Bram Stoker's Dublin

Begin at Trinity and finish beside St Patrick's Cathedral. The route links Bram's student years, a former home, his marriage and his civil-service work with the friendship that drew him to the theatre. At Merrion Square, the Oscar Wilde Memorial adds the wider literary world of the Wilde and Stoker families.

Printable companion: stop summaries and directions. Full histories, readings and sources are available through the links in this guide.

Length	About 4.2 km / 2.6 miles
Allow	About 1¼ hours walking; allow 2 - 3 hours with stops
Underfoot	City pavements, crossings and some cobbles
Start / finish	Trinity College, College Green -> Marsh's Library, St Patrick's Close



N is up. Schematic only: use the live map and local signs for street-level navigation.

Burgundy: main route/stops. Green: optional detours/stops. Gold dots: beach section (where shown).

1. Trinity College - College Green entrance
2. Oscar Wilde Memorial - Merrion Square
3. 30 Kildare Street - Bram's former home
4. The Shelbourne Hotel - St Stephen's Green
5. St Ann's Church - Dawson Street
6. Dublin Castle - Upper Yard
7. Marsh's Library - St Patrick's Close

A. The Shelbourne - optional lunch or afternoon tea

For sources, image credits, access and safety notes, and the latest updates:
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Before you set out

Dublin Castle is closed through 31 December 2026 for Ireland's EU Presidency. There is no public access or through route across the campus. The map shows the normal route: skip the Castle grounds during the closure and follow local diversions to Marsh's Library.

The route includes private buildings and working institutions. View homes from public pavements; check opening and admission before planning an interior visit. Park access at Merrion Square depends on its gates being open.

Plan indoor visits before setting out, then fit the street walk around them. Check the Castle's closure notice and the Library's opening days before choosing a date.

Dublin Castle - check the closure

The entire campus is closed through 31 December 2026 for Ireland's EU Presidency. Public visits are expected to resume in January 2027; check the official notice before planning a tour.

Official closure and visitor information

Future tour information

Marsh's Library

Reserve a self-guided visit online if you want to plan ahead; paying at the door is also possible. Check opening days before arranging the rest of your walk.

Library visits and tickets

Trinity College visitor experiences

Our walk starts at College Green. If you also want an official Trinity College campus tour or a Book of Kells and Old Library visit, book that separately, before you start. Start our tour when you have finished.

Official Trinity tours and tickets

A · The Shelbourne

Optional lunch in the Saddle Room or afternoon tea in the Lord Mayor's Lounge, at the hotel linked to Bram's friendship with Irving. Reserve ahead and allow extra time.

Lunch, tea and reservations

The Bram Stoker Estate receives no commission or payment from recommendations or bookings.

Check the weather

Check the local forecast and any weather warnings before setting out.

Dublin forecast - Met Éireann

Follow the route

Use public paths and marked crossings. Respect private homes and working buildings. Distances are approximate; allow extra time for visits, lunch or tea. Check the live guide for access changes before travelling.

Open the live map and current guide

Prepared 13 November 2026. Route and historical notes: Bram Stoker Estate. Route geometry uses OpenStreetMap data (© OpenStreetMap contributors, ODbL). The overview is schematic, not a street basemap.

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Stops along the walk

1. Trinity College - College Green entrance



National Library of Ireland, Lawrence Collection.

Trinity College and College Green, Dublin, circa 1900. Later than Bram's student years.

Student years · 1864 - 1870

Trinity remembers Bram for an unusual double distinction: he is the only person to have led both its Philosophical and Historical societies. That achievement belongs to a much wider, energetic student life.

Look for: The front gate on College Green and the college squares beyond it: the setting for six years of Bram's study, sport and debate.

Practical: Campus and exhibition access differ; check visitor arrangements. The Old Library and Long Room are due to close for works from the end of 2027.

Walking to the next stop: Follow Nassau Street and Clare Street to Merrion Square North.

Full history, readings and source references

2. Oscar Wilde Memorial - Merrion Square



Courtesy of the Bram Stoker Estate.

Oscar Wilde Memorial by Danny Osborne, Merrion Square, Dublin.

Later memorial · Danny Osborne's memorial · 1997

The green jade jacket catches the eye before the stories behind the memorial unfold. Those stories lead into the friendships, courtships and family connections of Dublin's literary circles.

Look for: The green jade jacket, the pink thulite collar and cuffs, and the smiling and sorrowful sides of the face. Then read the handwritten quotations on the pillars.

Practical: Enter at the north-west corner of Merrion Square Park. The memorial is outdoors; access depends on the park gates being open.

Walking to the next stop: Return by Merrion Square West and Leinster Street South to Kildare Street.

Full history, readings and source references

3. 30 Kildare Street - Bram's former home



Courtesy of the Bram Stoker Estate.

30 Kildare Street, Dublin, with the plaque commemorating Bram Stoker.

Former home · commemorative plaque

Bram's Dublin life had room for more than one ambition. This address brings his official career close to the growing interest in performance that would eventually take him to London.

Look for: The commemorative plaque, then the batwing fanlight above the door and the decorative boot-scraper beside the entrance, details recorded in the national architectural inventory.

Practical: View the exterior from the public pavement; the house is private.

Walking to the next stop: Continue south along Kildare Street to St Stephen's Green North.

Full history, readings and source references

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4. The Shelbourne Hotel - St Stephen's Green



Courtesy of the Bram Stoker Estate

The Shelbourne Hotel, St Stephen's Green, Dublin.

Friendship with Irving · 1876

On a December night in 1876 more than a thousand students hauled Henry Irving's carriage by rope up Grafton Street to this hotel - and Bram went with him.

Look for: The hotel frontage and entrance on St Stephen's Green North. Picture the students' rope and the crowd sweeping up from Grafton Street.

Practical: The hotel is a working business; view from the pavement and ask staff before visiting public rooms.

Walking to the next stop: Walk west to Dawson Street, then north to St Ann's.

Full history, readings and source references

Optional A. The Shelbourne - optional lunch or afternoon tea



Courtesy of the Bram Stoker Estate

The Shelbourne Hotel, St Stephen's Green, Dublin.

Bram and Henry Irving · 1876

Optional lunch or tea at the hotel linked to Bram and Henry Irving's first supper in 1876.

Practical: A meal or tea is entirely optional. Check the current menus, prices, dress guidance, accessibility and dietary arrangements with the hotel. The Bram Stoker Estate receives no commission or payment from recommendations or bookings.

Walking to the next stop: Continue along the main route to St Ann's Church on Dawson Street.

Full history, readings and source references

5. St Ann's Church - Dawson Street



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St Ann's Church, Dawson Street, Dublin.

Wedding · 4 December 1878

Two commitments came together at this doorway: marriage and a new working life. The pace of the days around them makes this one of the turning points of Bram's Dublin story.

Look for: If the church is open, the bread shelves: a charitable provision the diocese dates to 1723, linking the building with daily Dublin life as well as the Stoker marriage.

Practical: Respect services and check church opening. Ask before photographing inside and avoid interrupting worship.

Walking to the next stop: During the Castle closure through 31 December 2026, skip its grounds and continue to Marsh's Library using public streets and signed diversions. After reopening, the usual route to the Castle is via Nassau Street, Suffolk Street, Church Lane and Dame Street.

Full history, readings and source references

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6. Dublin Castle - Upper Yard



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The Upper Yard at Dublin Castle.

Civil service · 1866 - 1878

Campus closure through 31 December 2026: do not enter the Castle grounds. Read this historical stop from a public street, follow local restrictions and continue to Marsh's Library without crossing the campus.

The scale of the Castle puts Bram's early working days in perspective: one official among a great machinery of government, with his theatrical interests growing beyond the office.

Look for: The medieval Record Tower, adapted in 1811 to hold state papers, and the Chapel Royal beside it, seen across the Upper Yard.

Practical: Courtyard access and paid interior tours have different arrangements. The entire Dublin Castle campus is closed to the public through 31 December 2026 for Ireland's EU Presidency; reopening is expected in January 2027. Check the official notice before visiting.

Walking to the next stop: During the closure, continue to Marsh's Library using public streets and signed diversions. Castle Street and Ship Street are also closed through 31 December 2026. After reopening, the usual route is via Castle Street, Werburgh Street, Bride Road and St Patrick's Close.

Full history, readings and source references

7. Marsh's Library - St Patrick's Close



Courtesy of the Bram Stoker Estate

The entrance to Marsh's Library, Dublin.

First registered visit · 4 July 1866

Bram's curiosity left a paper trail here. A library register and requests for particular books offer a rare close view of what a young reader wanted to know.

Look for: The library's Stoker exhibition, with Bram's signature in the visitors' book and the register of the books he requested.

Practical: Check admission and access with the library; the historic galleries involve stairs.

Finish: The walk ends at Marsh's Library beside St Patrick's Cathedral; MoLI's Dublin Gothic exhibition and the Clontarf birthplace outing make good separate visits.

Full history, readings and source references

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