



Ireland

Country ID's

 **Capital:** Dublin

 **Flag:**



 **Languages:** Irish, English

 **Geography :** Ireland is an island located in northwestern Europe, near Britain. It comprises the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland, part of the UK. The River Shannon is Ireland's longest river. Known as the "Emerald Isle," Ireland has lush landscapes and a mild climate. It has big cliffs like the Cliffs of Moher, and beautiful lakes.

 **Population:** 7.35 million people

 **Outline map of Ireland**



 **Key Cultural Symbols:** - Shamrock: Three-leafed clover linked to St. Patrick; explains the Holy Trinity. - Harp: National symbol on coins and documents; reflects musical heritage. - Celtic Cross: Combines Christian and pagan beliefs; found in stone carvings. - Leprechaun: Folklore character. - Green: Represents Ireland's lush countryside.

 **Traditional Music and Dances:** - Irish Traditional Music: Often features instruments like the fiddle, tin whistle, uilleann pipes, and bodhrán. - Céilí Dancing: A social dance performed in groups, featuring lively steps and formations such as the "Walls of Limerick" and the "Siege of Ennis." - Riverdance: A popular theatrical show featuring traditional Irish step dancing, known for its rapid leg movements and stationary upper body. - The Harp: A national symbol of Ireland, the harp is integral to traditional Irish music.

 **Important National Celebration:** St. Patrick's Day 17 March

 **Popular greeting:** "Dia dhuit," which means "God be with you"

 **Popular food (Typical Dishes):** - Irish stew: Made with lamb or mutton, potatoes, onions, and carrots. - Colcannon: Creamy mashed potatoes with kale or cabbage. - Boxty: Potato pancakes. - Soda bread: Dense and slightly tangy, made without yeast. - Black pudding: Savory sausage made with pork and oats.

 **Easy recipe (to cook in a class):** Soda bread muffins

 **Fun Facts :** Ireland is called the "Emerald Isle" for its green landscape.

- Halloween's Origin: Halloween traces back to Samhain, an ancient Celtic festival marking harvest's end and winter's start in Ireland.
- No Snakes in Ireland: Legend says St. Patrick drove snakes out, but Ireland never had them due to its island isolation.
- Guinness Beer: Guinness, the famous stout, started in 1759 at Dublin's St. James's Gate Brewery.

 **Pictures of key cultural elements**



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