

# POST PRIMARY CATEGORY

## THE MOST IRISH PLACE OUTSIDE OF IRELAND



**WINNER**

Newfoundland or Talamh an Eisc (the fishing grounds) is a rocky island sitting on the edge of the Grand Banks. It's Canada's most easterly province. Originally, it was the home of the indigenous Beothuk, Mi'kmaq, and Inuit people, but since the 15<sup>th</sup> century, the island has been colonised by Europeans, with a huge number from Ireland. They were drawn by the famous cod fisheries.

The Irishness in Newfoundland is undeniable. It's in the accent, dialect, folk history, oral traditions, the Catholic Church, songs, music, and dance. Between 1790 and 1835, 30 to 35000 Irish immigrants settled in Newfoundland.

Many of the songs mention places in Ireland like the Comeragh mountains, the Blackwater, Wexford or Banna Strand.

Ferryland, on the Irish Loop, is referred to as being at the Irish heart of Newfoundland and Labrador. Irish traditions, attitudes, music, and accents continue to thrive here. There is an annual Shamrock Folk Festival which is one of the top Irish/Newfoundland music festivals in the province.

One difference though is the huge icebergs which appeared off the coast in April 2017 and photobombed many of the tourist's pictures!!!

Apparently, many of the residents of Newfoundland prefer to be called Irish rather than "Newfies" or Canadians!

The town of Tilting is known as Irish on the Rocks! Many Irish surnames can be found such as Doyle, Walsh, Ryan. The Irish descendants speak like people from Dungarvan!

The first Irish settler arrived in 1752, Thomas Burke, the first Irish grave is of a man from Carrick on Suir.

There is a Feile Tilting every year.

There are many Irish sounding place names, such as Ballyhack, Cappahayden, Kilbride, St Brides, Duntara, Port Kirwan, Skibbereen.

Apart from there, there are so many funny sounding place names, Joe batts Arm, Blow Me Down, Red Head Cove, Come By Chance, Witless Bay, Bay Bulls, Fortune, Hearts Desire, Hearts Content, Seldom and Swift Current!!

Jiggs Dinner, Cod tongues, scrunchions, oyster leaf, toutons, caribou moss and purity candy are some of the crazy sounding foods.

In conclusion, it's quite obvious Newfoundland has taken the culture of the Irish and made it their own, unconsciously incorporating the Irish laid back sense of humour becoming "The Most Irish Place Outside Of Ireland".

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