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You can count on Rick Steves to tell you what you *really* need to know when traveling in Ireland.

With this guide, you can explore lively Dublin, quaint Kilkenny, and the moss-draped ruins of the Ring of Kerry. Navigate meandering back roads that lead to windswept crags on the dramatic Dingle Peninsula. Explore Ireland's revered past by following St. Patrick's footsteps to the Rock of Cashel. Marvel at Newgrange, the mysterious mound older than the pyramids; then connect with today's Irish culture by grabbing a pint at the local pub, enjoying the fiddle music, and jumping into conversations that buzz with brogue.

Rick's candid, humorous advice will guide you to good-value hotels and restaurants. He'll help you plan where to go and what to see, depending on the length of your trip. You'll get up-to-date recommendations on what is worth your time and money. More than just reviews and directions, a Rick Steves guidebook is a tour guide in your pocket.

Rick Steves Ireland 2018 Details

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From Reader Review Rick Steves Ireland 2018 for online ebook

Kate says

Rick Steves manages to use great voice in writing making this a fun read for the candid advice needed when planning travel. He'll provide suggestions for every traveler and guidance on the questions of should I pay extra for this or that or stop here or there-He will say-if you like this go here if you prefer that, do the tour otherwise skip it and so on. The book is comprehensive considering all aspects of the trip including social norms and tipping. The end of the book has good general advice on car rentals and so on- I regretfully missed this before booking a car on my first Rick Steves book as I read it too chronologically- scan the whole book and then read the sections you need first. All of the places he advises to stay and eat are local, clean, neat and affordable. Every place he recommended did not disappoint!

Lauren says

My husband and I just got back from an 11-day trip to Ireland. We bought this book and the Frommer's Day by Day guide, but the only guide I used the entire time was Rick Steve's. Whether you're planning a trip for 3 days or 3 weeks, Rick Steve's has all of the information to guide you through a fun, interesting and relaxing trip.

Following the outline he provided at the beginning of the book, we flew into Dublin and made our way in a clockwise circle around the entire island. All of the places we stayed that Rick Steve's recommended were fantastic except for the place we stayed in Belfast (The Windermere Guesthouse). One of the best parts about his book was the detailed information on each locale. He not only recommended restaurants and sites, but provided walking tours, advice on times to go, places where you would get more immersed in local culture and recommended lengths of your visit and places to stop on your drive between overnight stays. He even gives you plenty of cultural information such as rules of the road, how much to leave for a tip, where you're most likely to find live, authentic Irish music, and more.

The tone of the book is light-hearted but informative. It felt a lot like getting advice from a well-traveled friend. If you're interested in reading up on the history of Ireland, Rick Steve provides a nice chapter at the end of the book that gives you a good overview of the island's turbulent history. Even if you're not much into history reading, you can get a good feel for what was going on through the centuries from each of the descriptions of his recommended sites.

All in all, I would highly recommend this book for anyone going to Ireland (north or south) for any length of time. We relied entirely upon this book and the recommendations he gave to give us for the most comprehensive visit to Ireland possible in the time we had. And we had an amazing time.

carl theaker says

With thoughts of visiting Ireland this year I purchased "Frommer's Ireland" 2012 and picked up from the library "Eyewitness Travel Ireland" and "Rick Steves' Ireland" to compare and glean extra helpful hints.

I've always liked the Frommer's guides. They seem geared for a range of middle-class budgets, adventures and sensibilities. "Fodors Guides" appear to be for the higher price range, and I've graduated from the college angled "Let's Go" and eat the leftovers from a cafeteria tray and sleep in a hostel.

The Frommer's title template was previously "Europe (or Ireland or where ever) on \$25 a day". Those days are so long gone that they gave up putting a price on the cover as folks would probably shy away from "... on \$279 a day, if you are lucky."

All these guides give you good general information on the major sights to see, while that's great, I've never visited Ireland so I like a little handholding on the important day-to-day things, like what's the best way of getting around, a hint of how late the buses or subways run, and whether or not it would be about as cheap to take a taxi when you have 2 or more people. The "Frommer's" and "Steves" try to tend to the day-to-day information more so than the "Eyewitness". Though it's a difficult task, there's always another detail you want to know.

"Frommer's" includes most cities and sights figuring where ever your journey takes you, they'll cover it. They try not to make many judgements on whether it's a worthy spot. You figure that out on your own by reading their 'Best of' lists.

"Rick Steve's" comes across as downright travel snooty at times, which to me isn't necessarily bad. You may not agree with him, but you weigh the reasoning and you can go from there. For example, he figures you'd be a real twit to spend time in Killarney, the tour bus capital of Ireland, so he gives the basic info and directs you to his idea of an itinerary.

"Steves" doesn't try to cover every spot in Ireland, it focuses on the travels they think are best, for example if you want to go to Limerick you won't find anything here. "Frommer's" gives the Limerick highlights and warns you of its high crime rate, which may well be why "Steves" doesn't spend any time with it.

"Eyewitness" is the glossy guide with plenty of photos, their tact is to 'show you what others only tell you'. All that is fine and good and perhaps your flavor. I'm looking for info and while a pic helps now and then it's not a big plus for me. They do give plenty of history and diagrams on the items of interest, so it is a worthy companion, even more of replacement if you do your traveling from the sofa.

"Eyewitness" places all their suggested hotels and eateries in a chapter on their own, so you don't look in the Galway section for places to stay there, you go to this chapter and look for the correct addresses. To me, this is an awkward way to do things. The "Frommers" & "Steves" place this information in with the town

info, which makes it easier to use.

Erica says

I resisted, I will admit, picking up a Rick Steves' guidebook ... by my co-worker swore by it and, my word, it was so much more digestible than the other ones I'd been attempting to slog through! It keeps things short and sweet, and focuses on the types of sites that I am interested in. The book focuses on helping you construct a great trip, rather than telling you everything there is to know about any noteworthy (or not so noteworthy) sight in the country. The writing is diplomatic, but doesn't pull any punches; if something isn't worth the effort, it says so. By the same token, everything mentioned in the book isn't "must see," but rather just noteworthy to allow you to figure out what interests you most. I look forward to using this both as I continue to plan my trip and during my travels.

Randee Baty says

My family will be traveling to Ireland this spring and this is the essential tool for planning the trip. The in-depth detail gives hours and prices for attractions. It tells you what time of day is best. It lets you know what to expect from the weather and what to pack. He even goes into the history of the region so you have some idea why what you are seeing matters. It reviews smaller hotels, restaurants and attractions that you might not find on your own and the style is that of one traveler talking to another. Nothing stiff or stuffy here! I've used many Rick Steves guides as well as taking several of his tours. I trust his advice completely and I've never been disappointed.

Kelly says

Not as impressed with the "back doors" in this book as I have been with other guides of his I've used in the past. Maybe he's become too popular since I last went to Europe many years ago. Stayed in a B&B recommended in his book and it was nice, but also booked almost solid with Americans. Where's the fun in that? His sleepy back door town of Dingle felt very touristy, was the most booked up of any place we stayed in Ireland, and what the roads lacked in tour buses they more than made up for in car traffic. Traveling in 'shoulder season', I think we overall liked the Ring of Kerry better than Dingle. Rick also focuses very much on cultural and historical sites, which are cool yes, but in Ireland there is also all this natural beauty and we wanted our trip to focus more on that. Overall the book is not bad, but not exactly the guide we needed either.

Lorraine McCullough says

It did take me a bit, but as I have been trip planning I have loved this book. I cannot wait to take it with me to Ireland. I appreciate the structure of the book, and I love that it is organized by region.

Stacy says

Lots of helpful details, sometimes buried in an unlikely place. (Example: I challenge you to find his recommendation for best driving map.)

Maps are very useful, but NOT on a Kindle Paperwhite. Use your iPad or other tablet to be able to see the maps. Or just get the paper edition.

Ted says

We have come to value Rick Steves' travel books. We used this one for two trips to Ireland. On our most recent trip, we found that he warned us away from a sight (Westport Manor) that was well worth seeing, and didn't even list another sight (Auchnanore Castle) which was also well worth seeing. Both were on the Connemara and Mayo driving tour, which was optimistically listed as a one-day drive. I knew from reading it before we left that it would take us two days--which might be affected by the two photographers in my train, who require frequent stops for camera-clicking.

Overall, however, it's probably still the best travel guide around for Ireland.

Justina says

Super helpful in planning and navigating our trip. Filled with great history and recommendations for food etc.

J.R. Dodson says

Really enjoy Rick Steves on PBS and felt this guide does a really solid job paving our way towards the interesting, deeper, less touristy parts of the country. His direction and the depth he goes into are very helpful and I didn't feel like any of his accommodation or meal suggestions led us astray at all.

The shortcomings of the guide are few: one is that too much detail is given in sections to the stuff he's really nerdy about, whereas the guide could have used more emphasis on pointing out the absolute necessities--considerations while driving or that some museums "fill up" for the day unless you reserve a spot well in advance. Another thing is that the map included in the guide is nearly useless, and could definitely use more route names/numbers.

Overall, I'm pleased with how this book aided us. I've used other guides, such as Fodor's, and although they are good, with Rick Steves it really felt like we were being presented a local's view on things instead of the tourist crap that one can find in the bad brochures or trip advisor reviews. I'd certainly buy another of his guides when planning the next trip.

Jack Hrkach says

Rick Steves is selective, brief, relatively speaking, with strong opinions about what's worth seeing and what's not - he also has a great love for history and culture, and this love shines through in his books. When I am about to head abroad (Ireland, mid-May) I consult him first, then go to the Rough Guide for more detail, and for a more comprehensive view - for example, Steves writes about the area around Cork, but not the city itself - as I will be staying there for four days I want more info - what he doesn't give me Rough Guide does. It's a very good team (whether either RS or RG would admit it!)...

Corinne Johnston says

After 5 months of poring over this book I think I know it by heart! Really good for planning, if a little too marketed at the American tourist (lots of corny advice about narrow roads, driving on the 'wrong' side, etc) but lots of sites have an idea of how long to visit or what to miss (though sometimes when he says I'd give it a miss he doesn't say why)

A little too heavy to cart around with one, but that is what scanning and PDFs are for

A number of places we've heard on his podcasts like Donegal and Sligo are not mentioned in this book, and of course there is no Sicily at all, but apparently a separate one is coming.

All in all, a good preparation book for your visit; good ideas for dining - how else would one know there is a Jazz bar that sells pizza made by a very political French chef who used to be the darling of Sydney nouvelle cuisine in the 80s in Dingle!!

Amanda Silvia says

I brought this book and *DK Eyewitness Travel Guide: Ireland* with me when my husband and I went to Ireland in May/June of this year to celebrate our 5th wedding anniversary. Truthfully, I preferred the *DK Eyewitness Travel Guide: Ireland* guidebook (with its color photos) over this one, but I did use Rick's Dingle Peninsula and Connemara loop trips, which were great. I also used it for other things throughout the trip. Since we had rented a car, I didn't mind carrying two books around with us, since each one had its own strengths.

Jess says

Love Rick

But, Belfast info is a bit lacking. Dublin is under construction (has been for years) so walking tours are outdated.
