



- Live Music Venue
- Venue with nightly music
- RP - Rock/Pop
- T - Trad
- JB - Jazz/Blues
- C - Classical
- Club
- Historical
- Landmark
- Music Shop
- Record Store

OLYMPIA

THE Dublin Music Map

EXPERIENCE MUSIC IN DUBLIN WITH THIS INSIDER'S GUIDE

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Gig venues, regular events, clubs, record stores, trad sessions, music shops and more in this musical capital.

DOYLES

3 Min walk (250m)



#LoveDublin
#DublinMusic

Dublin is officially *the* place to find the best music these days. Bubbling with sonic creativity, we've put together these **Insider Tips** to help you locate the sweetest new sounds across Dublin's fair city. Want to find an intimate trad session, indie festival or jazz club? Need a set of fiddle strings in a hurry? Or just want to sing your heart out in a karaoke booth? Whether you want to see up-and-coming bands before they hit the big time, visit the site of U2's most famous music video, or pay tribute to the greats like Phil Lynott, Rory Gallagher, Luke Kelly and Sinead O'Connor, The Dublin Music Map will point you in the right direction.

(If all else fails, ask the staff in any of the city's many music stores!)



For up-to-date listings of gigs, festivals, and events in Dublin (and beyond), or to hear some great new music, check out these Irish websites

Breaking Tunes:	breakingnews.ie
Dublin Sessions:	dublinsessions.ie
Fractured Air:	fracturedair.com
Golden Plec:	goldenplec.com
Niallery:	niallery.com
State:	state.ie
Totally Dublin:	totallydublin.ie
The Last Mixed Tape:	thelastmixedtape.com
Visit Dublin:	visitdublin.com/whats-on

Annual Calendar of Music Events & Regular Festivals

Spring

St Patrick's Day Parade & Festival (March)
Country to Country Festival (March)
MusicTown (April)
iDig Music Fest: Dublin International Game Music Festival (April)
Record Store Day / Record Store Gay (April)
12 Points Jazz Festival (Moveable)

Summer

Africa Day (May)
Dublin City Soul Festival (May)
Dublin Dance Festival (May)
Dublin Block Party (May)
You Bloom (June)
Festa Junina: Brazilian Festival (June)
Forbidden Fruit, RKH (June)
Dublin LGBTQ Pride Festival (June)
Dublin International Piano Festival (July)
Iveagh Gardens Gigs (July)
Longitude Festival, Marlay Park (July)

The Beatyard, Dun Laoghaire (July)
Dublin Blues, Roots and Brass Festival (August)
Rock'n'Roll Festival: Rockabilly (August)
Rock'n'Roll Dublin Race Series (August)

Autumn

Canalophonic Music and Culture Festival (September)
Culture Night (September)
Dublin Tiger Fringe Festival (September)
Dún Laoghaire Tribute Music Festival (September)
Hard Working Class Heroes Festival & Convention (October)

Winter

New Years Festival
Vibe For Philo (January)
David Bowie Festival (January)
Temple Bar Tradfest (January)

Performance Spaces

3Arena

NORTH WALL QUAY
The largest indoor amphitheatre in Ireland (seating 14,500), the 3Arena has welcomed countless big names in music and comedy. Despite a name change in 2007, it's still called The Point by many a Dubliner. The 1999 MTV Music Awards were held here, plus the Eurovision on three occasions during the Nineties. 3arena.ie



The Academy

57 MIDDLE ABBEY ST. ● F1
Hosting everyone from David Bowie and Deadmau5 to Prince and Slayer, the Academy's four floors are home to three different spaces for live bands and DJs alike. theacademydublin.com

Axis

MAIN STREET BALLYMUN
Axis is an arts and community resource centre that stages occasional mainstream gigs, and sustains a platform for emerging local artists in hip-hop and other genres. axis-ballymun.ie

Bello Bar

1 PORTOBELLO HARBOUR
Located in pretty Portobello harbour, Bello Bar's speakeasy-style setup hosts the regular Kaleidoscope Night, among other innovative music programming. bellobaradublin.com

The Button Factory

CURVED ST. TEMPLE BAR ● E3
Formerly the Temple Bar Music Centre, the newly refurbished Button Factory boasts a regular roster of live bands, club nights and festivals in the centre of the city. buttonfactory.ie

Bord Gáis Energy Theatre

GRAND CANAL
Designed by renowned architect Daniel Libeskind in Dublin's redeveloped south docklands, this 2000+ capacity venue hosts international ballet companies, opera, musical theatre, and a range of touring international popular music acts. Also referred to locally as the Grand Canal Theatre. bordgaisenergytheatre.ie

Doyles

9 COLLEGE ST. ● G2
Pop into the Ruby Sessions, running every Tuesday night for over 16 years. This intimate, acoustic night has seen the likes of Hozier, Damien Rice, Lisa Hannigan and many more make surprise appearances. rubysessions.com

Gaiety Theatre

KING ST. SOUTH
Dating back to 1871, the Gaiety is a Dublin landmark with a varied schedule of musical theatre, opera, pantomime and dance shows, including Riverdance during summer months. Ireland hosted the Eurovision Song Contest for the first time here in 1971. gaietytheatre.ie

The Grand Social

35 LOWER LIFFEY ST. ● E2
Great community vibe. Upstairs you'll find The Loft, a circus-cabaret hybrid, with multi-coloured banners bathed in twinkling lights. thegrandsocial.ie

JJ Smyth's

12 AUNGIER ST. ● E5
A narrow staircase leads you into this dark and intimate venue, the perfect spot for all things jazz and blues. jjsmyths.com

Meeting House Square

TEMPLE BAR ● E3
Adaptable open-air performance space with a retractable canopy roof, which comes in handy on rainy days. The outdoor stage backs on to The Ark, Ireland's cultural centre for children, which has its own indoor music/theatre space. facebook.com/meetinghousesquare

The Mercantile

28 DAME ST. ● E3
Large, bustling city bar with a restaurant and hotel on-site. You'll find regular gigs featuring local bands, DJ nights and even Irish-themed 'Gaelic Nights'. mercantile.ie

MVP

29 UPPER CLANBRASSIL ST.
Bar and café-restaurant on the hip Clanbrassil St. that stands out for its regular sing-alongs, music talks and community events. It's dog-friendly too! mvpdublin.com

National Concert Hall

EARLSFORT TERRACE ● G7
Home to the RTÉ National Symphony Orchestra, Chamber Choir Ireland, Irish Baroque Orchestra and Music Generation, the NCH hosts over a thousand events each year between its Main Auditorium and the John Field Room. Take in a lunchtime classical recital, or catch an open-air summertime gig in the beautiful Iveagh Gardens next door. nch.ie

The Olympia

72 DAME ST. ● D3
Dating back to 1879, this charming theatre was originally called the Star Of Erin Music Hall. Full of character and history, The Olympia has hosted some of the best international headline acts, as well as theatrical shows of all kinds. Pop into Maureen's Bar at the back for a post-show drink with the band. olympia.ie

Pavilion Theatre

DÚN LAOGHAIRE
Set in the pretty South Dublin coast town of Dún Laoghaire, the Pavilion Theatre features a range of folk, traditional and classical music events in its multidisciplinary programming. paviliontheatre.ie

Sin É

14-15 ORMOND QUAY ● C2
Popular with Dubliners and tourists alike, this established late-night spot hosts regular gigs and DJ sets. Great for a last minute night on the town. facebook.com/Sin.E.Pub

The Sugar Club

8 LWR LEESON ST. ● G7
This sweet little gem just a stone's throw from Stephen's Green is a vibrant venue where you'll find everything from jazz and hip-hop to burlesque shows, film screenings and some of the city's best club nights. thesugarclub.com

Vicar Street

58-59 THOMAS ST. ● A4
Much loved concert space in Dublin 8. With arguably the best acoustics in the city, this venue is a favourite for local and international artists. vicarstreet.ie

Whelan's

WEXFORD ST. ● D7
Dublin's most beloved live music venue (est. 1989). Strong ties to indie rock and singer-songwriters with acts like the Frames and Ed Sheeran openly crediting Whelan's as the place where it all started for them. Try the main room for headline acts and upstairs for more intimate sets. whelanslive.com

The Workmans Club

10 WELLINGTON QUAY ● D2
Run by people passionate about music, the Workmans' old school vibes make it a popular spot for visiting frontline artists as well as local rising stars. theworkmansclub.com

Trad. Sessions

The Brazen Head

20 BRIDGE ST. LOWER ● A3
You'll find Dublin's oldest pub just down the hill from Christ Church Cathedral, with part of the building dating back to the 12th century. A busy tourist spot with traditional music and/or folk song sessions on most nights, plus a restaurant for hungry revellers. brazenhead.com

The Cobblestone

17 KING ST. NORTH, SMITHFIELD ● A1
"A drinking pub with a music problem." Fiddles, uilleann pipes, sean-nós singing and set dancing keep the sessions going here seven nights a week. cobblestonepub.ie

Devitts

78 LOWER CAMDEN ST. ● E7
Newcomers and regulars alike are warmly welcomed here. Free trad sessions from Thursdays through to Sunday (and sometimes in between). devittspub.ie

Hughes' Bar

19 CHANCERY ST. ● B2
A true local pub for musicians with regular, excellent traditional Irish music and set-dancing sessions. Located behind the Four Courts.

O'Donoghues

15 MERRION ROW ● H6
Traditional music can be heard most nights in this historical Dublin watering hole, with a back bar famous for its nightly sessions. Sweeney's Men, The Dubliners and Planxty all cut their teeth on the trad music scene in this bar. odonoghues.ie

Club/Dance/Cabaret

Bar Tengu at Yamamori Sushi

GREAT STRAND ST. ● E2
Cut through the delicious Japanese restaurant or head to the back lane to find this hidden bar that transforms into a nightclub par excellence at the weekends. Regular nights include the confetti-fuelled monthly party that is Lumo Club. facebook.com/TenguNights

District 8

135-138 FRANCIS ST. ● A4
Hosting some of the finest international electronic, DJ, and live music nights, the crew at District 8 (a.k.a. The Tivoli) pride themselves on creating stunning visual shows to match their world-class sound system. district8dublin.com

Mother

COPPER ALLEY 16-18 LORD EDWARD ST. ● D3
Get up close and personal on Mother's dance-floor, for the mother of all retro and synth pop D.I.S.C.O. every Saturday night. twitter.com/MotherDublin



Pantibar

7-8 CAPEL ST. ● D2
With the renowned Queen of Ireland Panti Bliss as landlady, Pantibar has been serving Dublin's LGBTQ community and friends since 2007. Expect regular DJs, cabaret, drag shows and lots and lots of dancing. pantibar.com

Pygmalion

POWERSCOURT TOWNHOUSE
59 SOUTH WILLIAM ST. ● E4
By day a great spot for coffee and people-watching, by night a boutique club in the beautiful Powerscourt Townhouse Centre. pyg.ie

Ri Rá

DAME COURT ● E3
Part of The Globe Bar, this free-entrance nightclub specialises in house party vibes. Check out for their signature intergalactic club night, *Space... The Vinyl Frontier*. theglobe.ie/rira-nightclub

The River Bar

1 BURGH QUAY ● G2
You'll find a myriad of dance classes and clubs here most nights of the week, from hip hop to lindyhop, bachata, kizomba and salsa.

Ukiyo Bar

9 EXCHEQUER ST. ● E4
Want to sing but don't have a band? Look no further than Ukiyo's karaoke rooms. Book in advance if you want your own karaoke booth. ukiyobar.com

Wigwam

54 MIDDLE ABBEY ST. ● E1
Music-coffee-food-socialising-cigars-dancing-barbers-wigs-drinks shop (formerly the popular Twisted Pepper). wigwamdublin.com

Archive/Museums



Abner Brown's Barbershop

6 RATHGAR ROAD, RATHMINES
Filled to the brim with old school rock 'n' roll paraphernalia, this barbershop by day transforms into an inviting live music venue from time to time. facebook.com/AbnerBrownsBarbershop

Contemporary Music Centre

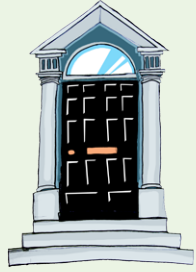
19 FISHAMBLE ST. ● C3
Home to an extensive archive of contemporary Irish recordings and scores, the CMC is a public library and resource centre for composers, performers and fans of new Irish music. cmc.ie

The Irish Rock 'n' Roll Museum

CURVED ST., TEMPLE BAR ● E3
The newest music museum on the block touches on all aspects of Ireland's rock, pop and trad history. Finish your experiential tour by recording your own cover version of an Irish rock classic at the Temple Lane Studios. irishrocknrollmuseum.com

Irish Traditional Music Archive

73 MERRION SQUARE ● H6
This public, not-for-profit archive and resource centre holds the largest collection of Irish traditional song, music and dance in the world. Housed in a magnificent Georgian building, the ITMA includes public rooms for accessing materials, digitisation facilities and a recording studio. tma.ie



The Little Museum

15 ST. STEPHEN'S GREEN ● G5
The fan-curated *U2: Made in Dublin* exhibition on the top floor of the Little Museum is a must for any rock/pop enthusiast. littlemuseum.ie

Music Library

ILAC CENTRE, HENRY ST.
Open-access library with a large selection of music books, vocal and instrumental scores, CDs and DVDs, plus recitals, public talks, and free seminars. Keyboard self-learning facility and headphone listening facilities also available. dublincity.ie/music-library

Music Shops

Charles Byrne Musik Instrumente

21-22 LOWER STEPHEN ST. ● E4
Dublin's oldest family owned music instrument store. Luthiers and classical string specialists who also stock Irish traditional instruments. charlesbyrne.com

Gandharva Loka

1 CECILIA ST. ● E3
World music store with a wide range of instruments for musical, community, educational or spiritual use. gandharvaloka.ie

Goodwins Music Shop

CAPEL ST. ● D2
Pick up banjo strings or a bodhrán at this long established family-run shop nestled among a street full of colourful independent establishments. goodwinsmusic.ie

McCullough Pigott

11 SOUTH WILLIAM ST. ● E4
As Ireland's oldest music emporium nestled between boutiques, salons and cafés, this is where you'll find the most comprehensive sheet music selection in Dublin. The back room of this Georgian building is occupied by Joe Lynch Musical Instruments, covering all orchestral sections plus traditional instruments. mcculloughpigott.com

Music Maker

29 EXCHEQUER ST. ● E4
With knowledgeable staff boasting a vast array of stock from Stratocasters to synths, this shop also hosts drum clinics, pedal demos, and the odd gig. musicmaker.ie

Music Minds

33 LIFFEY ST LOWER ● E2
Established music instrument shop close to Dublin's iconic Ha'penny Bridge which also serves as a collection point for Opus II's online sheet music sales. musicminds.ie

Some Neck Guitars

5 AUNGIER ST. ● E5
As the names implies, this independent shop is a specialist in modern and vintage guitars, parts and repairs. someneckguitars.com

Waltons Music

69 SOUTH GREAT GEORGES ST. ● E4
Musical instrument and equipment shop with practice rooms available for hire and its own tuition centre, the New School of Music. Also known as the shop from the film *Once* where Guy and Girl first sing *Falling Slowly*. waltons.ie

Record Stores

All City

4 CROW ST. TEMPLE BAR ● E3
An independent store (and label) that uniquely offers vinyl records and graffiti art supplies on the same premises. You'll find hip-hop, dance and other contemporary genres here. allcityrecordlabel.com

Claddagh Records

2 CECILIA ST. ● E2 & F2
Established in 1959, this is the original flagship store for the hugely successful traditional Irish music label of the same name. The Temple Bar branch carries a mix of titles in traditional, folk, world and roots genres. There's a second store at 5 Westmoreland St. too. claddaghrecords.com



Freebird Records

15A WICKLOW ST. ● F4
This independent outfit (and label) is located in the aptly named Secret Book And Record Store, which is set back a bit by an internal hallway from the Wicklow St entrance. freebird.ie

Golden Discs

STEPHEN'S GREEN SHOPPING CENTRE ● F5
The Central Dublin branch of this Irish music and entertainment retailer. Wide international and Irish music selections, with concert and gig tickets also available for sale. goldendiscs.ie

Into The Void Records

3 CROW ST ● E3
An brilliantly stocked hardcore/metal record store in the heart of Temple Bar, with a great selection of merchandise on sale. Home to its own in-house label too. intothevoidrecords.com

Little Gem Records

BASEMENT 18 KILDARE ST ● G5
The crews behind I Heart The Monster Hero and Record Store Gay joined forces to open Little Gem in 2014 as a store and label for new Irish acts. littlegem.ie

The Old School Vinyl Record Store

SWORDS ST STONEYBATTER
Living up to its name, this store specializes in dance classics from the 1980s to 2000s. Situated in Dublin 7 close to the Phoenix Park and Heuston train station. Accessible by LUAS Red Line (nearest stop is Museum), facebook.com/vinylrecordsireland

The R.A.G.E.

16B FADE ST ● E4
Vintage record and video game store over two floors, with listening booths and retro consoles. A rare copy of Thin Lizzy's debut single *The Farmer* was reportedly found during a browse at this store. therage.ie

Sound Cellar

47 NASSAU ST ● F4
Known also as the 'The Original Rock Basement', this independent record store also sells gig tickets. Located seconds from Trinity College. facebook.com/soundcellardublin

Spindizzy Records

32 MARKET ARCADE
SOUTH GREAT GEORGES ST. ● E4
Tucked away in Dublin's colourful Victorian shopping area, George's St Arcade, Spindizzy carries a wide range of new and vintage records, plus DJ accessories and concert tickets. spindizzyrecords.com

Tower Records & Café

7 DAWSON ST. ● G4
Dublin's largest record store with a café that occasionally doubles as performance space for lunches and other gigs. Close to the busy Grafton St. shopping area. towerrecords.ie

Tower Records at Eason

40 O'CONNELL ST. ● F1
Tower's Northside branch is situated on the top floor of Eason, Ireland's largest bookstore with its own comprehensive music section. towerrecords.ie

Music Landmarks & Historical Sites



The Adelphi Cinema

MIDDLE ABBEY ST. ● E1
In November 1963 The Beatles performed their only concert in Ireland at The Adelphi. Built on the site of the former Plaza Ballroom, it's now a part of Arnotts department store. Other past performers of note include Bob Dylan, Roy Orbison, The Beach Boys and The Rolling Stones.



Neal's Musick Hall

FISHAMBLE ST. ● C3
The site where Handel's Messiah was first performed in 1742. The remains of the original entrance to Neal's Hall can be found next door to an 18th century building occupied by the Contemporary Music Centre, while a free outdoor performance of Messiah is performed annually on Fishamble St.



Phil Lynott Statue

HARRY ST. (OFF GRAFTON ST) ● F4
This iconic Dublin statue honours one of the city's most celebrated musicians, Thin Lizzy frontman Phil Lynott. It's located just outside Bruxelles, a bar frequented regularly by Thin Lizzy, Skid Row and other bands/musicians during Dublin's rock era in the late 1960s and early 1970s.

Raglan Road

BALLSBRIDGE
Visit the site that inspired one of Ireland's most beloved pieces of writing. Patrick Kavanagh's poem *On Raglan Road* entered into local popular music memory when Luke Kelly of The Dubliners set it to the 17th century melody *Fáinne Geal An Lae*.