

Terenure Walking Trail

Map & Guide



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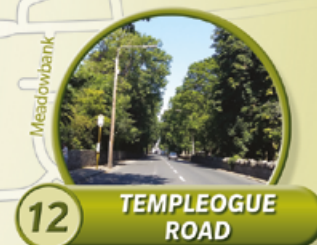
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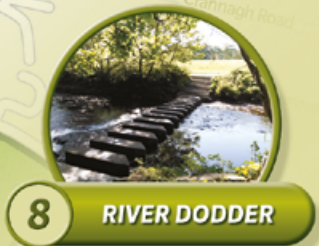
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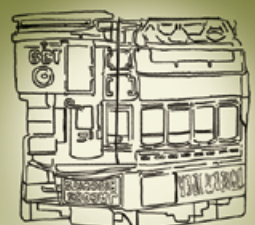


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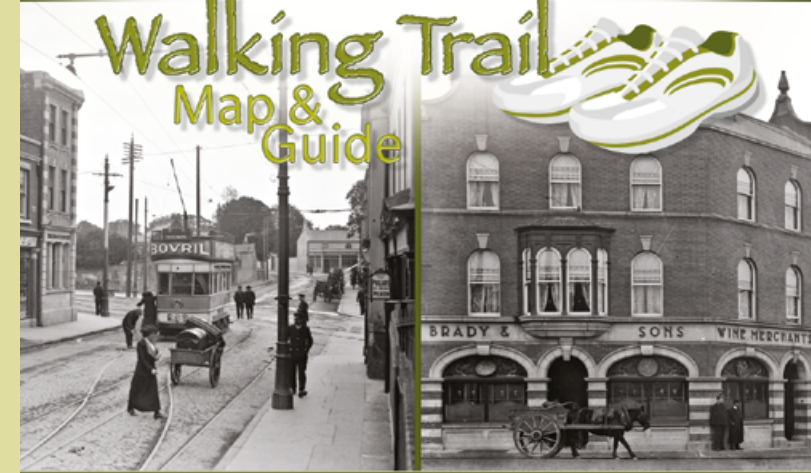
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The word Terenure comes from the Irish, ***Tír an luir*** or the Land of the Yew. Relatively little is known about the area before 1215 when the land was granted to the Norman knight, Hugo de Barnewell. In medieval times it was dangerous to live in this area because of frequent attacks from the dispossessed Irish living in the nearby mountains. In 1590 Peter Barnewell built Terenure Castle where Terenure College now stands and the family continued to reside here until 1652 when their lands were confiscated by Oliver Cromwell.

A small circle of houses that developed at what is now Terenure Place gave Terenure village its original name of “Roundtown”. It was called Roundtown until 1870. During the 17th century several big houses were built in the area; Terenure House, Templeogue House and Fortfield House amongst them. In 1659 there were still only 32 people registered as living in Terenure - 11 English and 21 Irish. There was very little development until the late 19th century when there was a huge building boom in Terenure as people moved from the city, seeking fresh air of the then semi-countryside. In 1932 Terenure lost all claim to rural status when it was incorporated into Dublin City.



The Dublin Tramway Company opened its first horse drawn tram from College Green to Terenure in 1872. In 1896 both the No.15 Rathgar and No.16 Harold’s Cross tram lines were electrified and ended at two different Terenure depots. They operated every 3 minutes with speeds of 6mph. The most famous Dublin Tram was the Blessington Steam Tram. When rural passengers reached Terenure, they could transfer to the more frequent trams into the city. The Blessington Steam Tram was the cause of many accidental deaths, and in time the Templeogue Inn was used as the local morgue (still named such). The nickname for this Tram line was “the longest graveyard in Ireland”.

Contemporary Terenure is a modern and bustling suburb. The village has retained an intimate feel, despite being filled with cosmopolitan restaurants and multinational businesses. It also supports a large number of locally owned enterprises. Overall, Terenure is defined by a strong community spirit and a forward looking perspective, there are a wide number of volunteer groups working to make the area a better place in which to live.

Terenure is located south of Dublin city centre, bordered by Harold’s Cross to the north and the River Dodder to the south. It is served by a number of Dublin Bus Routes; 15, 15A, 16, 17, 49, 65 and 65B.



Welcome to Terenure! This walking trail starts and finishes in the heart of Terenure Village and takes in a riverside walk, a beautiful park, hidden side streets and many places of historical interest. The trail is about 6km in length and should take you just under 90 minutes to complete at a leisurely pace.



1 VAUGHAN’S EAGLE HOUSE

James Joyce’s mother, May Murray, was born here in her father’s pub, then called the Eagle Tavern. She met her future husband, John Joyce, in the choir at the Church of the Three Patrons in Rathgar. James was baptised in St. Joseph’s Church on the 5th February 1882. In harsher times, three men, accused of murdering a local gardener were hanged at this crossroads in 1798.

2 FORMER TRAM TERMINUS

The lovely stone and brick former tram sheds of the No.15 Tram Terminus have been preserved and incorporated into the rear of the Aldi supermarket. This line, first horse-drawn and then electrified around 1900, was operated by the Dublin and United Tramway Company and served Terenure from O’Connell Street until 1949.

3 ST. JOSEPH’S CHURCH

Building work commenced on St. Joseph’s Roman Catholic Church in 1898 and finished in 1904. It was later nearly doubled in length, leaving the altar in the centre. In 1920 Ireland’s best-known stained glass artist, Harry Clarke, was commissioned to create the magnificent and intensely-coloured three-light window behind the main altar. The boys national school next door is in operation since 1866.

4 CLASSIC CINEMA

The Classic Cinema, with its Art Deco touches, opened on the 1st July 1938. The Flood family, who used to own Flood’s Pub in Terenure, were instrumental in first bringing a water supply to the village and in founding The Classic. For many years, until it moved to Harold’s Cross, The Rocky Horror Picture Show was shown as a late show on Friday nights. The cinema closed in 1976 with the fantasy Escape to Witch Mountain. Since 1987 the premises has been occupied by the Terenure Enterprise Centre.

5 DUBLIN HEBREW CONGREGATION SYNAGOGUE

Further along on the opposite side of the road is the Dublin Hebrew Congregation Synagogue. By the mid-20th century there were up to 5,000 Jews living in Ireland, mostly around the South Circular Road/Clanbrassil Street area. However, from the 1930s onwards many families moved to bigger houses in Harold’s Cross, Terenure, Rathgar and Rathmines. They then decided to build a new 600-seat synagogue on Rathfarnham Road in Terenure. Opened in 1953 the new synagogue was designed by architect Wilfrid Cantwell who had previously worked on the design of Busárus, the Central Bus Station.

6 WAR MEMORIAL HALL

In March 1919 a site was leased from Colonel Sir Frederick Shaw by the Church of Ireland parish of Rathfarnham and work commenced on this beautiful Tudor-style building. The hall serves as the War Memorial Hall - a memorial to all those from Terenure and Rathfarnham who fought in the 1st World War. In 1924 a Memorial Celtic Cross was presented by the Shaw family which is still displayed in the hall.

7 PEARSE BRIDGE

Rathfarnham Bridge was built in the 18th century and widened in 1952 to cope with increasing traffic. It was renamed Pearse Bridge in honour of the Pearse brothers who ran St. Enda’s school in Rathfarnham and who were both executed for their roles in the 1916 Rebellion. On the east side of the bridge are cottages which replaced those swept away in the devastating flood of 1931. In times past, the easy-going River Dodder could be savage and unmerciful before modern engineering finally controlled it.

8 THE RIVER DODDER

The 26km long River Dodder rises on the northern slopes of Kippure in the Wicklow Mountains. From there it flows past the outer suburbs and then through



9 BUSHY PARK

Around 1700, Arthur Bushe, Secretary to the Revenue Commissioners, built a house known as “Bushe’s House” surrounded by approximately 4.5 hectares of land. Over time, the site developed into a larger area and in 1951 Dublin Corporation (now Dublin City Council) bought much of the property. Now known as Bushy Park, it comprises 20.5 hectares. The park is Terenure’s most treasured outdoor amenity and a fantastic habitat for local birds and wildlife.

10 BUSHY PARK HOUSE

Bushe’s House, renamed in 1772 as Bushy Park House by the new owner, John Hobson, is one the oldest buildings in Terenure. Sir Robert Shaw, Lord Mayor of Dublin, initially lived in nearby Terenure House before inheriting Bushy Park House in 1796. Playwright, George Bernard Shaw, often visited his grandmother who lived here. In 1953 Dublin Corporation sold the house and part of the estate to the Sisters of Religious Christian Education who built Our Lady’s School in its grounds.

11 TERENCE COLLEGE

Terenure House (now part of Terenure College) originally belonged to the Norman Barnewall family. In 1860 the Carmelite order opened the College of Our Blessed Lady of Mount Carmel here. During the War of Independence, the school buildings harboured some of those ‘on the run’ including Michael Collins. It now schools 900 boys and is one of the country’s leading rugby-playing schools. The College Chapel also has a series of stained glass windows created by Frances Biggs which depict Carmelite themes and saints.

12 TEMPLEOGUE ROAD

Templeogue Road was constructed in 1801, originally as a toll road. The Toll House was built at a 45 degree angle to the road near to the present Library so the toll master could see potential customers approaching. The Dublin to Blessington Steam Tramway opened in 1888 and its terminus station was behind where the Library now stands. There were 23 stops along the almost 25km journey, most of which were at rural pubs. There were 6 daily departures and the journey took over 1½ hours on the single-track line, going at about 20kph. The last steam tram departed in December 1932. At Rathdown Park and on neighbouring streets, the first bombs dropped by the Luftwaffe on Dublin fell on 2nd January 1941.

13 ROUNDTOWN, TERENCE PLACE

Terenure Place is the site of the original village of Roundtown. This was a circle of houses which formed around the point that Terenure Place, Terenure Road West and Templeogue Road now meet. Only one building remains of the original circle of houses - Bill Sheehan’s motors. Look at the curving structure of the roof of the showroom and it is easy to imagine the original circle of houses that once stood in this place. If you wish to continue a little further up Terenure Road West you will find the Presentation School, founded in ‘Netherby’, one of the big houses of the day - by the Presentation Order back in 1866. The red brick building you see today was completed in 1899.

14 EATON SQUARE

Eaton Square was built in 1920 to accommodate ‘English soldiers’ who had served in the First World

War. Older residents remember two milk deliveries a day and that all compostable waste was collected from each house for the man who came around collecting scraps ‘for the pigs’. On the corner of Eaton Square and Terenure Park stands an Edwardian pillar letterbox. It displays the insignia of King Edward VII (1901-1910) and would have originally been painted red.

15 TERENCE ROAD NORTH

In the window of Roche’s barber shop on Terenure Road North is a model of Terenure during the 1940s which includes a working tram. Opened in 1910, Roches is the oldest shop in Terenure, with four generations of the family having run the barbers. This is an accurate model of Terenure at that time, including all the old shops and businesses. This part of Terenure was once full of dairies with cattle kept in backyard fields in the centre of the village as recently as 50 years ago.