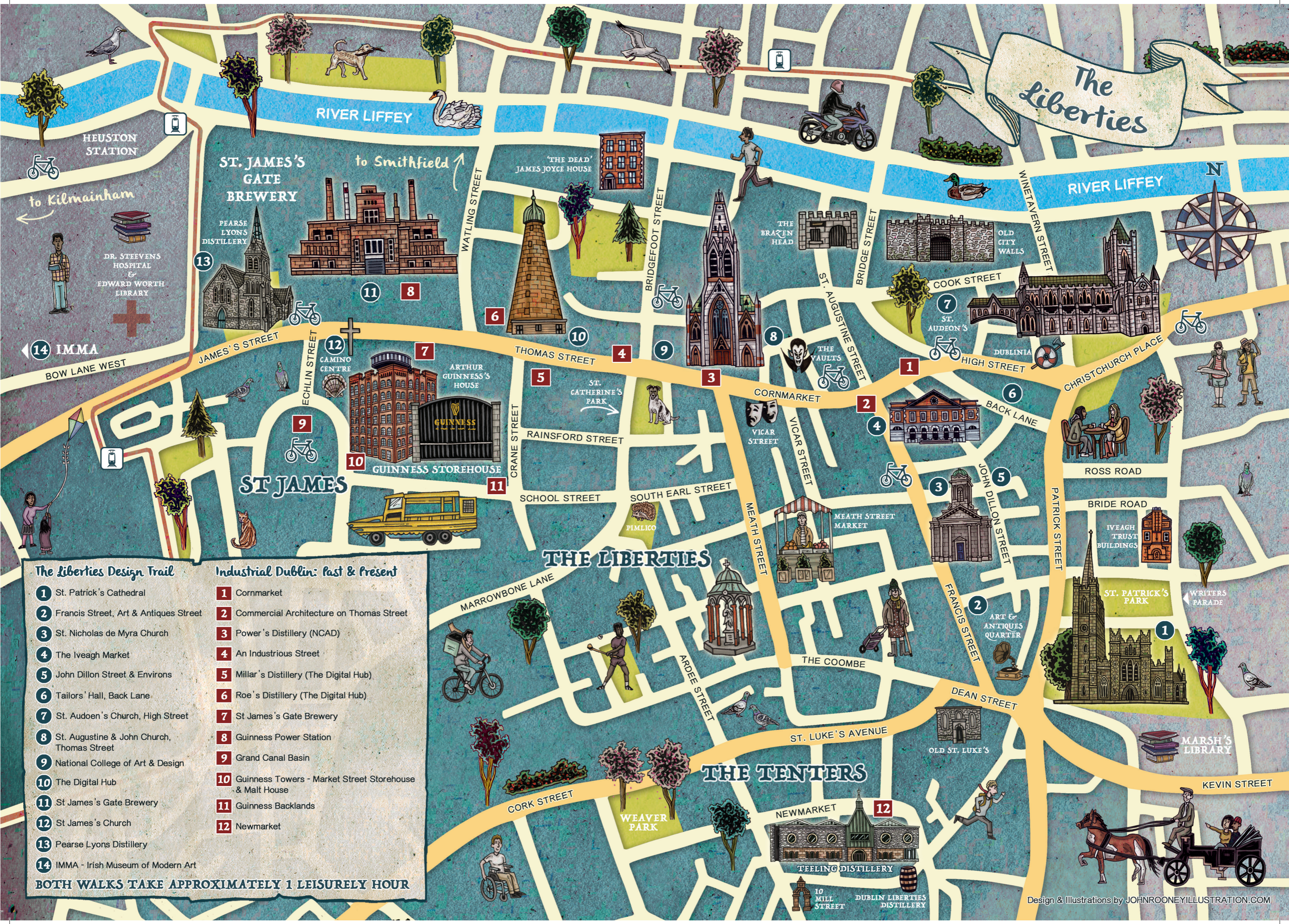


The Liberties



The Liberties Design Trail

- 1 St. Patrick's Cathedral
- 2 Francis Street, Art & Antiques Street
- 3 St. Nicholas de Myra Church
- 4 The Iveagh Market
- 5 John Dillon Street & Environs
- 6 Tailors' Hall, Back Lane
- 7 St. Audoen's Church, High Street
- 8 St. Augustine & John Church, Thomas Street
- 9 National College of Art & Design
- 10 The Digital Hub
- 11 St James's Gate Brewery
- 12 St James's Church
- 13 Pearse Lyons Distillery
- 14 IMMA - Irish Museum of Modern Art

BOTH WALKS TAKE APPROXIMATELY 1 LEISURELY HOUR

Industrial Dublin: Past & Present

- 1 Cornmarket
- 2 Commercial Architecture on Thomas Street
- 3 Power's Distillery (NCAD)
- 4 An Industrious Street
- 5 Millar's Distillery (The Digital Hub)
- 6 Roe's Distillery (The Digital Hub)
- 7 St James's Gate Brewery
- 8 Guinness Power Station
- 9 Grand Canal Basin
- 10 Guinness Towers - Market Street Storehouse & Malt House
- 11 Guinness Backlands
- 12 Newmarket

The Liberties Design Trail

The Liberties has been a centre of innovation and enterprise stretching right back to its medieval origins. Over the centuries this industrious quarter has attracted local and foreign craftsmen and artisans and developed reputations in silver smithing, tanning and weaving, and brewing and distilling. The area's former wealth has left a rich legacy of ornate churches and public buildings, and a distinctive and enduring character. Take this walk to explore some of the highlights and lesser known gems of design and craft in Dublin's original design district.

1 ST PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL

One of two protestant cathedrals in Dublin, St Patrick's Cathedral traces its origins back to 1191. The present Cathedral was substantially remodelled and rebuilt in the 19th century when it benefited from the generosity of Benjamin Lee Guinness, a scion of the famous brewing family. The renowned satirist Jonathan Swift was Dean of the Cathedral from 1713 to 1745.

2 FRANCIS STREET, ART & ANTIQUES QUARTER

An ancient street, Francis Street has more recently been a centre for Dublin's antiques trade, and the shops and galleries along the street are a magnet for bargain hunters. From Chippendales to chintz you'll find a street packed with curiosities.

Explore

The Liberties

Map & Visitor Guide

3 ST NICHOLAS DE MYRA CHURCH

The present church was built between 1829 and 1836. Its beautiful interior includes stained glass by the workshop of Harry Clarke, as well as works by the renowned Cork-born sculptor John Hogan, including a magnificent 'Pieta' above the altar. The parish of St Nicholas de Myra is connected to the parish of the Isle of Man.

4 THE IVEAGH MARKET

An example of Guinness philanthropy, this purpose-built market hall was built to accommodate street traders from nearby Patrick Street. The building was designed by Frederick Hick and opened in 1905 and included 'dry' and 'wet' halls and a public wash-house. There are plans to restore the building and develop it as a craft market.

5 JOHN DILLON STREET & ENVIRONS

This characterful enclave was built by the Dublin Artisan Dwellings Company in the late 19th century to improve the standard of public housing in the area. A similar scheme can be found around Gray Street, off Meath Street.

6 TAILORS' HALL, BACK LANE

The Tailors' Hall is Dublin's oldest surviving Guildhall, dating from 1707. Having fallen into substantial decay in the 20th century, it was restored by An Taisce, National Trust for Ireland in the 1970s and now serves as its headquarters.

7 ST AUDOEN'S CHURCH HIGH STREET

The medieval Church of St Audoen (now Church of Ireland) was founded by the Normans in 1190 and is believed to be Dublin's oldest surviving parish church. The larger Classical church alongside, was designed by Patrick Byrne in 1846 and is now used by the city's large Polish community.

8 JOHN'S LANE CHURCH, THOMAS STREET

Among Dublin's finest churches and possessing its tallest steeple, this example of high Gothic architecture was completed in 1874. The church was designed by the renowned Victorian architects Edward Welby Pugin and George Ashlin, and includes stained glass by Harry Clarke and sculptures by James Pearse (the father of patriot brothers Pádraig and William Pearse).

9 NATIONAL COLLEGE OF ART & DESIGN (NCAD)

The National College of Art & Design is Ireland's foremost design college. A

former distillery, the campus was imaginatively redesigned in the 1980s by Burke Kennedy Doyle Architects. The Gallery located in the Harry Clarke Building to the front holds regular exhibitions. The connecting glass building was designed by Murray O'Laoire Architects in 2006.

10 THE DIGITAL HUB

The Digital Hub occupies land either side of Thomas Street, much of which was formerly given over to whiskey distilleries and brewing. The complex hosts a growing cluster of IT, digital media and design enterprises.

11 ST JAMES'S GATE BREWERY

Guinness is synonymous with The Liberties and the brand is well known for its innovative marketing campaigns over the years, as well as design classics such as the precision-engineered 'Guinness Glass' designed to offer the perfect pint, and the humble Guinness widget found in drink cans. The iconic St James's Gate, was previously an arch that stood across James Street as an entrance to the city.

12 ST JAMES'S CHURCH

The foundation stone of the catholic church was laid in 1844 by Daniel O'Connell 'The Liberator', and the church was completed 10 years later. St James's parish has historic connections to Santiago de Compostella in Spain and the church is a starting point on the famous 'Camino' pilgrim trail.

13 PEARSE LYONS DISTILLERY

The former church on the opposite side of the street now houses the Pearse Lyons Distillery. The restored building includes a spectacular glass spire called 'The Liberties Lantern', while newly commissioned stained glass windows inside tell the story of brewing and the 'Camino' pilgrim route. One of the city's most historic graveyards lies to the rear.

14 IMMA - IRISH MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

The Royal Hospital Kilmainham was Ireland's first great classical building, commissioned in 1671 by the Restoration viceroy, the Duke of Ormonde, who was inspired by the Hotel des Invalides in Paris. The Hospital was built as a home for retired soldiers. The decoration in the Chapel is particularly fine, as are the beautiful parterre gardens. Today, the Royal Hospital houses IMMA - the Irish Museum of Modern Art.

Industrial Dublin : Past & Present

For centuries Dublin's Liberties has been a distinctive mercantile quarter of the city; its streets and buildings telling the story of working life in Dublin. From the bustling Cornmarket, down ancient Thomas Street to the iconic Guinness Brewery, and onto Newmarket, this walk takes you past some of Dublin's best industrial architectural heritage and highlights some of the new contemporary uses and influences that are transforming the area at present.

1 CORNMARKET

Cornmarket marks the entrance to The Liberties, being the location of the New Gate, the main westerly approach into the old walled city of Dublin. Remnants of the old wall can still be seen on the south side of the street, and in nearby St Audoen's Park. Historically, a large barn-like Corn Market stood in the centre of Thomas Street, close to this spot, until it was removed in 1814.

2 COMMERCIAL ARCHITECTURE ON THOMAS STREET

The commercial prowess of Thomas Street in the 19th century is reflected in some of the fine commercial buildings that line the street. Nos. 79 and 84 are particularly good examples - both previously housed banks.

3 POWER'S DISTILLERY (NCAD)

Established in 1791 by John Power, the famous Power's Whiskey Distillery occupied this site until the 1970s when the distillery closed. Since 1984 the complex has been home to the National College of Art & Design. Many of the buildings and historical features of the former distillery remain in place, including some of its famous stills.

4 AN INDUSTRIOUS STREET

Both Kelly's Timber Yard (now Chadwick's) and Blanchardstown Mills (now Lidl) point to the industrious nature of Thomas Street and the area in former times. Much of this industry was driven by plentiful water provided by local streams, including the Glib, a rivulet that also supplied and gave its name to the local street market. Street markets remain a tradition on Thomas Street to this day.

5 MILLAR'S DISTILLERY (THE DIGITAL HUB)

This handsome building was constructed between 1894 and 1900 as the premises of Millar's Irish Whiskey. The arch and entrance includes some fine decorative features. The building is now part of The Digital Hub.

6 ROE'S DISTILLERY (THE DIGITAL HUB)

George Roe & Sons was once the largest producer of whiskey in Europe, occupying an extensive site on the north of Thomas Street. The story of the decline of Irish whiskey and the rise of its Scotch counterpart is inextricably linked to this family. Today, the windmill - known as St Patrick's Tower, and the largest of its kind ever built in the British Isles - is all that remains of the distillery which closed in 1949. An ancient pear tree stands in front of the windmill.

7 ST JAMES'S GATE BREWERY

The world renowned Guinness brand has been produced here for over 250 years. Arthur Guinness founded his brewery in 1759, and by the late 19th century it had become the world's largest brewery and a powerhouse of Dublin. Arthur Guinness built himself a palatial townhouse at No. 1 Thomas Street, while the fine Victorian buildings that front James Street previously housed the administrative offices of the company.

8 GUINNESS POWER STATION

This 1940s Art Deco-inspired building is now part of the revival of whiskey distilling in The Liberties as the new home to Roe & Co. Irish Whiskey.

9 GRAND CANAL HARBOUR

Though now sadly dilapidated, the Harbour and its basins once terminated the Grand Canal, and played a vital role in the area's industrial past. The canal's function was threefold: to supply the city basin with a water supply; to allow Guinness to transport barrels of stout to the Midlands via barge; and to supply the Guinness brewery with the water that it required for its brewing process. The Canal was soon extended to the Liffey docks but the use of the harbour continued until 1970 when it closed and was subsequently filled in.

10 GUINNESS TOWERS - MARKET STREET STOREHOUSE AND MALT HOUSE

These two towering structures represent the prime of the Guinness



Map & Visitor Guide



Comhairle Cathrach
Bhaile Átha Cliath
Dublin City Council

www.libertiesdublin.ie

Brewery in the late 19th century. The Malt House, on the south side of the street, dates from the 1860s. The more ornate Fermentation House dates from 1904, and was one of earliest steel frame structures built in the British Isles. Its form, detailing and style is redolent of the Chicago School of Architecture. The building now houses the famous Guinness Storehouse Experience. The building is topped by the spectacular Gravity Bar, designed by RKD Architects, offering panoramic views of Dublin.

11 GUINNESS BACKLANDS

The Vat Houses and cobbled streets to the rear of St James' Gate provide for an atmospheric stroll through the area. The buildings are now attracting new uses as enterprise centres.

12 NEWMARKET

One of the city's oldest public spaces, Newmarket was laid out as a market square in 1675 by the Earl of Meath, who was the primary landowner in the area. The fortunes of the area have ebbed and flowed dramatically in the intervening years and the area is now undergoing regeneration. The area was previously dominated by warehouses and maltings serving the any local distilleries and nearby Chamber Street was the scene of the destructive Great Whiskey Fire in 1895, when burning whiskey flowed through the streets. Today you can immerse yourself in the revival of Irish whiskey, with both the Teeling Distillery - the first whiskey distillery to be built in the city since the 19th century - and the Dublin Liberties Distillery offering the chance to sample the famous 'water of life'.