Ireland's Malahide Castle And Beach Walk

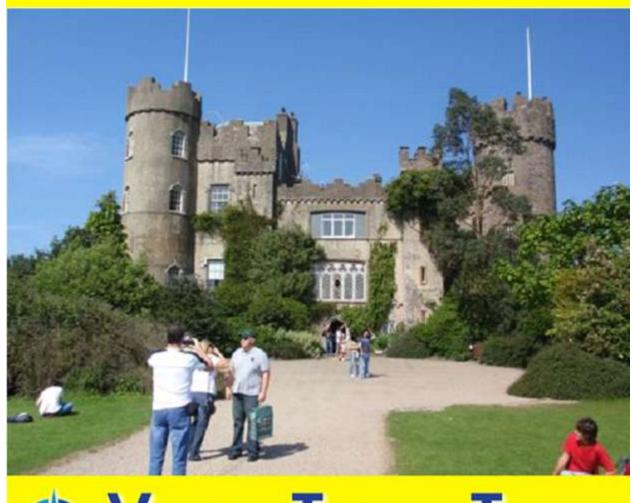




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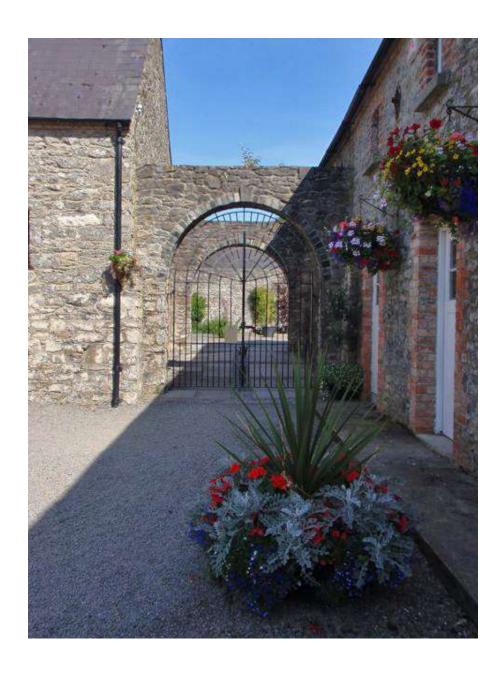
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Tour Summary

Explore the scenic beaches of eastern Ireland on this rigorous walking tour. Visit the haunted Malahide Castle, inhabited for 800 years by the Talbot family. Here you can enjoy 250 acres of beautiful castle grounds and the venue's other attractions, including Tara's Place, the Fry Model Railway and the Talbot Botanic Gardens. Then rest and have lunch in downtown Malahide before embarking on the journey to Howth Pier. Walk along the beaches of Malahide and Portmarnock before taking a short hop on the Dart to Howth peninsula. This is a demanding walking tour with a good night's sleep the guaranteed result!

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Introduction





One shouldn't visit eastern Ireland without putting aside a day to visit the stunning beach cities of Malahide and Portmarnock, plus the fishing village of Howth.



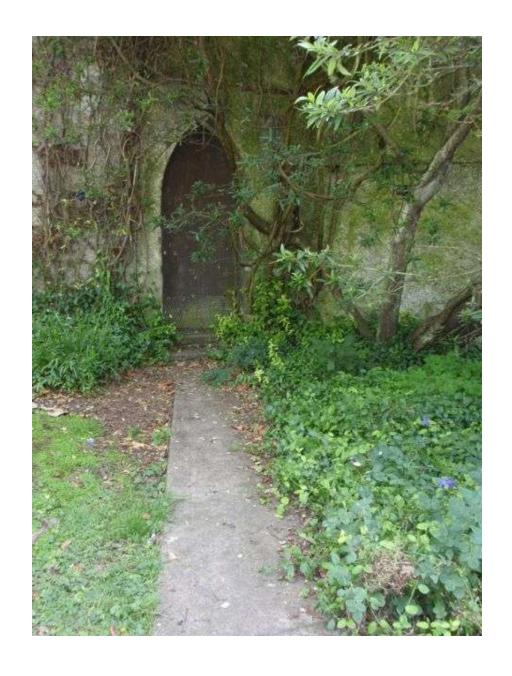
Even as the rain clouds roll in, one might enjoy the breathtaking views while exploring the beaches and harbors of Fingal County.



But these cities have more to boast than just their beaches. The villages offer fantastic dining and shopping experiences, some of the nicest hotels on the island, and, as we'll see today, Malahide Castle, home to the Talbot family for 800 years.



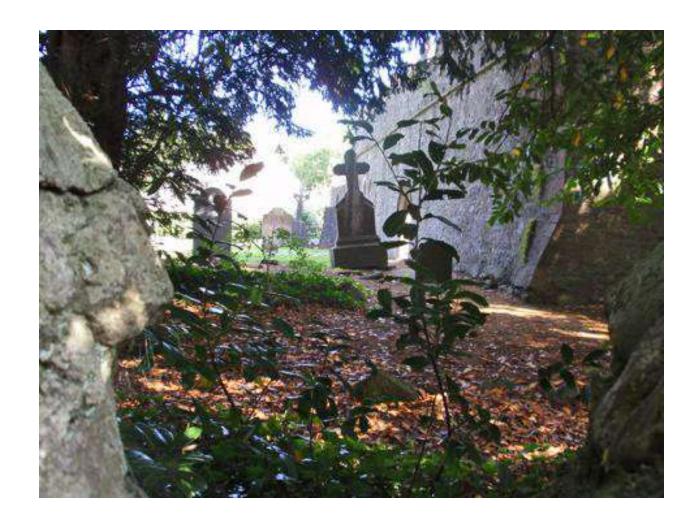
Today's tour begins at Malahide Castle, conveniently located across the street from the Malahide Dart Station, for those travelers who are using Dublin's train system for transportation.



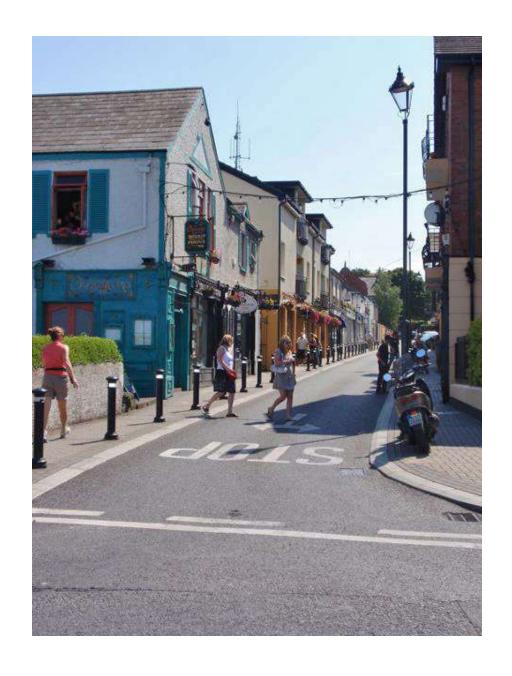
At Malahide Castle, we'll hear the stories of many ghosts, most notably Puck, the dwarf-sized spirit that haunts the castle's walls.



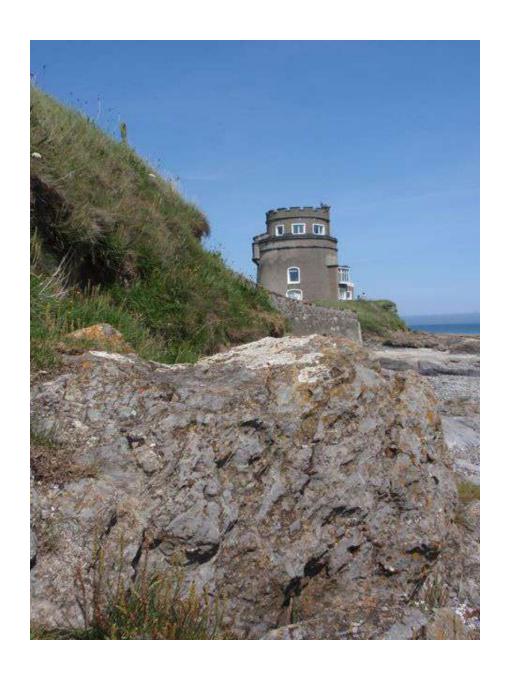
Though the description of Puck remains consistent, stories about his life are conflicted; some claim he was the court jester who was stabbed through the heart, while others insist he was the night watchman who was hanged.



We'll also hear the story of how the 14 men of the Talbot family sat down to breakfast before the infamous Battle of the Boyne. All 14 were killed in battle that day, and a wall-to-wall painting of the events still hangs in the Great Hall.



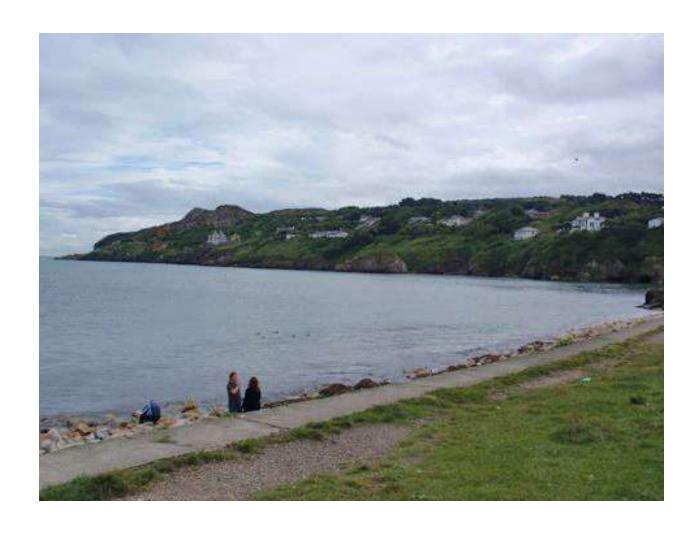
After visiting the castle, the traveler will be invited to downtown Malahide for shopping and lunch, to fuel up and rest before the challenging walking tour ahead.



Following lunch, we'll travel along Coast Road, which runs parallel to the water. We'll learn about Martello Towers, small defensive forts built to provide protection along the island's coast.



As we continue walking south, we'll make our way toward the Portmarnock Golf Links, taking time to enjoy the scenery and learn about the significance of Portmarnock's Velvet Strand in aviation history.



For the adventurous, the journey continues on to Howth Peninsula. Walking past the golf links, the traveler will journey further down the road to the Pormarnock Dart Station. This trip is over a mile, so weary walkers be warned.



After enjoying the early evening at Howth Pier, the traveler will then be invited to dine at one of the fishing village's many fine restaurants. The nearby Dart will take the traveler back to Malahide or all the way

back to Dublin's city center, if so desired. This is a rigorous walking tour that promises to inspire a sound night's sleep!

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