was far from perfect, and it was not planned at all, but that is what made it so special to me. Not just the feeling that we are running from the rain in Dublin while looking completely stupid, but the irony that we could still laugh while we did all these. I think that's what I learned pretty well during our trip: to laugh at ourselves sometimes and be happy even if you can't control what's happening to you. Sometimes your plans fail, and you need to accept this and go on. Try some new ideas and create new plans, and if you do these, you'll end up in a fast-food restaurant eating hamburgers instead of being in a pub and listening to traditional Irish songs. *But you'll be with your friends and that is the only thing that matters.*



On the fifth day I learned that we can trick the ghosts to give use free things just by hugging an old tomb, and butterflies are really dangerous, especially if you're named Bálint.

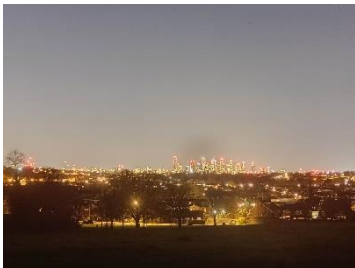




While we were on our free time in Galway during the sixth day, we've learned that we should always look for local restaurants and shops and never fall for the temptation of buying something which that you could get at home just as well as there. Maybe it is also important that your favourite pictures of yourself always will be made when you don't except them.

In the end of the seventh day was the time when I realized that people of very different countries and backgrounds can easily connect just by the common taste of music or just by some songs which both know so much that they can even sing it along.

When we went back to the UK at the day eight, I learned how important it is to always bring some extra clothes with you, because you'll never know what will happen to them if you don't put them away while you are in the hostel.



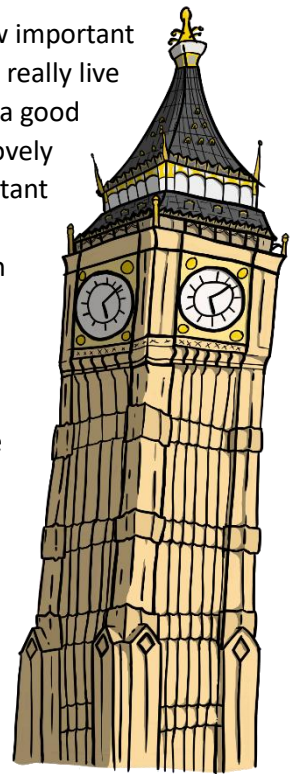
When we arrived in London, I got to know how important what we show from ourselves. Our host didn't really live in a nice neighbourhood and didn't have such a good flat, but with his furnitures he made it into a lovely place where was good to be. It is just as important that he was more than friendly, he was very opened and talkative which him a good man in

my eyes.

In London I learned that it does not always worth it if you want to try out a good-looking restaurant, because you may lose 40 minutes from your free time. I also learned that the smaller things with meaning can have more value than something really big and expensive.



In Canterbury I learned that the outer parts of a town can be way more beautiful than its crowded main streets.



In Paris during our last day, I learned that sometimes it isn't as important that where you are as with who. Paris was lovely and beautiful, but it never could've been the same with other people.

At the last day I sadly had to learn that everything ends once, just as quickly and unexpected as this essay ends now.

My experience with homestay

Homestay experiences offer a unique opportunity for cultural immersion and language practice, providing a glimpse into the daily lives of locals. During my recent travels, I had the chance to stay with two different families, Maria's family in Dublin and Jahreal's family in London. These experiences allowed me to witness firsthand the pros and cons of homestays.

Upon arriving at Maria's home, we were surprised to learn that we wouldn't be staying there but rather at her parents' house. However, this unexpected change turned out to be a blessing in disguise. Our inability to fit our luggage into Maria's car led to her father, Rob, coming to our rescue. Rob's genuine kindness and interest in the Hungarian language and culture made us feel welcome and at ease.



As we entered the house, we were greeted by Rubie, an energetic dog trying to escape, and Maria's mother, Rita, chasing after her. The warm welcome continued as we were served an abundance of pizza and fries for dinner, so much so that the four of us could barely finish it all. Over dinner, we discussed our journey to Dublin and planned our upcoming destinations.

On the last day of our stay, we expressed our gratitude to Maria's family with gifts from Kecskemét. They were genuinely surprised, as it was their first time hosting guests and they had never expected such appreciation. This exchange of cultures and heartfelt moments exemplified the benefits of a homestay experience.

In London, our homestay was with Jahreal and her three sons, Ezekiel, Elijah, and Emory, who were slightly younger than us at 16, 14, and 8 years old, respectively. The homestay began with a traditional Jamaican dish that introduced us to intense flavors we had never tasted before. The following night, we attended a family member's birthday celebration, where fizzy drinks and a delicious cake were served. The main course featured roasted chicken bursting with flavor.

Reflecting on my homestay experiences, I observed several pros and cons. On the positive side, the cultural immersion aspect allowed me to learn about local customs, traditions, and ways of life. I had the opportunity to practice the language spoken in each country, improving my language skills significantly. Additionally, the comfortable living arrangements provided a welcoming and inclusive environment.

However, there were also challenges associated with homestays. Lack of privacy was a notable drawback, as living in someone else's home meant adhering to their house rules and adjusting to a different way of life. Moreover, the limited independence and reliance on the host family for certain aspects of daily life could be constraining at times.

In conclusion, my homestay experiences with Maria's family in Dublin and Jahreal's family in London offered valuable insights into different cultures and provided opportunities for language practice. While there were pros such as cultural immersion and comfortable living, cons like limited independence and lack of privacy were also present. Overall, these experiences enriched my travels and fostered a deeper appreciation for the diversity of the world.

Gaál Tamás 10.A

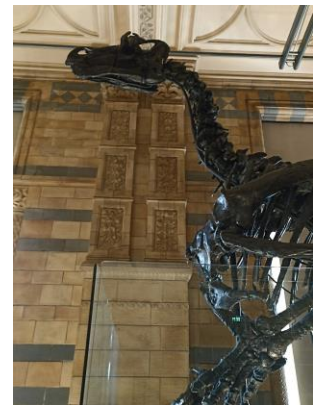
Memories from London

Gyenesei Veronika 9.A

First of all I know this isn't about Ireland but I'm writing this about London because it was my favourite day out of all. It was 7 April if I remember correctly. Very unusual but I woke up quite well rested. Probably because I was very excited for this day. London is a place I've wanted to go for a long time and I knew my family wouldn't go there on holiday so I was very lucky to have this opportunity to visit one of my..well you could say dream places at this age. I have been to very few places before I never really travelled anywhere further so this was probably the longest trip I've gone on. After I woke up, I got out of bed and got ready the fastest. I think I even forgot to have breakfast. Once we were ready Sarah (I suppose that was our host's name) took us to the meet up place. We got there a little too soon, so we had a lot to wait until we set off. I was a little impatient. As soon as the bus started moving I didn't know where to look. We were going into the centre of London and we were surrounded by all those brick houses, parks and other beautiful buildings. Our first destination was the Natural History Museum which is located next to the Science Museum. We had to choose only one and had one and a half hour to visit it. I chose to go to the Natural History Museum and after stepping in I started wondering how many of all the exhibitions we'll be able to see. It seemed like a huge place; the visit could hardly fit into a few hours perhaps it would take a whole day or even more. In the main hall there was a blue whale's skeleton hanging from the ceiling and stairs going up to the next floor.



My friends and I saw the dinosaur's exhibition. There were a lot (and probably more than a lot) of interesting facts about dinosaurs unfortunately we barely had time to read everything, but we saw dinosaur skeletons, fossils, recreations of how these animals looked or lived like and even a lifelike T rex that could move and make sound. In the time we had left we looked through different parts of the museum and also went into the souvenir shop.





(some other pictures from the museum)

Our next stop was The Buckingham Palace where there were already many people even though it wasn't a guard mount yet because it would have been twice as crowded as it already was. In front of the palace on the square we could see a golden memorial statue of Queen Victoria I



suppose. From the statue ahead there was a road we walked along and next to it St. James's Park could be found where you could see the tower of Big Ben and the London eye from. On the other side of the road, we walked over to see the Duke of York's monument from closer. As we walked to another road, we saw two of the classic double decker buses which I luckily managed to take a good picture of. We were also surprised to see the House of Hungary there. After this we got some free time to do whatever we wanted. Our



first idea was to go to the National Gallery, but the queue was too long and we didn't want to waste our whole free time waiting to get in. In front of the museum there was a huge square surrounded by all these pretty buildings and apartments. Also, Big Ben and the London eye were visible from there too. One of my friends and I saw a bookshop. It was called Waterstones and we've seen a few of them while we were in the UK. We decided to go in and look around. I even ended up buying myself a manga which I wouldn't be able to do at home since they don't sell them in Hungary, at least not in bookstores. I also bought myself a keychain that had a little double decker bus on it. It was around 4 pm in the afternoon when the group started heading towards the London eye through the bridge. At first, I thought it was optional, but it turned out our parents had already paid for it. I was really nervous at first since I'm afraid of big heights and the London eye is 135 metres tall, but my teachers reassured me that it's safe and it's going to be alright. They also offered to stay with me in one of the cabins in case something went wrong, which was very kind of them. There was an enormous crowd of course as we expected, we had to wait for at least an hour.



Finally, after waiting for so long, we could get on the ferris wheel. I was a bit worried but also excited because it seemed like a lot of fun. After all it was fine, the cabins were stable and had thicker glass than I expected. It also had enough space for me not to feel trapped and I had others from the group around me. The ride was pretty long for a ferris wheel and the sight was spectacular. We had a magnificent view all around us. I took loads of pictures. It was definitely worth it and it's not something I'll forget. It was really memorable for me. Getting off the London eye was a bit scary though to be honest because they don't stop it and it keeps moving while you get off.



Then we started heading back to where our bus stopped. I had already given up the thought that we might see the Big Ben from any closer, but we were going towards it. Just in time too, we were able to hear its famous chime. After getting on the bus our tour guide showed us some other famous landmarks like Westminster Abbey.

Our last program for the day was Soho and Chinatown. It was probably the most crowded place we've been to. No wonder though it was getting late, and a lot of people were going out. A group of friends and I went to Chinatown. We bought ourselves bubble tea and looked around.

Unfortunately, we couldn't spend much time there and had to go back but I had a really good time. At the end of the day I got really tired but I felt content because it was my best day in a while. I could forget about my worries and everything that usually bothers me. It is definitely one of my favourite memories from the trip. Also here are some of the other pictures I took:





Smaragdzöld Írország

2023



During the trip, our teachers warned us several times to start thinking about the topic of our assignment.

On one occasion, we were having lunch while waiting for the bus, when one of our teacher brought up the subject of assignments. As usual, she gave us ideas, and we gave them to her in return, which is how I came up with the idea to do the theme "favorite".

Favourite food

If I told you earlier that we were having lunch while waiting for the bus when my idea was born, I will also tell you what we ate with such enthusiasm.

We were just after the Irish families when we managed to get into a local Tesco. The first thing we did was to run to the refrigerated section, where we looked for packaged sandwiches. Because, as we have seen, the Irish don't tend to pack their sandwiches full like the majority of Hungarians. So we were quite happy to leave the store with a sandwich full of vegetables.



Favourite place

To be honest, choosing this "favorite" was the hardest. We visited a lot of places and sights, and a lot of them got on my list as favorites. Still, the Cliffs of Moher won the first place for me.

I never liked heights. If we went to a place, I preferred to stand further away than the others, I didn't like to get close to the edge of things.

Here, despite the wind, I went to see the water as far as the rails allowed, and I think it's really good that I did it.



Favourite spectacle

In Dublin, we took the bus past a wall that had continuous graffiti painting on it. Many people do not like graffiti because they consider it to be vandalism, yet everyone agreed that these ones cannot be called vandalism, but rather art.



Favourite castle

We saw several castles from the inside and outside, but Malahide Castle became my favorite. Maybe this picture I took also influenced my decision, but the guided tour in it left a bigger impression on me.

Starting with three important buckets found in the dining room, we got to defecation and its history, and then to sleeping habits. We went through fascinating information about the castle in a humorous style, with which they achieved that many of us remembered it better.



Favourite spare time

We were extremely lucky during the trip in terms of weather, as it was never too hot or cold and it didn't even rain very often.

However, during my favorite free time, we caught the pouring rain and were given the task by our tour guide to find a pub where they would let us in and would play live music. Of course, there were few such places, so we tried to get in somewhere in larger groups. 16 of us gathered in a nearby pub. This number quickly decreased when we noticed how many people were inside, so it became 8 out of 16 people.

We managed to get in and sit down, but in order not to get kicked out we needed to order something, so we ordered two bowls of french fries.

Favourite garden

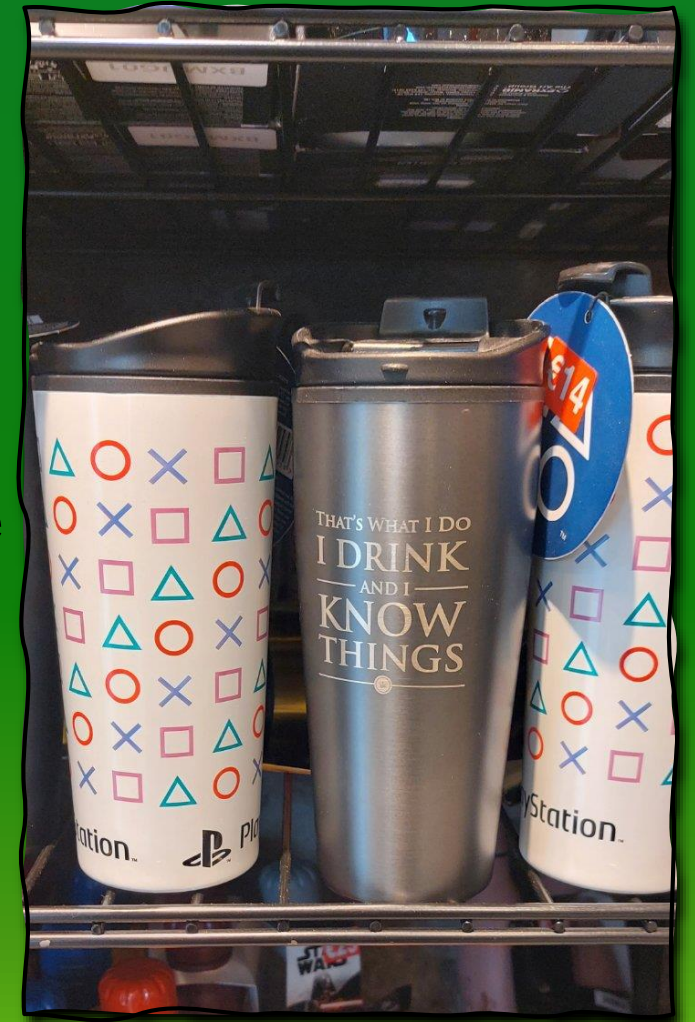
My favorite garden was definitely won by Powerscourt House and Gardens with its bastion, from where you could see nothing but green wherever you looked, and its fountain, which was reflected in such a way that you could see the building twice on the estate.



Favorite phrase

We heard many interesting sentences during the trip, both from our guide and from strangers. My favorite was even then the cup shown in the picture.

Actually, the story of this is that a similar sentence used to be said at school after my coffee in the morning, and when we found the cup, we had a good laugh about it, thereby making the people in the store look at us weird.



Favorite pictures

I thought that since I've grouped my favorite subjects, I'd also present my favorite pictures that I couldn't categorize.



Thank you
for your
attention!

Kaczko Martin 10.A - A Geotastic online térképes játékban felkerült kb. 350 kép azokról a helyszínekről, amelyeket a kirándulás során láttunk. A pályám címe: **IRELAND BÁNYAI 2023**

Jó szórakozást!

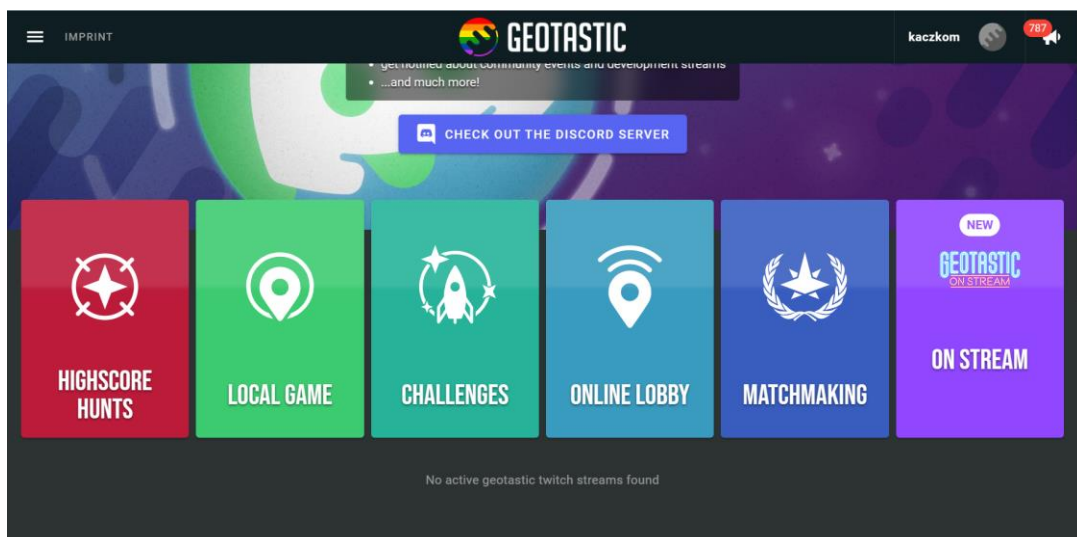
Geotastic Útmutató

A Geotastic egy online térképes játék, amelyben a játékosoknak meg kell tippelniük, hogy hol találhatóak a világon a megjelenített helyszínek. A játék véletlenszerűen választ ki különböző helyszíneket a Google Street View szolgáltatástól, és a játékos feladata az, hogy megállapítsa, hol van az adott helyszín.

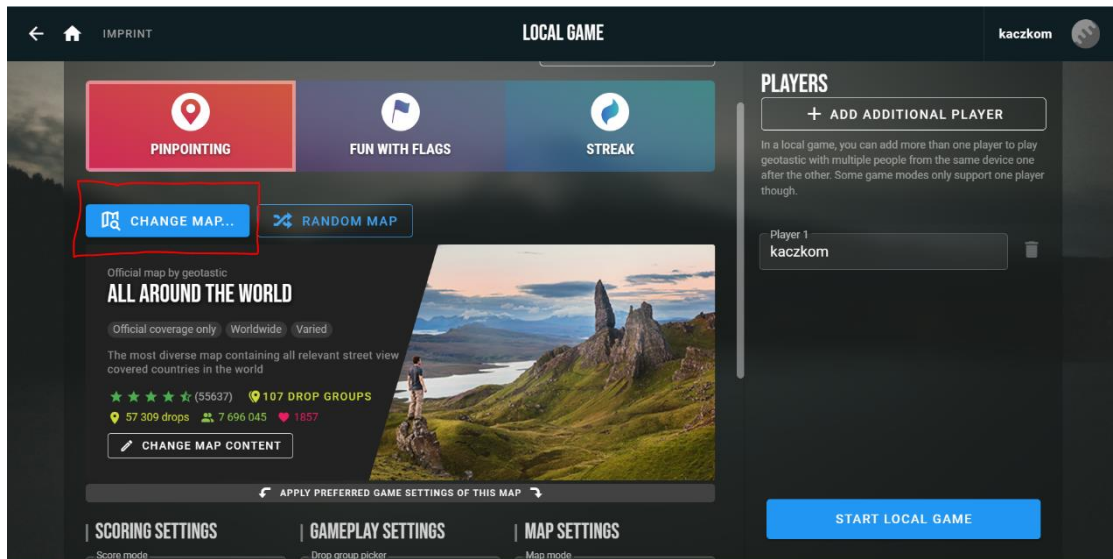
A játék során a játékosok körbejárhatják a Street View-n megjelenített helyszíneket, és kereshetnek utalásokat, hogy meghatározzák az adott helyet. Ezek az utalások lehetnek tájegységek, épületek, jellegzetes tárgyak vagy akár közlekedési jelzések is. A játékosok tippelnek, majd pontokat kapnak attól függően, hogy mennyire közel vannak a helyes válaszhoz.

A Geotastic játékhoz az alábbi lépésekkel lehet játszani:

1. Látogasson el a Geotastic weboldalára (<https://geotastic.net/home>)
2. Regisztráljon egy fiókot a Geotastic oldalán vagy jelentkezzen be a már meglévő fiókjába.
3. Válasszon egy játékmódot. Ha egyedül van, akkor a „Local Game” a legmegfelelőbb, de ha ismerőseivel, barátaival szeretné kipróbálni a játékot, akkor az „Online Lobby”-ra kattintson rá.



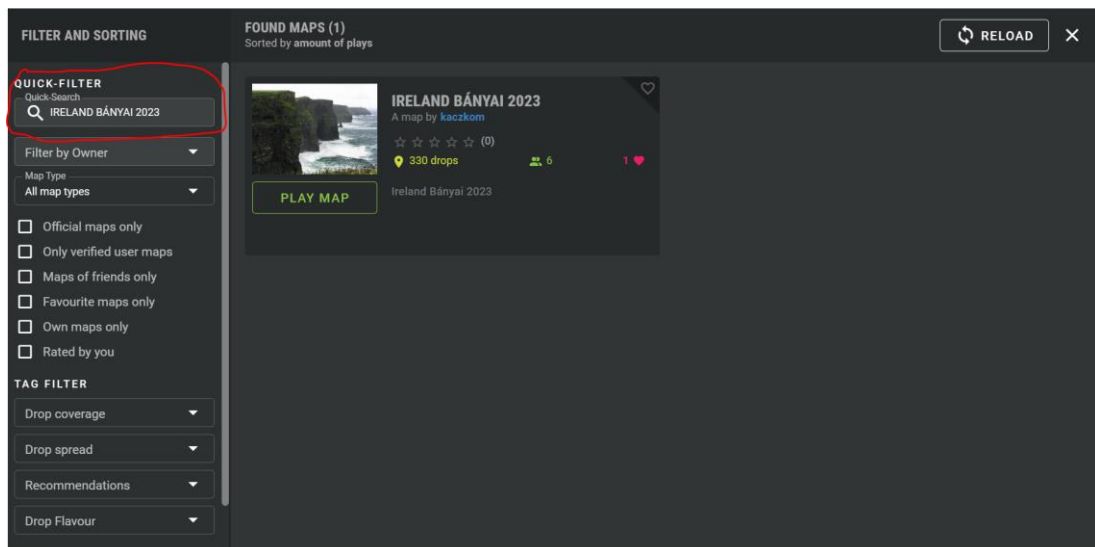
4. A játék megkezdése előtt beállíthatja a körök számát vagy más játékbeállításokat. A pályát is meg tudja változtatni a „Change Map” gombbal.



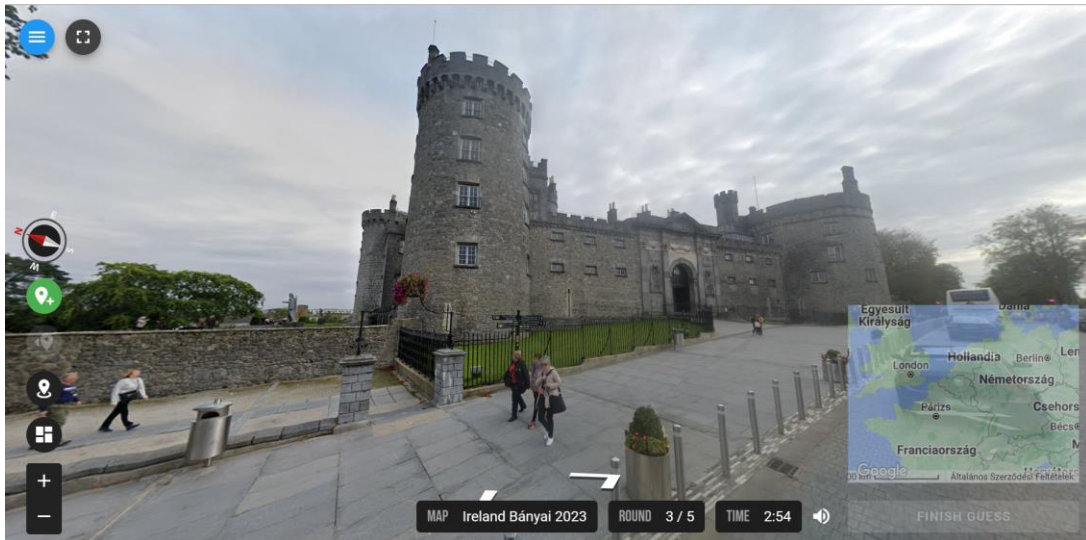
Ezután a „Quick Search” feliratnál be kell írni a pálya nevét.

Az én pályám esetén: **IRELAND BÁNYAI 2023**

A „Play Map” gombra kattintva tudja kiválasztani a pályát.

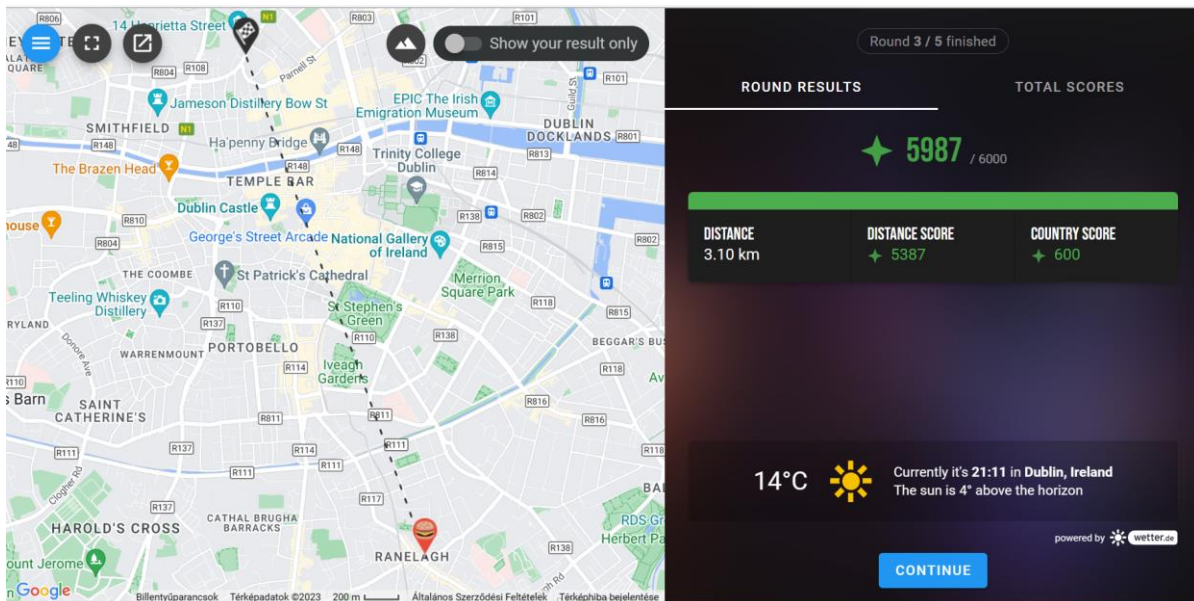


5. A jobbalsó sarokban lévő „Start Local Game” gombra kattintva el lehet indítani a játékot.
6. A játék során a Geotastic véletlenszerűen választ ki helyszíneket a Google Street View-ról, és megjeleníti azokat. A feladata az, hogy megtalálja a helyszínt és hogy megjelöljön egy tippet, hogy hol gondolja, hogy az adott helyszín található.



A jobb alsó sarokban lévő térképen keresztül tud tippeket leadni.
 A tippjeit a bal egérgombbal tudja megjelölni.
 A „Finish Guess” gombra kattintva tudja leadni a tippjét.

7. A helyszín megjelölése után a Geotastic pontot ad az alapján, hogy mennyire volt közel a helyes válaszhoz. Minél közelebb van a helyes válaszhoz, annál több pontot kap.



A „Continue” gombra kattintva tud tovább haladni.

8. A játék végén összesítik a pontjait, és megmutatják az eredményét. Innen tud új játékot indítani („Play Again”), vagy ki tud menni a főmenübe („Back To Lobby” / „Quit To Main Menu”)

Temple Bar

We spent a whole day in Dublin, the capital of Ireland. We visited many interesting places and sights, but my favorite was the Temple Bar. The Temple Bar district is located in the heart of Dublin, near the Liffey River. It is one of the famous tourist attractions in Dublin.

In the past, it was known as the Old City, and it was a district for merchants and traders. Many of the buildings from that era still stand today. In the 20th century, the district fell into disrepair, but in 1990, the city of Dublin decided to modernize it and make it the vibrant cultural district it is today. The name comes from a 17th-century nobleman who owned the land where today's district is located. Other sources say that it comes from Temple Barr (barr meaning elevated sandbank).

One of its famous landmarks is the Temple Bar pub, which is located on the riverbank, on the border of the district, and is one of the oldest pubs in Ireland, having opened back in 1840. It is full of pubs and narrow streets. For the Irish, these pubs are not only for drinking; they spend most of their free time there meeting friends and socializing; it is an essential part of their culture.

Temple Bar is not only about pubs, though. There is also a big market on Meeting House Square, which is held every Saturday. You can find a wide variety of food here, ranging from fish, meat, cheese, and bakery products. If you are into the arts, you may want to visit the Gallery of Photography and the Irish Photography Centre. The streets near these two are full of street art and artists. The old Dublin Castle, which was built in the 13th century, is also located here; today there are museums and galleries in it. Another historical building in the district is Christ Church Cathedral, which was founded by a Viking king around a thousand years ago. Nowadays, it is a popular tourist destination because of its architecture and beautiful stained glass windows.

We arrived at the district on a rainy afternoon. We found a pub that wasn't completely full, and we were let in. It was still quite difficult to find an empty table, but we managed and sat down. The atmosphere was really great. There was live music, and it just happened to be a rugby match in Dublin, so we could experience the fans supporting their favorite team in the pub.

Unfortunately, we didn't get to spend a lot of time there because of our schedule, so we couldn't experience the entirety of the district, but I really liked the atmosphere of it even despite the heavy rain.

Written by: Kakuszi Bence 10.A

sources:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Temple_Bar,_Dublin

<https://www.tenontours.com/blog/the-history-of-temple-bar-in-dublin/>

<https://www.thegreenhotel.ie/blog/dublins-temple-bar-famous/>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dublin_Castle

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Christ_Church_Cathedral,_Dublin



The birds of Ireland and the United Kingdom

All bird species have their Hungarian name displayed in square brackets

**-These species were encountered by us during our trip*

General information

- The number of regular bird species in Ireland and the UK is quite low
 - The number of nesting species in Ireland is around 200, meanwhile in Hungary this is closer to 290
 - This is due to their size, and the fact that they are island nation
- The number of observed bird species is quite high
 - There have been 628 different bird species recorded in the United Kingdom, while in Hungary, this number is 398
 - One of the reasons is the Gulf Stream, which sometimes brings migrating North American birds to Europe



National birds

- *None of these are officially designated, they are all unofficial*
- Northern lapwing [Bíbic]
 - The national bird of the Republic of Ireland
- European robin* [Vörösbegy]
 - The national bird of the United Kingdom
- Golden eagle [Szirti sas]
 - The national bird of Scotland
- Red kite* [Vörös kánya]
 - The national bird of Wales



Introduced bird species

- Common pheasant* [Fácán]
 - Were introduced into Great Britain by the Romans
 - Disappeared in the 17th century, reintroduced in the 18th century
 - Native range extends from the Caucasus to the Korean Peninsula
- Canada goose* [Kanadai lúd]
 - Introduced in the 18th century
 - Can be found in parks in both the UK and Ireland
 - Native to North America, but vagrants can reach Europe
- Monk parakeet* [Barátpapagáj]
 - Introduced in the 20th century
 - Can be found around London in the UK
 - Native populations in South America



Differences between Great Britain and Ireland

Carrion crow [Kormos varjú]

- Found in Western Europe and Great Britain
- The two were classified as one species until recently, with the main species being the Carrion crow



Hooded crow [Dolmányos varjú]

- Found in Eastern Europe and Ireland
- Hooded and Carrion crows can create hybrids where their populations overlap



Birds with different subspecies

Some birds have different subspecies that only live in the British islands

- European robin
 - The British ssp. has more vibrant colours than the continental one
- White wagtail [Barázdabillegető]
 - The British ssp. has a different English name – Pied wagtail
 - The British ssp. has a black upper body while the upper body of the main ssp. is grey



Birds we encountered during our trip

(with my photographs where possible)

- Common moorhen [Vízityúk]
 - Photo taken in St. James Park
- Eurasian coot [Szárccsa]
 - Photo taken in St. James Park
- Mallard [Tőkés réce]
 - Photo taken in Powerscourt estate
 - All three could be seen by us in small lakes while we were travelling, and most if not all freshwater locations

moorhen



coot



mallard



More birds we encountered

- Cormorant [Kárókatona]
 - Picture taken in Powerscourt estate
 - Could be seen in a few other locations with water
- Robin
 - Picture taken in Powerscourt estate
 - Could be heard in almost all locations
 - One of the most common songbirds we met
 - Rarely seen, but often heard singing



Even more birds we've seen

We encountered multiple gull species, not just near water, but even in most if not all cities

Examples include:

- Herring gull [Ezüstsirály]
 - By far the most common
 - Photo taken in Dublin
- Little gull [Kis sirály]
 - Seen at a few locations (eg. at a British gas station)
 - Photo taken in Galway
- Great black-backed gull [Dolmányos sirály]
 - Not sure about this; maybe Lesser black-backed gull [Heringsirály]



Some things I've noticed

- There are a lot more crows than in Hungary
- Gulls are also much more common in both Ireland and the UK
- Most songbirds are rarer (except robins)
- Sparrows are much less common than in Hungary
- We can hear a much wider variety of songbirds in Hungary
- There are more invasive bird species than in Hungary
- Most bird species we've seen (if not all) can also be found in Hungary



Sources

- [Wikipedia.org](https://www.wikipedia.org)
- [Rspb.org.com](https://www.rspb.org.com) (Royal Society for the Protection of Birds)
- [Bto.org](https://www.bto.org) (British Trust for Ornithology)
- [Mme.hu](https://www.mme.hu) (Magyar Madártani és természetvédelmi Egyesület)
- Collins Bird Guide

Made by: Kasza-Kovács Máté 11.A

Most Memorable Places Included in The Trip

(By: Király Barnabás László 10.A)

1. The gardens of Powerscourt Estate

The 1st Viscount Powerscourt was keen to make his mark and assert his position as one of importance in society, so he set about transforming the medieval castle at Powerscourt into a grand mansion. In 1730 he commissioned the



German-born architect **Richard Castle** to build Powerscourt House, a 68 room mansion which was completed in 1741.

The gardens were created over two main periods. A formal plan for the gardens was first developed alongside the rebuilding of the house in 1743, and many parts of the gardens today include elements of those designs. Most of what we see in the gardens today was designed in the 1840's by architect **Daniel Robertson** and implemented during the following forty years. Robertson is said to have suffered from gout and directed operations from a wheelbarrow, fortified by a bottle of sherry. When the sherry finished, work ceased for the day!



The gardens consist of 3 main parts, the Italian Garden, the Walled Garden and the Japanese Garden. My personal favourite the last one, because it felt like something truly out of this world.

Overall, Powerscourt was one of the most enjoyable spots, and definitely the most visually satisfying we have been to during our trip.

2. Cathedral of Salisbury

When the Cathedral was first built it contained up to 13 different chapels. It was common in the 1300s and 1400s for churches throughout England to build chantry chapels where prayers were said and sung for the souls of the dead. Some of the original chapels still exist. However, two particularly grand chantry chapels at the Cathedral's east end, built in about 1450 and 1470 for Bishop Beauchamp and Lord Hungerford, were later destroyed.

In 1445 a library and lecture room on top of the eastern side of the Cloisters was built. In the library the books were chained to the shelves to stop them being 'borrowed'. Today the library contains hundreds of handwritten books, many which were written at the first cathedral at Old Sarum, and thousands of printed books dating from the 1400s to the present day.



Also, the Magna Carta Libertatum can be seen here. I chose the Salisbury Cathedral to write about



because this was the first sight we visited, and this was where I felt that the journey began. (And I also had a lot of fun while exploring the town with the others) .

3. London

I couldn't pick one specific sight, or place from London, because I equally loved every minute being there. It is my favourite city from all, and I was eager to visit it once again after the last time I went there a few years ago.

In London, I stayed at a very sweet, old, married couple with 5 of my friends and we had a great time there. We've been given cooked meals for dinner,



breakfast, and a package of food to bring with ourselves every day. We have visited a lot of sights, including the **Natural History Museum**, the **Buckingham Palace**, the **Big Ben**, the **Parliament**, the **London Eye**, **Trafalgar Square**, **Piccadilly Circus** and much more. Unfortunately we had

very little time at each spot, because we only stayed in London for 2 days. If I had to pick one, I'd say my favourite was the London Eye, because the panorama that unfolded before us on the top was breathtaking and I could see most of my favourite city.

I think it would have been better if we had spent more time there, but it was still the highlight of the whole trip for me.



Források:

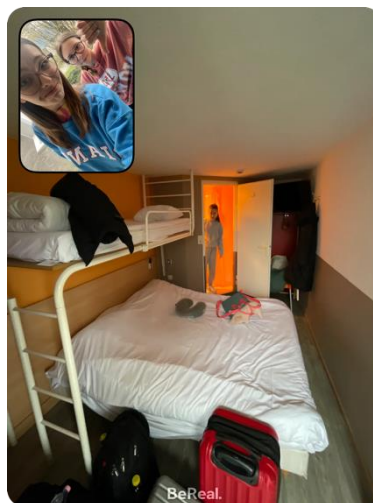
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Host families and transit accommodation

During our trip to Ireland, we stopped at several cities for the night to sleep and to get to know that area a little bit more. We spent the nights at different kinds of accommodations and each one had their own advantages and drawbacks.

To begin with, we first stopped at Leige, Belgium. Luckily, we knew what to expect since we had already stayed at a Premiere Classe Hotel during the French school trip. We enjoyed our staying there despite the fact that we couldn't really sleep a lot because we had to leave early the next the day. The rooms were a bit small and unfortunately our third bed was broken so all three of us slept in the double bed. The good point about this accommodation was that we had our own bathroom and it was a lot comfier to get ready in the morning. We also slept at a Premiere Classe Hotel in Metz, France. We had a similar room with our own bathroom as well.



On our second day we travelled to Cardiff, Wales. We stayed at a youth hostel, which was located on the main street of the city. We could benefit from that because we took a short walk in Cardiff and we could have a peek of the nightlife of the city. It was definitely a memorable stay for us when we found out that 13 girls had to share one bedroom and we didn't even have an own bathroom. The bathroom was on the hallway and there were only 2 showers and the water was spilling everywhere. It made our stay a bit difficult. However, we had a good time there and it turned out that we will have stayed another night at the same place.



When we finally arrived to Dublin, we were passed down to the host families. We spent 5 days there. We could say that we were lucky because we had pretty good families and they had clean rooms which came along with bathrooms. Unfortunately, we arrived late to Dublin, but the families were very understanding and they didn't mind our late arrival. We also tried some local dishes and get to know a little bit of their culture and local traditions. It was easy to get used to the new house, the family and their rules. They were pretty flexiable, we only had to pay attention to the bedtime. We also had a chance to meet their housepets but they didn't cause any problem for us. Furthermore because of these the families' felt like home even more.



Lastly, we also slept one night in a Formula 1 Hotel which was a new situation for us. The layout of the beds were different than in the previous hotels because there were 3 beds above each other. The room didn't come with a bathroom because there were 4 showers per floor and we had to wait for our turn. The room was well decorated but we mostly just slept in it.



To sum up, we experienced lots of different accommodations with all of their advantages and disadvantages. We had a good time everywhere and didn't end up with a single bad memory or feeling.

Készítette:

Lukács Timi 10.A

Szebellédi Anna Seron 10.A

Király Anna 10.A

MY 10 BEST EXPERIENCES

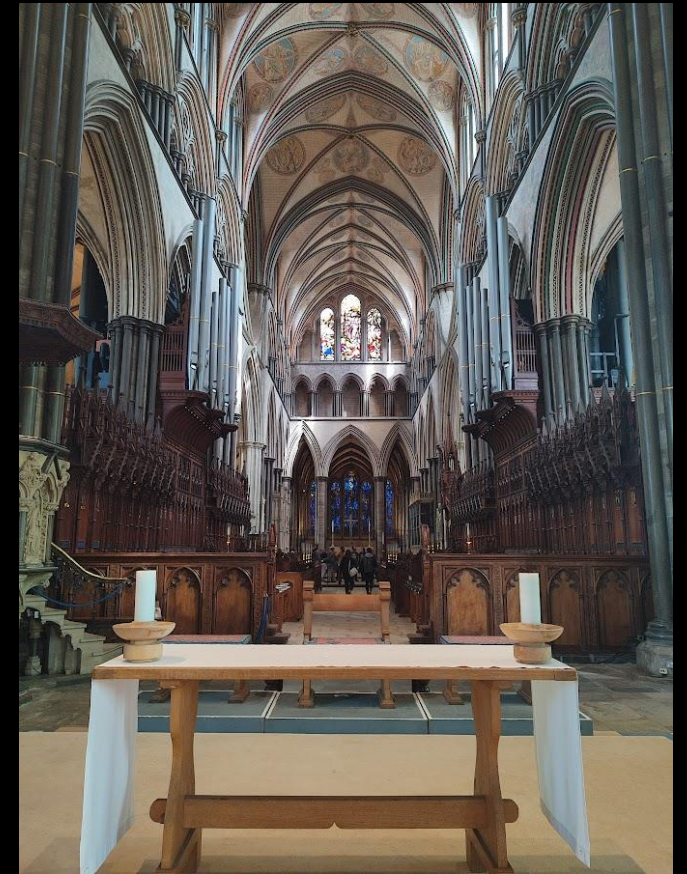
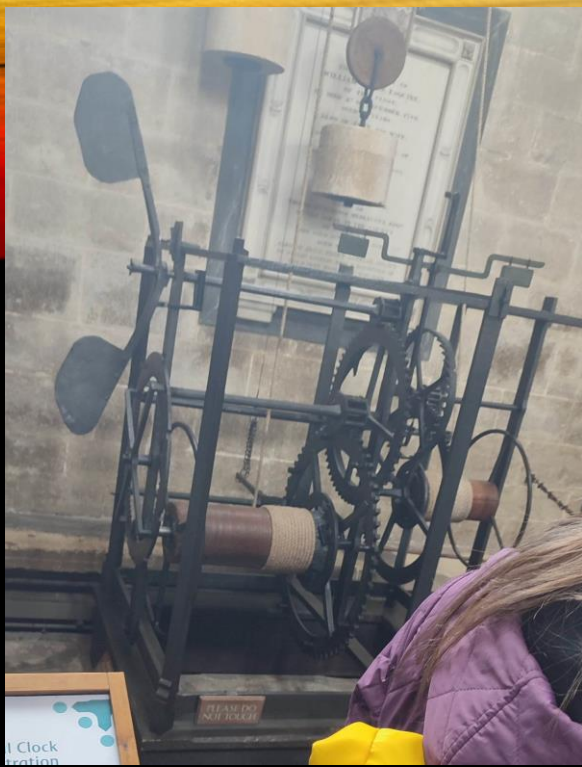
Trip to the emerald green Ireland

Kisznyér Márton 11.B

10TH: SAINT PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL



9TH: SALISBURY CATHEDRAL



8th: Paris



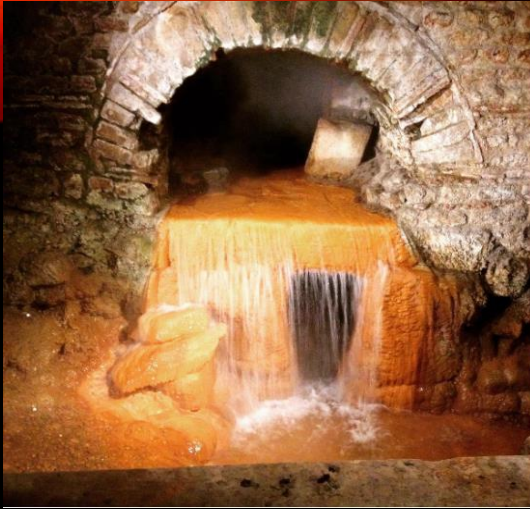
7TH: ROCK OF CASHEL





6th: Glendalough

5TH: THE ROMAN BATH IN BATH



4th: London eye and the Big Ben



3RD: NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM (LONDON)



2nd: Powerscourt Estate



1ST: THE CLIFFS OF MOHER



THE BONUS PLACE:

the ferry trip on the Irish Sea





THANK YOU FOR YOUR
ATTENTION

1. dia: The stone church from the 5th century was built between 1190 and 1225 in the Gothic style. William the 3. said a thanksgiving mass here in his joy over the fact that he had easily defeated the Catholic II. The armies of King James of England. This and other later wars are commemorated by the flags on the walls - the oldest of which served as English battle flags in the Battle of the Boyne River. Today, the cathedral is one of the two main churches of the Church of Ireland.

2. dia: the cathedral, which with its 123-meter steeple is the tallest in the United Kingdom. The building houses the best condition of the four surviving copies of the Magna Charta, as well as a huge mechanical clock from 1386, which is considered the oldest mechanical clock in the country.

3. Dia: We spent little time everywhere in Paris, so I will tell you a little about several things. first of all we went to Trocadéro square and from there we saw the eiffel tower and then the dome of the invalids where we saw napoleon's tomb and almost all the battle clothes and weapons in french history. During the rest of the day, we visited Notre Dame in my free time and the last stop of the day was a cruise on the Seine.

4. dia: According to local legend, the Rock of Cashel was created at Devil's Bit, a mountain 30 km north of Cashel, when Saint Patrick banished Satan from a cave, resulting in the rock landing in Cashel. Cashel is said to have been the site of the conversion of the King of Munster by Saint Patrick in the 5th century. the king's chapel was begun in 1127 and consecrated in 1134. It is a sophisticated structure with a vaulted ceiling and wide arches, drawing on contemporary European architecture. Built between 1235 and 1270. The Scully Cross, one of the largest and most famous high crosses, originally built in 1860 to commemorate the Scully family

5. dia: there is a cross in this place and if you reach around that cross so that your fingers touch, you can make one wish, but if I can also lock your fingers together, you can make three wishes+ lake

6. dia: in the ancient Roman bath in the baht, the place itself was beautiful, but I was really caught by the fact that we were given a telephone-like device at the entrance and if you pressed the appropriate numbers on it, it told the story of the given place

7. Dia: so I enjoyed the lonon eye a lot because as you go higher and higher you can see farther and farther and the view gets more and more beautiful. and big ben was a childhood dream of mine

8. dia: we spent very little time in the museum, I was only able to see what I think are the main attractions, such as the dinosaur section or where the skeletons of whales were exhibited I only briefly touched most of the museum

9. dia: this is one of the most beautiful gardens in the world I know, I could spend hours here just walking around and marveling at how beautiful everything is golf wiskey

10. dia: and I think one of the most beautiful and windiest places in Ireland is the Cliff of Moher, and I can't really say much about it except that it appears in many movies, such as Harry Potter.

The Mystery of the British Pennies



Embarking on our voyage to Ireland, we traversed the beautiful landscapes of north-western Europe until we embarked on a ferry ride across the English Channel. Our expedition led us to the United Kingdom, where we ventured to the capital of Wales, Cardiff. It was there, midway through the lively streets, that I experienced my very first encounter with the illustrious British pound. As the currency exchanged hands, a handful of mysterious pennies found their way into my palms.

Curiosity struck me as I examined these coins, for I had never beheld pence in physical form. Among the collection of regal faces and notable personalities that were on the coinage, one penny stood apart. The fifty pence piece revealed an incomplete shield, a fragment of the British royal coats of arms. This revelation sparked a profound sense of wonder within me—were there other fragments waiting to be discovered? Could I assemble the entire majestic crest?



Driven by this newfound obsession, I embarked on a virtual quest, scouring the depths of the internet to unravel the mystery. My search yielded useful results; there were indeed more pennies like this! The British royal coats of arms, a symbol of the monarchy's authority and lineage, comprises various distinct elements. These include the three lions guarding representing England, the lion rampant representing Scotland, and the harp symbolizing Ireland. Additionally, the coat of arms features the escutcheon, a shield displaying other significant symbols and emblems.

Armed with knowledge and a burning desire to complete the mosaic, I vowed to collect every elusive piece throughout our fascinating journey. Alas, my ambition hit a roadblock upon reaching Ireland, where the Euro reigned supreme, impeding my progress in completing the coveted crest.

However, fortune smiled upon me as we returned to Cardiff. There, I managed to acquire two more pennies, edging ever closer to my objective. Our travels then led us to the city of London, where two additional coins joined my growing treasure trove. Each coin I found carried a distinct

fragment of the magnificent British coats of arms, illustrating the rich history and heritage ingrained in every penny.

With just one piece left to secure, I found myself on tenterhooks as our trip neared its end. The allure of completing the grand design consumed my thoughts, fueling my determination to leave no stone unturned.

As we bid farewell to foreign shores and embarked on our voyage back to the continent, hope flickered within me. However, doubt began to creep in during our arrival in France, where my quest seemed destined to fade away. Desperation came over me as I sought assistance from all quarters, but no one possessed the elusive five pence coin, a vital fragment required to finalize the awe-inspiring composition. Yet, just as all hope seemed lost, a triumphant twist of fate awaited me.

On the penultimate day of our journey, as we approached our homeland of Hungary, one of my esteemed teachers discovered a resplendent treasure within his wallet—a glorious five pence coin. In an act of astonishing generosity, he presented it to me, completing the magnificent British coats of arms, painstakingly pieced together from humble pennies.

Thus, the mystery of the British pennies, once shrouded in uncertainty, unfolded into a tale of tenacity, curiosity, and the triumph of a relentless collector. A captivating journey, interwoven with the fabric of our unforgettable adventure across the captivating landscapes of Europe, now immortalized in a remarkable collection of pennies that narrate a tale of their own, reflecting the regal heritage and storied traditions of the United Kingdom.

(Komáromi Zsombor 9.A)

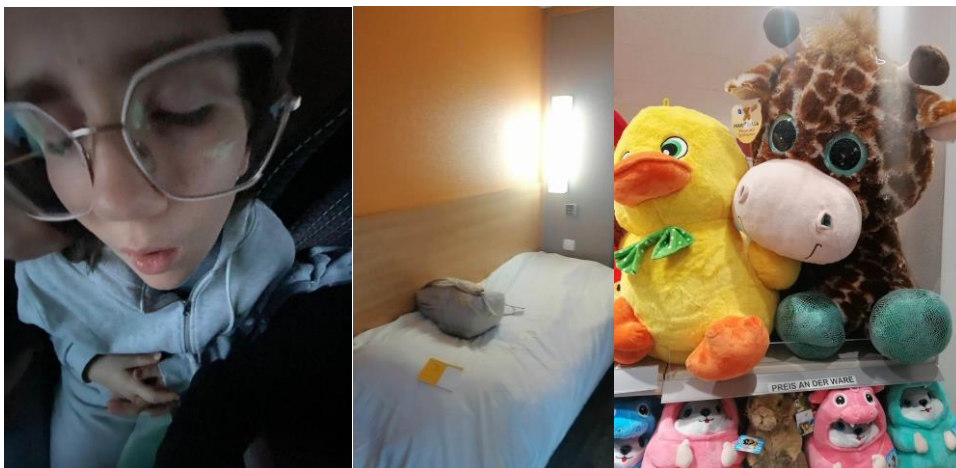


THE BEST 2 WEEKS OF THE SCHOOL YEAR

Hello! My name is Adél Emma Kovács (8.A) and this is how I experienced the trip to Ireland.

March 29.

Packing, excitement and a little bit of fear. This is how I would described my days before the trip. I arrived to the school at 0:45. It was hard to believe that I will leave for two weeks and instead of the usual days I will visit new countries and have an unforgettable trip with my school. I waited a few minutes in the car with my sister and my dad and then we went to the meeting point. When the bus arrived I gave my transit bag and my suitcase to one of the bus drivers and then said goodbye to my dad and I got on the bus. When everybody took their seats our tour guide introduced the bus drivers and himself to us and the bus left the parking lot. My first unforgettable memory is when our driver went out on the wrong exit in the roundabout. At that moment I was a little bit scared. I fell asleep after this incident and I only got up when we arrived to Mosonmagyaróvár. We took a 30 minutes break and then we continued our trip. We travelled all day with small breaks. My seat was in the last row and thanks to my friends the mood was really good. We arrived to our hotel at 7 pm. It was in Liège. To be honest the room wasn't the best but the mattress was good so I could sleep well. My friend Jázmin and I were roommates. We had a shower and talked a little but we fell asleep early because we left the hotel at 4am.



1.picture: sleeping on the bus 2.picture: our room in Liège 3.picture: petrol station in Austria

March 30.

I clearly remember the situation. I was dreaming about something weird as usual but I heard really loud music. It was good but really loud. And then I woke up for Jázmin's alarm. I definitely was awake after that. So after we turned off the alarms we got dressed and packed our stuff back into the transit bags and went down to the bus. We needed to get up early because of the ferry. Our guide greeted us and then most of the students fell asleep. We arrived at the port and there we had a passport check. After that we got on the bus and waited until we could go in the ferry's parking lot. After everyone arrived at the first floor, together we went to the restaurant because we had our breakfast there. It was the usual English breakfast. I liked it, it was pretty good. When me and my friends finished our breakfast we took a walk and bought some things at the duty free shop and after that the ferry left the port and our 90 minutes trip began. Luckily I wasn't seasick so most of the time we talked and laughed. We also went to the top of the ferry to see the famous White Cliffs. We took some pictures and then we went down to the bus. After we arrived, there was a 3 hour long ride to Salisbury. The Salisbury Cathedral was fascinating, I loved that place. When I finished looking around the cathedral

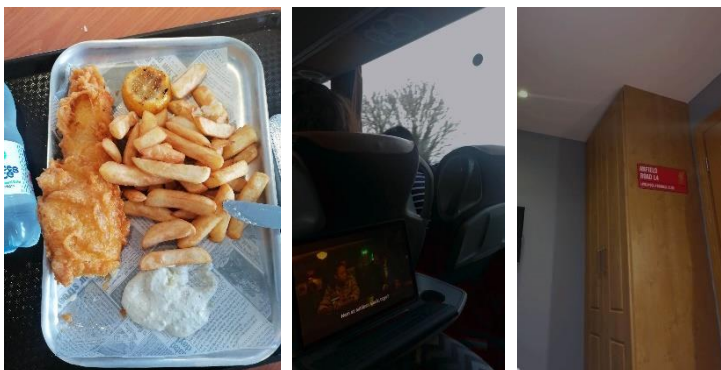
my friends and I went to discover Salisbury, where we had 1 hour free time. We mostly just looked around the town and my friend Kármén and I bought a bubble tea which wasn't the best. We went back to the meeting point and afterward everyone came back we got on the bus and went straight to Cardiff where we had our hostel for the night. I think maybe 15 girls were together in one room. It wasn't as bad as I thought it will be. Fun fact first no one could open the door but thanks to Ildikó Máthé we could get into the room. We packed down our things and we went to the boys room for a meeting. The teachers told us that we could go buy dinner and then go for a walk if we want to. Of course most of us didn't had anything to eat so we went to a supermarket or we could go to McDonald's too. I choose McDonald's where I ate a cheeseburger. It was okay and then we went for a walk. Although it was dark, I loved it. It was calm and relaxing so after we arrived back to the hostel we asked Ildikó Máthé and János Bakk if the 8.a group could go for another round and they said yes. After we got back I took a shower and went to sleep because it was late.



1.picture: our breakfast 2.picture: the Salisbury Cathedral 3.picture: bubble tea 3.picture: late night walk

March 31.

On the third day I got up at about 7.30. I packed my things together, got dressed and I was ready to go. We left the hostel at about 9 o'clock. We got on the bus and ate our breakfast there, which we got at the hostel. 3-4 hours later we got to the port again. At this time only a few people needed to go down for a check. When we got on the ferry the captain said that we are going to leave the port later because of the weather. That was a bad thing cause the ride was 3 hours long. While we were waiting I ate fish and chips which was alright and we discovered the ferry. After the ferry sailed Jázmin, Kármén, Lilla and me searched a place where we could sleep. We found some couches and laid down. I wasn't feeling very well so I woke up Jázmin and asked if she could come with me to the restroom. She helped me and while we were walking we found Máthé Ildikó so we sat next to her and the two of them helped me calm down. I really appreciate that and thanks a lot! After this incident I had a Dedalon and fell asleep. Before the docking we went back to the bus. Afterward we had a 3 hour long ride to Dublin where the parents were waiting for us. I've got hosted with two girls Lora and Bori. Our hosting lady was a little bit angry because of our guide. When we got to her house she showed us the rooms and then she made us sandwiches and mushroom soup. It was good and after the dinner we took a shower and went to bed.



1.picture: fish&chips 2.picture: serie on the bus 3.picture: my room at Dublin

April 1.

We needed to get to the meeting point by 10 o'clock so we had breakfast at 9:30. We got cereal with milk and toast with hazelnut cream. The cereal was the best I've ever had in years. The lady drove us to the meeting point. We picked everyone up and our first stop was at St. Patrick's Cathedral. It was beautiful but I loved Salisbury more. We went around Dublin with bus and our next stop was at Trinity College where a girl who studied at Bányai showed the place to us and I think it was interesting. After that we had free time and I spent it with my friends. We went to different shops and ate our lunches. It started to rain really heavily as we walked to the Temple Bar. We also had free time there and we went into a pub but they sent us out because we were under 18, so we decided to go to a Starbucks cause everything was full because of the rain. We had there a coffee and some time later we went to Mary's. We didn't spend much time there cause it was time to go to the meeting spot. When we got off the bus we started to walk home cause the lady needed to go to a graduation party with his older son. When we got home we had dinner and we spent the rest of the day together. We were really cold so we searched for the younger boy to turn on the heating but he was nowhere to be found. Bori called our guide and luckily while they were talking the boy appeared so we could ask him. When the mother and his son got home we thanked the dinner and then went to sleep.



1.picture: morning in Dublin 2.picture: St. Patrick's Cathedral 3.picture: we stopped here during our city tour 4.picture: the Disney shop

April 2.

We needed to get up earlier today cause the pick up was at 8 o'clock. We got the same breakfast as yesterday. For today we visited two castles and a historic place. Powerscourt, Gendalough and Malahide. First we went to Powerscourt. It was my favourite place to be honest. The garden was charming and really peaceful. Also the souvenir shop was I think pretty good. You could find every type of gifts. Our second stop was Gendalough and although our guide told us many interesting things, I didn't find this place very fascinating especially after Powerscourt. We had a great walk and I ate an ice cream and that is all. Our third place was Malahide Castle. We had a guided tour there and I think this was my second favourite place in Ireland. When the tour ended we had some free time so Jázmin and I went for a walk and then we looked around the shop but we didn't buy anything. We arrived to Dublin at around 7 pm. We walked home today too. The dinner was good again and we met the older son this day. He was I think shy so we didn't talk with him a lot. The girls came to my room today too and we spent a great time together.





1.picture+2.picture+3.picture: Powerscourt garden 4.picture+5.picture: Glendalough 6.picture+7.picture: Malahide Castle inside and the garden

April 3.

This day we went to the Cliffs of Moher and Galway. The cliffs were quite far so we stopped at a petrol station to get some food. When we arrived we did a long walk and the view was just beautiful. The wind was blowing like crazy but it was fun. We took some pictures here and asked a person to take some pictures of us. After that we had a 1,5 hour ride to Galway. We got packed lunch every day from the families so I was tired of sandwiches. Lilla and I decided to eat a wrap for lunch, but Kármen and Jázmin went to an Asian restaurant. The wrap was good and after Kármen and Jázmin got back we went for a walk. And I think my best memory is the following story. So while we were walking I spotted a donut bakery and the girls said we can go in if I want to. We went in and the guy was really nice. I wanted a chocolate one and I was surprised when he gave me 11 donuts. He said it is a gift for us because he is closing in 5 minutes. And of course I only needed to pay for one donut. They were really tasty I loved them. I offered some to other students because it was a lot but everyone liked it. We got back to Dublin at 8 pm, so we were tired. The lady made us dinner then we took a shower and went to sleep.



1.picture+3.picture: Cliffs of Moher selfies 2.picture: 11 donuts 4.picture: the wrap

April 4.

We had a really long day. First we went to the Rock of Cashel. It was good but it was windy, so I was a bit cold. Our next stop was Tipperary and we had some free time here. After everyone came back we went straight to Bunratty. We had a guided tour here and then me and Jázmin ate the famous apple pie here which was great. I've never eaten apple pie with whipped cream before but I think if you haven't tried it yet you should. The shop here was definitely one of the best ones. On our way home we went through Limerick but we didn't stop here. When we got back home we ate our last dinner at Dublin and I packed most of my stuff. I needed to wash my hair too so I went to bed late.



1.picture+2.picture+3.picture+5.picture: Bunratty Castle's apple pie and shop 4.picture: Rock of Cashel

April 5

This morning didn't go so easily. So I woke up early, got dressed and I lay down for a second. Our host lady woke me up at 7.30 and we needed to get to the meeting point by 8.00 am. I was in a hurry but luckily we got there just in time. We stopped at Kilkenny. With a guide we walked around the castle and after we finished we had some free time. I spent this time with Jázmin. We went to a supermarket to buy some food and we've been to other shops too. For lunch we ate pizza. It was a 5 out of 10. Then we went to the port where we waited 45 minutes. This time I ate a Dedalon before we began to sail. On the ferry I talked and played with cards with my friends. We arrived to Cardiff really late. We quickly took a shower and set the alarm to 8.30 because me and Jázmin wanted to go for a sightseeing in Cardiff in the morning.



1.picture: a sweet shop in Kilkenny 2.picture: a cute dog at the castle 3.picture: the castle 4.picture: our lunch

April 6.

As I mentioned we got up at 8.30. We got dressed and packed our things together. First we went to a supermarket to buy some food and drink. I bought a coffee because I really needed one. Then we took a walk in the castle's garden which was gorgeous. Then we walked for a while but soon after we went back to the hostel to the others. We left Cardiff at 11 am. Our destination was Bath. With an audio guide we walked around the place and there were interesting informations. After the tour we had free time. I spent it with Jázmin like most of my time. We bought one T-shirt and then we ate lunch at a really friendly place. After that we ate an ice cream and that is how our free time ended. We visited Cotswolds too. In the evening we arrived to London. I got hosted by a really nice woman with 3 other girls: Seron, Anna and Hédi. The dinner was great and we talked a lot with the woman. After we finished we went to our rooms. My roommate was Hédi and she was really kind. After everyone had a shower we went down to Anna and Seron and talked for a really long time. I think we went to bed at 1 am.



1.picture+2.picture: Cardiff in the morning 3.picture+4.picture+5.picture: Bath 6.picture: London view

April 7.

This was one of the best days. After we got dressed and ate breakfast the lady took us to the meeting point and the mood in the car was awesome. First we went to the National History Museum. We spent there 1,5 hours and if we weren't in a hurry I could spend there another 3-4 hours definitely. After that we stopped at the Buckingham Palace. It was beautiful. We took some pictures and then we walked around London. Our teachers and guide selected the meeting point and then we had 1,5 hour free time. I spent it with Lilla, Kármen and Jázmin. We went to the Big Ben and afterwards we ate in McDonald's because the girls were hungry. When everyone got back we started walking to the London Eye. Some time later because the queue was huge we got on. If you've never been on the London Eye you must give it a try. After the London Eye we visited China Town. It was lovely but we didn't spend much time there. We arrived to the families at about 7 pm. Our dinner was delicious and after we ate it everyone started packing their things. We went to bed late again.



1.picture+2.picture: National History Museum 3.picture: Buckingham Palace 4.picture+5.picture: walk around London 6.picture: London Eye 7.picture the view from the London Eye 8.picture: Big Ben

April 8.

The hosting lady was so nice. It was hard to say goodbye to her, but we left London today. Before the ferry, we visited Canterbury. The cathedral was beautiful. After that we had a little free time. I spent it with Jázmin and we ate a pizza which was fantastic. Then we walked, bought pancakes and other things for dinner. Luckily the ferry wasn't late and the ride only took 1,5 hour. Our hotel for the night was about a 2 hour ride. I was in a room with Jázmin, Kármén, Lilla and Luca from 9b. When we had a shower which was hard because there were only two showers on one floor. We talked for a while and then went to bed because we got up quite early to have breakfast.



1.picture+2.picture: Canterbury Cathedral 3.picture: pizza 4.picture: pancakes

April 9.

My favourite place, Paris. We got up at 6.30 and had breakfast at 7.00. First we went to see the Eiffel Tower. It is gorgeous. Secondly we stopped at the Dome of les Invalides. It was beautiful I had a great time here. Then we went around Paris with bus and stopped at the Notre Dame. We had free time here and I went to eat pancakes. I choose one with ham and cheese but it wasn't as good as I thought it will be. Me, Luca and Petra went on a walk and bought some art of Paris. We went back to the meeting point and our last stop was at a port. We went on a boat trip on the Seine. We could take some pictures

and it was a really good experience. When the trip ended first we went to a petrol station to buy some food and after that to our hotel which was in Metz. It was great and I was in a room with Luca and Petra. We had a lot of fun and we talked for long hours.



- 1.picture+6.picture: the Eiffel Tower
- 2.picture+4.picture: The Dome
- 3.picture: Napoleon's grave
- 5.picture: pancake

April 10.

This day wasn't anything special. We got up, got dressed and packed our things for the last time. We travelled all day with small breaks. I watched series and talked with Jázmin. We arrived to the school at about 11 pm. This trip was awesome. I am thankful for my parents cause they let me go and my teachers because they organised a fantastic trip. Thanks for our guide who told us many interesting informations and the two bus drivers for driving us through this trip.

And thank you for reading my travel diary.

A Dark Tapestry of Tragedy

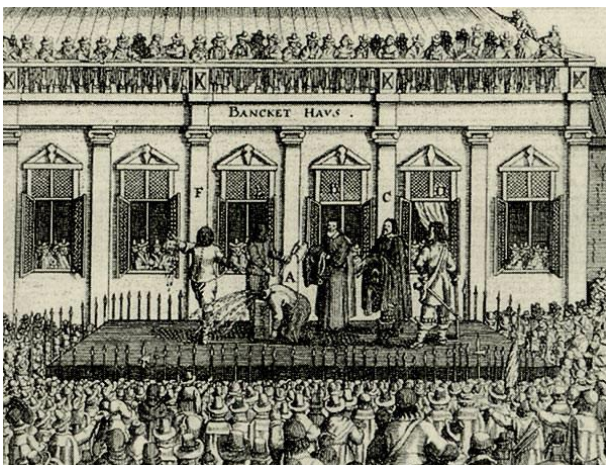
Our guide informed us about numerous historical killings and murders as we traveled across Ireland, the United Kingdom, and Paris. I was quite interested in these catastrophes, so I decided to write about them.

The history of human civilisation has been marred by several violent deeds that have left behind permanent traces of grief and destruction. Terrorist attacks and political assassinations both cause death and ruin and alter the destiny of societies and entire countries. This essay looks at a few significant violent incidents.



The poisoning of Sergei Skripal, a former Russian double agent, and his daughter Yulia in Salisbury, England, in March 2018 stunned the entire world. Because of the incident, which entailed the deployment of a lethal nerve toxin, there have been accusations and denials of accusations between Russia and Western nations.

In 1882, a sad incident known as the Phoenix Park murder took place in Dublin, Ireland's Phoenix Park. Members of the Irish National Invincibles assassinated Lord Frederick Cavendish, the recently appointed Chief Secretary for Ireland, and Thomas Henry Burke, his undersecretary. Tensions between Britain and Ireland were heightened by this incident. Execution of Charles the First:



King Charles the First's execution in 1649 was a turning point in English history. Oliver Cromwell's foundation of a republic and the king's subsequent trial and beheading for refusing to accept limits on his authority paved the way for the eventual transformation of the English monarchy.

Attacks on the MI6 headquarters in London were the targets of the Skyfall and Canterbury bombings, which occurred in 1998 and 2005, respectively. These terrorist attacks emphasized the ongoing threat posed by terrorism in contemporary society and showed how even the safest institutions are susceptible to attack.



Thomas Becket was assassinated in Sainsbury: The horrific killing of Canterbury Archbishop Thomas Becket in Canterbury Cathedral in 1170 shocked medieval Europe. Becket's disagreement with King Henry II on the authority of the Church led to the killing, which was carried out by four knights under the king's orders. The martyrdom of Becket resulted in his canonization and had a significant influence on the balance of power between the church and the state.

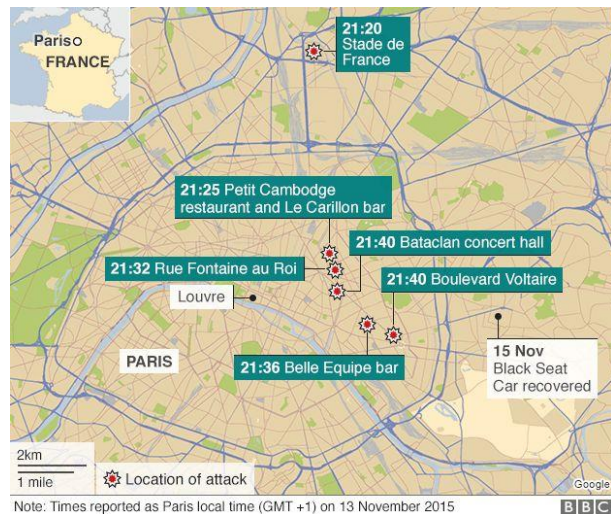
Hôtel des Invalides: Located in Paris, France, this ancient complex has seen its share of violent incidents. Notably, revolutionaries assaulted the structure during the French Revolution in an effort to acquire the weapons and ammunition kept within. This occasion represented the fall of the monarchy and the start of a fresh period of revolutionary fervor.





Beheading of King Louis XVI, Queen Marie Antoinette, Georges Danton, and Maximilien Robespierre: During the French Revolution, the monarchy experienced a wave of executions that came to a head with the beheading of these individuals. The Reign of Terror, a time of severe political turmoil in France, was characterized by radicalism and violence, which were represented by these executions.

A string of well-planned terrorist assaults, including the tragic Bataclan theater massacre, occurred in Paris in November 2015. According to the Islamic State, these strikes led to the loss of 130 innocent lives and left hundreds more injured. The attacks targeted various locations throughout the city, such as the Bataclan concert hall, the Stade de France, and several restaurants and cafes.



These incidents remind us of the fragile nature of peace and stability in our world. They highlight the importance of unity, resilience, and international collaboration in the face of violence and extremism. They serve as a solemn call to continue striving for a future where such acts of tragedy are but distant memories.

This trip helped me learn that as we reflect on these historical events, we must remain vigilant and committed to fostering a society where peace and understanding prevail. Only through our collective efforts can we hope to create a world that is free from the shadows of violence and tragedy, where all individuals can live without fear, and where the lessons of the past guide us towards a brighter future.

My sources:

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Irish everyday life

The Irish also go to work or school every weekday, but let me introduce you to their culture, tradition, and lifestyle.

If we look at how they eat, we can see that almost every day there's some kind of potato on their menu. They can make thousands of variations of mashed and fried potatoes. They also eat a lot of sheep and fish. Every Sunday they have a huge dinner which includes some kind of roast (e.g.: whole chicken, sheep, even fish). They are very proud of their beers like their stouts (e.g.: Guinness), red ales (e.g.: Smithwick's), and also of their whiskeys.

After work, most people go to a Pub. The „Pub” word is the abridgment of „Public house” which refers to the function of these facilities. Most of the Pubs are hundreds of years old. In some cities, the Pubs have their own districts e.g.: The Temple Bar in Dublin. The people go there to meet their friends, watch sports, have fun, and relax after a long day. Usually in the afternoon, there is live music and on the weekend there are quiz nights. These live musicians play their music or they sing the famous singers' and bands' songs. Irish music sometimes can sound like folk music because they stored their traditional instruments and these usually appear in their songs.



One of Temple Bar's streets

They usually watch their traditional sports hurling and Gaelic football both have a decent fanbase and ten thousands of people watch the finals. They love rugby, and they have really competitive teams, and national team. Also they often watch football.



Hurling



Gaelic football



Rugby

I really enjoyed the time in Ireland and I hope you could gain some useful information how these kind and friendly people live.

Sources: <https://www.tripsavvy.com/dublins-temple-bar-district-1542340>

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The most surprising place for me

(in a positive way)

The Natural History Museum

The Museum

- Visiting the museum was free but if I had to pay for it, I would have paid.
- There were four bigger sections in the museum: a blue one, a green one, a red one and a yellow one where we didn't go because we didn't have time.



The blue section

- I was expecting this museum to be like the other ones but as I walked in and looked up I could see the skeleton of a whale
- There were other skeletons which you can't see in other museums for example different types of dinosaurs, a giraffe and an ostrich.
- The museum was so big that I couldn't look at all of the skeletons because I wanted to see other things too.



The green section

- In this section of the museum we could see a huge gemstone collection full of beautiful crystals and gems.
- The museum had an insect collection too which was full of butterflies, spiders and a lot of other insects.
- We could see a huge trunk too which was fifteen feet tall.



The red section

- This section of the museum was my favourite and I learned the most from this.
- In this section we could see how volcanoes and earthquakes form and act. And we tried what it would be like if we were in an earthquake.
- Also there were sculptures of how monkeys evolved into humans.



Thank you for your attention

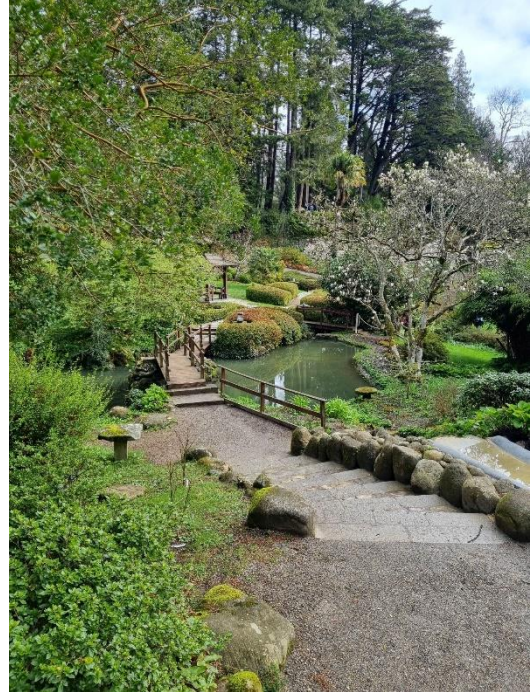
- Made by: Lázár Benedek 8.A
- Sources of images: Google images and my gallery
- I wrote about this museum because it surprised me with how it looked like from the outside and from the inside.

Powerscourt Estate

Powerscourt Estate House and Gardens is a grand country estate located in County Wicklow, Ireland. The estate is a popular tourist destination, attracting visitors from all over the world to its beautiful gardens, impressive house, and stunning views of the Wicklow Mountains.

Powerscourt House was originally built in the 18th century but has been restored over the years to its current glory. Visitors can explore the building and admire its beautiful structure, beautiful interior and antiques.

The Powerscourt gardens are equally impressive, spanning 47 acres and featuring a variety of plants, trees and flowers from around the world. Highlights include the Italian and Japanese gardens, a pet cemetery, and the famous Powerscourt Waterfall. The Japanese garden was my special favourite. All the colours, flowers, trees it had, they calmed me and with the river they also set a peaceful atmosphere in the garden. I haven't been to Japan, but this garden made me question my further plans (to once visit Japan).



Guests can enjoy many activities on land, such as horse riding, golfing and hiking. In addition, it offers a variety of dining options, including the stylish Terrace Café and Avoca Terrace Café, which offers delicious homemade treats.

Overall, Powerscourt Estate and Gardens is a must-see for anyone traveling to Ireland, with its mix of history, natural beauty (mostly this), and the great outdoors.

London

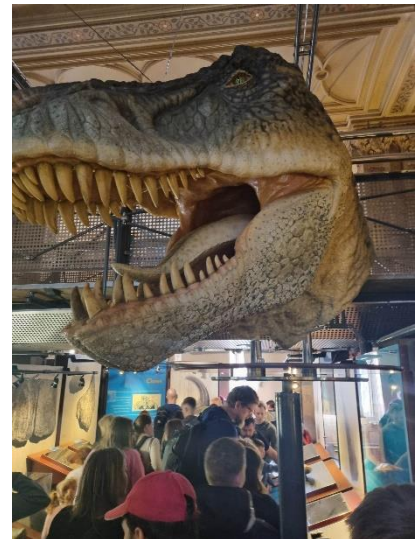
London is the capital and largest city of England and the United Kingdom. With a population of more than 8 million, it is one of the most populated cities in Europe. London is known for its rich history, culture and international influence in areas such as fashion, finance and art. Visitors to the city can explore world-famous landmarks such as Buckingham Palace, the Tower of London, the Natural History Museum, the Trafalgar Square and the British Museum. The city also has a fine dining scene, diverse cultures and lots of green spaces.



We started our journey with The Natural History Museum. Right when we entered we could see a huge skeleton (I



suppose it is a whale's) hanging from the roof. There are several exhibitions into the museum, but me and my friends started with (obviously) the dinosaurs. It wasn't as fascinating as I expected it to be, but still I was impressed. Another exhibition which caught my attention was the minerals and other interesting crystal formations.



Our next stop was at the Buckingham Palace. It was crowded with people, but we could still see the enormous neoclassical building. Then we visited the Monument erected to the Duke of York.



The Trafalgar Square was our following destination where we had some free time to explore the city. After that we closed the day with the London eye, where we had to wait in line for quite a long time, but it was worth it. Although I have a slight fear of heights I still enjoyed the ride and the view. I also managed to take a few beautiful picture of Big Ben.



All in all, I recommend visiting London for everyone, but I wish we had more time to explore the city.



Canterbury

Canterbury is a historic city located in the southeast of England, about 60 miles east of London. It is perhaps best known for its magnificent Cathedral, which dates back to the 11th century and is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The city has a rich history, having been an important center of pilgrimage during the Middle Ages, and was also the site of the murder of Thomas Becket, the Archbishop of Canterbury, in 1170.



Currently the Cathedral is being renovated (as the picture shows), so we weren't lucky enough to admire the whole building. But the inside was much more fascinating with all the archways and rose windows.



Besides churches, Canterbury has many other places such as ruins. One of the oldest churches in England, St. Augustine's Abbey was built in the 6th century. The city is also home to many museums, such as the Canterbury Roman Museum and the Beene House of Art and Knowledge.

Canterbury is a vibrant city with a vibrant arts scene, many shops, restaurants and cafes, and a thriving student population thanks to the University of Kent and Canterbury Christ Church University. The city is also well connected with excellent transport links to London and other major UK cities.

Overall, Canterbury is a great place to visit to see the face of England's rich culture and history.

You might ask why I chose these topics. Well, I chose Powerscourt, because of its natural beauty and with its huge spaces it makes the visitors feel relaxed, this is what I felt as well, so it has a great place in my memories.

I've made this presentation in chronological order, so the next one is London. The reason I chose it was because the day we'd spent our busiest day there and among all the influence a lot has stuck with me. Although I don't really like visiting museums the Natural History Museum was worth it. And I think the people of London would be upset, if I hadn't mentioned Big Ben.

I felt like I must bring a minimum amount of culture into this text, that's why I went with Canterbury. Canterbury is one of the most important religious centres (if not the most important) of the Anglican religion. And the architecture simply amazed me.

Levente Lázár 10.A

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Cathedrals of the UK and Ireland

During our big trip we visited several churches and cathedrals from these my special favourites are the breathtaking Salisbury Cathedral in England and the Saint Patrick's Cathedral in Dublin, Ireland.

On the second day of our trip we visited one of the oldest cathedrals in Britain. The Salisbury Cathedral is an 800-year-old masterpiece which is built in the shape of a cross. It took 38 years to build it using 60,000 tons of stone, 2,800 tons of oak and 420 tons of lead. The Cathedral's spire by its 123 meters is the highest in Britain. We had a chance to see the Magna Carta. This piece is the best preserved of only four surviving original parchments dating back to 1215 and is the only one on permanent display.



rainy weather and the Saint Patrick's Cathedral.

According to tradition, Saint Patrick used a nearby well to baptise converts to Christianity and a small church was built marking it as a sacred place near the heart of Dublin. The present building dates from 1220 and it has experienced and survived wars, revolutions, and a reformation. Saint Patrick's Cathedral is the National Cathedral of the Church of

Ireland, a member church of the Anglican Communion. Here is the door which took place in the feud between the Butlers of Ormonde and the Fitzgeralds of Kildare. In 1492 the Fitzgeralds fled here from the Butlers. After arguing through the Chapter House door, Gerald Fitzgerald thrust his arm through a hole in the door as an offer of peace. The Butlers accepted and peace was made, giving rise to the phrase "*to chance your arm*".



As a Christian myself it felt great to visit churches during the Easter period. We saw enormous and beautiful buildings and I am glad that I was a part of this lifetime experience.

What is the difference between England and Ireland?

Between March 29 and April 10, the Banyai's students and a few teachers travelled to Ireland and England to explore both countries. Both countries were beautiful and I would visit each of them again. In my opinion, the people in Ireland were friendlier than in England. Firstly, that's why I liked Ireland more than England. Secondly, there were a lot of natural places, and I particularly love those. My favourite places were Powerscourt, which is a breathtaking beautiful garden. I would put the Cliffs of Moher at the second place because they were incredible and you can't see anything like this anywhere else. And at the third place, there's Bunratty Castle and Folk Park. This place was interesting to me because it showed how people used to live in the past. However, when talking about the capitals, London would be the winner. That's why I put it to the fourth place on my list. There are more and, in my opinion, more exciting sights in London than in Dublin. I was sad because we only had one full day in London, and we couldn't see a lot of sights. During this study trip, we visited many cities and interesting places, and we learned a lot of interesting facts from our tour guide. During our trip, we stayed with families for four nights in Dublin and two nights in London. At first, I was worried about how I would communicate with the families, but on the first day when we arrived in Dublin, I realized that it was dumb to be afraid about that. This is my opinion about our trip.



Play Kahoot! Trip 2023 (Mihó Maja, Veliczky Zalán 10.A)

<https://play.kahoot.it/v2/?quizId=58fceb07-f43b-4066-a5d5-098f92e53540>

A résztvevők 50 kérdés alapján eleveníthetik fel emlékeiket, illetve felmérhetik, mennyi maradt meg a sok-sok információból, amely elhangzott az út során.

Az érdeklődők képet kaphatnak a különböző helyszínekkel kapcsolatos előzetes tudásukról és ugyanakkor sokat tanulhatnak a játék során.

(A játékhoz regisztrálni kell a Kahoot oldalán.)

Castles & their families

Ireland is home to tens of thousands of different castles. Despite the fact that they are a relatively small nation, this number is tremendous if you think about it. Some may only be in ruins nowadays, however, quite a lot survived in good condition and many got restored to their former glory.

These castles come from a great variety of ages, being built first by the Gaelic, who came to Ireland thousands (!!) of years ago. These were quite primitive buildings, held together by clay, pastes from plants, dung and water and they served as a form of protection against rival clans.

Everything changed, when the Vikings and the Normans started invading Ireland in the 12th century. They wanted to take whatever they could from the land and possibly even rule over it. However, with the destruction they brought onto the island, they also brought innovation and technology. Thus, lots of new castles were built in this era, which were sturdier and more fortified than ever. Moreover, they started using them not only for military purposes, but also for administrative and governmental purposes.

Over the centuries, these types of architecture spread all over Ireland, becoming more and more popular amongst higher ranking military people, lords, barons and several other high-profile positions.

Malahide Castle

This 12th century castle, which lies only 14 kilometres from the centre of Dublin, is one of the most fascinating ones in Ireland in my opinion! It has 260 acres of parkland, making it a pleasant location for a picnic, to walk your dog or if you simply want to cleanse your mind.

It served as a home for the Talbot family for 8 centuries, from 1185, until 1973, being only taken away from them once (from 1649 to 1660, then it was given back) during this unbelievably long period. This makes it the oldest castle owned by one single family in Ireland. The land was a gift from Henry II to Richard Talbot, who was one of his knights. The oldest parts of the castle date back to the 12th century, however, members of the family were always keen on upgrading the estate somehow. For example, it was significantly enlarged in 1765, with towers added.

There are also famous rumours about the family, such as the tale of the 14 cousins. It is said that the 14 cousins all sat down to eat breakfast in the great hall, after which they went to fight in the Battle of the Boyne. None of them made it alive until dinner.

After the death of 7th Baron Talbot in 1973, the castle passed to his sister, Rose. She could not pay the death duties, so she sold it to the Irish government in 1975, a decision which she always regretted.

During our visit, I asked the local guide whether the ancestors of the family are still alive. She said that they are, but what surprised me is that she also added that they often barge in to the castle, demanding to regain their glorious heritage. However, they are not willing to pay a penny for it, so the answer is always no.

Bunratty Castle

Located between Limerick and Ennis, it is a large 15th century tower house. It is in the centre of Bunratty village, where the river Ratty flows into the nearby river Shannon, the longest river on the British isles.

There were actually 3 castles in Bunratty before the one we can visit today! However, these all fell because of battles between the families wanting to own it, and it is uncertain where exactly they were located in the village.

The present structure was built by the MacNamara family, though it was quickly occupied by the O'Briens, the most powerful family in the area, who made it their chief seat.

This castle, unlike Malahide, often changed owners, with all of them adding something unique to the castle. What I liked particularly, is that many of the families' banners are on display in the castle, which truly shows just how many different people lived here.

Unfortunately, it got abandoned in the 19th century. Therefore, it became a complete mess, and the roof even collapsed. In 1956, Bunratty got purchased and it was completely restored in a 1600's style.

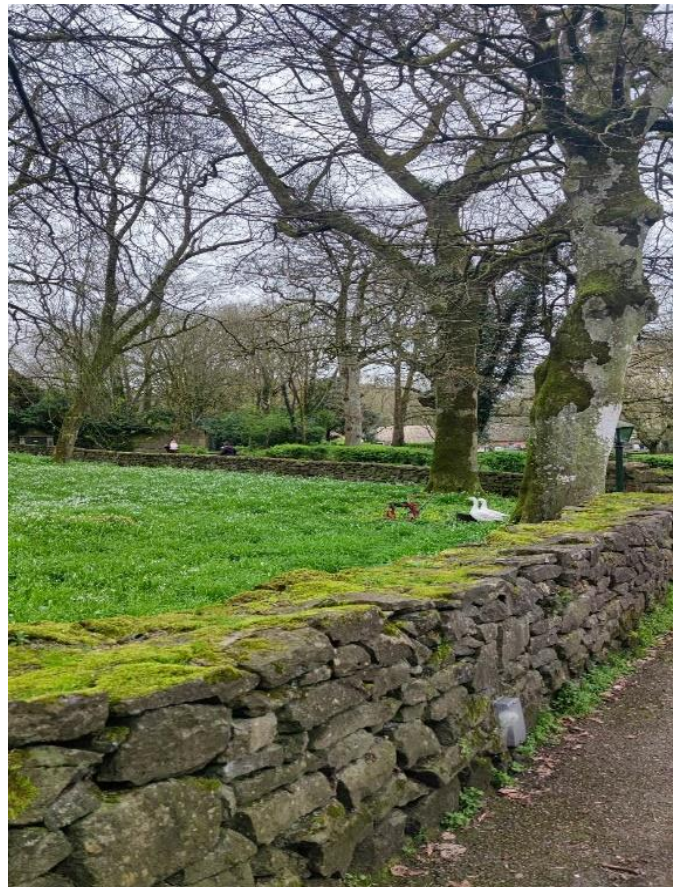
In addition to the castle, there is also a Folk Park around it which in my opinion shows quite well the conditions of how people of that age lived in the village. (Also, in the local buffet, they sell one of the best and most aesthetic apple pies I've ever eaten!)



Bunratty Castle



The earlier mentioned apple pie



Part of The Folk Park at Bunratty



The entrance to Malahide Castle



„Forte et Fidelite” - The motto of the Talbot family



The interior of Malahide castle



Also the interior of Malahide Castle

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My experience with Irish people

A subjective comparison between Irish and Hungarian people



Overall experience

This was my first time in Ireland and I had a complete cultural shock. It was crazy how different people were, compared to us. Of course, I can't speak for everybody, because we may have had different experiences with the Irish, so I want to clarify, that this is a personal opinion and I don't wish to upset anyone.

From what I saw, Irish people are a lot more open with tourists, while Hungarians are a bit more closed off with them. I think they are more used to them than us. Also in my experience, they are less likely to complain about problems. Their first priority is to solve them as soon as they can. In my opinion, our people can be a bit too dramatic, when it comes to problem-solving.

I also found their lifestyle quite interesting. Pubs are far more important than in our culture. Their purpose isn't always to get drunk and all messed up. It's more like a space where they connect with their friends and meet other people. I don't think that this kind of place is common in our country.



Fashion

As someone who's interested in fashion it was a unique experience to see different people dress over there. Of course the trends are usually worldwide, but still every country has their own version of them. For example, nowadays extremely tight pants are trendy, but Irish girls prefer a sporty, more casual look. They pair their leggings with some tank tops, hoodies or loose T-shirts, while Hungarian girls' pants are usually made of faux leather and they wear them with blouses for a more put together look. Boys' fashion doesn't have many differences, both nationalities wear tracksuits often. Hungarian boys though, more often than not, wear their hoodies with some jeans.

When it comes to older people, they too prefer a sportier outfit. You see a lot of middle aged people in activewear, moms usually go out in leggings and dads wear tracksuits most of the time. In Hungary, I think people would look weirdly if they wore outfits like those.

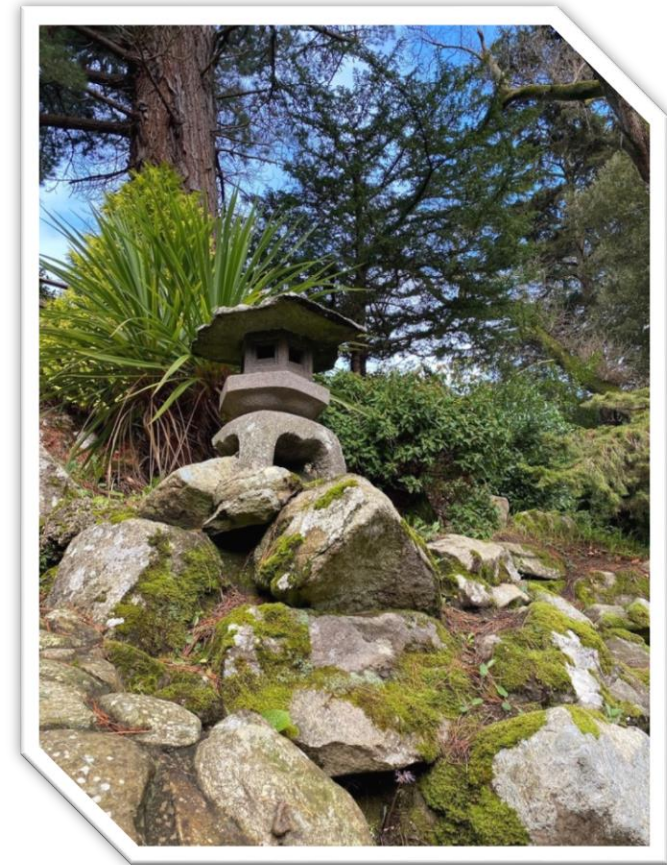


Cuisine

Irish cuisine is a lot different than ours, that's for sure. First of all, traditional Hungarian dishes are usually savoury most of the time, cooked with lots of spices and animal fats. If we crave something sweet, it's more common to have some fruits, but of course we have amazing pastries. However, traditional Irish food is a lot less savoury, and spicy. They cook with butter most of the time. Their main course consists of meat or fish, some kind of potatoes (for example mashed or roasted) and some additional vegetables like broccoli or carrots. They also don't really eat fruits, which was overall really strange to me. It wasn't that easy to find something to eat as a vegetarian, so I occasionally had to stop at supermarkets to make myself a little something.

Supermarkets are a lot different there too. First of all, you can find already cut fruit in plastic containers, which was a great option for a snack. We also went to the pastry isle and it was impossible to find any kind of bread other than toast bread. In Hungary, we prefer sourdough bread, which is far less sweet and not as soft.

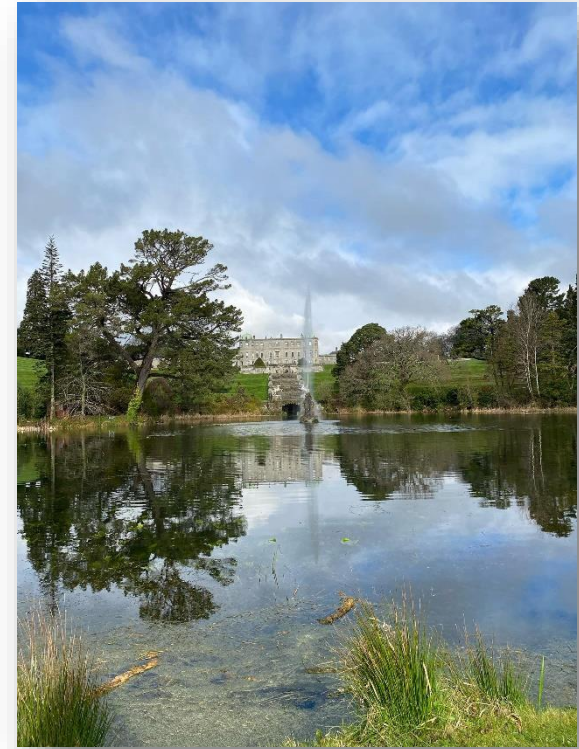
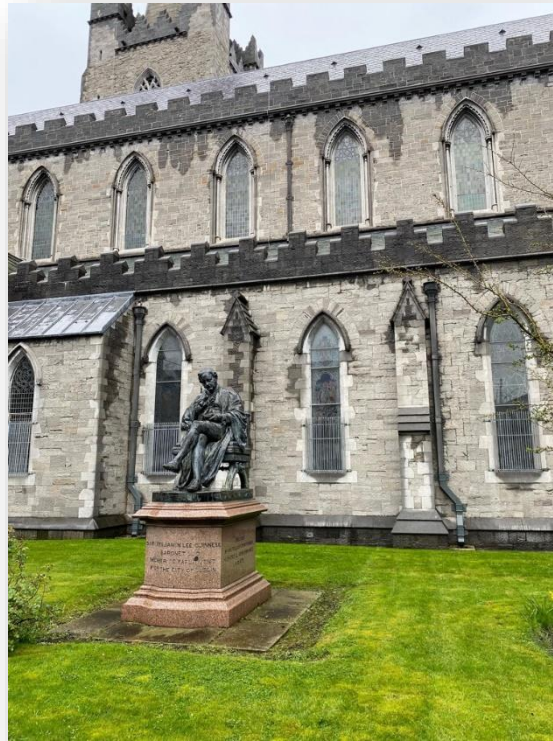
All in all, I wouldn't recommend Ireland food wise, to fellow vegetarians.



Harmful habits

In Europe, you can see a lot of people smoking cigarettes on the streets. In Ireland, that's not the case. They smoke these so called vapes, which are disposable e-cigarettes. Every age group uses them on a daily basis, our host mum even mentioned that her mother also vapes. She said it's because cigarettes cost almost 20 pounds and people find them really expensive.

As I mentioned it earlier there are quite a lot of pubs there, but the culture of drinking is very different. While Hungarians usually drink homemade spirits, which have a high percentage of alcohol, Irish people are known for their whisky and Guinness, which is a kind of beer.



Nagy Ninett

9. a

My favourite sights in Ireland



The Cliffs of Moher



About the Cliffs of Moher

The Cliffs of Moher, located on the west coast of Ireland near the town of Liscannor in County Clare, are an iconic natural landmark that offers breathtaking views of the Atlantic Ocean and the surrounding coastline.

Rising up to 214 meters above the sea, these cliffs boast sheer rock faces, lush greenery, and stunning coastal scenery. The raw beauty of the cliffs, featured in numerous films and beloved by photographers, captures the imagination and leaves visitors in awe.

Beyond the mesmerizing landscapes, the Cliffs of Moher are also home to diverse wildlife. Puffins, guillemots, razorbills, and other bird species soar through the skies above, while seals can often be spotted resting on the rocks below.

Moreover, the Cliffs of Moher hold cultural and historical significance in Ireland. They have inspired folklore, myths, and legends, serving as a testament to Irish heritage and identity.



My experience

Visiting the Cliffs of Moher was an amazing experience. The tall cliffs and stunning views were incredibly impressive. The gorgeous sights took my breath away and filled me with awe for this natural wonder.

Among all the beautiful views, one moment stood out the most. When I stood at the edge and looked out at the vast Atlantic Ocean, I felt extremely excited. The crashing waves, rocky coast, and endless horizon were enchanting. It was a peaceful moment that made me realize how big the world is.

We were lucky to see some of the wildlife there too. Graceful seabirds flying above us were an amazing sight.



My experience

Exploring the cliffs with my friends made the experience even more special. We laughed, took careful steps closer to the edge, and enjoyed the stunning scenery together.



Being surrounded by such natural beauty and tranquility had a strong impact on me. It reminded me to slow down and cherish the beauty around us.

Powerscourt House & Gardens



About Powerscourt House & Gardens

Powerscourt Gardens, nestled in the picturesque County Wicklow in Ireland, is a captivating destination that offers an enchanting blend of natural beauty, historical significance, and cultural experiences. Spread over 47 acres at the base of the Wicklow Mountains, these gardens are a haven for nature enthusiasts and history buffs alike.

Powerscourt Gardens are conveniently located just a short drive away from Dublin, making them easily accessible to visitors. The gardens were originally established in the 18th century and have been meticulously maintained and enhanced over the years.

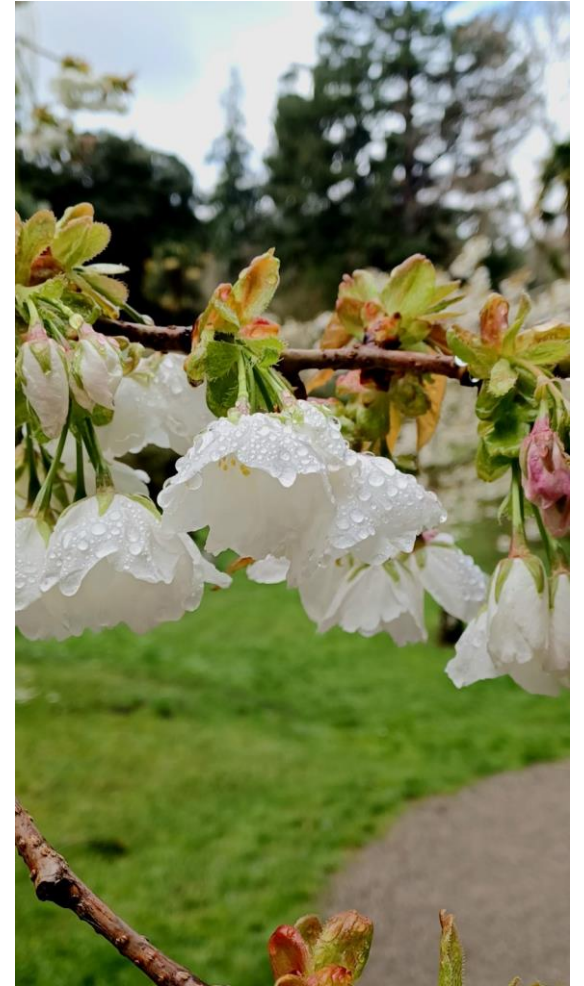
The gardens boast several notable features that make them truly special. The Italian Garden, with its geometric precision, showcases stunning terraces, elegant sculptures, and ornamental lakes, transporting visitors to a different time and place.

The Japanese Garden, on the other hand, offers a tranquil and contemplative experience with its carefully arranged plants, soothing streams, and traditional Japanese design elements.



My experience

During my school trip to Powerscourt Gardens, I was completely mesmerized by its enchanting beauty. The colorful formal gardens filled with vibrant flowers felt like a fairytale come to life. The breathtaking views from the grand terraces brought a sense of tranquility and awe. The serene lakes reflecting the greenery created a peaceful atmosphere, and exploring the wooded areas felt like stepping into a magical world. Powerscourt Gardens left a lasting impression on my heart, reminding me of the incredible wonders of nature.



Malahide Castle

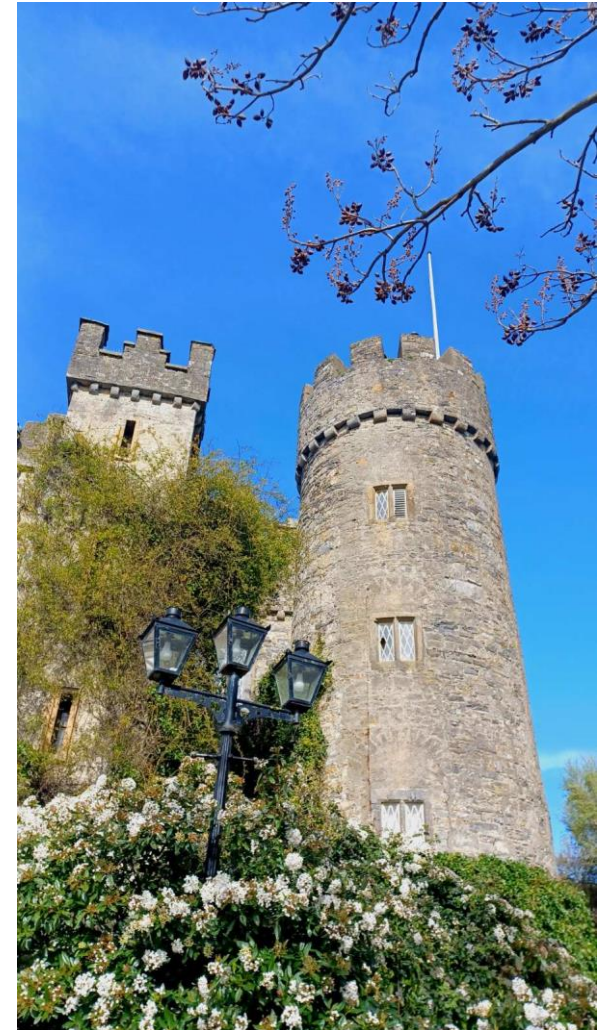


About The Malahide Castle

Malahide Castle is a captivating castle nestled in the charming town of Malahide, near Dublin, Ireland. With a history spanning over 800 years, it holds a significant place in Ireland's heritage.

The castle was constructed in the 12th century by Richard Talbot, who accompanied King Henry II to Ireland. It remained in the hands of the Talbot family for nearly eight centuries. Throughout its history, Malahide Castle witnessed various architectural transformations, with notable modifications taking place during the 18th century.

Apart from the castle itself, the surrounding grounds provide a delightful experience. Exploring the castle gardens and parkland reveals a picturesque landscape filled with diverse flora. Serene walking paths lead visitors through the enchanting scenery, while a walled garden showcases a vibrant array of plants and flowers.



My experience

During our trip to Malahide Castle, I had an unforgettable experience. The castle's rich history fascinated me, and the guided tour was both informative and captivating. Exploring the castle's interior gave me a sense of the grandeur and legacy that it held.

One aspect that stood out to me was the castle's gardens and parkland. The landscape was breathtaking, and the sunny weather enhanced the beauty of the surroundings.



My experience

The botanic gardens were my absolute favorite. As I stepped inside, I was greeted by a vibrant display of plants and flowers, bursting with beautiful colors. The garden's design was enchanting, and the sweet fragrance of the blossoms filled the air. I was delighted to see butterflies fluttering around, adding a touch of magic to the experience.



Powerscourt Estate

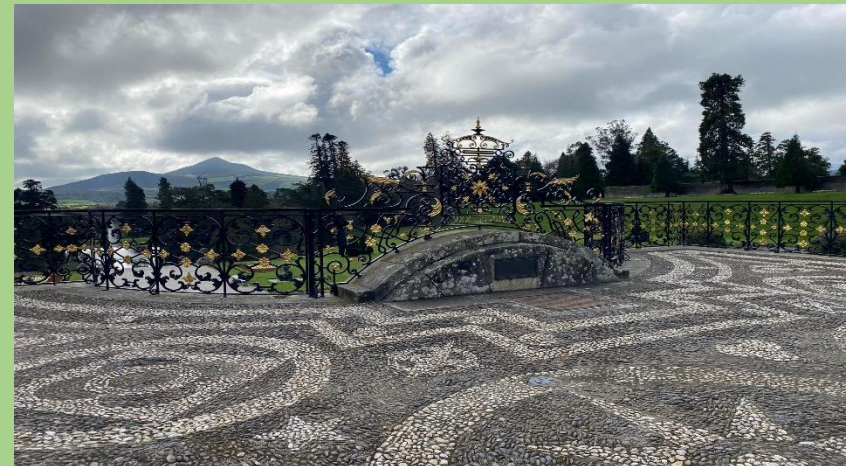
Németh Lora 10.A

In my opinion, Powerscourt Estate is a place where everyone can find a sight they will like. For example, every nature-lover must enjoy visiting the colorful gardens. The visitors are offered at least 3 type of gardens: Italian Garden, The Walled Garden and the Japanese Garden. Beside these magnificent gardens visitors can also wander in the woods spectating marvelous flowers and other plants. Bori and me took a lot of photos of trees and blooming flowers. My favourite part was the Japanese Garden. The specific reason I really enjoyed being there is I find Japanese culture fascinating and beautiful. The cherry trees, stone lanterns and a cute bridge gave off a vibe which really caught my attention. I think all of my friends loved the Japanese Garden. The art-lovers can find carefully-carved sculptures all around the whole estate. Personally, I am not really interested in sculptures, but there were admirable ones. I am not the type of person who says „Oh, let’s go hiking or why don’t we go and explore nature”, but this place kind of opened my eyes. It showed me how extremely beautiful our planet is. Powerscourt Estate was my favourite place to visit during our journey. I am really glad we went there and I could explore this amazing place with my friends.



History

- The 1st Viscount Powerscourt was keen to make his mark and assert his position as one of importance in society, so he set about transforming the medieval castle at Powerscourt into a grand mansion.
- The North front was adapted to present a grand entrance in the Palladian manner, while the South front faced the gardens and was initially only two storeys in height. An extra storey was added in 1787 and further major alterations were made in the late 19th century. The house contained some of the finest 18th century interiors in Ireland and was one of the country's most beautiful mansions. In 1961, the Slazenger family purchased the Estate from the 9th Viscount Powerscourt.
- In 1730 he commissioned the German-born architect Richard Castle to build Powerscourt House, a 68 room mansion which was completed in 1741. The mansion was designed around the medieval castle in the style of Palladian architecture and featured baroque dome-roofed towers on either side, giving it in the words of one architectural historian, "The massive dignity of a great Italian Renaissance villa."



Italian Garden

- One of the most striking features of the Italian Gardens is the pair of life sized Winged Horses which watch over Triton lake. They are made of zinc and form part of the family coat of arms. They were created by Professor Hugo Hagen in Berlin in 1869. The fountain in this dramatic lake is based on the fountain in the Piazza Barberini in Rome.



Triton Lake

The Walled Garden

- The walled gardens are one of the oldest parts of the Gardens and feature fascinating plants along Ireland's largest herbaceous border. The Walled Gardens were once known as 'The Kitchen Garden' as vegetable and fruit trees once grew here to keep the family kitchen well stocked. Today you will spot some tasty apples during the autumn.
- Take a quiet moment and relax beside the small fountain in the centre of the garden. This fountain was collected by Lord Powerscourt in London and he considered a fountain of its quality "difficult to find" and thus a prized possession.



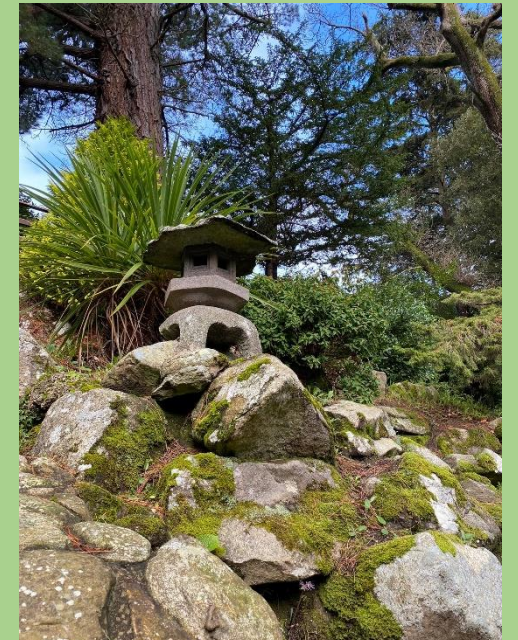
The Walled Garden

- In the Walled Garden you will find 'Julia's Memorial', a calm reflective pond built in honour of the 7th Viscountess by her son. Her husband Mervyn, the 7th Viscount also named the bust of a lady at the front of the house "Empress Julia".

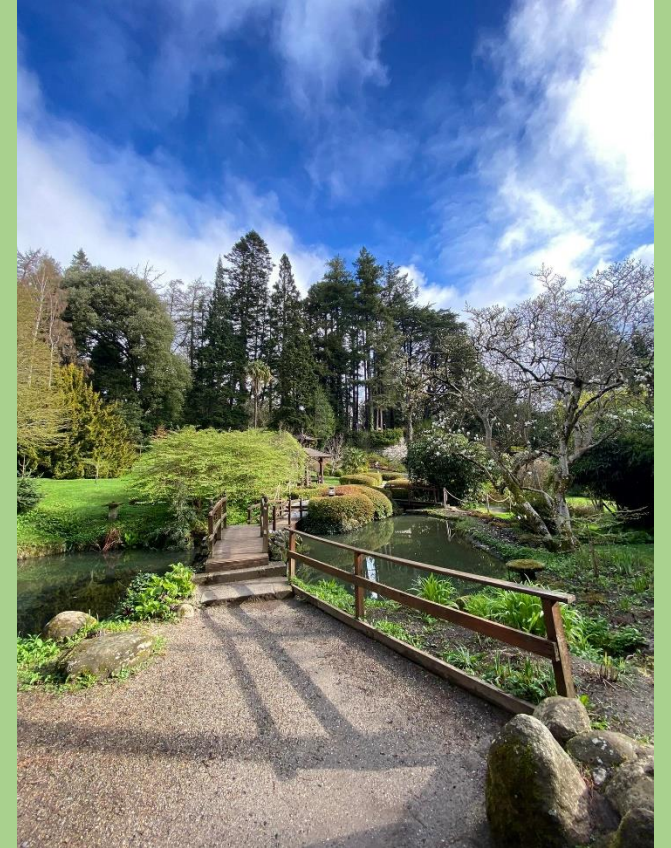


Japanese Garden

- Get a glimpse into a different world in the Japanese garden, created by the 8th Viscount and Viscountess Powerscourt in 1908. This beautiful mythical garden was created on the reclaimed bogland south of Triton Lake over 100 years ago.
- The Japanese Garden looks wonderful in spring when the azaleas are in full bloom and their blossoms perfume the air, and in autumn with the vibrant colours of the Japanese maples. Stone lanterns will guide you through the winding paths of the garden, bringing you to its innermost circle.

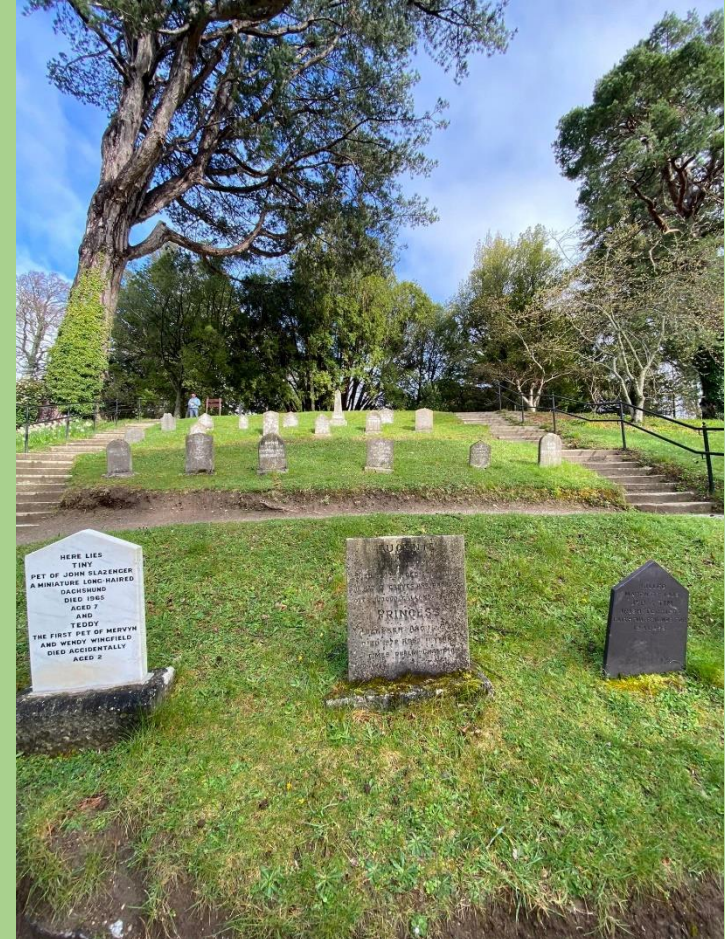


Japanese Garden



Pets Cemetery

- A unique and fascinating part of the Gardens is the Pet Cemetery which is the resting place of the much loved pets of the Wingfield and Slazenger families. It's situated in a quiet part of the gardens where you can enjoy the striking colours of Azaleas, Rhododendrons and Roses in May and June. The cemetery is believed to be the largest pets' cemetery in any private Irish garden.

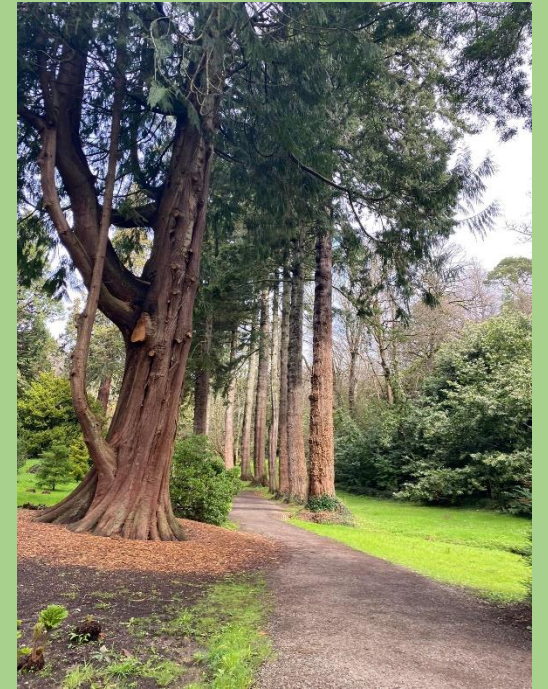


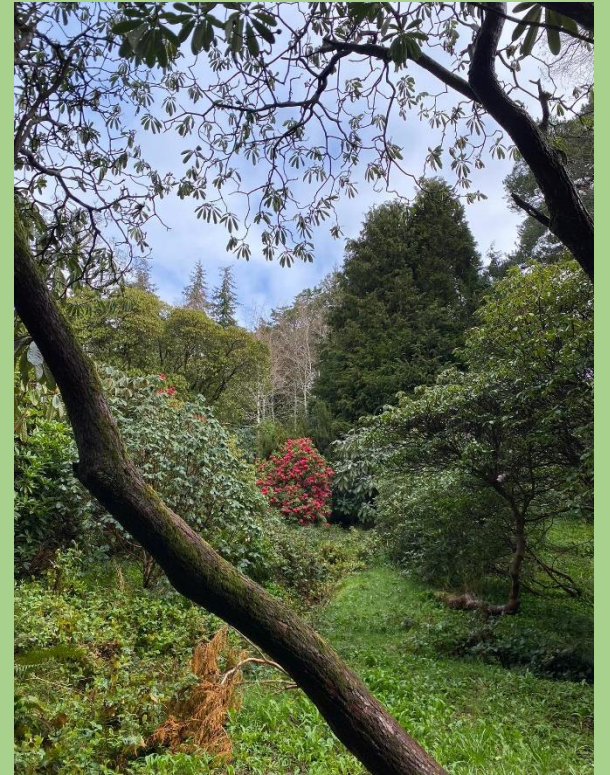
The Pepperpot Tower

- When you stroll beyond the Japanese Gardens, you will come upon Tower Valley surrounded by stunning variety of trees. Here you will find the Pepperpot Tower which was modelled on a pepperpot from Lord Powerscourt's dining table! It is from this that Tower Valley received its distinctive name.



More pictures





Forrás:<https://powerscourt.com> (for the formal information)

Thank You for the attention!

Trip to Ireland

From 29th of March to 10th of April I was one of the lucky person from the 8th grade who could take part to this unforgettable school excursion.

During my school trip to Ireland, I had the opportunity to experience some amazing cuisine and accommodation. Although I have been to England and Paris, the food in Ireland was quite different.

One thing that struck me about the food was that Irish people (as I experienced) don't really eat vegetables, but especially not fruits. I ate often at Mcdonalds or in other fast food restaurants, also I sometimes bought food in petrol stations and local shops. however when I stayed with the first host family in Dublin I got a lunch pack and dinner, which was very tasty. As I remember first, we got pizza for dinner, the other day it was meat, but I forgot what was the garnish, then I think we ate falafel, but I am not sure. The last day we got curry, that was delicious. The lunch pack usually consisted of 2 sandwiches, cereal bar, nuts, crisps and water of course. We also got a lunch pack in the Cardiff hostel. In London, the woman that we stayed at did us a pizza on the first and we ate chicken at the second night. It was good, but I preferred the Irish food more. There were a lot of candy, which are not sold at home. For example Dairy milk, Nerds,

As for accommodation, first we stayed at the Premiere Classe Hotel in Belgium. I ended up in a room with my friend Adél and I was happy about that. Unfortunately the room, was not in a good condition. The next day we stayed in the Youth Hostel in Cardiff, which was better, but half of the girls stayed in one room, so it was cramped and the woman was really kind. On 1st of April we stayed with the host familys. I stayed there with 3 other girls, who were very kind. The family had a daughter, I think she was 5 or 6 years old. The man and the woman was friendly and helpful, but they were not talkative. We stayed there 6 nights. On the 6th of April we stayed in Cardiff for the second time. The other day, me and a girl stayed at a woman, who was sweet and friendly, but her house was a bit dirty. We stayed there 2 nights. Then we went to the Formula 1 Hotel near Paris. After the Irish host family this hotel was my favourite, because it was modern and clean, although the shower was in the hallway. On 9th of April we went to Metz and I stayed in one room with 2 of my friends. While I did not have as much exposure to traditional Irish cuisine as I would have liked, the food that I did have was delicious, and however the accommodations were not perfect they were memorable.

Overall, my school trip was a wonderful experience that I will never forget.

Nyirády Jázmin 8.A

‘I have seen the writing on the wall’

Already at the beginning of this trip, it was forming in my mind that I should make my presentation about the signs on the streets of Ireland and England. These contribute so much to the feeling one gets about a city or country and even the people that live there. One can walk to the bin to throw their gum out, tutting away because of the many people that did not bother to do the same, or one can also go there, look up at the sign above, smile, and perhaps feel better than all those people while cherishing the little but happy alliance that formed this way between them and the one that put the sign up. I would rather live where people choose the second option. On the right, you see the example mentioned.

The sign reads ‘143 bins in Bath city centre, please use 1 for your gum’.

During the trip, this idea turned into not only signs but inscriptions and cute little notes on coffee shops, too.



When he was little, a friend of mine - who is not the kind to go around touching 100-year-old art-pieces by the way - got a little too curious at a museum here in Hungary and was immediately met with a well-aimed ‘mindent a szemnek, semmit a kéznek’ by a stern-looking attendant. We use this phrase - which does not have an English equivalent - generously. On the British Isles though, they found many different ways of saying this or even upright its opposite:



And these are examples of the latter:



Toilets are also great places for finding funny and ingenious or simply useful signs.



This one of course is more on the useful side, as had it not been for the sign, I would never have guessed not to crouch on the toilet like in the middle picture at the bottom.

In 2020, Scotland became the first country in the whole world to make period products free. Although I'm not aware of such a law in Ireland yet, they seem to have similar aspirations.



They also give advice on vastly different subjects in public toilets, and I hope everybody keeps both of these pieces of advice in mind. (Although the clogged toilet on the left suggests otherwise.)



The restrooms aren't free of terrible dad jokes either.



And this is just a little speciality, because I'd never seen WC spelled this way and I actually hadn't been aware before, that it stands for 'water closet', if you are wondering like I was.

Other honourable mentions that require little to no explanation:



You should know it's not only called Hanover Place, also it's not Erunswick Street.



Because you can't ban drinking in a park in London – what would the people do on rainy Wednesday afternoons – but you can ban 'Anti-social Alcohol Consumption' so nobody gets upset.



I had never wanted to be a child left unattended so bad in my life.

Of course they have a particular sign to say not to golf in a park just because it has grass...

And lastly, to honour those beautiful - and delightfully differently than spelled – sounding Irish names:



TRIP TO IRELAND

Cathedrals, churches and abbeys



SALISBURY CATHEDRAL



- Located in Salisbury
- Formal name: Cathedral Church of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- Anglican cathedral
- Gothic style
- Years built: 1220-1230
- Built in the shape of a cross
- Tallest church spire in the UK (123 m)
- Britain's largest Cathedral Cloisters
- Oldest mechanic clock in the country (from 1386)
- One of the four original copies of Magna Carta can be found here
- First cathedral to create a girls' choir
- Interesting fact: the cathedral is built on 1,2 meters of foundations → during our visit a kind lady showed us the depth of the water with the help of a rod

ST PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL



- Located in Dublin
- Roman Catholic cathedral
- Established in 1191
- Saint Patrick is the most famous saint in Ireland
- National Cathedral of the Church of Ireland
- Music has been fundamental to the daily life of the Cathedral since its foundation
- The author of Gulliver's Travels (Jonathan Swift) was the Dean of the Cathedral
 - His pulpit, death mask and a cast of his skull can be found here
- There were a lot of interactive part where we could learn more about the history of the building

ABBNEY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



- Located in Dublin
- Decorated Gothic building
- Founded in 1864
- It is near the Garden of Remembrance

ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL



- Situated on the highest point of Kilkenny
- Roman Catholic cathedral
- Established in 1842
- Gothic style
- Visited in our free time
- Has a beautiful apse inside and it was really peaceful

BATH ABBEY



- Located in Bath
- Roman Catholic abbey
- Years built: 1499-1611
- The first king of all England, King Edgar was crowned on the site in 973
- We only visited the The Roman Baths next to the abbey

ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST'S CHURCH



- Located in Bath
- Victorian architecture
- Construction started in 1861
- Roman Catholic
- Saw this during our free time in Bath

ST MARY LE STRAND



- Located in London
- Anglican church
- Construction started in 1714
- Strand was the first road in London to have a numbered address
- Gothic style
- Saw this during our free time in London

ST MARTIN-IN-THE-FIELDS



- Located on the corner of Trafalgar Square in London
- Famous for its music
- Burial place of many artists
- Built in 1722
- Neoclassical style
- The church has a close relationship with the Royal Family
- Saw this during our free time in London

WESTMINSTER ABBEY



- Located in London, close to Big Ben
- Anglican church
- Gothic style
- It is one of London's architecturally and historically significant monuments
- Location of the coronations of 40 monarchs, and a burial site for 18 monarchs (King Charles coronation took place here on 6 May 2023)
- Saw from the bus

CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL



- One of Europe's most important pilgrimage centres
- In 1170 the Archbishop was murdered
- In my opinion, it has the most beautiful cloister (it was planned to shoot a Harry Potter scene here, but the authorities refused the permission) → the cloister was the centre of monastic life
- In the Crypt, which is the oldest part of the Cathedral we could see some of the oldest Christian wall paintings in the country

LES INVALIDES (DOME DES INVALIDES)



- Located in Paris
- It also includes museums related to the military history of French
- Also known as the Royal Chapel
- The tallest church in Paris
- The tomb of Napoleon and the tombs of other military figures can be found here
- My favourite building from the trip, firstly, because of its interior and I was enchanted by the dome
- Behind the dome there is the Saint-Louis-des-Invalides Cathedral → we could hear the beautiful sound of the organ

SAINT-GERMAIN L'AUXERROIS



- Situated directly across from the Louvre Palace, in Paris
- Roman Catholic church
- Built in the 13th century
- Played a significant role during the wars of religion
- Saw it from the bus

CHURCH OF SAINT-SÉVERIN



- Roman Catholic church
- Construction began in 1230
- Gothic style
- It was the parish church for students at the University of Paris
- Saw it from the bus

NOTRE-DAME OF PARIS



- Meaning: Our Lady of Paris
- Catholic cathedral
- Located on an island in the Seine River
- French Gothic style
- Had been built from 1163 till 1345
- Dedicated to the Virgin Mary
- Enormous and colourful rose windows can be found
- Unfortunately, a fire broke out in the roof space of the building (the cathedral's spire had collapsed, most of its roof had been destroyed, and its upper walls were severely damaged) → still under reconstruction
- I am lucky, because I saw this building before it had burnt down

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https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Saint-S%C3%A9verin,_Paris

Irish pubs

Recently, I was given a chance to take part in a 13 day long journey around the world with my secondary grammar school. Our main destination was Dublin, Ireland. In this essay, I will briefly present what we learned about the notorious Irish pubs.

To start with, Irish pubs are widely regarded as a cultural heaven or a gathering social place. For most of us, these venues are just a place to drink beverages, but for local citizens, they are a source of experience. The pleasant atmosphere, live music, and the broadened variety on the menu enchanted the community for centuries.

During our stay, we were able to gain an insight into these magnificent establishments. On day 4, we were given a considerable amount of spare time to explore



these well-known bars. Unluckily, it was a tremendously rainy day, therefore every tourist and civilian streamed into the pubs. Thus, almost every place was jam-packed with people and no room was left for us. First, we tried to enter the illustrious Temple Bar, but unfortunately, me and my friends were kicked out of it due to the restricted age limit. Nevertheless, I can share a few minute details about it. It is

situated on the south bank of the River Liffey. The interior of the place is decorated with distinctive characteristics such as iconic symbols of the Irish culture like the Guinness harp. Speaking of which, the Guinness dark beer is one of the most consumed boozes among the Irish. It originally comes from Ireland, and we also had the opportunity to take a look at the Guinness beer factory. Another liquid, which must be mentioned is the famous Irish whiskey. There are plenty of Irish whiskey factories, for instance, Jameson, Bushmills, and Kilbeggan. Moreover, it is interesting that bars have a reputation for serving a caffeinated alcoholic drink, the so-called Irish coffee. Furthermore, it is



worth mentioning that in these pubs, there is usually a railed-off space for different events. Sometimes people watch sports games together or try their luck on slot machines. It is widely held that it is never lucrative in the long run for an individual to gamble on this machinery.

Generally speaking, the inception of Irish pubs can be traced back to ancient Ireland. That time, domestic get-togethers were an important aspect of society. Later, between the 17th and 18th centuries taverns became widespread throughout Ireland. However, the introduction of whiskey was the pioneer of Irish bars. As a matter of fact, it has undeniably developed the appearance of the pubs we know today.

As I previously said, we could not get to Temple Bar. Nonetheless, we spent our leisure time in other alehouses, where underaged kids



were allowed to enter. Quite frankly, we had a pleasurable afternoon and it immensely enhanced the link between us.



In conclusion, it could easily be justified that Irish pubs are much more than mere drinking establishments. They offer a joy that goes beyond the consumption of alcohol. In my opinion, they serve as a fundamental part of Irish hospitality and legacy. I could firmly advocate visiting one if it is possible. Trust me, it is a lifelong experience. Finally, I want to sincerely thank my teachers again for this unforgettable trip.

Papp Barnabás 10.A

Irish Cuisine

Ireland is a relatively small island nation located in western Europe. Despite the fact that the northern part of the island is the territory of the United Kingdom the cuisines of the Republic of Ireland and the Kingdom of Northern Ireland are quite similar.

The Island has been inhabited for almost 15.000 years but its population remained homologous. A few thousand years before even the concept of Jesus was born the main source of food for the people on the island was scavenging and the sea. In later times when people first started farming crops and animals the acidic soil didn't allow much variety. The main two crops were wheat and barley and while doing this they also started to keep goat and pig for the cause of eating them. Some time later sheep became one of the main sources of meat on the island.

Nowadays the signature crop of Ireland is potato, but how did it become so important? In the late 16th when the British invaded the island they brought



Shepherd's pie

potato with them as well. This was a huge deal on the island as people cultivated the plant more and more as it could withstand harsher weather and it required less care compared to wheat and barley. This made the vegetable so popular in Ireland, it was the perfect crop for their environment. As the whole region became so addicted to potato it became vulnerable as well. The great potato famine was an event in 1845 when poor harvest resulted in one million deaths and one million emigrated.



Irish stew

After the famine the Ireland's agriculture became more varied and chicken was introduced as a food source among commoners. During this time dairy products and beef were important ingredients in Irish food. In the 20th century traditional cuisine found a decrease in popularity but in the beginning of the 3rd millennia traditional Irish cuisine became an important part of the lives of the people of Ireland.



Smithwicks red ale

The other important part of the cuisine of this country is of course its beverages. Of course everyone knows about how Irish whiskey is one of the best in the world and that the Irish drink more beer than water but what more can this nation offer?

Of course as stated Irish whiskey is very popular around the world as the first whiskeys produced on the island date back to the 11th century. The other popular Irish drink is beer, more precisely Guinness. Guinness is one of if not the most

popular beers on the planet, but it is rather new considering that the Irish made beer all the way back in the bronze age. The other popular Irish beer is the red ale which is made from kilned malts and barley.

Ireland can offer two other iconic alcoholic beverages one of them being Baileys. This Irish alcohol is a cream liqueur made from whiskey and cocoa. And last but not least perhaps the most interesting beverage in Ireland is mead. Mead is a really special drink as it is very similar to beer but is made from honey. This makes the drink have a very distinguished taste. The drink originates from the vikings and later brought to Ireland in the 5th century.



Mead

With these in mind the only thing left undone is going to Ireland and trying out the traditional Irish cuisine.

Pásztor Bálint 11.A

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The Colours of Ireland

Prausz Réka 11.B

Ireland will always hold a special place in my heart. During the school trip lifelong memories had been made. Since I couldn't choose only one from them, I decided to select the colours of the Irish flag (green represents Catholics, white the lasting peace between Catholics and Protestants, orange represents Protestants) and connect a picture to them. It helps me to show what impression has made on me Ireland.

Let's start with the colour green. It seemed to be a new definition in Ireland. As the landscape was dominated by the vast greenery, all the shades of it were beautiful. Now, I can actually understand why Ireland is called the Emerald Isle. The picture shows the view from Rock of Cashel.



In the sky there were always some clouds. In majority they were white, although when it was raining they could be actually greyish. Otherwise when the sun shined and it was cloudy at the same time, it looked like there were lambs in the sky. In the picture you can see the view from Powerscourt Estate's park. The sky was overcast the whole time we spent there.



Lastly the colour orange. At first, I thought about the redbrick walls of the houses in Dublin. I know they are called redbrick, but I think they are rather orange. Especially when the weather was sunny they were lovely, like dollhouses. They were built mainly in the so called Georgian and Victorian era, in the 18th and 19th century.



Thursday, 11 May 2023

Myths and Legends of Ireland



As you can know there was a trip to Ireland and I travelled with the school too. It was almost a two weeks “holiday” in early April and we stayed a week on the emerald island. We saw a lot of places from Dublin to the Cliffs of Moher. During the journey we encountered many myths and legends.

The first legend is more of a superstition. Moreover it's not one but three in one place, the Campanile of Trinity College Dublin, which is a bell tower in the middle of the college. One superstition is that any student who passes beneath the campanile when the bell rings will fail their exams, because of it some students never pass under it. Another superstition is that when a virgin stands under the bell, it will automatically ring. And related to this is the third superstition, it's that the bell helps the virgin not to be a virgin anymore.



The second is a myth about the monster of the River Shannon, which is the largest river in Ireland. The monster, Cata, described as having a horse mane, whale's tail, thick feet, gleaming eyes and nails of iron. Supposedly it was defeated by a patron saint. However in the last few decades there have been sightings of a monster in Louth Ree and there is a festival to investigate and celebrate the possibility.



The next is a short legend of “The Wishing Cross”. It's in Glendalough, the St Kevin's Cross and it's almost four meters high. The legend is that anyone who comes to the cross should try to embrace it. If they can wrap their arms fully around it and touch their fingers on the other side they have a wish, if they can cross their fingers they have three wishes.



The fourth legend was happened at the Cliffs of Moher. There was a witch, Mal, she fell deeply in love with a great warrior, but he didn't return her love. The hag wouldn't be denied and began chasing the warrior all about Ireland. He ended up south of the cliffs and leaped to an island. Mal continued the chase, she could leaped to the island with a gust of wind. The warrior quickly leaped back and the witch leaped again but fell short without the help of wind. The rocks, now



named Hag's Head, was said to take the shape of Mal's profile and remains visible to this day.

My favourite legend is the last and the Cliffs of Moher is very beautiful. We encountered also some ghost and another mythical places, but I won't tell you them now and the ones described above are the best. If somebody curious find out more, there are many Irish myths.



Source:

- My memories
- [https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Campanile_\(Trinity_College_Dublin\)](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Campanile_(Trinity_College_Dublin))
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Rác Bognárka 11.B

Ireland Pt.1: Scenes from a Memory

Foreword:

I'm Schweibert Bálint and this is my record of the Ireland trip with Bányai. At the beginning I decided to write a diary, so I sat down every night and wrote in it. In this brief journal entry I tried to write down my experiences of the trip. I had a lot of them so here I'm just scratching the surface. Nevertheless, I hope you'll enjoy witnessing the journey from my point of view. (All the wonderful pictures were taken by my friend Fekete Balázs and by our sometimes silly but otherwise amazing teacher Geleta Mihály.)

Memories from Day 1:

We set off at 1:30 in the morning. This is far from the ideal time. The bus has a rather pleasant atmosphere. We arrived in Belgium in the late afternoon. We stayed in a motel called Premiere Classe, which is famous for having as big rooms as a small van. In the evening I tried to take a bath, which turned out to be a really bad idea because the bathroom has a floor area of about 1.5m² and the water was either 5°C or 40°C and there was next to no transition. Our private chemist showed up with a 5 days old block of cheese which we immediately banned from the building. All these aside I had a lovely 2 hours of sleep because with my friends as responsible students discussed the vicissitudes of life instead of sleeping.



Day 2:

We left the hotel in the dark in order to reach our ferry. On the way I started identifying roadside churches according to their style, which is strange because my knowledge of art history is equal to that of an elephant.



With the ferry we arrived at the Cliffs of Dover (there is also a song with the same name by Eric Johnson, I strongly recommend it). The landscape and the view is wonderful, the grass is lush green, sheep are everywhere, just like in the movies. András, our tour guide, provides us with a lot of useful information, and fortunately he has a good sense of humor. We visited the Salisbury Chatedral, where the Magna Charta Libertatum is kept, but what is more important is its beautiful organ, which unfortunately I did not try out.

Today's hotel will remain an eternal experience. 22 boys in one room with two shower cubicles. There were critical moments but other than that the situation was quite orderly.



Day 3:

I'm alive! Today's ferry trip was the most unpleasant 3 hours of my life. I felt between life and death. Luckily, the teachers were helpful and nice, so I could survive the armageddon of the sea. In the night we arrived to the first family we're staying at in Ireland. Our hosts are extremely kind and there is even a piano in the house.

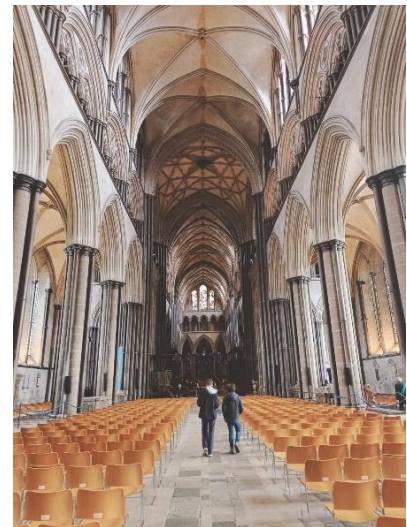


Day 4:

In the morning, after gathering everyone up, we targeted St. Patrick's Cathedral. The cathedral itself, although it was beautiful, didn't really impress me. I was much more interested in the organ. For half an hour we were thinking about ways to get close to it. On the way out I bought an Irish hat, which I still can't decide if it suits me well or badly. In the center of Dublin there is a 120m high needle statue, which even the locals say is a waste of money. After that we visited a famous university with the help of a kind former student of our school, who is now studying there. Finally, we went to Dublin's most famous street, to Grafton Street, which is a



crowded but pleasurable place. We saw a lot of street performers, including a Scottish bagpiper, we went into a guitar store to buy an Irish pick and then into a record/book shop, which became one of my favourite shops of my life. I bought Iron Maiden's „Somewhere in Time” album. We ended the day by going to an Irish pub. The only problem was that it was raining like hell and everything was full of people. Approximately 1.5 hours later we found a fast food-like restaurant where we could eat something soaked to the skin. For dinner our hosts gave us some beef stew, which really differs from the thing we call beef stew but it was surprisingly delicious (While editing it I realised that it was Shepherd's Pie but it wasn't in a pie form and they didn't call it that for some reason). All in all, I thoroughly enjoyed the day.



Day 5:

In the morning we almost missed the bus but fortunately we didn't. We visited Powerscourt, which is a castle with a wonderful garden. Then we went to the St. Kevin Monastery Village. After that we spent some hours in the garden of Malahide Castle. Overall, so far I'm very pleased with everything (although the record I bought yesterday got really wet). My travelling mates are really kind, the vibe on the bus is brilliant. We have a good tour guide, the teachers are very friendly too, our room mate (who we did not know until now) is a nice guy and our hosts are kind and hospitable. Today there was a small group here and they asked me to play guitar for them. It was good to play a bit.



Day 6:

I didn't wake up to the alarm. If I didn't wake up on my own, the notes below wouldn't exist :D. Today we went to the famous Cliffs of Moher where, luckily, the visibility was perfect, so we could see the beauty in its entirety. The wind almost blew me off the cliffs but it was enjoyable. In the second half of the day we visited the city of Galway. In a nutshell: I saw a 12 string two neck ukulele, Bálint became the target of a seagull and I ate a horrible Japanese-like sandwich. The small group that gathers at these times is often led by Kata. The only problem is that she walks fast but she doesn't know where. Otherwise I have no problems. The bus ride is still a joy. We talk a lot, I got to know some very nice people. We started doing staring contests but so far nobody managed to beat me. Fortunately the record finally dried up totally.



Day 7:

Today (23.04.04) is my father's birthday and I don't know how I'm going to put all the Guinness beer I'm going to bring home. We were at some good places, including a castle, an open air museum and the Rock of Cashel. Everything was nice. I still have to pack up, as we are leaving Ireland tomorrow.

Meanwhile, I received a message from home from my mother's colleague:

-A kompos rosszulléttel kapcsolatban vigasztaljon az a tudat, hogy a zeneszerzők többsége is rosszul van, ha KOMPONÁLL.

I couldn't translate this text to English but I think its worth being here.



Day 8:

Today morning we left our accomodation and the families. We visited Kilkenny, which was a lot of fun. We bought a lot of beer and whiskey, we saw a wonderful chatedral and we even found a record store, although it didn't have many records I was familiar with. Then came the ferry trip, which I really enjoyed this time. I took a medicine before it and my stomach had no problems, although I was very sleepy and I was lying on the ground the whole time. Some of us gathered up, we talked a lot and listened to music. It was really joyful. I'm writing the lines above the next day because we arrived to our motel at two in the morning. All the boys slept in the same room again. In my opinion this is a quite tolerable little motel.



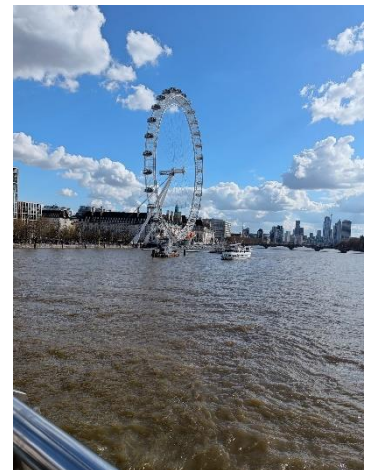
Day 9:

We set off to London. On the way we visited the city of Bath. It's a nice little city with an ancient Roman bath, which we went through and learnt a lot about it. Then we got a lot of free time, so we looked around the city. In the evening our new host drove us to his house and he drove so fast that we almost flew. Besides, he's a very nice person.



Day 10:

In the morning I found it really hard to get up but I managed it. Kata caught some kind of a virus so unfortunately she did not join us today. In the morning we started in London Science Museum, which was unbelievably good, I could spend days there. Only a few of us went into it because there were the Natural History Museum next to it and most of the people went there. I think they made the wrong decision. According to the pictures I saw from both places, the science one was much better. We even found a calculator that was bigger than us. I liked the aircraft section the best, it was very spectacular. After that we went to a lot of places, including the Buckingham Palace, the Covent Garden and the Trafalgar Square. Everything was great. If my calculations are correct we spent about 1.5 hours searching for toilets but at least we saw the entire city centre in the meantime. András told us that the Big Ben's name almost became Big Dick, which would sound rather silly. Today was crowned by the fact that I found my chocolate, which I lost several days ago. On top of that we even went into London Eye, which provided a perfect overlook of the city. Máté is still entertaining us with the different species of birds that can be found on the streets of London. Our host is very kind, tonight he took us to a park with probably the best possible view of the city. With today the brand new album of Powerwolf (Interludium) came out but I can't listen to it because the internet connection is bad. Very sad.



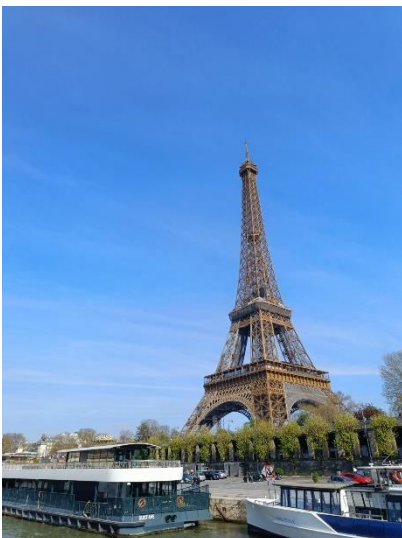
Day 11:

We were a bit late this morning but the bus was too so it wasn't a problem. We visited Canterbury, where not much happened. We saw a drunk man dancing in the middle of the street, some young people promoting communism and a nice river. After that we went to our ferry. The ride was great, we spent our time in a nice corner on a sofa. By the end I was very sleepy. I slept through the following bus trip. We just arrived to our hotel, it's a good place. I received another two pieces of chocolate from András, one because I knew who is Geoffrey Chaucer and one by accident. With these I think I hold the record on the bus with five chocolates.



Day 12:

We were travelling almost all day. I'm also writing this on the bus. Halfway to our destination we stopped in Paris. The place was quite familiar :D. We looked around the city, we ate French pancakes and we went on a ship ride on the river Seine. That was really nice. At the petrol station, we managed to eat two peppers out of the four that I brought from home. Amazingly, they were still fresh. I tried eating it with the technique of dropping it into my mouth with very poor success. Now we are on our way to our last motel. To my surprise I started writing poems. I don't think they are any good but I enjoy writing them. I'm afraid that when I get home I'll forget how to play my instruments. It'll be weird to be back home but I'm glad 'cause now I really miss my family. On my way the whole journey flashes in front of my eyes. It hurts that it's over but I've got to know some really good people. I'm very happy about that.



Day 13:

This was the last day. We were travelling all day (~16 hours) but I didn't sleep on the bus, the morale was good. There was a quiz which if I'd won, I'd have got 10 five notes in English. I didn't win. It wouldn't matter much but still. Anyways, I'll win next time. The group was a bit exhausted, we were discussing the „My little pony” empire's political establishment for one hour straight. Besides that, many other flourishing topics emerged too. I'm sad that our trip ended so quickly, but I'm returning home with a lot of good memories and some good new friends.

Postscript:

At the end of my travel diary I want to thank all the other students who I was with for being kind, funny and helpful when it was needed. I also want to thank my amazing teachers for trying their absolutely best at making this trip as enjoyable and memorable as possible. Finally I want to give a huge thank you to my family for letting me go on such a big trip and being patient and supportive from more than 1500 kilometres away. I'm very grateful for being a part of this journey.

Schweibert Bálint 10.B



Thank you UK and Ireland!

Have you ever wondered how many things come from the British Isles? I'm sure that you also often use objects that come from the British, just to name a few: thermos, toothbrush and kettle. But what else?

I was so lucky that I could take part in a 13-day trip to explore the beauty of Ireland and England and we could even spend some time in romantic Paris. Needless to say, our guide was extremely knowledgeable, well-informed and he always had something interesting to tell us about everything what we met during the trip. I have been always interested in different cultures and what effects they have on each other. Apart from my curiosity, this information motivated me to write this report.

The United Kingdom and Ireland have a long tradition of various sports. They are also the birthplace of many popular sports, for instance football, golf, polo and hurling. It is really good to see that nowadays these sports are played worldwide. When we were in London, we went through Chelsea which is not only a well-off quarter but for football fans this means the home of Chelsea football team. As I noticed, in England and in Ireland, there was a passion for this sport: children playing football on the green grass, souvenir shops selling team-related items, etc.

In my opinion it is similar to the most European countries



Children playing football in the park of Malahide Castle

I think both countries are famous for their unique pubs, which other countries have tried to copy (for example there are some similar places in Budapest or Berlin) but they have not really succeeded. I personally really liked the pubs in Dublin and Galway, they had such a good atmosphere. But the company was also excellent!:)



Black and white but not the animal, what is it? Yes, I'm talking about the zebra crossing. To be honest, I did not know that it is an English invention too. John Peck Knight invented the first pedestrian crossing that indicated when someone wanted to cross the road. This was on London Bridge Street which was a very busy road so this invention helped the pedestrians a lot. Since then the whole world uses this „method”, but of course in a more modern form.



Belisha beacon
(It was named after the Minister of Transport)

All in all, I really enjoyed this trip and I learned a lot about culture, language, and people. I hope that others were also interested in this topic, because I think these things belong to our everyday life: sport, entertainment, transport.

Szabó Natália 11.B

Source:

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Highlights of my favourite trip

by Greta Szenas 9.A

Cliffs of Moher

I comprehend why the Cliffs of Moher is one of the favourite visitor experiences of Ireland. I can say that the time we spent at the Cliffs of Moher was swinging my best days during our trip.

These natural wonders are part of the western edge of the Burren region, in County Clare. The length of the cliff line is 14 kilometres long.

They also tower over 214 metres above the Atlantic Ocean and give a breathtaking view of the Aran Islands.



The Cliffs of Moher is often referred to as the 8th wonder of the world. This magnificent place has given place to many scenes. J.K. Rowling's Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince and The Princess Bride by Rob Reiner were filmed here.



Speaking from my own experience, if I ever go back (that I hope so) I should tie my hair up, or at the beginning of the trip, pull my jacket's hood up to my head.

The weather was extremely windy and I was cold even if I wore a jacket, but besides these, **the visit was one hundred per cent worth it.**



I was amazed by the enormous cliffs that represented power and calm to me and made me realize how small I am. It was truly wonderful to see how the Atlantic Ocean met with the sky while species of birds flew above us.

Also, it was a bonus I could share this time with my friends.



The Cliffs of Moher became my latest favourite place since our trip.

Powerscourt Estate

People say the gardens of the Powerscourt Estate are the most beautiful, delightful, romantic and spacious ones, and I can agree with them.





Powerscourt Estate is located in Enniskerry, County Wicklow, Ireland. In the beginning, the Powerscourt House was originally a 13th-century castle, nowadays still is surrounded by beautiful lakes, mesmerizing flora and amazing fountains.

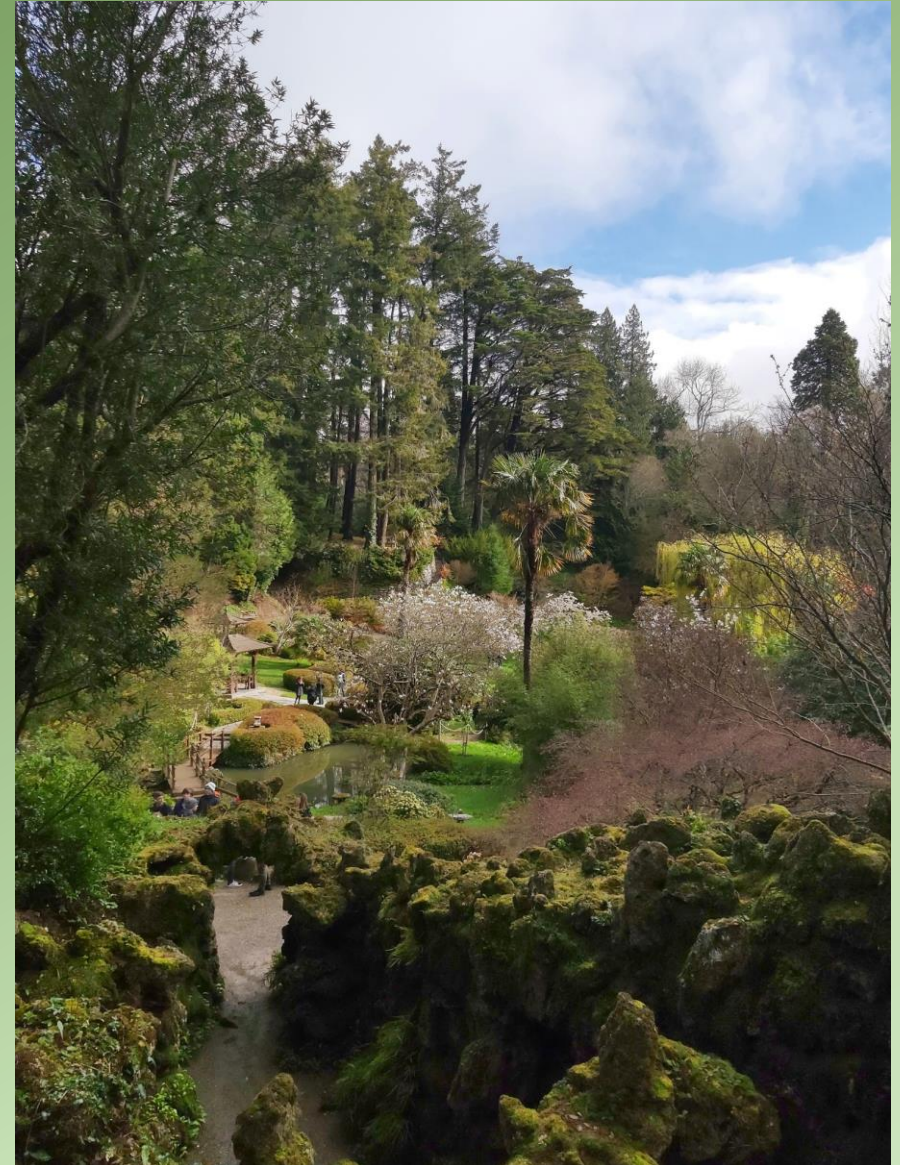


The 19 hectares of breathtaking gardens are the Powerscourt Estate's magic's main attractions. The area includes The Walled Gardens, The Italian Garden and The Japanese Gardens.



My favourite was the Japanese Gardens because I have never been to one before.

By National Geographic the gardens were voted No.3 in the World's Top Ten Gardens.



In my opinion, the Powerscourt Estate is a must-have shew if you ever decide to visit Ireland.



The whole place was more than fascinating and magical all over the place, as far as the eye could see.





I remember for the first time when we stood in the gardens, I thought, I didn't want to go home. It was comforting, to be in nature and walk with my friends while listening to the birds' singing.

I cannot wait to return here with my family, especially with my mom, who is obsessed with these places: gardens with lots of flowers.

Canterbury

I had spent a really good, unfortunately too short time in this historic city called Canterbury, the heart of southeast London.



It is located in the county of Kent and is known for its mesmerizing architecture, rich history and cultural significance.



During our trip to the city, we visited the breathtakingly beautiful cathedral, which is the most famous Christian structure in England.



Also, the Canterbury Cathedral is one of the oldest in the UK. As I said, the city has a wealthy historic line, including the signing of the Magna Carta in 1215.



This lovely city has another crucial peculiarity: the Canterbury Tales. This is a collection of 24 stories written in Middle English by Geoffrey Chaucer.

Their origin takes place in the late 14th century. These tales are presented as a part of a storytelling contest.

These stories were a contest by a group of pilgrims, as they travelled together from Southwark. The pilgrims' destination was the shrine of Saint Thomas Becket at Canterbury Cathedral.

I was glad to be in and meet with this incredible English city and spent a few hours here with my friends while discovering it as much as we could, on our way. I would be more than happy if I could ever have the opportunity to come back and make more memories.



Thanks for your time, I
hope you enjoyed this
short trip!

The Flowers of Ireland

Ireland is home to a variety of species both native and introduced. Its flora consists of plants that are adapted to its temperate and maritime climate. The country has a rich natural heritage, with many species in deep connection with Ireland's culture and traditions.

The Shamrock

I'm sure as soon as we think of the Emerald Isle the shamrock is the first plant that comes into mind as an Irish symbol. Arguably it's not even a flower but let's make an exception here. Nowadays, the shamrock is the symbol of luck but it used to have a fairly different meaning in the fifth century. The ancient Irish Druids believed that everything important is in the form of three. For example the three phases of the moon or the three dominions of earth, sky, and sea. Therefore it isn't surprising that a plant with three leaves was held in high regard. According to the belief St. Patrick realized the importance of the shamrock and used it to introduce and explain the Holy Trinity. This was a very effective way of spreading the Christianity.

Many thought the shamrock has mystical properties, and the ability to predict the weather, its leaves turn skyward when a storm is brewing. Moreover, it was seen as a charm against the evil, which relates to the modern belief in the four-leaf clover as a good luck charm.



Daffodils

Although the daffodils are the national flower of Wales, they are very much beloved in Ireland as well. They are often referred to as „Lent Lilies” because they tend to bloom during the season of the Lent. On our way, most of the time when I looked out the window I saw these beautiful flowers beside the road. Despite it being an introduced flower it gained popularity and became a common sight in Irish gardens. The bright yellow petals represent renewal and hope. In connection with the meaning of the daffodils, The Daffodil Day charity event is organized annually which takes place in Ireland, and raises money for cancer research. People are encouraged to wear daffodil pins to show their support for the cause.





Buttercups

Three different kinds of buttercups are native to Ireland and can be found growing in a variety of habitats, including meadows, pastures, and along roadsides. Buttercups are sometimes called "Candlemas candles" in Ireland because they often bloom around the time of the Candlemas holiday in early February.

In Irish folklore, it is said that if you hold a buttercup under your chin and the yellow is reflected back to your skin, it means you like butter.



Primroses

Primroses color the Irish countryside from March until May. It is also known as the English primrose, however, it is native to the Emerald Isle. The primrose was used to treat a diverse range of medical conditions from teeth aches to insomnia.

In days gone by it was considered as a symbol of protection and safety. The Druids carried primroses as protection and used their oils to purify during rituals. Moreover, it was connected to fairies. They believed that primroses placed on doorsteps attract fairies and they would bless the house and who lived there. Another belief is if someone ate a primrose they would see a fairy. Fortunately, primroses are edible and it is said that they taste like lettuce. Ancient Celtic wisdom associates seeing a large patch of primroses with a gateway or portal into the faerie realms. The Irish ancestors' top beauty hack was mixing primrose and cowslip flower juice in order to treat facial spots and wrinkles.



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Fairies in Ireland

I have always been fascinated by mythical creatures, so I was excited to learn about the legends and myths of Ireland, which has a very rich folklore when it comes to fairies.

Even today, fairies are a very important part of Irish culture, mythology and folklore. There are many different types of fairies in Irish culture, and I would like to write about the most well-known ones.

The leprechauns

These solitary creatures are usually portrayed as little old bearded men with hats, dressed in green. In Irish folklore, leprechauns are cobblers or shoemakers, thus the distinctive sound that indicates that they're near, the tapping sound they make as they hammer nails into shoes. Every leprechaun is believed to have a pot of gold, which can be found at the end of rainbows, and if someone captures a leprechaun (or in other stories his magical coin, ring or amulett), they can trade his freedom for his fortune. However, leprechauns are clever and tricky creatures, so it is not easy to capture them.



The Aos Sí

The Aos Sí (people of the mounds) are beautiful, tall, slender, fair creatures that depending on different stories live either in the ground, in fairy forts, or in another dimension. They are the descendants of the Thuatha Dé Danann (tribe of Danu), who were defeated by the Milesians and fled underground. They travel to humans at sunset, and they leave at dawn.



The Banshee

A banshee ("fairy woman") is a female spirit or fairy who predicts and warns people about death. If someone sees her or hears her screaming, shrieking or wailing, it means that either they or a family member of theirs is about to die.



The Changelings

Changelings are fairy children who are usually swapped with human babies by fairies. They are different from normal children. They may seem ill, and they may be physically underdeveloped or too intelligent for their age.



The Púca

The púcaí are shapeshifters that can turn into various animals, and they can even take the form of a human. A púca can have either white or black fur or hair. The Púcaí are believed to be a sign of oncoming disaster or great luck.



Even though people generally don't believe in fairies anymore, there are many fairy trails in Ireland, and many references to fairies.

Vincze Natasa 11.A

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