

# Travelling to Ireland (teacher's notes)

## 1. Warm-up (Activity 1) 10 mins

**Aims:** to break the ice and introduce the topic.

**Procedure:** Ask students to discuss the questions in pairs.

Key:

4) They're two different countries - the Republic of Ireland is a sovereign country, Northern Ireland is a part of a larger state - the UK.

Write what students know about Ireland on the board.

Introduce the topic: Today we are going to talk about Ireland, places of interest, learn some basic and practical information about the country .

## 2. Vocabulary work (Activity 2) 5 mins

**Aims:** to revise and learn topic-related vocabulary.

**Procedure:** Students read the sentences and guess the meanings of the words in bold.

Key:

- |      |       |
|------|-------|
| 1) a | 6) c  |
| 2) c | 7) a  |
| 3) b | 8) a  |
| 4) a | 9) b  |
| 5) b | 10) b |

## 3. Ireland Quiz (Activity 3) 10 mins

**Aims:** to generate interest in the topic.

**Procedure:** Put students into small groups to work through the quiz together or put the whole class into two teams.

Elicit the answers.

Key:

1. The Irish flag is orange, white and green. T
2. The capital of Ireland is Dublin. T
3. The currency used in Ireland is pound sterling. F (euro)
4. Ireland gained Independence from Britain more than two hundred years ago. F (In 1922 both parliaments ratified the Treaty, formalising independence for the 26-county Irish Free State (which renamed itself Ireland in 1937, and declared itself a republic in 1949); while the 6-county

Northern Ireland, gaining Home Rule for itself, remained part of the United Kingdom.)

5. Official Languages: Irish and English. T

6. Ireland does not have any of type of snakes. T

7. The English Channel separates the island of Ireland from the island of Great Britain and is connected to the Atlantic Ocean to the South. F (The Irish sea)

8. Dublin's Trinity College Library houses an extremely rare artifact, an original copy of the Canterbury Tales. F (The book of Kells, a ninth-century illustrated manuscript of the Gospels, was transcribed by Celtic monks circa AD 800)

9. Oscar Wilde, James Joyce, George Bernard Shaw, Bono were born in Ireland. T

10. St. Andrew is a patron saint of Ireland. F (St. Patrick, Saint Patrick's Day, or the Feast of Saint Patrick is a cultural and religious celebration held on 17 March)

11. Harp was banned in Ireland for 200 years. T (In the 16th century the British Crown ordered all harps to be burnt and all harpist to be executed).

12. The legend says that Blarney Stone, a popular attraction of tourists to Ireland, gives you the gift of the ability to speak with charm and persuasion. T

## 4. Video, part 1 - Ireland's highlights. (Activity 4) 5 mins

**Aims:** to practise listening skills.

**Procedure:** Ask the students to match popular places with what they are famous for. Play the video for students to check their answers (Vagabrothers is a vlog of two brothers, Alex and Marko. They live to travel. Their journey of cultural and culinary discovery takes them to some of the most interesting places in the world) : <https://youtu.be/QVAd9t3eZvg?t=104> (0:37 - 2:45)

Key:

Dublin - nightlife, Trinity college

Galway - offbeat live music

Wild Atlantic Way - the longest coastal scenic highway with the Cliff of Moher, surf towns, fishing villages.

County Cork - food, farms, fjords.

Then students discuss the questions in pair or open class.

For more places watch this video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u-UA8t2EVpA&t=241s>

## 5. Video, part 2 - practical tips. (Activity 5) 5 mins

**Aims:** to practise speaking for fluency and listening skills.

**Procedure:** Ask the students to imagine that they are planning to go to Ireland and brainstorm open class things they need to consider: get a visa, check the costs, book accommodation etc.

Then students predict in pair the information about travelling to Ireland according to the categories. Ask students to write down their predictions. Play the video to check the guesses: <https://youtu.be/QVAd9t3eZvg?t=196> (3:16 - 6:22)

Key:

1. During shoulder season (May to June or September and October)
2. Pack a rain jacket or an umbrella and waterproof footwear, power adapter.
3. Ireland is not a budget destination
4. There's a lot of options in the mid to luxury range to palatial country home in the countryside, basic hostel is 25 euros, free camping is not allowed.

Play the video again and ask the students to answer the question.

Key:

1. the weather is still pretty mild, but there are no crowds of tourists.
2. It's common to see a couple of seasons in a day.
3. some places like pubs
4. say 20 quids - the currency used is Euro, but people still use slang term for pounds - quid, they call 20 euro - 20 quid.
5. about a hundred euros a day should be a proper solid budget. 75 euro if you have to pinch pennies. If you want to live it up, 150 euros should be plenty.
6. 25 euros

## 6. Discussion (Activity 6) 5 mins

**Aims:** to provide free speaking practice and apply new vocabulary in the discussion.

**Procedure:** Ask SS to discuss the questions in pairs. Change partners and let them report the most interesting information which they've found out about their previous partners.

## 7. Sum up 3-5 mins

Put errors on the board or whiteboard and let students correct them.

Summarise the lesson and tell students what results they have achieved (Now you can ... After our reading and speaking lesson you will be able to....). Ask them if they have any questions.

## 8. Homework

Ask the students to find out more idioms connected to autumn.