Dublin, Christ Church Cathedral

Christ Church Cathedral has the double honour of being both the oldest building in Dublin and having the world record for largest number of bells that are rung full circle. This record is the most recent in a number of developments that the ringers of Christ Church have taken part in over the last thousand years. Every century has seen an improvement to either the tower or the bells within it.

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By 1440 there were known to be three great bells in the tower, however in 1603 an accidental explosion of gunpowder in one of the quays cracked the bells and damaged the tower. The effects of this blast also damaged the tower nearby of St. Audoen's church.

In 1670, six new bells were cast for the tower from cannon metal. These were augmented to eight in 1738 and then to twelve in 1878.

The most recent augmentation was in 1999 when an additional seven bells were added to the ring. Although this does not produce a diatonic scale on 19 bells, it does uniquely provide a choice of combinations: three different 12-bell peals as well as 14 and 16 bell peals. At the time of the augmentation, this was only the second 16 bell peal in the world - St Martin's church in Birmingham being the first.

Bells Weights & Inscriptions

https://dove.cccbr.org.uk/detail.php?tower=15915