



CLONTARF  
CASTLE  
HOTEL

MAKING HISTORY THROUGH OUR PASSION FOR EXCELLENCE



# h i s t o r y o f t h e c a s t l e

Clontarf became a significant location in Irish History, more than a century before the Castle was built. Brian Boru, the High King of Ireland, and the famous Battle of Clontarf, on Good Friday 23rd April 1014, will always be associated with and central to the history of the Clontarf area.

It all began when Mael Morda, King of Leinster, began to plot against Brian Boru. Mael Morda made an alliance with Sitric, the Viking King of Dublin, who was assisted by the Vikings of the Orkney Islands and the Isle of Man. Brian Boru marched against them and the great battle was fought at Clontarf.

It ended in victory for Boru's army. However, on the night of the victory, Boru was praying in his tent, surrounded by five men, who were guarding him. A small group of Vikings, who were retreating from the battle through a wooded area, close to the site of what is now Clontarf Castle, came across the guarded tent. Realising who was being protected, they killed all five guards and went on to kill Brian Boru, who by then was 72 years of age.

In 1172 Hugh de Lacy built the Castle as an inner circle of defence sites protecting Dublin.

In 1641 Luke Netherville of Corballis (near Donabate) and an army of 12,000 men took possession of Artane Castle and village in defence of their religious beliefs.

George King of Clontarf, then owner of Clontarf Castle, joined in the rebellion. Netherville and King seized a vessel believed to contain the weapons and ammunition of the enemy. After they seized the weapons they returned to Swords and a group of the local farmers and fishermen joined Netherville's rebellious army.

On 15th December 1641, the Puritan Republic General, Sir Charles Coote, led a troop of soldiers into Clontarf to quell the rebel activities. He found most of the ships cargo of weapons and ammunition in Clontarf Castle. The then massive sum of £400.00 was put on the King's head and the Castle was confiscated. Coote marched on the Swords and defeated Netherville and his rebel army.

On 14th August 1649 Oliver Cromwell granted the estate to John Blackwell, who sold it to John Vernon, Quartermaster General of Cromwell's army here in Ireland. John Vernon acquired the property around Clontarf Castle, and made it a strong family base, around the year 1660. The Vernons were in Clontarf for almost 300 years, with a family motto of 'Vernon Semper Viret', which means 'Vernon always flourishes'. In 1660 John Vernon passed the Castle on to his son Edward.

Edward died in 1684 and one of his sisters took over the Castle. In 1695 a first cousin of Edward's, also named John Vernon, claimed rights to the Castle. An Act of Parliament granted the estate to him in 1698.

In 1835 the original building was unsafe and a distinguished Irish architect, William Vetruvius Morrison, was called in to survey the building. He perceived the problem as sinking foundations and the building was demolished. It was rebuilt and the Castle as we know it was completed in 1837.

The male line of the Vernons failed and the estate was passed on to George Oulton, through one of John Vernon's nieces. JG Oulton took over the Vernon estate and became President of the Clontarf Cricket and Football Clubs. He had five children, two of whom are still alive and living in England. He died in the Castle on April 17th 1952, and the Castle was left to his son, Desmond, who sold it to pay death duties and other debts.

The building was vacant for a number of years until 1957 when Mrs. Egan bought it. She sold it to Eddie Regan in the 1960's.

In 1972, Gerry and Carmel Houlihan bought the Castle and ran it as one of Ireland's best cabaret venues until April 1997, when the last cabaret show was staged.

The Castle was closed from June 1997 and reopened in June 1998, as a superb four-star hotel.

In 2007, €10 million was spent further upgrading and renovating the Castle to the standard you see today.

w e l c o m e

Clontarf Castle Hotel, is the choice of interesting people the world over. Forget what time it is, Clontarf Castle is an imaginary world, no longer the past, not quite the future. When you arrive, time becomes... yours.

Located in Dublin, a city bursting with life, Clontarf Castle Hotel is steeped in Irish history yet with a decidedly forward - thinking attitude.







w e l l   k e p t   s e c r e t s

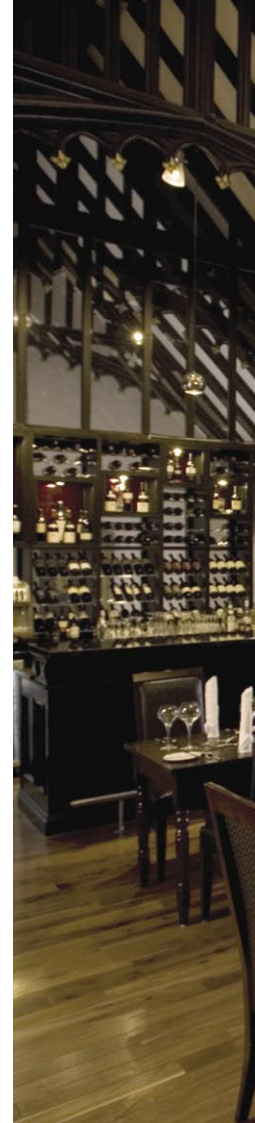
Two unique bars, the panache Indigo Lounge & the time honoured Knights Bar...  
Whatever your mood from the cool to the traditional.





## s p o i l   y o u r s e l f

Clontarf Castle Hotel is the perfect place to chill out, celebrate, meet friends or just soak in the atmosphere. Cocktails, wines and sumptuous food are all for the taking within our lounge, bar and Grill. Couple this with sublime service & decadent cuisine, we offer the pinnacle of modern dining.





## fahrenheit grill

Our commitment is to deliver to your plate, high quality perfectly cooked food from the Grill. We'll match this with elegant food presentation and friendly service and offer it in a relaxed dining experience within our historical walls.

Fahrenheit Grill's produce from our fish to our beef is sourced from exceptional local Irish suppliers to ensure freshness and quality of flavour. We use only dry aged beef that has been specially selected for you by one of Dublin's finest butchers. Our fish is delivered fresh from the boat and straight to our kitchen. That's what makes our Grill so special!



CLONTAR

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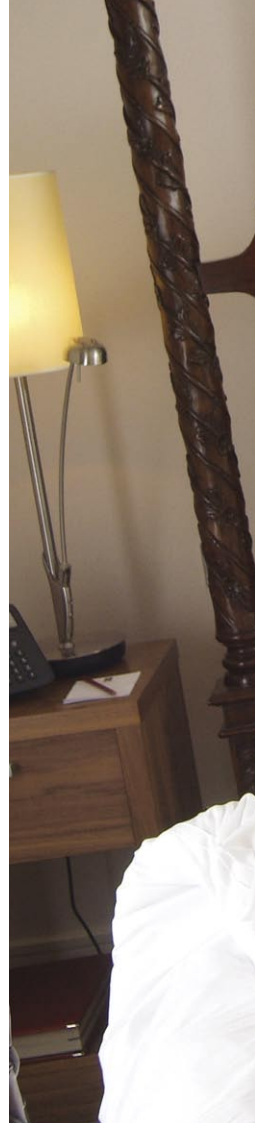
## t r u l y e x t r a v a g a n t

Think indulgent thoughts as you survey our 800 years of Irish history.

At Clontarf Castle Hotel, our 111 guest rooms and suites range from the luxurious to the truly extravagant, with design that mesmerises your senses, and all the in room touches you need to ensure the perfect nights rest.

From the fashionable style and comfort in our deluxe bedrooms to the definitive in opulence in our individually designed executive rooms and suites, many with four-poster beds and views of the Dublin mountains.

It's just as well there is so much more to discover in this unique setting to tempt you out of your indulgent privacy!









## m e m o r a b l e m o m e n t s

Our dedicated Events team never arrange just another event, achieving typical standards is not enough. We want to surpass your expectations!

All meeting rooms offer the latest technology, coupled with unobtrusive service, and create a unique and sophisticated environment catering from 1 - 600.

Our team can assist with organizing a Cocktail Party, Gala Banquet, Business Dinner, Product Launch, International Conference or that Special Event you have always dreamed about. A wide range of creative menus can be tailored to your specific needs.







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