Ireland

Geography

Ireland is an island in the North Atlantic.

It is separated from Great Britain to its east by the North Channel,

the Irish Sea, and St George's Channel.

Ireland is the third-largest island in Europe.

It is the second largest island in the British Isles, after Great Britain.



Politics

The Republic of Ireland is a parliamentary democracy

based on the British model, with a written constitution

and a popularly elected president who has mostly ceremonial powers.

Its capital is **Dublin**.



Official residence of the President of Ireland

Religion of Ireland

Ireland's largest religious group is Christianity.

over 73% for the island (and about 87% of the Republic of Ireland).

Most of the rest of the population adhere to one of the various

The largest denomination is Roman Catholicism representing

Protestant denominations (about 48% of Northern Ireland).

The largest is the Anglican Church of Ireland.

In a 2010 survey conducted on behalf of the Irish Times,

32% of respondents said they went to a religious service more than once a week.



St. Patrick's Cathedral

Climate

Ireland has a mild but changeable oceanic climate with few extremes.

The climate is typically insular and is temperate,

avoiding the extremes in temperature of many other areas

in the world at similar latitudes.

Precipitation falls throughout the year but is light overall,

particularly in the east.



Connemara, County Galway

Fauna of Ireland

There are 55 mammal species in Ireland and

of them only 26 land mammal species are considered native to Ireland.

Some species, such as, the red fox, hedgehog and badger, are very common,

whereas others, like the Irish hare, red deer and pine marten are less so.

Aquatic wildlife, such as species of sea turtle, shark, seal, whale,

and dolphin, are common off the coast.

About 400 species of birds have been recorded in Ireland.

Many of these are migratory, including the barn swallow.



Red deer in Killarney National Park

Flora of Ireland

As of 2012, the Republic is one of the least forested countries in Europe.

Much of the land is now covered with pasture and there are many species of wild-flower.

Ulex europaeus, a wild furze, is commonly found growing

in the uplands and ferns are plentiful in the more moist regions,

especially in the western parts.

It is home to hundreds of plant species, some of them unique to the island, and has been "invaded" by some grasses, such as Spartina anglica.



Ulex europaeus

Irish whiskey

Irish whiskey is whiskey made on the island of Ireland.

Irish whiskey was once the most popular spirit in the world,

though a long period of decline from the late 19th century

onwards greatly damaged the industry.

So much so that although Ireland boasted over 30 distilleries in the 1890s,

a century later, this number had fallen to just three.

However, Irish whiskey has seen a great resurgence in popularity since

the late twentieth century, and has been the fastest growing spirit

in the world every year since 1990.

With exports growing by over 15% per annum in recent years,

existing distilleries have been expanded and a number of new distilleries constructed.



Thank you for attention