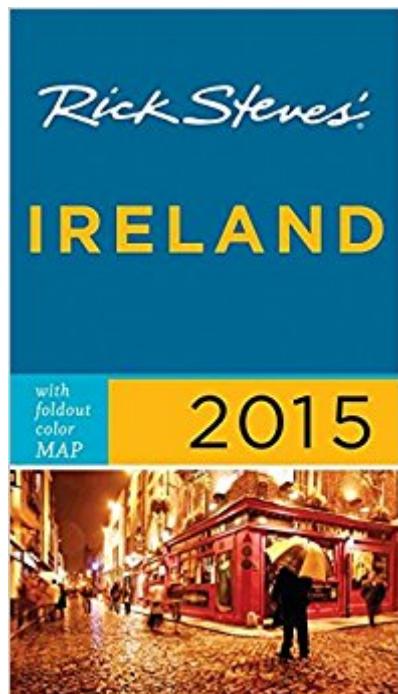


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# Rick Steves Ireland 2015



## Synopsis

You can count on Rick Steves to tell you what you really need to know when traveling in Ireland. With this guide, you can explore lively Dublin, quaint Kilkenny, and the moss-draped ruins of the Ring of Kerry. Navigate meandering back roads that lead to windswept crags on the dramatic Dingle Peninsula. Explore Ireland's revered past by following St. Patrick's footsteps to the Rock of Cashel. Marvel at Newgrange, the mysterious mound older than the pyramids; then connect with today's Irish culture by grabbing a pint at the local pub, enjoying the fiddle music, and jumping into conversations that buzz with brogue. Rick's candid, humorous advice will guide you to good-value hotels and restaurants. He'll help you plan where to go and what to see, depending on the length of your trip. You'll get up-to-date recommendations on what is worth your time and money. More than just reviews and directions, a Rick Steves guidebook is a tour guide in your pocket.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Rick Steves has spent 100 days every year since 1973 exploring Europe. Rick produces a public television series (Rick Steves' Europe), a public radio show (Travel with Rick Steves), and an app and podcast (Rick Steves Audio Europe); writes a bestselling series of guidebooks and a nationally syndicated newspaper column; organizes guided tours that take thousands of travelers to Europe annually; and offers an information-packed website (RickSteves.com). With the help of his hardworking staff of 80 at Rick Steves' Europe, Inc. in Edmonds, Washington, just north of Seattle, Rick's mission is to make European travel fun, affordable, and culturally broadening.

for Americans. Irish-American Pat O'Connor first journeyed to Ireland in 1981, and was hooked by the history and passion of the feisty Irish culture. Frequent return visits led to his partnership with Rick Steves and his work as a tour guide and coauthor of this book. Pat loves all things Hibernian (except the black pudding) and thrives on the adventures that occur as he annually slogs the bogs in search of new Irish travel discoveries.

I see all these reviews and none seem to distinguish this book from other travel books. So here goes. This book is great for one reason in particular: it's readable (short). It does this by leaving lots of stuff out. Towns (e.g., Limerick), places (Slieve League cliffs, castles), etc. It's like a Greatest Hits of Ireland. For a first visit, this is probably a great approach. Other books are overwhelming. This one isn't. You can follow his prescriptions (although he would have you spend more time in Dublin than others think is justified), see the country, and know that you've hit the high points. That said, we're trying to get ready for a trip later this year and keep hearing about things and places Steves doesn't even mention. So for that we have Fodor's, and I find myself relying more and more on that.

**UPDATE NO.2:** We are presently in Ireland using Rick Steves and Fodors. Believe me, you need both. Rick Steves 2015 is not up to date as far as the "HERITAGE ISLAND PASS". There is no longer a charge, it is free! There are coupons along the bottom that you tear off and then the admission is two for one. If you are a Senior, state that up front and your entrance fee goes down even more. Go to any Tourist Information center in any town and ask for one. Rick also had places listed in his book that are on this pass and they have never heard of it. Check everything against another tour book (we are using Fodor's - but there are others). Rick (and/or his staff) is very opiniated about places to see and things to do and we are finding a number of sites that are wonderful and aren't mentioned in his book. So far his B&B's have been nice, but very small and difficult to get to. We seem to be doing better through Trip Advisor for B&B's. Just a personal reflection on our part.

**UPDATE: JUST MADE OUR PLANE RESERVATIONS WITH RICK IN OUR BACK POCKET!** We have followed Rick Steves for years and always purchase one of his travel books while we are contemplating a trip to a country he has written about. We are thinking about Ireland and this book is not letting us down. We always try and purchase the latest edition and this one seems to be written in an easy down home style. Seems like he has a nice three week driving tour and that is exactly what our time frame is. Because we drive ourselves, we always travel with a guide (such as this) a GPS and at least one road map. After my husband does the planning (with Rick's guidance) I handle the maps and GPS. It's fun and educational for both of us. We used the

map in the back of this book for some initial planning, but quickly realized that we needed a more detailed map. I found the "GLOVEBOX ATLAS FOR IRELAND" available here on . It is a great little spiral bound book with tons of information regarding towns, castles, battle sites, speed camera locations and UNESCO sites. I would highly recommend it even if you are on a tour and not driving yourself. Contains a wealth of info.

Reviews are important to people who are seeking unbiased reports. My wife and I have been depending on Rick Steves for over fifteen years and he has not failed us yet. We don't travel without first researching and buying Rick Steves books. We've met and become friends with many people all over the world because of his recommendations. Sadly, now though, Rick has to assess safety for Americans as we travel abroad. Thanks to him we still can make informed decisions on our travel plans.

It's more about Dublin than Ireland in general

I am in Ireland as I write this review. Even though I feel that I need more stars on my hotel than the ones Rick recommends, I think that his travel guides really hit the mark. Other guides either try to be too studious or too much of a book of pictures. Rick manages to help a tourist fit into the local culture.

The book was ok however it did not have any coverage for the city of Cork where I will spend most of my time. I don't know how you write a travel book for Ireland and exclude the second largest city with not even a mention. That is very poor judgement.

This is a great guide to the highlights of Ireland. I have used many of Rick Steves' other travel books before and find them to be a great asset in helping to plan a trip of any length. He gives example itineraries of what to see and do in each city depending on the amount of time you may spend there. The best part of his guides is how well they are read on a Kindle. Other guides don't look all that great on the Kindle eReader or on the Kindle app on my phone, but this one is very easy to navigate.

Rick Steves never disappoints. Reading his guides in the year before my trips always gives me a great road map for things to do on days that I am not working or with the group. I wish the font on

his books were a little bigger - but the small font allows him to pack in a lot of information. This book was easy to use, light and packable and very enlightening and entertaining!

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