



### Local Currency

The unit of currency in this port of call is the Euro. There are 8 Euro coins denominated in 2 and 1 Euros, along with 50, 20, 10, 5, 2, and 1 cent pieces. Every euro coin carries a common European face. On the obverse, each Member State decorates the coins with their own motifs. No matter which motif is on the coins they can be used anywhere inside the Member States. There are 7 euro notes. In different colors and sizes, they are denominated in 500, 200, 100, 50, 20, 10, and 5 euros. The notes are uniform throughout the euro area; unlike coins, they have no national side. All euro notes are legal tender in all countries of the euro area.. Most major credit cards are widely accepted.



### Office/Telephone Facilities

The main Post Office is at Westbourne Place in Cobh. In Cork, the Post Office is located on Oliver Plunkett Street 7.

The Eircom Center is located on Lapp's Quay in Cork. In addition there are pay phones in all post offices as well as booths on the street. You can place a call with your personal calling card using the following access codes:

AT&T: 1-800-550-000 / MCI: 1-800-551-001 / SPRINT: 1-800-552-001



### Tourist Information

The Tourist Information Office in Cork is located on Grand Parade 8. In Cobh the Tourist Information Center is located just outside of the pier area.



### Transportation

A limited number of taxis are available on the Pier. However, it is important to negotiate a fare prior to departing and recommended to use local currency. There is a train station at the end of the Pier in Cobh, providing a service to Cork, although it is not known for its reliability. The central bus station in Cork is located on Merchant's Quay and serves the town and out-lying areas.

This information has been compiled for the convenience of our guests and is intended solely for that purpose. While we work to ensure that the information contained herein is correct, we cannot accept responsibility for any changes that may have taken place since printing.

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# Cobh (Cork)



## General Information

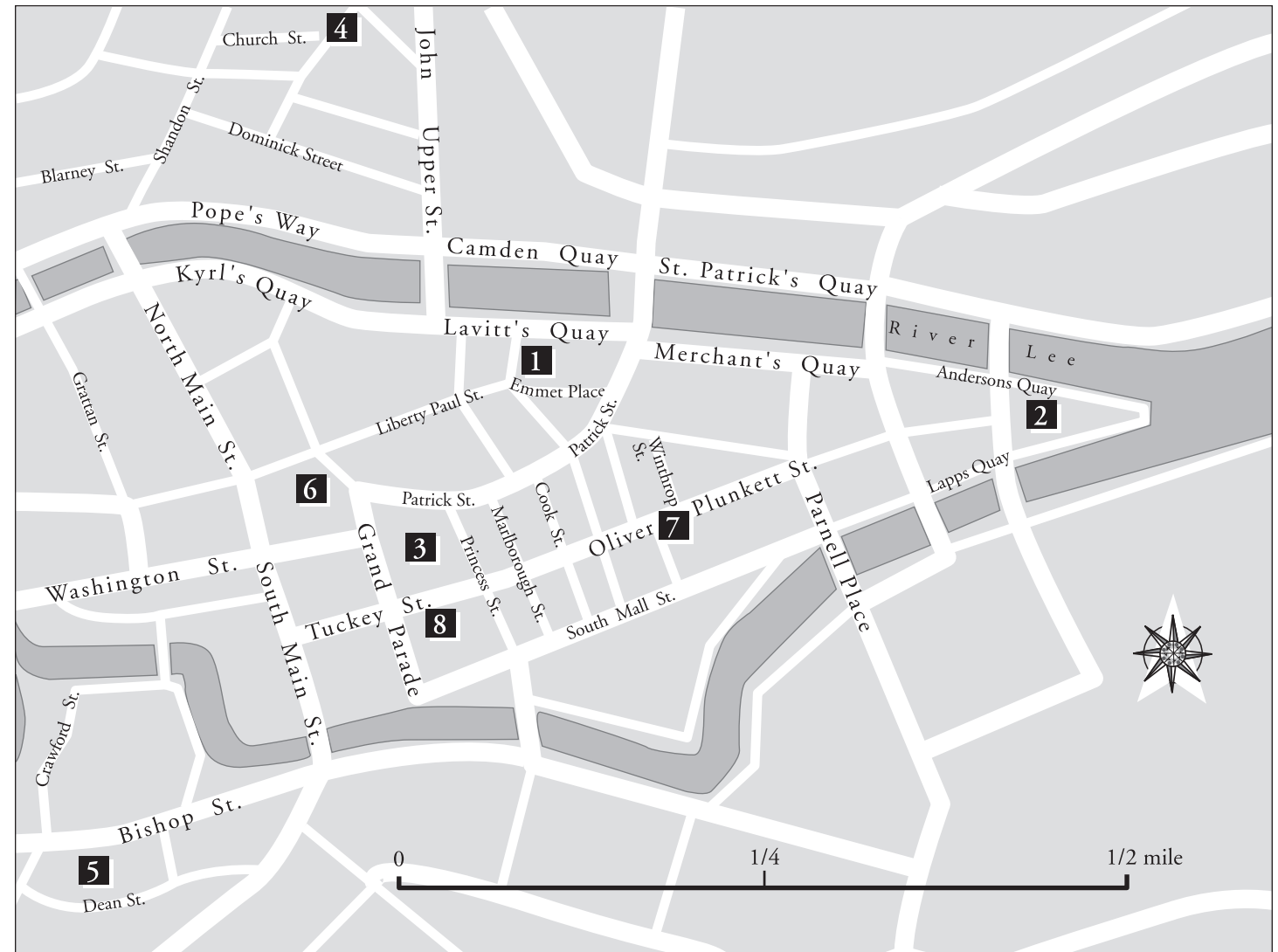
Cork is the Republic of Ireland's second largest metropolitan area and the county town of County Cork, the largest county in Ireland. The City is situated on the south-west coast of Ireland at the head of Cork harbor, one of the best natural harbors in Europe, located on the two branches of the River Lee. Cork has a population of approximately 175,000 and its name derives from the Irish word 'Corcaigh', meaning 'Marsh'. This is an apt description as the town began on some dry land in the great marsh of Munster. Because of its origin as islets in a marsh, Cork is a city of bridges and the main streets and roads of modern Cork were once water-ways, navigable by cargo ships.

In the 18th and 19th centuries, Cork was famous for its butter market and Cork and Kerry butter was exported from here. The brewing industry was also very important for the local economy and still is to this day. Other industries in Cork include food processing as well as general manufacturing. These are mainly located around the harbor area.

Cork is an excellent center for excursions into the surrounding countryside. One of the favorite tourist destinations is Blarney Castle, about 5 miles away, with the famous Blarney Stone, said to bestow eloquence on all who kiss it.



## Places of Interest



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The above map is for the city of Cork.

### Cobh

**Queenstown Story** is a dramatic exhibition of the history of Cobh, occupying an unused section of the railway station, close to the Ship's berth. Emphasis is placed on the importance of Cobh as an embarkation port for emigrants to the New World. From the Great Famine of 1844 until the late 1950's, over 2 million people emigrated from Ireland,

with Cobh their last sight of Mother Ireland. Reference is made to the sinking of the Lusitania in 1915, having been torpedoed by a German submarine just off Kinsale, with the loss of 1,198 lives and at which point the United States entered World War I. Cobh was also the last port of call for the Titanic on her tragic maiden voyage, and various relics from the great liner are also on display.





## Cork

**1 Crawford Art Gallery** at Emmet Place, is housed in what was once the Custom House, built in 1724, when the street was in fact the King’s Dock, it remained in use up until 1832. The Gallery now contains a collection of sculptures, including some Rodin bronzes as well as some fine paintings.

**2 Custom House** on Custom House Quay, is where all goods for import and export were invoiced during the great trading days of Cork Harbor.

**3 City Market**, also known as the English market, has origins dating back to 1610, although the present building was built in 1786. With entrances from Grand Parade, St. Patrick Street and Prince’s Street, the Market provides a colorful insight into local tradition and culture with a wide range of fruit and vegetables stalls.

**4 St. Anne’s Church and the Bells of Shandon**, located a good walk from the City center on Exchange Street, is noted for its ‘pepper pot’ steeple top and the fact that two sides of the tower are built of sandstone and two of limestone. The present building dates from 1720 and visitors may ring the famous bells and climb to the top of the 120 foot tower for a terrific view of the City.

**5 St. Finbarr’s Cathedral** is situated between Bishop Street and Dean Street on the outskirts of Cork. This Church of Ireland Cathedral was built in French gothic style and opened in 1870 on the site where, in 650 A.D., St. Finbarr founded his monastic school. Of particular interest is the great rose west window, the mosaic pavements and elaborate carvings.

**6 Queen’s Old Castle** on Grand Parade, was once used to guard the City’s watergates, now it is a shopping arcade.

### Beyond Cobh/Cork

**Blarney Castle** is located in Blarney some 5 miles from Cork. The Castle is one of the oldest and most historic in Ireland. An ancient stronghold of the MacCarthy’s, legend states that Dermot MacCarthy talked his way out of handing over the property to Elizabeth I, who referred to his excuses as ‘Blarney’ meaning ‘pleasant talk – meant

to deceive without offending’. The Blarney Stone is embedded in the parapets of the Castle and is supposed to bestow the gift of eloquence on anyone who kisses it.

**Jameson Heritage Center** in Midleton, is about 13 miles from Cobh. Built in 1794 as a woollen mill, converted to a military barracks and, in 1825, a Distillery, it remained thus for 150 years. Guided tours describe the process of traditional Irish Whiskey production and conclude with a complimentary sample. The Distillery contains a copper Pot Still with a capacity of 32,000 gallons, the largest in the world.

**City Gaol**, an impressive building, approximately 2 miles from Cork on Sunday’s Well Road. Special effects help recreate the squalid conditions in which prisoners were kept during the 19th century. An audio-visual presentation portrays the contrasting life-styles of the period, which encouraged many to a life of crime.

**Gun Powder Mills** are located in Ballincollig, approximately 5 miles from Cork. A unique industrial complex on the banks of the River Lee, where Gunpowder was manufactured for over 100 years, from 1794 to 1903. The exhibition provides an insight into the lives of 19th century workers in a Gunpowder factory and the dangers to which they were exposed.

**Charles Fort**, in the small fishing town of Kinsale, was built on the site of an earlier fortification in the late 17th century. It is a ‘star-shaped’ fort, used as a harbor defence for Kinsale and garrisoned up until 1921.

**Muckross House and Gardens** are situated just outside of Killarney in County Kerry. A 19th century manor built in Elizabethan style, it contains period furnishings and exhibitions relating to local folklore and the history of the proprietors. A craft center occupies the basement. The house is surrounded by beautiful gardens where visitors may stroll or take a ride in a Jaunting Car.

- Admission Charges are generally in local currency.
- When going ashore, passengers are advised to take with them only the items they need and to secure any valuables.



### History

St. Finbarr founded the first town in the area in the 7th century, establishing a monastery, church and school. In 821, 846 and 1012 Norsemen raided and burned Cork, later settling in the area, integrating with the local community and setting up a trade center. The town was ‘walled’ in the 12th century and in 1172 the Lord of Desmond and Munster; Dermot MacCarthy, was defeated by Anglo-Norman invaders, submitting to England. Cork was granted its first Charter and the area was held by the English for a long period of time. During the English Civil War, Cork yielded to Oliver Cromwell’s forces in 1649 and later, in 1690, surrendered to William III.

It is said that the world’s first yacht club was founded at Cork harbor in 1720. By 1761 the City had its first piped water system installed, using wooden pipes. In the 18th and 19th centuries economic progress took place with butter being exported, glass manufacturing booming, and vast numbers of cattle slaughtered and salted for export, and use by the British Navy and other ships sailing into Cork or Cobh to provision. During the period 1919 to 1920, Cork became the center of resistance during the Anglo-Irish conflict and refused to recognize the 1921 Partition of Ireland Treaty.



### Shore Excursions

To make the most of your visit to Cobh and Cork we suggest you take one of our organized Shore Excursions. For information concerning tour content and pricing consult your Shore Excursion Brochure or contact the Shore Excursion Desk.



### Local Customs

**Bargaining:** Shop prices in Ireland are fixed.

**Tipping:** Where service charge is not included in a restaurant bill, 10 – 12% is a good guideline.

**Local Cuisine:** Traditional cuisine in Ireland is simple and wholesome, Irish Stew being a popular example. Colcannon is a vegetable dish of diced potatoes, fried with onions and cabbage, covered with cream. Tripe and Drisheen are local specialties, the latter being a type of blood sausage. The brown bread is excellent.

**Drink Specialties:** Irish Whiskey is perhaps the best known and then there’s Irish Coffee. The local brews are Murphy’s and Beamish Stouts, dark beers brewed with malt.

Bottled water is recommended.



### Shopping Facilities

The main shops are found on St. Patrick’s Street in Cork and are open from 9:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Local handicrafts include quality woolsens, hand-knit sweaters and tweeds. Waterford crystal originates from the nearby town of the same name.

Value Added Tax (VAT), is added to most purchases. Visitors who spend over a certain amount may be entitled to re-claim some or all of the tax paid, however, regulations and conditions governing the refund of VAT are subject to change and RCCL cannot guarantee the cooperation of local authorities.



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