

❖ **The Emerald Isle**

Ireland is known as the Emerald Isle. This is because of its lush greenery and rolling hills. The country receives a lot of rain each year, which keeps the grass green and the plants blooming. The first time the words ever appeared in print in reference to Ireland was in a poem by Belfast-born William Drennan, titled “When Erin First Rose.”



❖ **What Does Your Irish Surname Say About You?**

- It is believed that the Irish are the first people in Europe to use surnames.
- Many Irish surnames begin with ‘O’ meaning ‘grandson/descendant of’ or ‘Mc’ standing for ‘son of’. The former appear in such popular names as: O’Brien, O’connor, O’Neil, O’Sullivan. The latter is present in such names as: MacDermot, MacCarthy, MacDonnell, or MacMahony.

❖ **Driving in Ireland**

- In Ireland, you always drive on the left side of the road.
- The speed limit is 50kph in built-up areas.
- The minimum age for driving a car is 17 years old.

❖ **Hook Lighthouse** is believed to be the second oldest operating lighthouse in the world, after the Tower of Hercules in Spain.



❖ **The Titanic** was built in Belfast, Northern Ireland.

If you want to learn more about this amazing country, open the links below.

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