



**Otázka:** The Republic of Ireland

**Jazyk:** Angličtina

**Přidal(a):** radšiseuč

### Location

- It is surrounded by the Atlantic Ocean, with the Celtic Sea (to the south), Saint George's Channel (to the south-east) and the Irish Sea (to the east.)
- The state shares its only land border with Northern Ireland, a part of the United Kingdom.

### Flag colours

- Has a religion significance: green (catholic) white (neutral) orange (protestant)

### Languages (percentage of people who can or claim to speak the language)

- Irish 36% (is the national and first official language)
- English 94%

### History

- 7500 B.C. The first known inhabitants (Neolithic agriculturalists) settle in Ireland.

- 600-150 B.C. Celtic tribes arrive on the island.
- 432 A.D. Patrick arrives in Ireland, bringing Christianity. (The Protestant faith did not yet exist.)
- 841 A.D Dublin is established.
- 1541 A.D. Britain's King Henry VIII is declared King of Ireland. He opposes the Catholic religion.
- 1541-1801 Kingdom of Ireland
- 1801-1922 United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland
- 1919-1921 The Anglo-Irish War/Irish War of Independence between the British and the Irish Republican Army. In a treaty (=dohoda), Britain finally gives up control of most of Ireland but tightens its grip on the Northern Ireland.
- 1970s-1999(or now) the Troubles and peace process in Northern Ireland. (It involved mostly Protestant „loyalists“ who wanted to remain part of the United Kingdom against mostly Catholic „republicans“ who wished to unite with the Republic of Ireland.)

### Geography

- It has a total area of 80 000 km<sup>2</sup>
- The population is about 4,8 million people.
- Ocean climate
- Longest river with 372 km flowing in Ireland is Shannon
- The highest mountain is Carruntuohill with its high of 1041 m.s.n.m.
- Lough Neagh /,lɒx'neɪ/ is the biggest lake in Ireland.

### Economy

- Two currencies (Euro, Pound sterling)
- Celtic Tiger: 90s-2008 - GDP (Gross domestic product) increase 10% , Low corporation taxes
- Agriculture(5%) - fishing, sheep wool
- Industry (46%) - electrotechnical (30% Europe computers) and chemical
- Services (49%)-IT, Trade
- Famous products: Jameson, Tullamore Dew, Guinness (bear)



### Politics

- Ireland is a republic with parliamentary system.
- President is elected for 7 years.
- It is divided into four provinces: Connacht, Leinster, Munster and Ulster and 26 shires
- A member of EU and NATO

### Cities

- Limerick
- Dublin
  - Trinity College Dublin (established by Elisabeth I. in 16<sup>th</sup> century)
  - Dublin castle
  - Ha'penny (Halfpenny) bridge
  - Patrick's cathedral
- Cork
  - Finnbarr Cathedral (St. Finnbarr was Bishop of Cork)

### Famous people

- Liam Neeson (actor)
- Bono Vox (U2 singer)
- James Joyce (novel writer e.g. 'Ulysses')
- Oscar Wilde (playwright, novelist, essayist, and poet, e.g. novel The Picture of Dorian Gray)
- Samuel Beckett (novelist, Waiting for Godot)

### Culture (film)

- Folk music



- Georgian architecture: st. Patrick's cathedral from 5<sup>th</sup> century
- 17<sup>th</sup> March St. Patrick's Day: green clothes, fireworks, national holiday
- People catch a lot of salmon
- Many cloisters, castles and ruins
- Curling
- William Butler Yeats was a famous poet
- Belfast
  - 0,5 million people
  - Queens University
  - IRA
  - Peace wall