

The Liberties Distilleries Trail

ROE & CO. DISTILLERY
(EST. 2019)

5. *George Roe & Co.*
Later Dublin Distillers Co. Ltd.
Closed 1926

8. *John's Lane Distillery*
Now *N.C.A.D.* Closed 1978

Christ Church Cathedral -
1870s restoration funded by
Sir Henry Roe

PEARSE LYONS DISTILLERY
AT ST JAMES (EST. 2017)

6. *St. James Church*

ST JAMES'S GATE BREWERY
(EST. 1759)

4. *No. 1 Thomas Street* -
Home of Arthur Guinness

2. *St Patrick's Cathedral* -
1860s restoration by
Sir Benjamin Lee Guinness

William Jameson Distillery
Closed 1928

TEELING WHISKEY
DISTILLERY (EST. 2015)

IN ITS 18TH AND 19TH CENTURY HEYDAY, THE LIBERTIES WAS THE CENTRE OF BREWING AND DISTILLING IN DUBLIN, WITH THE LARGEST CONCENTRATION OF PRODUCERS IN IRELAND. THE INDUSTRIES DECLINED DRAMATICALLY IN THE 20TH CENTURY, WITH THE LAST DISTILLERY CLOSING IN 1973, HOWEVER RECENT YEARS HAVE SEEN SOMETHING OF A REVIVAL OF FORTUNES. SAMPLE THE DELIGHTS OF THE LIBERTIES' CURRENT WHISKEY AND BREWING REVIVAL.

1. *Great Whiskey*
Fire 1875

DUBLIN LIBERTIES
DISTILLERY (EST. 2019)

1. The Great Whiskey Fire

The area's whiskey industry did not come without its perils! One of the most destructive fires in the history of Dublin occurred on 18 June 1875, when a disastrous inferno near Newmarket in The Liberties saw burning whiskey flow through the streets of the area like lava, destroying everything in its path. The event led to the deaths of 13 people. However these fatalities were the result of alcohol poisoning from consuming whiskey contaminated by Dublin's filthy streets.

2. St. Patrick's Cathedral

As the wealth of The Liberties' whiskey magnates grew in the mid-19th century, many turned their good fortune to philanthropic work in the area. Dublin's two great cathedrals were the most significant beneficiaries. In 1860, Sir Benjamin Lee Guinness, a scion of the original founder of the brewery, paid for and personally oversaw a major restoration of St Patrick's Cathedral, leaving the cathedral largely as you see it today. Not to be outdone, his contemporary, the distiller Sir Henry Roe, donated the enormous sum of £230,000 in the 1870s (equivalent to €35m in today's money) to rebuild and embellish nearby Christ Church Cathedral.

3. Victorian Innovator

Now the home to National College of Art & Design, the John Power & Sons distillery, known as John's Lane Distillery, was among the most innovative of Irish whiskey distilleries. Founded in the 1790s by John Power, a local hosteler, the brand grew in prestige and remains one of the best-known Irish whiskeys to this day. Among its innovations, the John's Lane Distillery was the first to bottle on site, a game-changing development in its day. The distillery closed in the 1970s.

4. A 9,000 Year Lease

In 1759, Leixlip brewer Arthur Guinness bought the lease on a small brewery off James Street in The Liberties. Over successive generations the Guinness family grew the modest brewery into a giant, becoming the largest beer production facility in the world in the 1880s. The brand retains its global reach to this day, with production now focused on its new Brewhouse No. 4 at Victoria Quay which opened in 2014.

5. George Roe & Sons

Located across the street from St James's Gate Brewery, the Roe distillery also had global pretensions. Founded by Peter Roe in 1757, the distillery reached its zenith in the later 19th century under Sir Henry Roe, a fabulously wealthy whiskey baron who inherited the business in 1862. Henry fought vigorously to keep the purity of Irish whiskey under the onslaught of cheaper distilling methods, but these ultimately sounded the death-knell for Roe's and the distillery closed in the 1920s.

6. Buen Camino

St. James's Gate was traditionally a starting point for Irish pilgrims to begin their journey on the Camino de Santiago (Way of St. James). The pilgrims' passports were stamped here before setting sail, usually for A Coruña, north of Santiago de Compostella. And modern day pilgrims can still get these traditional documents stamped at nearby St James' Church. The pilgrimage to Santiago is also commemorated in one of a series of stunning stained glass windows in the Pearse Lyons Distillery.

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Teeling Whiskey Distillery
13-17 Newmarket
www.teelingdistillery.com
Open Daily

The Guinness Storehouse
St James's Gate
www.guinness-storehouse.com
Open Daily

Roe & Co Distillery
James Street
www.roeandcowhiskey.com
Open Daily

Dublin Liberties Distillery
33 Mill Street
www.thedld.com
Open Daily

Open Gate Brewery
James Street
www.guinnessopengate.com
Open Thur, Fri & Sat Only

Pearse Lyons Distillery
121-122 James Street
www.pearselyonsdistillery.com
Open Daily

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