



Ireland

The Republic of Ireland



- Also called “ Éire ”
- Occupies 5/6 of isle of Ireland
- Capital and the largest settlement: Dublin
- Language: Irish, English
- Anthem: “Amhrán na bhFiann” (“The Soldiers' Song”).
- Places of interest: Brú na Bóinne, Skellig Michael and the Giant's Causeway.
- Largest cities: Dublin, Cork, Galway, Limerick.

Giant's Causeway

The Giant's Causeway is an area of about 40,000 interlocking basalt columns, the result of an ancient volcanic eruption.

It is also known as Clochán an Aifir or Clochán na bhFomhórach in Irish.

It is located in County Antrim on the northeast coast of Northern Ireland.

It was declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO in 1986

Skellig Michael

The background image shows a rugged, rocky coastline with several stone huts or dwellings built into the cliffside. A stone path leads up the cliff towards the sea. The sky is blue and the water is a deep blue. The overall scene is a dramatic and historic landscape.

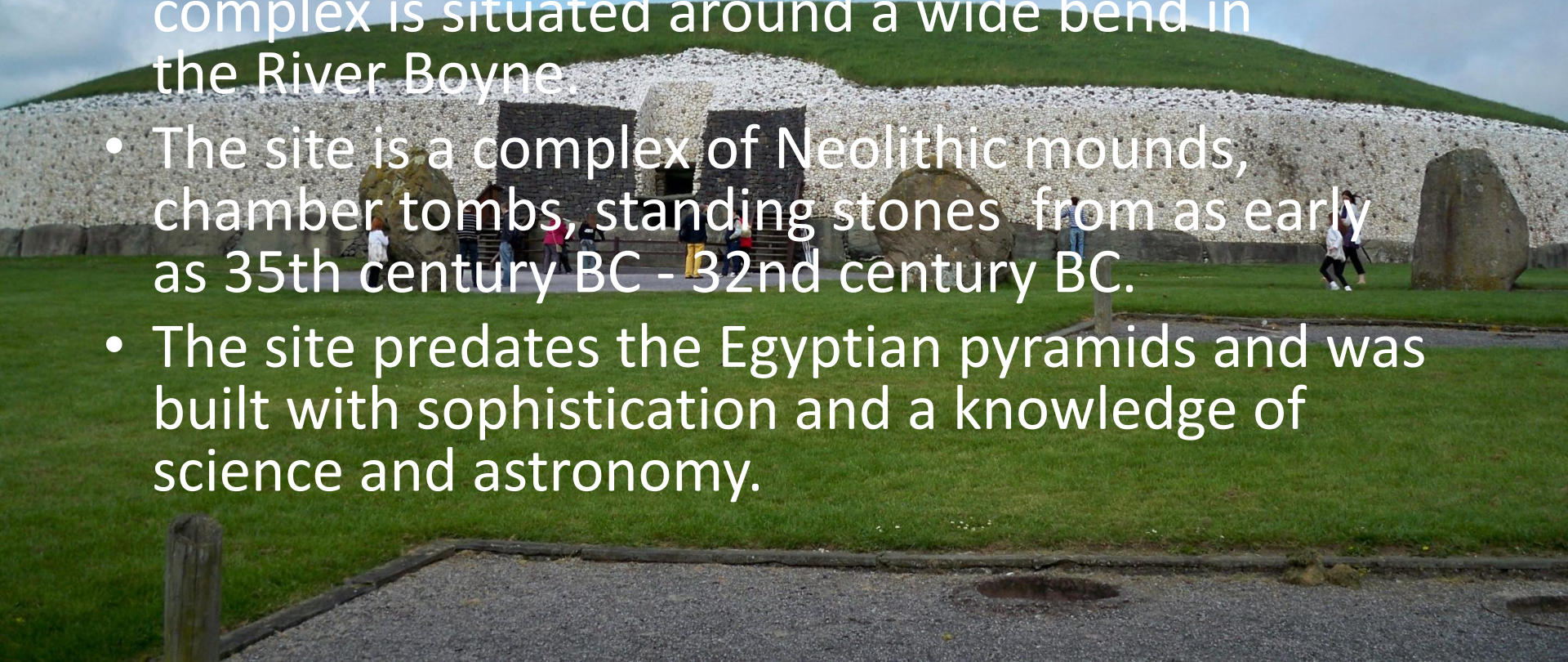
the larger of the two Skellig Islands located 11.6 km west of the Iveragh Peninsula in County Kerry.

A Christian monastery was founded on the island at some point between the 6th and 8th century and remained continuously occupied until its abandonment in the late 12th century. The remains of the monastery, along with most of the island itself, became a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1996

Saint Fionán is claimed to have founded the monastery in the 6th century

Brú na Bóinne

- (*Palace of the Boyne*) is a World Heritage Site in County Meath and is the largest and one of the most important complex of Megalithic sites in Europe, dating to the Neolithic period. The complex is situated around a wide bend in the River Boyne.
- The site is a complex of Neolithic mounds, chamber tombs, standing stones from as early as 35th century BC - 32nd century BC.
- The site predates the Egyptian pyramids and was built with sophistication and a knowledge of science and astronomy.



Dublin. Irish: *Baile Átha Cliath*

- Founded as a Viking settlement, the Kingdom of Dublin became Ireland's principal city following the Norman invasion.
- See Dublin Castle, which was first founded as a major defensive work on the orders of King John of England in 1204
- See Trinity College to see the Book of Kells in the library there. The Book of Kells is an illustrated manuscript created by Irish monks circa. 800 AD.

Cork. Irish: *Corcaigh*

- Cork was originally a monastic settlement, reputedly founded by Saint Finbarr in the 6th century.
- Cork city was an outpost of Old English culture in the midst of a predominantly hostile Gaelic countryside.
- Since the nineteenth century, Cork had been a strongly Irish nationalist city



Galway. Irish: *Gallímh*

- The city's name is from the River *Gallímh* (River Corrib)
- **Lynch's Castle** on Shop Street is probably the finest medieval town house in Ireland.
- The Church of Ireland St. Nicholas' Collegiate Church is the largest medieval church still in everyday use in Ireland. It was founded in 1320
- National University of Ireland, which was erected in 1849 (during An Gorta Mór, the Great Famine) as one of the three colleges of the Queen's University of Ireland

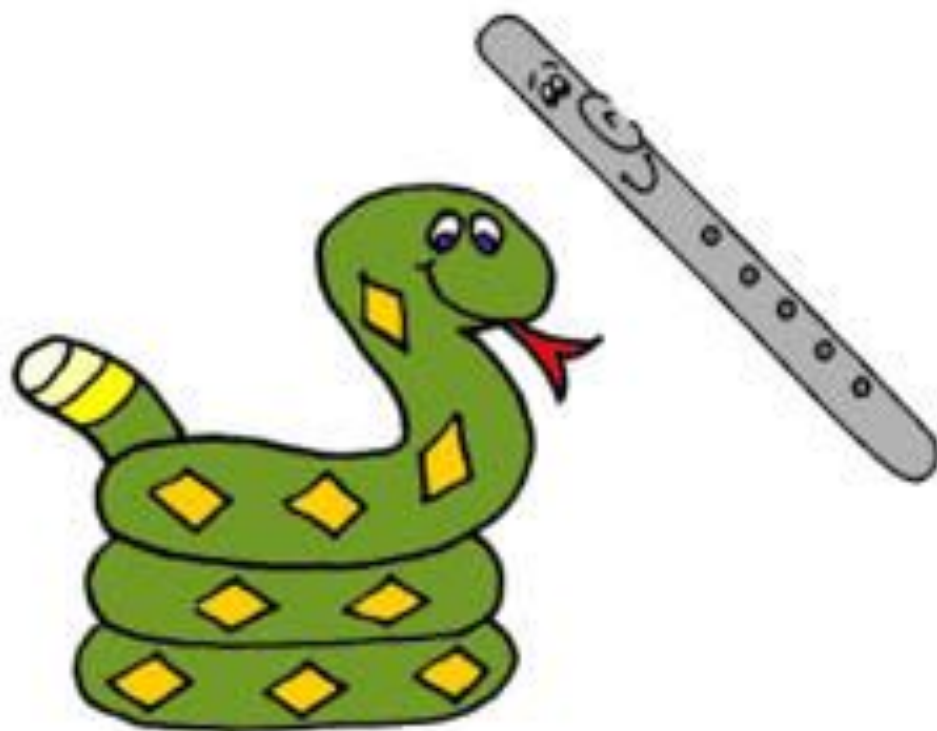
Limerick. Irish: Luimneach

- In 2014, Limerick became Ireland's inaugural *National City of Culture*
 - Limerick City is a main tourist destination, only a 15-minute drive from Shannon Airport.
- Tourist attractions of architectural and historical note in the city centre include Limerick City Museum, King John's Castle (1212), St Mary's Cathedral (1168)
- Limericks were invented here

Limerick

by Edward Lear

There was an Old Man with a flute,
A serpent ran into his boot;
But he played day and night,
Till the serpent took flight,
And avoided that man with a flute.









Questions for the essay

1. What did you like about Ireland?
2. Which place of interest was your favourite?
3. What did you remember about this place?
4. What city would you like to visit ?
5. What else would you like to know about Ireland?

Write an essay, about 100 words.