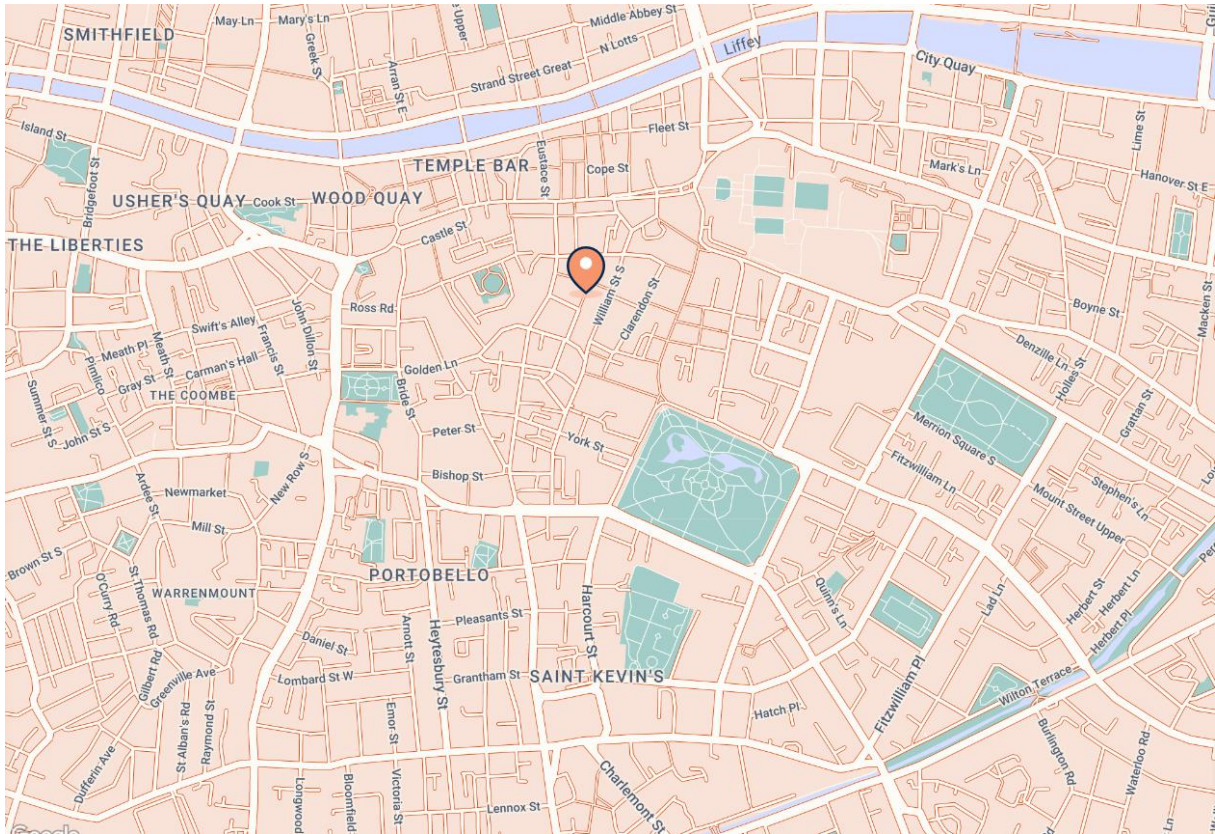


A long weekend in Dublin (15-19 August 2012)

Wednesday 15 August: Flight from Brussels to Dublin. Arrival in the afternoon.

I was accompanied by an Irish friend from Luxembourg, we shared an hotel room at Brooks Hotel, Drury Street, Dublin. www.brookshotel.ie



[Map of Dublin – See What's Nearby \(visitdublin.com\)](http://visitdublin.com)

Stroll in the streets around the hotel, diner at restaurant “Salamanca” in St Andrews Street:

[Salamanca Tapas Bar & Restaurant](#)



Thursday 16 August:

Booked a one-day excursion in the Wicklow County: “Grand Wicklow & Coastal Tour. (Gray Line Day Tours: 118 Grafton Street, Dublin. [Gray Line Ireland](#) | [Dublin](#) | [Facebook](#)).

We stopped at:

- Bray, nestled between the mountains & the Irish sea,
- Powerscourt House and Gardens
- Glendalough monastic settlement, guided tour at the round tower,
- Wicklow gap and Blessington lakes



https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/d/d8/Wicklow_Mountains_topographic_map-fr.svg

Wicklow Mountains National Park: [Wicklow - National Parks of Ireland](#)

“Powerscourt Estate, located in Enniskerry, is a large country estate which is noted for its house and landscaped gardens, today occupying 19 hectares. The house, originally a 13th-century castle, was extensively altered during the 18th century by German architect Richard Cassels, starting in 1731 and finishing in 1741. A fire in 1974 left the house lying as a shell until it was renovated in 1996” (Wikipedia).¹

¹ [Powerscourt Estate - Wikipedia](#)



Powerscourt Fountains, Copyright (c) 2006 Amanda Susan Munroe²



Own photo

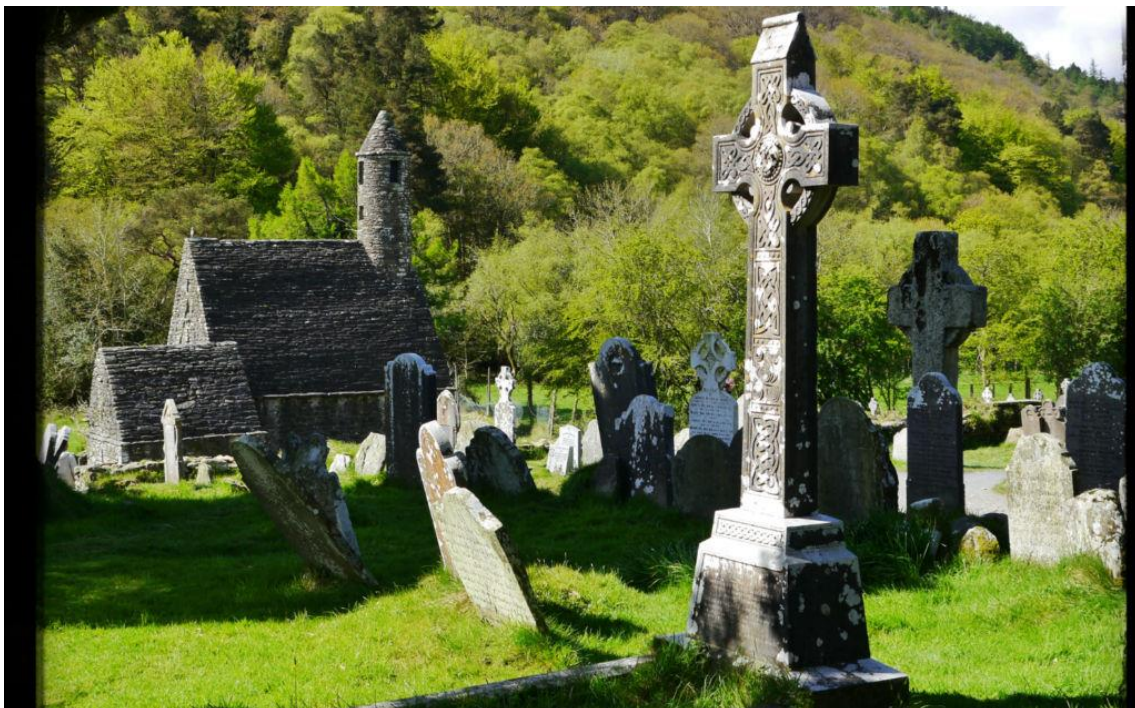
² [Powerscourt Fountain - Powerscourt Estate - Wikipedia](#)

“Glendalough is home to one of the most important monastic sites in Ireland. This early Christian monastic settlement was founded by St. Kevin in the 6th century and from this developed the ‘Monastic City’. Most of the buildings that survive today date from the 10th through 12th centuries. Despite attacks by Vikings over the years, Glendalough thrived as one of Ireland’s great ecclesiastical foundations and schools of learning until the Normans destroyed the monastery in 1214 A.D. and the dioceses of Glendalough and Dublin were united.”

See: <https://visitwicklow.ie/listing/glendalough-monastic-city/>:



<https://visitwicklow.ie/wp-assets/uploads/2015/02/Round-Tower-Glendalough31-1.jpg>



<https://visitwicklow.ie/wp-assets/uploads/2015/02/Glendalough8.jpg>

The rain started to fall at the end of the Glendalough tour, and unfortunately, we only saw the magnificent Blessington lakes through our bus windows...



Blessington lakes, <https://visitwicklow.ie/wp-assets/uploads/2015/02/blessington-lakes5-1200x675.jpg>

Friday 17 August:

National Museum of Decorative Arts and History at Collins Barracks (free admission): [Decorative Arts & History | National Museum of Ireland](#). Permanent exhibitions: “The Way We Wore,” which displays clothing and jewellery worn in Ireland from the 1760s to the 1960s, “Irish Silver”, and “Irish Country Furniture”.



Photo by Filip Scridon - Own work, CC BY-SA 4.0³

Visit the two medieval cathedrals in Dublin:

1) St Patrick’s Church: <https://www.stpatrickscathedral.ie/visit/>

³ [Art-Museum-01 - National Museum of Ireland – Decorative Arts and History - Wikipedia](#)



<https://www.visitdublin.com/st-patrick-s-cathedral>

and 2) Christ Church Cathedral, or The Cathedral of the Holy Trinity (including its crypt and treasures), which is the oldest of the two: [Home | Christ Church Cathedral](#)



Photo from Wikimedia Commons

Lunch and shopping at Avoca, 11-13 Suffolk Street, quite an institution! [Avoca Suffolk Street - Avoca](#). I bought a couple of blankets there, that I still use today. [Irish Throws & Blankets | Couch & Bed Throws - Avoca](#)

Diner at The Green Hen restaurant, 33 Exchequer Street: [HOME | The Green Hen](#)

Riverdance show at the Gaiety Theatre: [Dublin - Riverdance](#)

Drink at Westbury hotel.

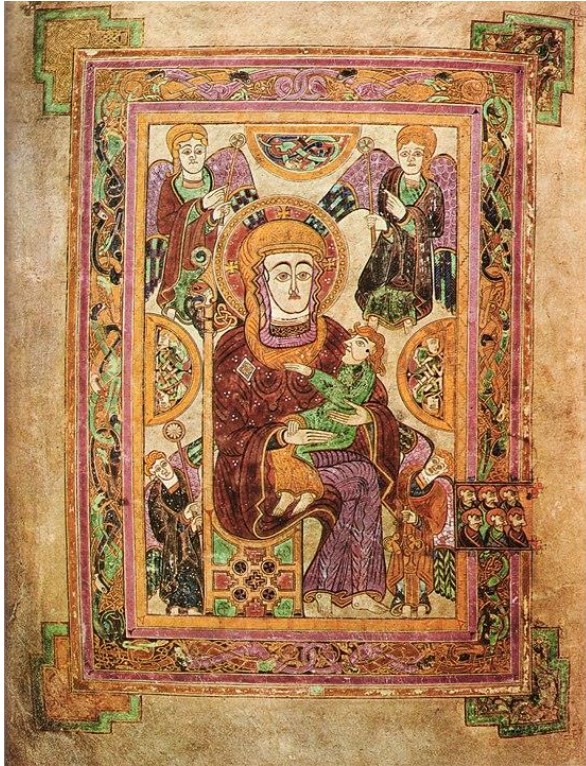
Saturday 18 August

Visit the Old Library of Trinity College, and the Book of Kells, an illuminated manuscript and Celtic Gospel book in Latin, believed to have been created c. 800 AD. It contains the four Gospels of the New Testament together with various prefatory texts and tables.



La Old Library de Trinity College à Dublin - © VanderWolf Images,
<https://www.guide-irlande.com/sites-touristiques/old-library/>

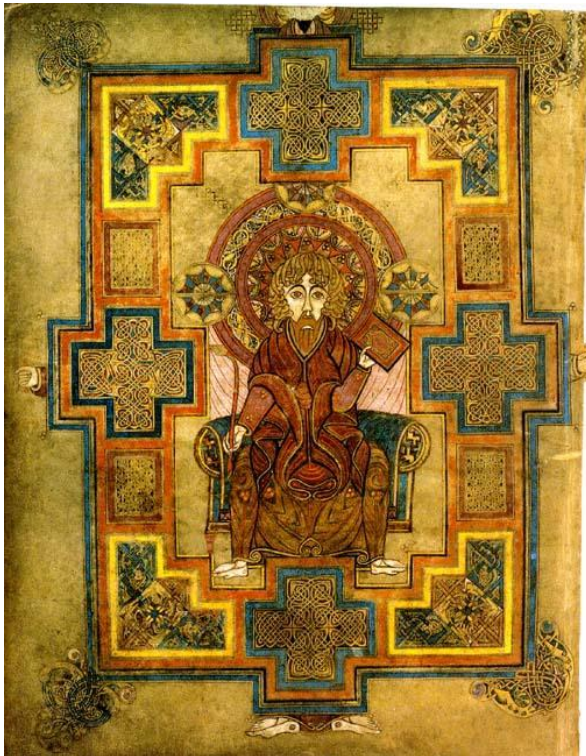
The following illustrations included in the Book of Kells come from the following Wikipedia article: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Book_of_Kells



Folio 7v contains an image of the Virgin and Child. This is the oldest extant image of the Virgin Mary in a Western manuscript



Folio 27v contains the symbols of the Four Evangelists: an angel (Matthew), a lion (Mark), an eagle (John) and an ox (Luke)



Folio 291v contains a portrait of John the Evangelist.



The Book of Kells, (folio 292r), circa 800, showing the lavishly decorated text that opens the Gospel of John

Visit the National Library, a wonderful building that you can visit freely: <https://www.nli.ie/>



<https://lh3.googleusercontent.com/p/AF1QipN646d63HKHcgWJPYcGRGGhzLTx57fmbQEBX4uD=s1360-w1360-h1020>



Photo by Paul Soden, https://lh3.googleusercontent.com/p/AF1QipMK8gokUfP-g_YVBRzTNbYWPsnL_wUNFrxmO2A=s1360-w1360-h1020

Take a stroll in Marion and Fitzwilliam squares.

Visit Georgian House Museum, N°29 Fitzwilliam Street Lower: <https://numbertwentynine.ie/>



The dining room: <https://lucyproctorire.files.wordpress.com/2021/06/dining-room.jpeg>



The back drawing room: <https://lucyproctorire.files.wordpress.com/2021/06/back-drawing-room.jpeg>

Window shopping: Antiques in Francis Street

Coming back to the hotel, see Dublin Castle and its remarkable church.

“Constructed in the early thirteenth century on the site of a Viking settlement, Dublin Castle served for centuries as the headquarters of English, and later British, administration in Ireland. In 1922, following Ireland’s independence, Dublin Castle was handed over to the new Irish government. It is now a major government complex and a key tourist attraction” (<https://www.dublincastle.ie/>).



https://img.locationscout.net/images/2020-05/dublin-castle-ireland_1.jpeg

Diner at “La Stampa” restaurant, 35 Dawson Street, but it seems it closed down a few years ago.

Sunday 19 August

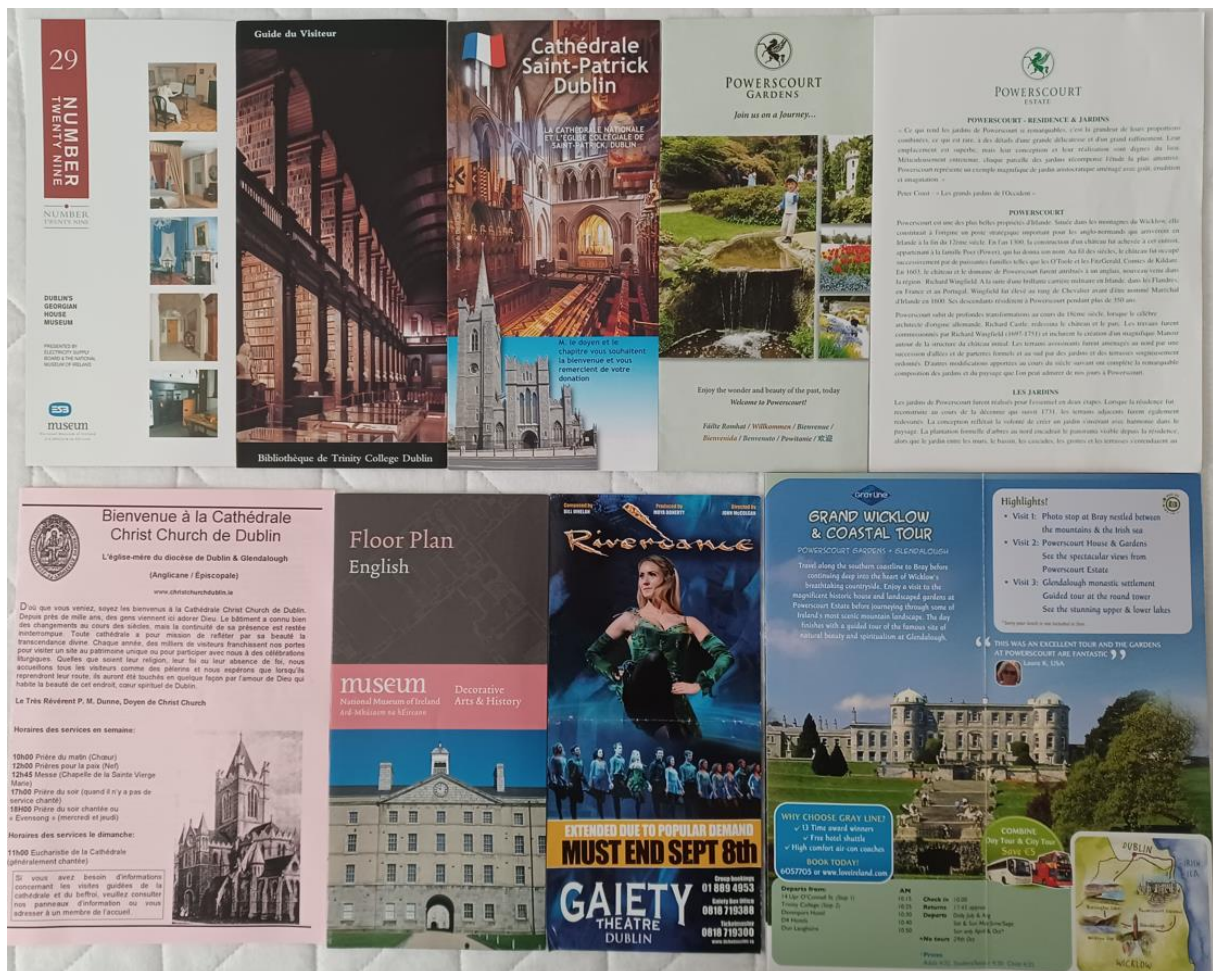
Morning: stroll in and around St Stephen’s Green, a magnificent garden. It is the largest of the parks in Dublin's main Georgian garden squares. Others include nearby Merrion Square and Fitzwilliam Square.



Flight back to Brussels.

Leaflets gathered and books purchased during this trip:





Eva Anglessy,

Revised on 9 March 2024