



CÉAD MÍLE FÁILTE

A HUNDRED THOUSAND WELCOMES

IMSHOF Class of 2027

Dublin, Ireland
May 2027



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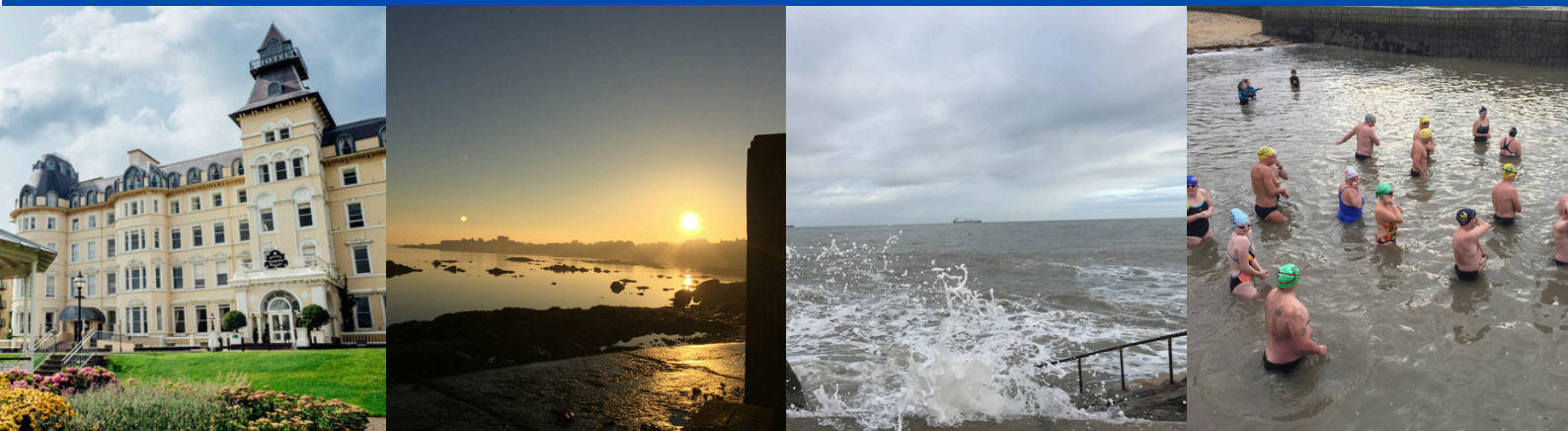


the dream the goal the journey

WELCOME



Dublin, Ireland
May 2027



The four International Marathon Swimming Hall of Fame (MSHOF) Honorees from Ireland invite you to join us as proud hosts of the Class of 2027 Induction and Awards Ceremony on 8th May 2027. The venue will be the Royal Marine Hotel in Dun Laoghaire (10 km from Dublin City Center) just up from Dublin Bay.



Irish Long Distance Swimming Association (Class of 2012)

Founded in 1966, organized more than 300 open water events, ratification of the North Channel swims (part of the Oceans Seven), and host of the 150+ attendee annual open water awards ceremony.



Ned Denison (Class of 2012)

Started the Sandycove Island Swim Club; Blackrock to Cobh swim (now known as the 16 km Cork to Cobh swim); Cork Distance Week in 2009; Ireland Champion of Champions Swim; Around Cork swim. Currently Chairperson of IMSHOF.



Stephen Redmond (Class of 2017)

First swimmer to complete the Oceans Seven and pioneers Fastnet Rock swims which now boasts many successful solo successes in one, two and three way crossings.



Jacqueline McClelland (Class of 2026)

Co-Founder and Director of infinity Channel Swimming and instrumental in increasing the availability of swims across the North Channel: 1947-2016: 34 solos; 2017 to present: 150 solos.

The four above give full credit to the original Honorees from Ireland, RIP:



Ted Kennan (Class of 1984)

The second to complete the original triple crown: English Channel in 1972; North Channel in 1973 in 8.8-11°C; and the 26.8 km Bristol Channel in 1975 in a record time of 14 hours and 26 minutes.



Billy Wallace (Class of 1999)

Served for more than 40 years in various management roles (Honorary President, Honorary Secretary) of the IMSHOF Honor Organization Irish Long Distance Swimming Association (ILDSA) from 1979.

ITINERARY



Dublin, Ireland
May 2027



FRIDAY

7TH MAY

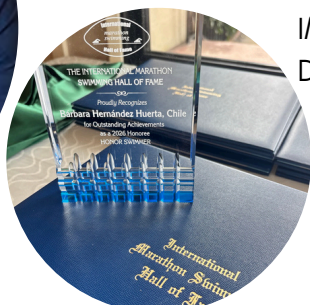
Swim, Casual lunches, Casual dinners
Details TBC



SATURDAY

8TH MAY

Morning swim
IMSHOF Awards Ceremony Class of 2027
Details TBC



SUNDAY

9TH MAY

Swim, Casual lunches, IMSHOF Congress dinners
Details TBC



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Dublin, Ireland
May 2027



“Why is Ireland hosting this event?”

The Saturday night Induction and Awards Ceremony will be part of a full weekend – including Friday casual reception, Saturday am swim at the historic forty foot, Congress for Honorees and casual get togethers. For some international attendees we anticipate they will stay for a week (or more) for tourism and other swims around the island.

The IMSHOF Class of 2013 Induction and Awards Ceremony was held in Cork, Ireland together with Global Open Water Swimming. More than 300 attended the Ceremony. The Class of 2026 Ceremony in San Diego set a high bar: 130 attendees (record for a standalone Conference) and a record 30 Honorees. With your support, we aspire to raise that bar!

Some may be asking: ‘Why is Ireland hosting this event ?

Some may be asking the second question: “Why are there so many interested and successful marathon swimmers in Ireland?”

A few of the reasons: A small(ish) island with lots of coastline, Less than ten 50 meters pools on the island – which encourages open water swimming and lots of cold water.

Ireland’s selection to host the 2027 International Marathon Swimming Hall of Fame Awards and Induction Ceremony is not simply about geography. It reflects Ireland’s emergence as one of the most influential nations in modern marathon swimming.

Front cover: Skellig Michael is a remote, steep, rocky island located 12 kilometers (8 miles) off the coast of County Kerry, Ireland. It is famous for its remarkably preserved 6th-century early Christian monastery perched near the summit and for its appearance as the Jedi temple planet, Ahch-To, in Star Wars: The Force Awakens and The Last Jedi. This page Image: Dál Riata Channel SCO - IRL Back Page



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EVERYONES A WEE BIT IRISH!



Dublin, Ireland
May 2027



Ireland occupies a unique position within the sport. It combines a rich historical legacy, world-renowned marathon swim routes, a rapidly expanding open-water community, and an organisational structure that has become a model internationally. IMSHOF itself announced that the Class of 2027 Inductions and Awards Ceremony will take place in Dublin on 8th May 2027, recognising Ireland's distinctive contribution to marathon swimming.

Several factors explain why Ireland earned the prestige of hosting the event:

-  The North Channel is widely regarded as one of the most demanding marathon swims in the world and forms part of the prestigious Oceans Seven challenge. Its cold water, powerful currents, unpredictable weather, and rough sea conditions attract elite swimmers from across the globe.
-  Participation continues to grow at an extraordinary rate. Solo North Channel crossings are projected to exceed 200 by 2026, reflecting Ireland's growing importance as a global destination for marathon swimmers. North Channel is an Oceans Seven swim and is part of the Irish Triple Crown, Original Triple Crown and NEWS Swim series,
-  IMSHOF Honour Organisation Class of 2012 Irish Long Distance Swimming Association (ILDSA) has become one of the most respected marathon swimming organisations internationally. The organisation ratifies more than 150 marathon swims annually, maintains extensive historical records, administers major channel swims, and actively promotes the sport at every level. www.ildsa.info
-  Ireland consistently produces successful marathon swimmers despite having relatively few 50-metre pools. This has fostered a culture where swimmers develop directly in open water, building resilience, adaptability, and cold-water capability from an early stage.
-  Irish swimming conditions naturally create world-class endurance athletes. Sea temperatures, air temperatures, strong tides, and challenging surface conditions are often considered tougher than those encountered in the English Channel, making Ireland an ideal proving ground for marathon swimming.
-  Ireland has a deep historical connection to the sport. Irish swimmers and contributors have long been recognised by IMSHOF, including pioneers such as Ted Keenan, who became the first Irishman to complete the English Channel, North Channel, and Bristol Channel and was inducted into the Marathon Swimming Hall of Fame and honoree Stephen Redmond first to complete Oceans Seven,
-  The country offers exceptional diversity for open-water swimming. Within a relatively small island are lakes, rivers, sheltered bays, exposed Atlantic coastlines, and internationally recognised channel crossings, all set against some of the most striking scenery in Europe.
-  Ireland has also become a centre of leadership within the sport. IMSHOF Chairperson Ned Denison is based in Ireland, and Irish administrators, volunteers, observers, pilots, coaches, and swimmers have played a significant role in shaping modern marathon swimming internationally.

Ultimately, Ireland was chosen because it represents everything IMSHOF seeks to celebrate: history, endurance, community, innovation, and a deep connection to open water. Hosting the 2027 Awards in Dublin acknowledges not only Ireland's contribution to marathon swimming's past, but also its central role in the future growth of the sport.



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WHERE TO STAY?



Dublin, Ireland
May 2027



TO BOOK ROYAL MARINE HOTEL

To book the Royal Marine Hotel

1. Email reservation@royalmarine.ie or shirley@royalmarine.ie with name, arrival and departure dates and event code/reservation ID '387549'. The discount code in theor is only the night of 8th - but they will probably extend it for early bookings.
2. You should then receive an email asking you to phone 00 353 1 23 000 30 with name, address, and credit card details (to hold not to charge before checkin). They will read off your reservation number (write it down).
3. Then you get an email confirmation - double check your arrival and departure dates.

There are many other options to stay 1 km from the hotel (probably even rent a sail boat to sleep in?). Or you can stay most places in Central Dublin and take the bus or Luas/Dart train to the hotel.

These booking site might help:

[Booking.com: Hotels in Dun Laoghaire. Book your hotel now!](#)

[Dun Laoghaire Hotels](#)

[Airbnb | Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown - Holiday Rentals & Places to Stay - Ireland](#)



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TRANSPORT



Dublin, Ireland
May 2027



IMSHOF Class of 2027 Induction and Awards Ceremony – May 8th Royal Marine Hotel, Marine Road, Dún Laoghaire, Dublin A96 K063, Ireland. Be advised that the expected Friday night reception and Saturday morning swim will be walking distance from this hotel. Located about 10k from Dublin City Center – and easily accessed by public transport. The Dart trains currently run from 6am to midnight.



DUBLIN AIRPORT TO DUN LAOGHAIRE (SOUTH CO. DUBLIN)

MAP OF DUBLIN RAIL AND AIRPORT BUS SERVICES

DUBLIN AIRPORT TO DUN LAOGHAIRE (SOUTH CO. DUBLIN)

Service Provider: Aircoach

<https://www.aircoach.ie/?c=1780095395>

A: Dublin Airport to Dublin City Centre – Bus 700X

<https://www.aircoach.ie/timetables/700X>

Frequent departures – every 30 minutes at peak times

Then: use DART Rail services from Tara Street Station or Pearse Station (close to Trinity College) to Dun Laoghaire :

5 minutes walk to Royal Marine Hotel

Online booking recommended



B: Dublin Airport to Dalkey via Ballsbridge – Bus 702

<https://www.aircoach.ie/timetables/702>

Operates every 35 minutes

Stops at Dun Laoghaire (Marine Road, opposite County Hall)

5 minutes walk to Royal Marine Hotel



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TRANSPORT



Dublin, Ireland
May 2027



Service Provider : Dublin Express

<https://www.dublinexpress.ie/>



Dublin Airport (both Terminals) to Dublin City Centre
Coach operates every 15 minutes

https://www.dublinexpress.ie/media/13916/dublin_express_timetablep_df-oct-25.pdf

Stops at George's Quay / Tara Street Station for connection to DART
Rail Services

DART to Dun Laoghaire Dart Station - 5 minutes walk to Royal Marine
Hotel

Bus Routes

Dun Laoghaire is serviced by Dublin Bus.

The terminus is located at the DART station.

Buses: 7, 7a, 8, 46a.

See <https://www.dublinbus.ie/>



Taxi

From Dublin Airport to Royal Marine Hotel, Dun Laoghaire

Approx. fare : €80 - €100 (Uber is an option)



Driving

Dun Laoghaire is approx. 25 km from Dublin Airport via Dublin city -
Approx. 50-60 minutes and 41 km via M50 motorway (orbital route) :
similar duration



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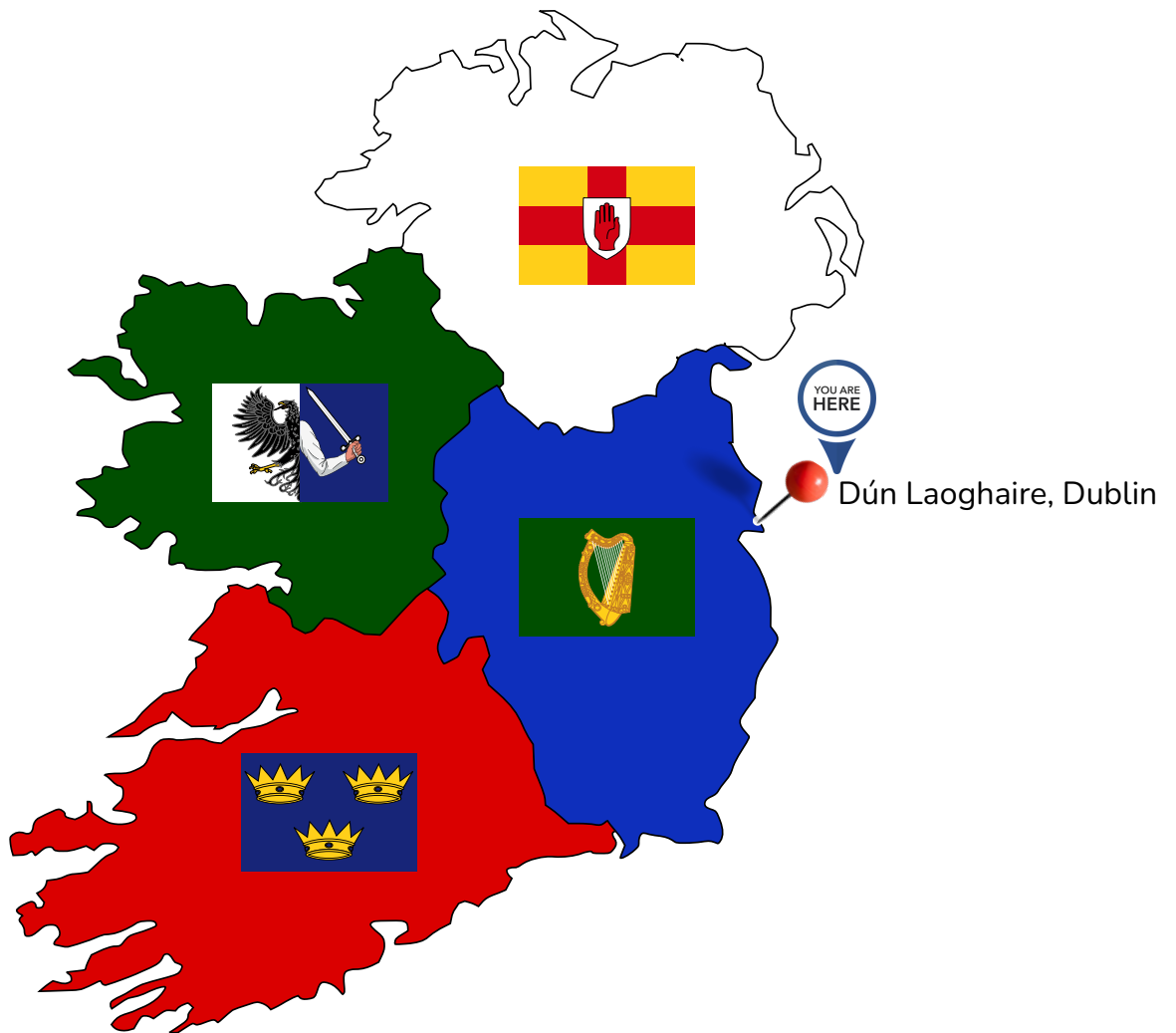


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WHERE TO SWIM



Dublin, Ireland
May 2027



ULSTER

MUNSTER

LEINSTER

CONNAUGHT



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WHERE TO SWIM



Dublin, Ireland
May 2027



CO. DUBLIN: KISH LIGHTHOUSE

Distance: (10km to shore or other longer route options approx 11-15°C)

Lambay Island (various options)

Contact Dave Berry daveberry75@mac.com

CO. DUBLIN: LOCAL SWIM GROUPS

Connect with local distance swimmers

Portmarnock (contact Fergal.somerville@gmail.com)

Seapoint - Killiney for a morning session. Contact thelmajones@gmail.com 7am for 7.30am weekdays 10am for 10.30am weekends and public holidays. 2-3 stops on DART social dips and coffee and chat

Fortyfoot - always swimming here - jump in, a short dip, longer swim course options available.

Around Dalkey Island 4K; Mugglins 4K; Forty foot to Killiney and travel back on the DART

Contact Dave Berry daveberry75@mac.com

CO. DOWN: DONAGHADEE

Distance: 2.6K to 3.3 km from Copeland Island to Donaghadee.

Contact: infinity Channel Swimming infinitychannelcrossings@gmail.com

Details: It will be a bit cold for 10km + but two shorter swims might make sense:

The gathering place for North Channel swims.

Dip with the "Chunky Dunkers" and reconnect

Contact Kathryn Strain (Facebook private group Chunky Dunkers - Message them - post times for swims each week.

Visit Pier 36 hotel, bar and restaurant - maybe YOUR name is on the North Channel swimmer wall

Connect with your past or future North Channel pilot (who may or may not be at the IMSHOF Awards Ceremony)

CO ANTRIM: BALLYCASTLE

Distance: 4 to 6.5 km from Rua Point (Rathlin Island) to shore or Ballycastle

Contact: infinity Channel Swimming infinitychannelcrossings@gmail.com

Details: It will be a bit cold for 10km + but two shorter (this and Donaghadee swim above might be a good option

CO. MAYO: KILALLA BAY

Distance: Any

Contact: Chris - Carol Commons 00353 85 358 1716

Details: Swim the route that the infamous Captain Webb swam

<https://www.facebook.com/100063626794434/posts/captain-matthew-webb-19-01-1848-to-24-07-1883kilcummin-connections-to-the-first-/113563677138352/>

CO. LIMERICK

Distance: Any distance - they swim all year round in Limerick

Contact: Swim with the Limerick Narwhals www.limericknarwhals.ie

Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/limerick.narwhals>

Details: O'Briens bridge is a particular spot and the ILDSA Award winning Island swim is an option. * weather and tide dependant. <https://www.limerick.ie/riverfestRIVERFEST> - early May dip and sauna; Great fun - they are always swimming!



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WHERE TO SWIM



Dublin, Ireland
May 2027



IRISH TRIPLE CROWN - GALWAY BAY

Distance: Galway Bay 10.5K

Contact: Galway swim pilot gsp@gmail.com or Fergal Madden maddenfergal@gmail.com

Details: In early May 2026 a swimmer completed 1-way in 4 hours and the return trip in 8 hours – all in speedo.

IRISH TRIPLE CROWN - FASTNET

Distance: Fastnet 22K

Contact: Fastnet Swim: Noel: <https://fastnetswim.com>

Details: In early May 2026 a swimmer completed 1-way in 6-7 hours and the return trip in 20 hours – all in speedo.

CO. DOWN / CO. ARMAGH LOCAL SWIM GROUPS

Distance: Any

Contact: Donna Walton +44 7742 454576

Details: Swim at the world record venue: Camlough Lake / Swim in the beautiful Carlingford Lough - Take an opportunity to cross countries in a mini channel from Northern Ireland to Ireland! Lots of opportunities in these beautiful waters.

CO. LOUTH BATTLE OF CARLINGFORD LOUGH

23RD MAY 2027 ENTIRES OPEN FEBRUARY 2027

Distance: 7.5K Carlingford Lough, Ireland

Contact: clwfevents@gmail.com www.clwf.eu

Details: Lots of the worlds marathon swimmers have taken this challenge <https://ultraswimming.org/database/events/battle-of-carlingford-lough>

CO. KERRY FENIT

Distance: 8km, 10km or 20km in Tralee Bay

Contact: kevintomw@gmail.com

Details: A beautiful backdrop as your playground if your in the area. Marathon swimming community here will make you most welcome.

CO. CORK, SANDY COVE

Distance Around Sandycove Island 1,600 meters in Kinsale (County Cork)

Contact: ned.denison@corkopenwater.com

Details: lots of English Channel solo swimmers lap the island top get their name on the next version of the large printed towel. Other Cork Distance Week veterans will just want to reconnect.

IS THAT ALL ?!

Whilst the above is not an exhaustive list - check out what the press say:

<https://discovernorthernireland.com/blog/post/wild-swimming/>

<https://www.outdoorswimming.ie>

<https://www.theguardian.com/travel/2016/jun/08/10-best-sea-coastal-swimming-spots-ireland>



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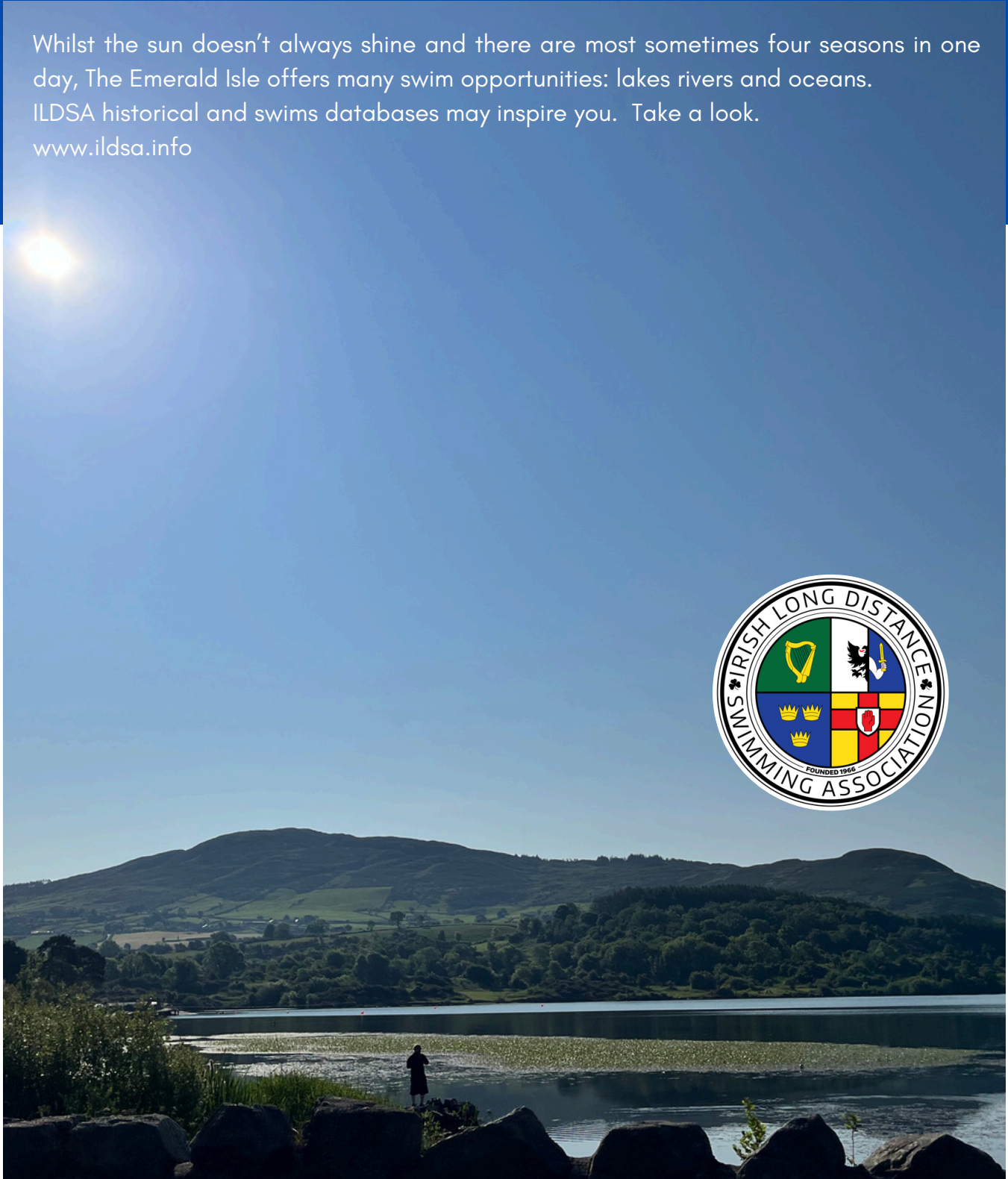
ILDSA



Dublin, Ireland
May 2027



Whilst the sun doesn't always shine and there are most sometimes four seasons in one day, The Emerald Isle offers many swim opportunities: lakes rivers and oceans. ILDSA historical and swims databases may inspire you. Take a look. www.ildsa.info



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CRAIC AGUS CEOL



Dublin, Ireland
May 2027



For a truly authentic traditional Irish music experience in Dublin, your best bet is to avoid crowded tourist traps and visit neighbourhood institutions.

Top spots like The Cobblestone in Smithfield or O'Donoghues on Merrion Row offer genuine, acoustic sessions in historic, local settings. Exploring some of the city's best traditional Irish music venues: The Best Pubs for Traditional Music

Doheny & Nesbitt's <https://www.dohenyandnesbitts.ie> great music and pints

Purty Kitchen (half way to Seapoint swim venue stop for a wee warmer on the way back)
<https://www.purtykitchen.com>

Exploring some of the city's best traditional Irish music venues: The Best Pubs for Traditional Music

The Cobblestone (Smithfield): Widely considered the best spot in Dublin for "real" trad music, this family-owned pub hosts authentic acoustic sessions every single day of the week. It draws a great local crowd.

O'Donoghues (Merrion Row): An absolute Dublin institution where legendary groups like The Dubliners got their start. It is steeped in history and features fantastic folk and traditional music.

Devitt's (Camden Street): Known for hosting fantastic, energetic traditional sessions—especially on Sunday afternoons. They feature live upstairs music almost every night. [1]

The Brazen Head (Bridge Street): Claiming the title of Dublin's oldest pub (established in 1198), it offers a charming, historic ambiance where you can enjoy folk music and traditional food.

The Celt (Talbot Street): Just a short walk from The Spire, this spot has a genuine, welcoming Irish feel and hosts live traditional music daily.

Irish Whiskey Tour

<https://irishwhiskeymuseum.ie/visitor-information/>

GUINNESS Storehouse

<https://www.guinness-storehouse.com/en>

Johnnie Fox's - the highest pub in Ireland

<https://johnniefoxs.com>



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CRAIC AGUS GEOL



Dublin, Ireland
May 2027



A HOP SKIP AND A JUMP AWAY: DUBLIN CITY

Dublin city centre offers a compact, walkable mix of medieval history, literary heritage, and vibrant pub culture. Top sights include Trinity College to see the ancient Book of Kells, the iconic Ha'Penny Bridge over the River Liffey, and a stroll through the bustling streets of Temple Bar.

For a highly scannable look at the best things to do in the heart of the city:

History & Heritage

Trinity College Library: Home to the 9th-century Book of Kells Experience.

Dublin Castle: The historic heart of the city with stunning 13th-century architecture.

St. Patrick's Cathedral: Ireland's largest cathedral, housing the remains of author Jonathan Swift.

Kilmainham Gaol: A chilling, must-see historic prison offering deep dives into Irish revolutionary history (advance booking recommended).

Culture & City Life

Temple Bar: Dublin's cultural quarter, packed with traditional Irish pubs, street performers, and art galleries.

The Spire of Dublin: A sleek, 120-meter stainless-steel monument piercing the sky on O'Connell Street.

Little Museum of Dublin: An award-winning museum that tells the story of the city through charming 29-minute guided tours.



FROM A HALF DAY TREK THATS NOT AROUND THE CORNER TO PACK A LUNCH AND YOU MIGHT NOT BE HOME 'TIL TOMORROW

Keith O'Haras 17 Best Day Trips From Dublin

<https://www.theirishroadtrip.com/day-trips-from-dublin-ireland/>

Discover Ireland Bucket List

<https://www.discoverireland.ie/guides/irish-bucket-list>

Explore Ireland with Alec

<https://explorewithalec.com/things-to-do-in-ireland/>

Walking? Plenty of long and winding roads !

<https://www.thenaturaladventure.com/adventures/ireland/>

History ? steeped in it ..

<https://www.discoveringireland.com/the-history-of-ireland/>

Irish Literature and poetry

we do like to talk <https://www.racontour.com/lit/>

Golf, Soccer, Camogie, Hurling, Gaelic Football, Food - google search



NED'S TOP TEN (WE KNOW - THERE'S 11)

Cliffs of Moher - Stunning sea cliffs offering breathtaking views.

Dublin - The vibrant capital city known for its rich history and culture.

Ring of Kerry - A scenic drive showcasing Ireland's natural beauty.

Galway - A lively city famous for its arts scene and festivals.

Belfast - The capital of Northern Ireland, known for its history and the Titanic Quarter.

Killarney National Park - A beautiful park with lakes, mountains, and wildlife.

Dingle Peninsula - Known for its rugged coastline and charming villages.

Giant's Causeway - A UNESCO World Heritage site with unique hexagonal basalt columns.

Kilkenny Castle - A historic castle with beautiful gardens.

Newgrange - An ancient passage tomb older than Stonehenge, known for its winter solstice alignment

Blarney and Cobh Heritage Centre & Titanic Experience:



NEXT STOP: DUBLIN



Dublin, Ireland
May 2027



Flight planning and other questions:

<https://www.dublinairport.com/flight-information/flight-schedules-and-map>

Airport: DUBLIN

Airport code: DUB

Flight paths: from all over the world:

<https://www.dublinairport.com/flight-information/flight-schedules-and-map>

Do I need a visa to visit Ireland?

Check locally depending on your country laws

Currency:

Euro

Do I need a visa:

Travelling to Dublin Ireland - do I need a visa?

- Check locally depending on your country laws

I want to travel to Northern Ireland 'as its only up the road'

- Check locally depending on your country laws

Car hire:

Dublin Airport website has lots of info

Can I drive to Northern Ireland in an Ireland car ? Check locally

There is no 'official' border crossing between Ireland and

Northern Ireland - generally easy to visit 'up North'

IMSHOF awards venue hotel has parking options on site.



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IMAGES



Dublin, Ireland
May 2027



Front cover

Skellig Michael is a remote, steep, rocky island located 12 kilometers (8 miles) off the coast of County Kerry, Ireland. It is famous for its remarkably preserved 6th-century early Christian monastery perched near the summit and for its appearance as the Jedi temple planet, Ahch-To, in Star Wars: The Force Awakens and The Last Jedi.

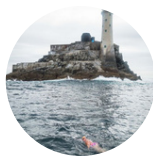
Brianna Jackson swims Skellig Michael to Portmagee
<https://swims.ildsa.info/swim/25123>



Forty Foot swim area and Royal Marine Hotel Dublin



Olive Conroy Dál Riata Channel
SCO - IRL Team 210 SOUTHWEST
<https://swims.ildsa.info/swim/162>



Fastnet Lighthouse Marie Watson first person to swim Mizen to Fastnet

<https://swims.ildsa.info/swim/149>

Ireland is synonymous with lighthouses <https://www.greatlighthouses.com>



1

Camlough Lake, Co.Armagh
<http://www.clwf.eu>



1

On approach to Dublin USA - IRL



Back Page

Dave Berry swims Cliffs of Moher

<https://swims.ildsa.info/swim/24005>

Andreas Washcburger North Channel - records and Ocean sevens record

<https://www.guinnessworldrecords.com/world-records/722696-fastest-time-to-swim-the-oceans-seven-cumulative>

<https://www.ildsa.info/north-channel/history/>

<https://www.ildsa.info/north-channel/>

<https://swims.ildsa.info/swim/25175>



Twitter | X [imshoforg](#)



[LinkedIn company/international-marathon-swimming-hall-of-fame/](https://www.linkedin.com/company/international-marathon-swimming-hall-of-fame/)



Electronic Library ([link](#))



Website IMSHOF.org



International Marathon Swimming Hall of Fame



[@imshofame](#)



[@infoimshof3830](#)



FHEICEANN TÚ NÍOS DÉANAÍ

SEE YOU SOON



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