

# For in far foreign fields from Dunkirk to Belgrade, Lie the soldiers and chiefs of the Irish Brigade

— THOMAS DAVIS

These lines evoke the fate of the Wild Geese, men who left Ireland to seek her freedom overseas. In fact there have been many Irish brigades, fighting around the world in different armies.

At home we have experienced war and peace, suppression and independence, conflict and calm.

This permanent exhibition, uses original artefacts, letters, replicas and interactives to show how soldiering and war have affected the lives of Irish people.

## There are three main themes:

- Soldiering in Ireland
- Soldiering Abroad
- Soldiering in the 20th and 21st Centuries

These are explored through the eyes of the Irish soldier and from that of civilians caught up in war and conflict here in Ireland.

15

### The British Army in Ireland

Explore the lives of soldiers and how the presence of the British Army affected life in Ireland.



The Stokes Tapestry

16

### Warfare in Ireland

Discover the major wars and rebellion in Ireland from 1550 to 1800.



Secret helmet

17a

### The Wild Geese

Migrant Irish soldiers have played important roles in armies across Europe for centuries.

The Dillon Regiment Flag



17b

### Irish in the American Civil War

Irish emigrants served in the armies of the American Civil War on both sides of the conflict.

69th Regiment kit



18

### Irish in the British Service

Explore the stories of Irishmen who served in the British Army across the world.

Red coat uniform:  
71st Highland Regiment c.1816



19a

### The Irish in the First World War

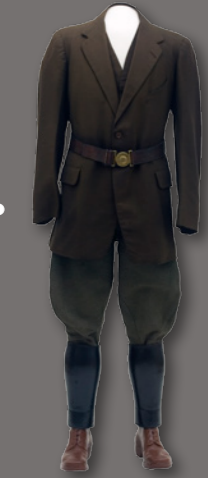
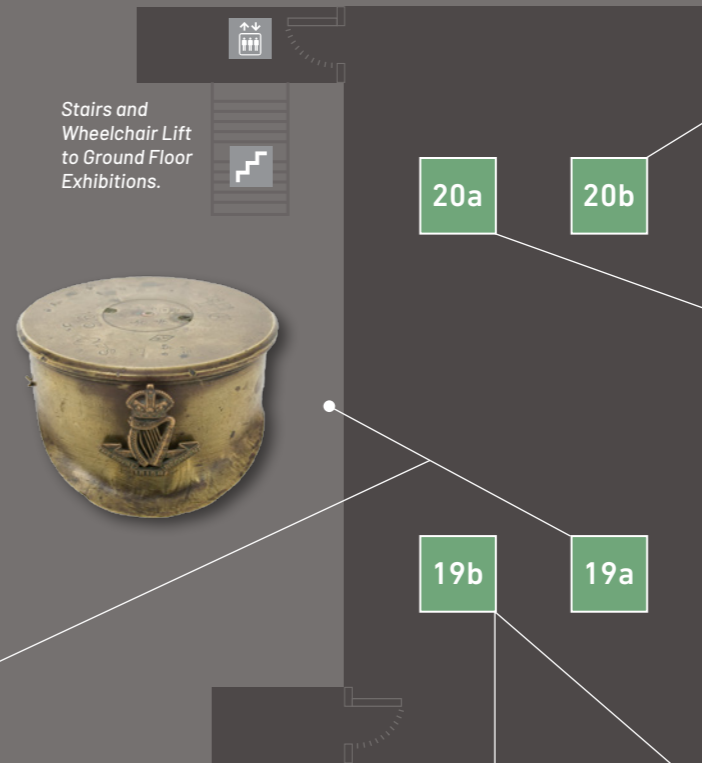
Over 200,000 Irishmen fought in the British Army in WWI, while thousands more Irishmen and women worked on war service at home.

Shell Base trench art  
Munitionette Florence Lee



## First Floor Plan

NOTE: Map not to scale.



Liam Lynch Uniform

20b

### The Irish Wars: Civil Wars

The Irish Civil War divided former comrades on the future of the Irish state.

20a

### The Irish Wars: War of Independence

Discover the fight for Ireland's independence through military action, civil disobedience, and intelligence warfare.



Pistol hidden in a book

19b

### 1916: The Easter Rising

Meet the men and women of the 1916 Rising and uncover how it set a course towards Irish independence.



1916 Proclamation  
Cumann na mBan badge

Stairs & Lift from Ground Floor Reception.



Entrance



Stairs & Lift to Ground Floor Exhibitions.



27a

### Exhibiting the Nation

Since opening in 2006 the Soldiers & Chiefs exhibition has been visited by over 2 million people.

Many have donated items to the museum and it is not possible to display all objects in the main exhibition. We have created this special exhibition space to display some of them here.

We are very grateful to the people who came forward with this material relating to their family history and we welcome enquiries about such donations.

27b

### Temporary Exhibition Gallery

Ask at reception for information on current exhibitions.

25 26

### Recovered Voices; Stories of the Irish at War, 1914-1915

Uncover the Irish experience of WWI through the stories of these men and women and their service on the Front lines.

Recruitment Poster, 1915



Recovered Voices Gallery



24

### The Barracks Life Room

This room provides visitors with insights and opportunities to explore what life in the Barracks was like as a soldier in the 19th and 20th centuries.

There is a detailed reconstruction of how a barracks room would have looked in 1879 and 1943 and contains areas where visitors can try on costumes and handle objects, as well as exploring history using computer interactives.

23

### Defending the Peace

Explore the service of Irishmen and women on UN Peacekeeping missions.

UN Flakjacket



Barracks Life Room



22

### The Emergency and WWII

Discover how WWII affected life in Ireland, and how Irishmen and women served abroad in foreign armies.



Irish Army Nurse's veil



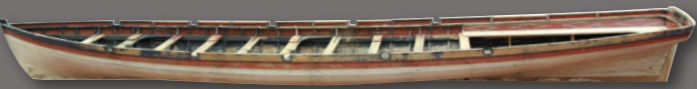
Identification tags of an Irish soldier in the British Army

21b

### The Irish Naval Service

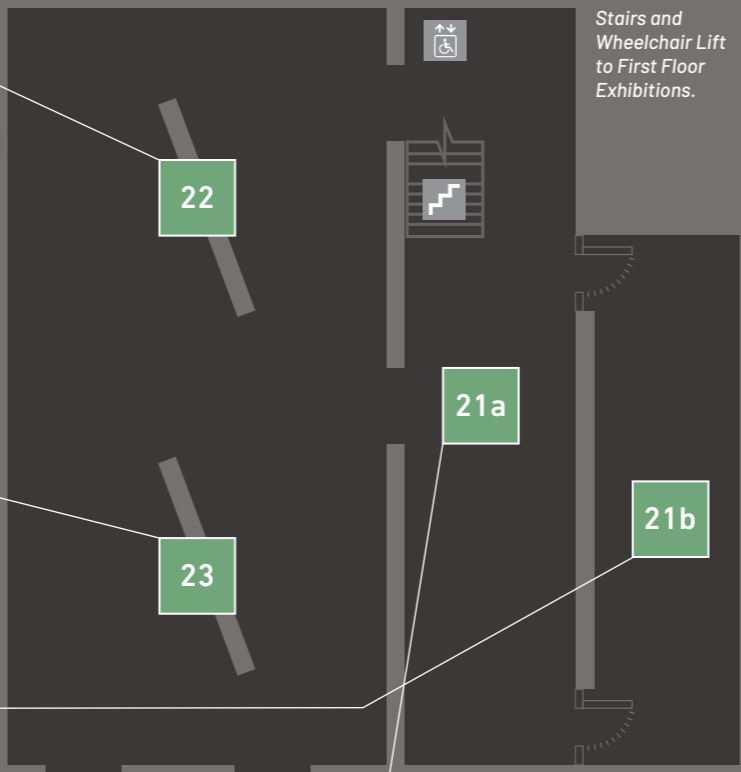
Discover the Irish naval service through the 19th and 20th centuries.

The Bantry Boat, 1796

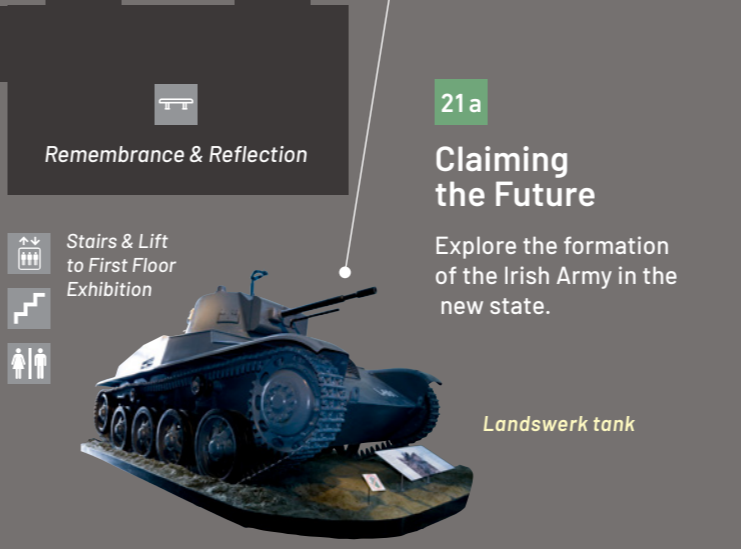


## Ground Floorplan

NOTE: Map not to scale.



Stairs and Wheelchair Lift to First Floor Exhibitions.



Remembrance & Reflection

Landswerk tank

## General Information

FREE ADMISSION

**Access for Differently Aabled**  
All Museum galleries are completely wheelchair accessible and there are elevators located in each gallery wing.

**Cloakroom**  
Cloakroom facilities are available at the main reception desk. There is no charge for this service.

**Education and Outreach Programmes**  
Explore the Museum's collections through the Education and Outreach programmes, which include guided tours, workshops and demonstrations, 'Behind the Scenes' tours, lectures, handling sessions, activity sheets for children and families.

For information on what's on at the Museum check our Calendar of Events.

**Temporary Exhibitions**  
For information on current and forthcoming temporary exhibitions, please ask staff at the reception desk.

**OPEN**  
Tuesday to Saturday 10am to 5pm.  
Sunday & Monday 1pm to 5pm.  
**CLOSED**  
Christmas Day, Good Friday and St. Stephens Day

museum | Shops



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**Museum Gift Shop**  
The online gift shop stocks a comprehensive selection of books, gifts, postcards and specially commissioned jewellery, ceramics and textiles.

**Exhibition Souvenir**  
An illustrated guidebook to the Soldiers and Chiefs exhibition is available in the Museum Gift Shop.



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## Floorplan

ENGLISH



**SOLDIERS AND CHIEFS**  
THE IRISH AT WAR AT HOME AND ABROAD SINCE 1550

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National Museum of Ireland  
Ard-Mhúsaem na hÉireann

Decorative Arts & History

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