

# Shelbourne toasting 200 years as the heart of Dublin



ROCHELLE LASH  
*Hotel Intel*

The aristocratic Shelbourne, Autograph Collection, reflects the spirit of Ireland, then and now. The undisputed grande dame of Dublin has been a favourite of the cognoscenti for 200 years and it's still cherished for time-honoured traditions, polished service and exalted food and drink.

The ravishing interiors embrace Empire and Edwardian antiques and Waterford crystal chandeliers, and there are enough brass fittings, oil paintings and gilded mirrors to outfit a castle. The handiwork of the in-house florist blooms everywhere and the spa is as pretty as a princess's boudoir.

The Shelbourne is part of Dublin's history. Revolutionary politician Michael Collins drafted the constitution of the new Irish Free State here in 1922, and the hotel's red-brick Victorian facade faces St. Stephen's Green, a park which is home to monuments of Ireland's heroes.

The Shelbourne also is near Grafton St. shopping, as well as cultural stops such as the Little Museum of Dublin, the National Museum and the National Gallery of Ireland. The iconic Trinity College Library is home to the sacred Book of Kells, the Celtic biblical manuscript famous for its illumination and calligraphy.

In one of the most literary of cities, the Shelbourne has inspired Ireland's greats, including wicked wit Oscar Wilde ("I have the simplest taste. I am



The sumptuous lobby of the Shelbourne in Dublin represents an illustrious history and a luxurious present day. The Shelbourne is near the popular Grafton St. shopping area. THE SHELBOURNE/AUTOGRAPH COLLECTION

always satisfied with the best."). James Joyce's peerless tome, Ulysses, included a cameo mention of the hotel.

In 1842, William Makepeace Thackeray wrote the hotel was "majestically conducted," and Elizabeth Bowen's 1951 book, The Shelbourne, described it as "a blend of genius and realism ... a legend."

■ 200th in 2024: Those illustrious tributes and an almost peerless guest register of royals and rock stars say it all. Let's skip to 2024. The Shelbourne has been magnificently restored and plans to celebrate its milestone 200th in style, including holidays with extra sparkle and pop-up events through the year.

Chefs will create festive menus paying homage to centuries past, and guests can choose from commemorative packages such as Spend the Night at the

Shelbourne. The visit would be in a Heritage Parkview Room with views of St. Stephen's Green, and would include an approximately C\$195 credit to use in any of the hotel's restaurants or bars, or the spa (until February 2024).

■ Guest rooms: The 265 guest rooms and suites are dressed in a formal 19th-century look, restored and renovated with silk damask drapes and delicate shades of fawn and eggshell blue. Every space has been updated with marble bathrooms, charging outlets, Nespresso machines and effective lighting. Many suites have window seats with views of St. Stephen's Green.

■ Dining/drinking: The Shelbourne is home to a wealth of classics, each one a linchpin of Dublin's socializing. Here is a peek:

■ Saddle Room: This stately walnut-panelled dining room is

sedate and satisfying. Specialties include Irish produce like roast Curragh lamb, Kells beef, Casteltownbere salmon and scallops, Kilmore Quay cod or halibut, Liscannor crab and delicacies like foie gras, wild mushroom risotto, pearl caviar and truffle fries, followed by Irish cheeses, sweets and Irish coffee.

No. 27 The Shelbourne Bar is a fancy streetside pub that attracts an affluent, see-and-be-seen crowd. There is a champagne menu, beer by Guinness and Smithwick's and nearly 40 kinds of Irish whisky.

Food favourites include Galway oysters, seafood platters, smoked salmon and Reuben and club sandwiches.

■ The Horseshoe Bar: This sophisticated, popular Dublin treasure stocks a connoisseur's selection of whisky, Irish and other (closed Wednesday to

## IF YOU GO

Air Canada flies Toronto-Dublin four times weekly through winter and daily in other seasons. Montreal-Dublin is three times a week, approximately May through September (aircanada.com). The Shelbourne, Autograph Collection: 353-1-663-4500 (direct) or 800-228-9290 (Marriott), theshelbourne.com; 27 St. Stephen's Green, Dublin, Ireland. Marriott Bonvoy program applies. Accessible. Rates: from approximately C\$825 (holidays might be higher), including evening turndown, Clef d'Or concierge, indoor pool (children have restricted hours), fitness centre, spa facilities, bathrobes, Elemis bath products, coffee corner. Extra: Health Club classes, spa treatments. Tourism Ireland: Ireland.com; visitdublin.com.

Thursday).

■ The 1824 Bar: Intimate and clubby, the 1824's host (bartender) has encyclopedic knowledge of rare spirits, champagne, wine and cocktails (closed Monday to Tuesday).

■ Lord Mayor's Lounge: Afternoon tea is both savoury and sweet with dainty sandwiches and delicate petit fours and an exotic choice of brews. The setting is a sumptuous Victorian parlour and the tableware is Villeroy and Boch.

■ One last accolade: "The Shelbourne is a remarkable ambassador for Dublin, and afternoon tea in the Lord Mayor's Lounge is a splendid tradition that reflects our hospitality history," said Lord Mayor of Dublin Daithí de Róiste.

TV TIMES TONIGHT - SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9											MOVIES	SPORTS	TALK	
	B	W	E	V	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30		
2 SRC	10	4	4	2	Salebarbes aux Îles			Sissi (N) (FS)		Sur les traces d'Anachnid (N)		Le téléjournal (N)	Doc humanité	
3 CBS	282	21	21	87	Entertainment Tonight (N)			Funny You	Funny You	Funny You	Funny You	48 Hours (N)		
5 NBC	280	23	18	84	Jeopardy!	Wheel of Fortune	Shrek the Halls	Trolls Holiday	Dateline NBC		SNL Steve Martin; Martin Short; Brandi Carlile			
6 CBC	206	13	13	6	NHL Hockey Montreal Canadiens at Buffalo Sabres (N)								NHL Hockey	
8 CJOH	229	-	-	10	The Original Santa Claus Parade (N)			Big Bang	C ★★ Christmas With the Kranks ('04, Com) Jamie Lee Curtis, Tim Allen.					
9 MATV	-	9	9	9	La vie agricole	Droit au but	À l'heure du	Horti & culture	Endorphine	La tournée	Fierté d'ici	Stagiaire d'un jour		
10 TVA	115	7	7	4	6:30 C ★★ Bataille navale ('12, Sci-Fi) Alexander Skarsgård, Taylor Kitsch.			C ★★ Nuit et jour ('10, Act) Cameron Diaz, Tom Cruise.						
12 CTV	70	11	11	7	The Original Santa Claus Parade (N)			Big Bang	C ★★ Christmas With the Kranks ('04, Com) Jamie Lee Curtis, Tim Allen.					
17 TQc	138	8	8	3	6:30 C ★★ Astérix et Cléopâtre ('68)		Passe-Partout symphonique (N)		C Séraphin: un homme et son péché ('02, Dra) Karine Vanasse, Pierre Lebeau.					
22 ABC	281	22	22	86	Celebration		NBA Countdown (N)	NBA Basketball	NBA In-Season Tournament, Championship: Teams TBA (N)					
33 PBS	-	57	-	88	My Hero	Upstart Crow	Sister Boniface Mysteries		Doc Martin		Little Bird			
35 Noovo	114	5	5	5	6:30 C ★★★ Harry Potter et la coupe de feu ('05, Fant) Rupert Grint, Daniel Radcliffe.						:45 C ★★★ Hunger Games: la révolte - dernière partie ('15) (P)			
44 FOX	283	46	36	85	College Basketball UCLA at Villanova (N)				College Basketball Notre Dame at Marquette (N)					
46 GBL	234	3	3	8	The New Reality (N)	Border Security	Private Eyes		Departure		48 Hours (N)			
57 PBS	-	24	40	89	John Sebastian's Folk Rewind (My Music Presents)				'70s Soul Superstars (My Music)					
62 CITY	207	14	14	14	NHL Hockey Ottawa Senators at Detroit Red Wings (N)						Hudson & Rex			
A&E	615	39	-	90	Neighborhood Wars	Neighborhood Wars	Neighborhood Wars	Neighborhood Wars	Legends of the Fork	Legends of the Fork	Buddy Valastro's Cake Dynasty (N)			
AMC	293	-	-	209	6:00 C ★★★ The Princess Bride ('87)		C ★★ Summer Rental ('85, Com) Richard Crenna, John Candy.		C ★★ Real Genius ('85) Val Kilmer.					
APTN	23	10	58	16	C Tzouhalem ('21, Doc)				C ★★★ Furious 7 ('15, Act) Paul Walker, Vin Diesel.					
CBCNN	502	48	48	18	The Fifth Estate		Things Chef Secrets: The Science of Cooking		CBC Newsroom (N)	Marketplace	Things Chef Secrets: The Science of Cooking			
CD	129	20	20	36	Billy, le brocanteur	Billy, le brocanteur	Mayday		Les trésors de la WWE (N)		C ★★★ Maurice Richard ('05) (P)			
CNN	500	36	27	81	CNN Newsroom With Jim Acosta (N)		CNN Heroes: Sharing the Spotlight (N)		CNN Special Program		CNN Special Program			
CRVM1	300	-	-	211	6:35 C ★★ Spider-Man 3 ('07, Act) Kirsten Dunst, Tobey Maguire.				C ★★★ Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse ('18) Shameik Moore. (P)					
CTVDR	30	34	-	92	Chicago P.D.		Chicago P.D.		Chicago P.D.		Chicago P.D.			
CTVSc	90	32	-	101	6:00 C ★★ Percy Jackson & the Olympians: The Lightning Thief		C ★★ Percy Jackson: Sea of Monsters ('13, Child) Brandon T. Jackson, Logan Lerman.	Movie						
CV	135	44	35	44	Flip ultra payant		Mariage à l'aveugle		Au jardin	La famille est	C ★★ Noël avec les Kranks ('04) Tim Allen.			
DISC	636	37	37	102	Criminal Minds		Criminal Minds		Criminal Minds		Criminal Minds			
FAM	556	-	-	64	C ★★ Fred Claus ('07, Com) Paul Giamatti, Vince Vaughn.						Baketopia	:20 Summer Mem	Degrassi	
HBO1	306	-	-	215	His Dark Materials		His Dark Materials		Selena + Chef (N)	Starstruck	Rap Sh!t	:35 Bookie		
HGTV	83	29	-	97	Barbie Dreamhouse Challenge		Help! I Wrecked My House		Help! I Wrecked My House		Help! I Wrecked My House			
HIST	84	47	-	107	NCIS: Los Angeles		NCIS: Los Angeles		S.W.A.T.		S.W.A.T.			
MAX	142	48	32	32	6:00 C Mensonges maternels ('15)		C ★★ La famille Stone ('05, Rom) Sarah Jessica Parker, Dermot Mulroney.				C ★★ Une affaire de famille ('03)			
MUCH	570	35	-	112	6:30 C ★★ The Day After Tomorrow ('04, Act) Jake Gyllenhaal, Dennis Quaid.				The Simpsons	The Simpsons	The Simpsons	The Simpsons		
OWN	526	-	-	94	The Oprah Winfrey Show		The Oprah Winfrey Show		C Christmas of Yes ('23, Rom) (N)					
PEACH	294	-	-	218	Last Man Standing	Last Man Standing	C ★★★ Shrek ('01, Ani) Voices of Eddie Murphy, Mike Myers.				Atlanta News First Saturday at 10pm (N)			
RDI	126	19	19	19	6:30 Découverte (N)	Le national (N)	Les grands reportages		Le téléjournal (N)	La facture (N)	Le téléjournal (N)	Le national (N)		
RDS	123	33	33	25	Sport-liberté		Golf PGA Invitation Grant Thornton, 2e ronde (N)				Sports 30 (N) / :45 L'antichambre (N)	:45 Sports 30 (N)		
SC	73	205	205	205	Movie		:40 C Deadly Mom Retreat ('21, Thril) Christina Cox, Lara Amersey.		:05 C The Last Rite ('21, Hor) Johnny Fleming, Bethan Waller. (P)					
SE	180	-	-	201	:35 C Une femme respectable ('23, Dra) Martin Dubreuil, Héléne Florent. (P)				C Le temps d'un été ('23, Com) Guy Nadon, Patrice Robitaille. (P)					
SHOW	616	40	-	105	6:30 C ★★ 47 Ronin ('13, Adv) Hiroyuki Sanada, Keanu Reeves.				C ★★ The Great Wall ('16, Adv) Jing Tian, Matt Damon.					
SLICE	27	-	-	99	6:00 C ★★ Valentine's Day ('10, Rom) Kathy Bates, Jessica Alba.				C ★★★ Neighbors ('14, Com) Zac Efron, Seth Rogen.					
SN1	418	-	-	184	Misplays	Plays of the Month	NBA Countdown (N)	NBA Basketball	NBA In-Season Tournament, Championship: Teams TBA (N)					
SNE	406	38	38	179	NHL Hockey Nashville Predators at Toronto Maple Leafs (N)						NHL Hockey			
STARZ1	304	55	-	216	6:40 C ★★ Speed Racer ('08, Act) Christina Ricci, Emile Hirsch.				C ★★★ Ford v Ferrari ('19, Hist) Christian Bale, Matt Damon. (P)					
TCM	292	-	-	219	6:15 C ★★★ Remember the Night ('40)		C ★★ Fiddler on the Roof ('71, Mus) Norma Crane, Topol.							
TLC	521	27	39	91	The Family Chantel		90 Day Fiancé: The Other Way (N)		:05 90 Day Fiancé: The Other Way (N)	:05 90 Day Fiancé: The Other Way (N)				
TLN	700	-	-	250	6:00 Ariana Gra	The 45th Annual Canadian Ethnic Media Association Awards			C ★★ Bad Teacher ('11, Com) Justin Timberlake, Cameron Diaz.					
TOONE	85	49	-	57	Taz: Quest for Burger				Batman: Animated	Superman: The	My Adventures with	Young Justice		
TOONF	87	45	34	53	L'île des (N)	Teen / :45 Teen	American Dad	American Dad	Les Simpson	Les Simpson	Red Ketchup	Archer		
TSN2	401	-	-	187	SC	TSN Originals (N)		All Elite Wrestling: Collision (N)		Boxing				
TSN5	404	28	28	190	6:00 Para Ice Hockey		Para Hockey Cup, Final: Teams TBA (N)		SC	Grey Cup	CFL Wired (N)	UFC Fight Night: Song vs. Gutierrez (N)		
TV5	145	15	15	29	Jeune et golri	:25 Jeune et golri	Stars 80 encore! (P)						Basique / :45 Basique	
TVAS	193	-	-	23	Hockey LNH Canadiens de Montréal c. Sabres de Buffalo (N)				:45 L'après-match LNH (N)		:45 Hockey LNH			
TVO	22	-	-	71	Great Blue Wild	:50 Ontario Hubs	Palace Press	:45 TVO Arts	C To Kill a Tiger ('22, Doc)					
VISN	65	-	-	159	6:00 Endeavour		Sardari		Aikam		Vehra Khushian Da	Waqt 4 U		
WGN	295	-	-	222	Paid Programming	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	WGN Weekend News at Nine (N)			
WSBK	296	-	-	223	Big Bang	Big Bang	C Small Apartments ('12, Com) Rebel Wilson, Matt Lucas.		Paid Programming				Heroes (N)	
YTV	25	-	-	65	6:00 C Mariah Carey's All I Want for Chris...		The Greatest @Home Videos		SpongeBob		SpongeBob	The Hardy Boys		

B – Bell TV; W – Vidéotron West Montréal; E – Vidéotron East Montréal; V - Vidéotron Illico