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2017



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**HMS CAROLINE**  
BELFAST

THE  
NATIONAL  
MUSEUM





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# *The Belfast Visitor Guide is your passport to a vibrant, cultural and ever innovative city and presents another momentous year packed with festivals, food and fun.*

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Cover photo:  
**Titanic Belfast**  
Europe's Leading Tourist  
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Enjoy a compact city jammed full of culture, rich history and heritage, maritime legacy, and just about the friendliest, most welcoming people you'll find anywhere. No wonder Northern Ireland was ranked as the 'happiest place in the United Kingdom' in early 2016!

The City is packed full of fascinating architecture, ranging from distinguished banks and public buildings, to trendy urban warehouse restaurants and cosy pubs. There are a growing number of award-winning restaurants and celebrity chefs who are championing our local artisan produce. Experience our food scene in style at a Michelin Star restaurant, improve your culinary skills in a cookery school or enjoy the relaxed atmosphere of a trendy gastro pub.

We have a packed calendar of events taking place throughout the year, so whether it's comedy, maritime history, community arts, carnival parades, bluegrass music, song writing, European cinema, contemporary dance, the crème de la crème of local cuisine or avant-garde puppetry that's your thing, Belfast will have a suite of festivals to suit your tastes.

Less than an hour from the world famous Giant's Causeway and the stunning Mountains of Mourne, Belfast is a gateway city to a land of legends. Whether you're here for the weekend or you have the opportunity to linger a little longer, a trip to Belfast this year promises memories to last a lifetime.

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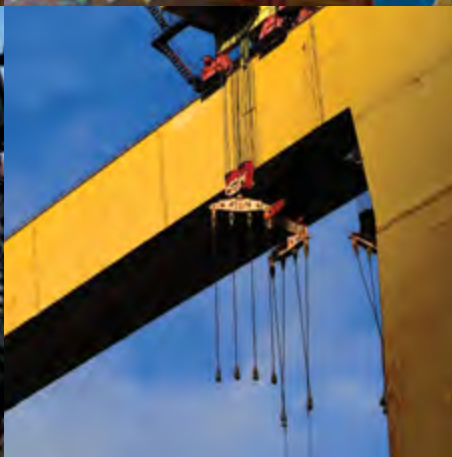
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## Belfast City Hall

*This imposing Portland stone and copper-domed building was completed in 1906 as a symbol of Belfast's new city status granted by Queen Victoria. Uncover the history while exploring some of its finest features on a free 45 minute 'behind the scenes' tour. The splendour and grandeur displayed so proudly and created so magnificently by the craftsmen of Belfast in the interiors of City Hall, was reflected in the public rooms on board Titanic.*





# HISTORY & HERITAGE

Belfast has a unique and world famous history and heritage that is apparent in everything from our music festivals to our architecture and much more besides.

A city amply supplied with libraries, museums, universities, cathedrals, cobbled streets and red brick Victorian terraces, it's a must see destination for history fans.

## Origins

Although settlement in the Belfast area dates back to the Bronze Age, its status as a major centre dates back to the 17th century. It was granted city status by Queen Victoria in 1888, and for a brief period in the early 20th century, Belfast overtook Dublin as the largest city in Ireland.

There are over 500,000 people living in the greater Belfast region today, of many ethnicities and religions, as the city develops as a multi-cultural, cosmopolitan European city that still retains the friendliness of a village and the ease of access of a town.

## Industrial Heritage

Some of the industries which allowed Belfast to flourish in the 19th century, such as rope making, ship building, and the artisan production of linen, tea and lemonade, are still very much in evidence today.

While it's hard to miss the innovative, rapidly developing Titanic Quarter on the site of one of Belfast's former shipyards, also

worth looking out for is the Linen Quarter, just south of Belfast City Hall, where the world's great linen manufacturers once stood making the city's name so synonymous with linen production. Belfast was known as Linenopolis, some of the old mills can still be seen in the north and west of the city, including Conway Mill which now houses artists' studios, a museum, and a holistic healing centre. Visitors today can experience some of the artisan industry of modern Belfast at Lawrence Street Workshops or nearby Hilden Brewery, or sample local home grown and culinary produce from across Northern Ireland at St. George's Market at the weekends.

## Political History

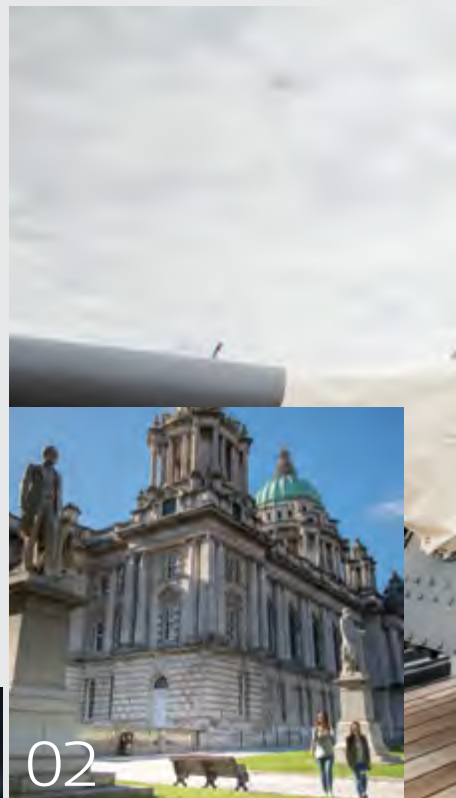
Belfast, of course, has a more recent political history, and there are a variety of mural tours that you can go on to see the street art around the city. While sections of the peace wall and some overtly paramilitary murals do still exist, the murals in Belfast are increasingly reflecting the City's history and culture in keeping with Northern Ireland's focus on peace, modernity and celebration of our shared future.

Libraries, museums,  
universities, cathedrals,  
cobbled streets and red  
brick Victorian terraces.

# HIGHLIGHTS

Whether you're in the city for an afternoon, a day or a weekend, here's our list of top things to see and do in Belfast.

- 1 Follow the journey of the world's most famous ship at Titanic Belfast.
- 2 Enjoy a free tour of the iconic Belfast City Hall.
- 3 Relax with a pint in the Victorian Crown Liquor Saloon.
- 4 See it all in a day on a Belfast City Tour.
- 5 Try life behind bars at Crumlin Road Gaol.
- 6 Explore the galleries of the Ulster Museum set in Botanic Gardens.
- 7 Discover the 100 year old history of HMS Caroline.
- 8 Sensational city views from Belfast Castle and Cave Hill.
- 9 Take a free tour of the stunning Stormont Parliament Buildings.
- 10 Explore the history of Belfast's magnificent St Anne's Cathedral.
- 11 Browse the stalls and soak up the atmosphere at St George's Market.
- 12 Enjoy our amazing food scene with great local produce at one of the city's top restaurants.
- 13 Shop 'til you drop and enjoy 360° views from the glass dome in Victoria Square.
- 14 Experience a night out in the buzzing Cathedral Quarter.







# EXPLORING BELFAST



## CITY CENTRE

Belfast City Hall is the centre point of the city and visitors can enjoy a free tour of this iconic building, relax in the gardens and visit the Titanic Memorial Garden. Explore the main shopping district and the award-winning St George's Market, as well as an abundance of cool cafes, great pubs, trendy bars and an amazing restaurant scene. Start off in the Visit Belfast Welcome Centre to pick up information, book tours and find out everything to make the most of your visit.

### TOP TIP

*As well as sensational shopping at Victoria Square, don't miss taking the lift up to the huge dome to enjoy 360° degree views right across the city.*



## CATHEDRAL QUARTER

Taking its name from St. Anne's Cathedral, this quarter is packed full of fascinating architecture, cobblestoned streets, buzzing beer gardens and trendy warehouse restaurants. It contrasts the old with the new, with St. Anne's Square, home to the Metropolitan Arts Centre (MAC) and a piazza of welcoming eateries alongside some of the oldest streets in Belfast. Full of colourful street art, this area of town is absolutely buzzing at night.

### TOP TIP

*Make time for afternoon tea in the luxurious Merchant Hotel to admire the opulent surroundings, huge domed ceiling and Ireland's largest chandelier.*



## LINEN QUARTER

The Linen Quarter is the area south of Belfast City Hall, which was once the home of the White Linen Hall, an important international linen exchange. Belfast, once nicknamed 'Linenopolis', was the world leader in the production of linen in the 19th Century. Today you can enjoy the architecture of the old linen mills which house a mix of offices, chic bars and renowned restaurants. This is a great part of town to enjoy dinner and drinks before an entertaining show at the Grand Opera House.

### TOP TIP

*Be sure to visit Belfast's highest rooftop bar, The Perch, where you can enjoy cocktails and sangria in the height of summer and hot cider, winter warmer's and blanket's in the winter.*



Exploring a city can be tricky if you don't know your way around, or even what to look out for. Get a flavour of what Belfast has to offer using this taster on the city's areas.



For locations, check out our handy map on page 66.



## TITANIC QUARTER

Steeped in memories of a bygone era when Belfast was a world centre of maritime trade, shipbuilding and commerce, the Titanic Quarter is now a fun and energetic urban waterfront development. Visit or take a tour of the many historic and state of the art Titanic visitor attractions, be wowed by science in W5, enjoy thrills and spills at the T13 urban sports park or catch a show, concert or Ice Hockey game at the SSE Arena.

### TOP TIP

*There's always an action packed calendar of entertainment happening in TQ, from maritime festivals, BMX championships and music concerts to 5k colour runs, inspiring Titanic taster tours and the Dock Saturday market.*



## QUEEN'S QUARTER

The leafy area spread around Queen's University is home to a treasure trove of eclectic shops, boutiques, cafes, bars and art galleries. Visit the collections of the Ulster Museum, stroll around the Victorian Palm House in the stunning Botanic Gardens, take in an art-house movie at the Queen's Film Theatre or enjoy great live music or stand-up comedy at the Empire Music Hall. The neighbouring Lisburn Road offers designer shopping, cafes, artisan delis, salons and wine bars.

### TOP TIP

*The neighbouring leafy Lisburn Road offers the ultimate designer shopping experience dotted with a selection of cafes, artisan delis, salons and wine bars.*



## GAELTACHT QUARTER

The centre for Irish language, music and culture is in the west of the city. Many visitors come to see the area's famous political murals and peace wall but there's plenty more to discover. An Chultúrlann, the Quarter's culture and arts centre, contains an excellent restaurant, gift shop, theatre and gallery. Explore the stunning Clonard Monastery or enjoy the 3 mile Divis Summit Trail, a specifically designed loop walk on Divis Mountain with spectacular views over Belfast.

### TOP TIP

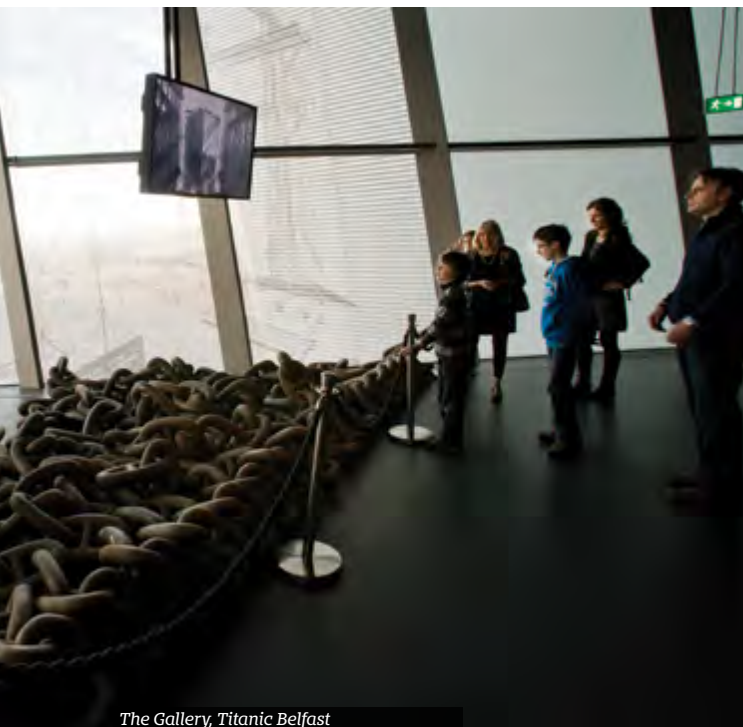
*Drop in to Cumann Chluain Árd where you can be assured of traditional entertainment at its very best with music, craic and ceilidh.*



# TITANIC CITY

Belfast's Titanic Quarter is steeped in the rich history and tradition of the city's shipbuilding heritage. Much of what the Titanic Quarter stands on is reclaimed land, built on top of the Belfast harbour where ships were launched into Belfast Lough and on out to sea.





The Gallery, Titanic Belfast



SS Nomadic



HMS Caroline



Kit Sculpture

Alongside the Titanic and Olympic slipways, where these Harland and Wolff ships were launched, and Titanic's impressive Edwardian Dock & Pumphouse, sit spectacular new high tech developments for the city: the BMC campus, the Northern Ireland Science Park, Titanic Exhibition Centre, Public Records Office of NI, and the internationally acclaimed film studio utilising Harland & Wolff's former paint hall, home to the Game of Thrones film set.

The jewel in the Quarters crown, however, is Titanic Belfast. Not only is it an architectural triumph for the city but it houses the world's largest Titanic visitor experience. The iconic six-floor building featuring nine

interpretive and interactive galleries that explore the sights, sounds, smells and stories of Titanic, as well as the City and people which made her, is an unmissable experience which brings history to life in an unforgettable way.

Located beside the Titanic Slipways, the Harland and Wolff Drawing Offices and Hamilton Graving Dock – the very place where Titanic was designed, built and launched in 1912, Titanic Belfast has welcomed over 2.5 million visitors from over 145 countries and has garnered glowing reviews in international and local press.

It's not hard to see why: on entering, visitors can step back

in time learn about the thriving industries and exciting design innovations that led to the creation of RMS Titanic - the largest and most luxurious ship in the world in Belfast before passing through the original Harland & Wolff gates to continue their journey to the Shipyard and the dark ride that uses special effects, animations and full-scale reconstructions to recreate the reality of shipbuilding in the early 1900s.

There's not much time to catch your breath, as you're greeted with a panoramic eagle's eye view of the actual slipways on which both the Titanic and the Olympic once rested as well as experience the excitement of launch day in 1911. Visitors can



Titanic Belfast



## PUBLIC ART

*There are so many ways to discover the Titanic experience throughout Belfast. The Model of Hull at Titanic's Dock & Pumphouse is a one third size scale model of Titanic's hull, partially built on the Arrol gantry. The giant Kit Sculpture, using scale replicas of Titanic's component parts, recreates the legendary liner beside the Abercorn Basin. Titanic, her sister ships Olympic and Britannic, and Nomadic are among eight famous Belfast-made ships represented by spectacular sculptured Masts that line the east side of Donegall Place. The Yardmen sculpture at Pitt Park in East Belfast pays tribute to the men who built some of the world's most famous ships.*



view the life size plan of Titanic's Promenade Deck, outlining where the liner's lifeboats and funnels and benches on board would have been, as well as Titanic Belfast's memorial garden.

Then it's all aboard to experience an eclectic range of exhibits, models, interactive databases and elaborate computer generated imagery which illustrate the ship's opulent fit-out including exact replicas of the cabins, and journeys through the dining areas, the ship's engine rooms, working interiors and deck promenade, where you can see and hear the oceans and feel the engines rumbling.

Pay tribute to the loss of this magnificent ship and the 1,500 men, women and children who lost their lives on her tragic maiden voyage, experience the aftermath, the inquiries and the sensational news

reports of the time. The story is then brought up to the present with the discovery of the wreck and into the future with live links to contemporary undersea exploration.

So whether you come for the architecture, the history and heritage or the unique visitor experience, by bus, bike, walking, segway or tram tour, a stop off at Titanic Belfast is a highly recommended highlight of any trip to Belfast.

### More to Explore

There's more to just sightseeing in the Titanic Quarter, break it up with a stop off for a bite to eat or browse the Dock Market (every 2nd and 4th Saturday of the month), showcasing the very best of Belfast's art, photography, craft, fashion and artisan food.

The Dock Café is an 'honesty box' café, so you pay whatever you





think is a fair price. Here you'll find an ever-expanding collection of quirky pieces of history from the Belfast docks: Titanic memorabilia, models and unique pictures of shipyard life, and artefacts from the lovely old H&W Drawing Offices.

You won't be able to resist the smells of the bakers at work in the Belfast Baking Company, who offer a delicious locally themed menu of homemade baked breads, bespoke cakes, traditional breakfasts, healthy lunches and wholesome dinners.

Nestled underneath the Samson and Goliath cranes, you'll find 'Cast and Crew', serving up great food for dine in or takeaway, with a superb selection of casual breakfast and lunch dishes on offer. Enjoy the cosy environment and open kitchen as well as a great choice of superfood salads, Titanic burgers, chilli dogs as well as the tasty all day brunch menu.



Dock Cafe



**ENJOY A  
PANORAMIC  
EAGLE'S EYE VIEW  
OF THE ACTUAL  
SLIPWAYS ON  
WHICH BOTH THE  
TITANIC AND THE  
OLYMPIC ONCE  
RESTED.**

Titanic Slipways



SS Nomadic

## TITANIC TIPS



### TITANIC MEMORIAL GARDEN

*Sited in the grounds of Belfast City Hall, Thane, Belfast's Titanic Memorial was created by renowned sculptor Thomas Brock, perhaps better known for the Imperial Memorial to Queen Victoria outside Buckingham Palace. Elegiac and grand, the statue makes a fitting centrepiece to a garden which is also home to a 9 metre long plinth, inscribed with the names of the 1,512 people who died on RMS Titanic.*

#### SS Nomadic

SS Nomadic is the last remaining White Star Line vessel and is the biggest Titanic artefact in the world. Built by Harland and Wolff in 1911, it served as the tender ship for Titanic on her maiden voyage, carrying first and second class passengers from the port of Cherbourg to the ship. The vessel also served in World War I and II, as well as luxury liners Queen Mary and the Queen Elizabeth. Visitors can now experience a rich, tangible and authentic piece of Belfast's industrial and maritime heritage and follow in the footsteps of Charlie Chaplin, Elizabeth Taylor, Richard Burton, Marie Curie, the first female Nobel Prize winner, Hollywood legends past and present, American socialites.

Now restored to her former glory, SS Nomadic is open to the public as a fascinating visitor attraction with an onboard museum, exhibition and education areas.

#### Titanic's Dock & Pump-House

Discover the story behind Belfast's maritime magic by taking a tour at the site of the Thompson Dry-Dock and Pump-House, once the beating heart of Harland & Wolff during the construction of the great White Star Liners. Walk every square foot of this colossal and authentic landmark, absorbing 100 years of history with every step. Descend 44 feet to the bottom of the dock where Titanic last sat on dry ground. Enter by the Pump-House and discover the power house that was the beating heart of the shipyard.

#### TITANICa The Exhibition

Take a trip to the Ulster Folk and Transport Museum to explore Titanic and her world in an insightful exhibition. Discover how local enterprise and skills were combined to produce vessels of exceptional quality and design. Find out about life onboard through fascinating objects and personal stories that explore 1912.



# BELFAST CATHEDRAL

## THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST ANNE



Belfast Cathedral welcomes visitors from 9am-5.15pm Monday to Saturday, and from 1pm-3pm on Sundays. There is a modest charge for entry. An audio tour and guidebook are also available. Guided tours for larger groups can be booked in advance.

Discover more online  
[www.belfastcathedral.org](http://www.belfastcathedral.org)



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[info@belfasthiddentours.com](mailto:info@belfasthiddentours.com)

07971895746



# HMS Caroline



***HMS Caroline, a World War I Light Battle Cruiser, is the last surviving ship from the Battle of Jutland in 1916.***

Step on-board Belfast's newest attraction and be blown away by a dynamic film showing the drama and devastation a battle can bring. Explore the impressively recreated cabins that have been restored as if the crew left the ship yesterday, listen in on the everyday sounds in the Captain's and Senior Officers' cabins and enjoy interactive exhibits throughout the ship.

Soak up the atmosphere as you learn about communication at sea in the Signal School and see if you can crack a code using techniques like semaphore and flags. A visit to the Torpedo School enables visitors to explore naval weaponry and dazzle, learn all about war at sea, create your own dazzle camouflage and

evade an enemy attack.

The Virtual Access Suite provides access to remote and hidden areas of HMS Caroline. Learn how the ship works with interactive exhibits and take control of HMS Caroline in the Virtual Bridge. Here visitors will also learn about Caroline's impact in Belfast – her home for over 90 years. The historic spaces on HMS Caroline have been recreated to look as they did in 1916, the year that HMS Caroline was part of one of the largest naval battles in history – the Battle of Jutland.

Walk along the decks and see the ship's replica 6-inch and 4-inch guns. You can also head to the Navigating Bridge where you can visit the Captain's Sea Cabin.



## **NEWS**

*HMS Caroline closed in Autumn 2016 for hull conservation work and is due to reopen mid-February 2017. For more information and to book tickets visit [hmscaroline.co.uk](http://hmscaroline.co.uk)*





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# CRUMLIN ROAD GAOL

*On 31 March 1996, the Governor of Belfast's Crumlin Road Gaol walked out of the fortified prison and the heavy air-lock gates slammed shut for the final time. The closure ended a 150-year history of imprisonment, conflict and executions.*

The County Gaol for Antrim, as it was originally known, was built in Belfast between 1843 and 1845 on a design by the renowned architect and engineer Charles Lanyon. The new building took over from the original county gaol on Antrim Street in Carrickfergus. Constructed from Black Basalt rock on a 10-acre site at the bottom of the Crumlin Road, it was modelled on London's Pentonville prison.

The nineteenth century Grade 'A' listed building, the Crumlin Road Gaol has undergone a significant restoration and its doors are now open once again, but this time, as a visitor attraction to the public. Visitors can now take the tour and live life behind bars, in a history that begins when the Gaol opened in 1845, where you can find out firsthand how a Victorian prison evolved through history.

During its time in service 17 people were executed, numerous escapes were

undertaken and many infamous inmates were detained in it. Learn about when women and children were held within its walls through to the political segregation of republican and loyalist prisoners and find out why the decision was taken to close the prison.

An estimated 25,000 people were imprisoned there and both history buffs and architecture fans will find the tour particularly fascinating.

A qualified guide assists visitors in exploring the prison and covers all aspects, including the underground tunnel linking the Crumlin Road Courthouse to the gaol, the Governors corridor and office, centre circle, C-wing, the historic holding cells, condemned mans cell and pinioning room before visiting the execution cell, where the majority of the 17 men were hanged, and finally the graveyard.



## Top Tip

*After your tour why not stay for a bite to eat at Cuffs Bar and Grill, Belfast's newest and captivating dining experience, in Crumlin Road Gaol.*

# Explore the City

You may already know what you want from your trip to Belfast: from Titanic and the political wall murals to the famous film locations featured in Game of Thrones. Tie it all together with a guided taxi tour, or explore the city on foot or bike. Here are a few ideas on the many ways that you can explore the city sights.



Titanic Boat Tour



Coiste Irish Political Tours



Wee Tram Tours

## City Tours

If you're short on time or want to get a general overview of everything the city has to offer, book a private guided taxi tour or open top bus tour. It's the ideal way to find out all about the city's history including the famous political wall murals, the Peace Wall and other highlights throughout the Gaeltacht, Queen's, Cathedral and Titanic Quarters.

## Titanic Boat Tour

Enjoy a unique perspective of the changing face of Belfast's historic harbour which has seen over 10,000 ships built during its long history. Explore all the sites in the Titanic Quarter on this hop on, hop off water taxi service.

## Coiste Irish Political Tours

Experience a bus or walking tour with trained tour guides from the Republican and Loyalist ex-prisoner community who give a truly unique insight into the British - Irish conflict, and how it has shaped their communities. Recently listed as one of Europe's most alternative city tours.

## Food & Drink Tours

There are a number of delicious food and drink tours on offer in and around the city and further afield. Take a walking tour around the city's gastronomic hot spots or a coach tour that brings you to visit some of our top artisan food and drink producers, whose products are served on the tables of Michelin starred restaurants across the country.

## Wee Tram Tour

Hop on and hop off for two days travel around the attractions of the Titanic Quarter. On board you'll hear amazing stories of the shipyard, with photography, video and local knowledge on board each carriage. You can even wear your very own Edwardian 'duncher' (old yardmen's cap) as you travel!

## Street Art Tours

Like Berlin and Bethlehem, also famous for their walls, Belfast has become a place where Street Art has flourished, where artists from around the world have come to paint. Devised and led by the local artists who have driven the scene, this is a 90 minute, gently paced guide to the ever changing face of Street Art in the Cathedral Quarter.





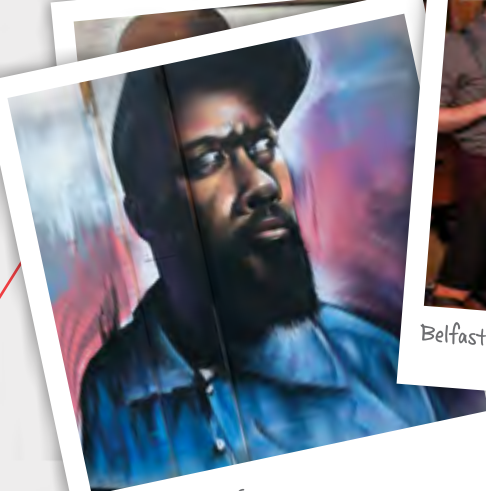
Wee Toast Tours



Game of Thrones Tours



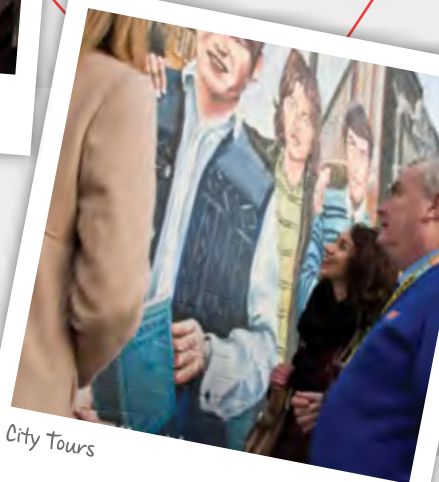
Belfast Pub Experience



Street Art Tours



Food & Drink Tours



City Tours

### Music Tour

Take a bus journey through the heart of this rock and roll city. Sit back, relax, and enjoy tunes and tales from Them to Van Morrison, by way of awesome guitar players, traditional and folk, to punk rock and Hollywood soundtracks. Finish up at the Belfast Music exhibition at the Oh Yeah Music Centre in the Cathedral Quarter, dedicated to telling the story of the great achievers of local music.

### Belfast Pub Experience

Reserve a space on the ultimate pub experience for taking in the culture and craic that Belfast has to offer.

Begin with a tasting session of local drinks before enjoying Irish traditional musicians, dancers and story tellers who will regale you with the city's unique story.

### Game of Thrones Tours

Filmed in Belfast's Titanic Studios and across various locations throughout Northern Ireland, you can take a guided coach tour to explore some of the stunning filming locations featured in the hit show. You can even step into 'Winterfell' and experience archery in a recreated film set in 'Stark family' costumes.

### Wee Toast Tour

Enjoy a unique 'beer bike' guided cycle tour through the streets of Belfast. This 15 seater vehicle lets you take in the sights and sounds of the city whilst enjoying a drink and pedalling from the comfort of your bar stool!





# HOME OF THRONES

HBO®'s Game of Thrones® is one of the most popular and successful fantasy TV series ever made and it is filmed right here in Northern Ireland! The magical atmosphere captured on film is due to the stunning filming locations chosen by HBO® to feature in the show, so now is the time to get out and explore them.

*Dark Hedges - The King's Road*





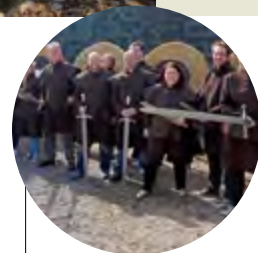
Murlough Bay - Slaver's Bay



Castle Ward - Winterfell



Downhill Beach - Dragonstone



## Experience It\*

Get the full experience and tour the Northern Ireland filming locations. Choose from a 3-day self-drive itinerary tour to a choice of guided coach tours. You can even step into Winterfell and experience archery in a recreated film set dressed in 'Stark family' costumes.

For more information see:

**[visitbelfast.com/](http://visitbelfast.com/)**  
**[gameofthrones](http://gameofthrones)**

Part of the show's appeal and what has made it so popular with millions of fans are the mesmerising fantasy lands of Westeros which of course have been brought to life using Northern Ireland's rugged coastlines, historic castles and breathtaking countryside and forests. The dramatic scenery of the Causeway Coast and Glens, County Down, County Fermanagh and County Armagh forms the backdrop to much of the show's action. Fans can easily visit many of the locations where a favourite scene was filmed or walk in the footsteps of a much-loved character.

There are also some wonderful Game of Thrones inspired tours and

family themed activities that have been created due to the popularity of the show, so you don't have to be a fan to join in the fun. You can dress up in costume and enjoy a day of archery with Clearsky Adventure or take a self-guided cycle tour of some of the shows film locations - there really is something for everyone to enjoy.

Some of the stunning filming locations not to be missed include: Castle Ward which may be more familiar as Winterfell, Tollymore Forest Park which will be recognisable as North of Winterfell, Downhill Beach familiar as the Dragonstone exterior and Murlough Bay in County Antrim aka Stormlands - but there are many more to discover.

\*All tours are independently operated by each provider. They are not sponsored, endorsed or affiliated with HBO or anyone associated with Game of Thrones®.



# ARTS & CULTURE

Belfast may be small in size, but it's huge in imagination! Spend a day as a culture vulture and explore some of the cool art spaces and creative place just waiting to be discovered.

## Ulster Museum

An inspiring piece of modern architecture set in the beautiful Botanic Gardens, the Ulster Museum is the largest museum in Northern Ireland and is free to visit. It tells the story of the people of the north of Ireland from earliest times to the present day. Impressive galleries and interactive discovery zones bring history, science and art collections to life and its unparalleled collection of Irish art is well worth seeing.

## Linen Hall Library

The Linen Hall Library is a truly unique institution. Founded in 1788, it is the oldest library in Belfast and the last subscribing library in Ireland.

It is renowned for its unparalleled Irish and Local Studies Collection, ranging from comprehensive holdings of Early Belfast and Ulster printed books to the 250,000 items in the Northern Ireland Political Collection, the definitive archive of the recent troubles. The Library also boasts the Northern Ireland Theatre and Performing Arts Archive, a unique collection reflecting our rich cultural heritage.

## Galleries

Belfast has an impressive array of gallery space, displaying everything from the most contemporary visual art in the Golden Thread Gallery to traditional printmaking techniques

showcased in the Belfast Print Workshop and the edgiest and freshest modern art in The MAC. The Naughton Gallery at Queen's features a rolling programme of works from the University's own collection, touring exhibitions and shows by local and international artists, and the Royal Ulster Academy's Annual Exhibition showcases work by emerging and established artists to celebrate, enrich and expand contemporary approaches to the visual arts.

## The Murals

Once described as "the world's greatest open-air gallery", the murals of Belfast are a must-see





Ulster Museum



Linenhall Library



Political Murals



## Street Art

Belfast has become a place where Street Art has flourished and artists from around the world come to paint. Enjoy a 90 minute tour with local artists to view the ever changing face of Street Art that is found in the Cathedral Quarter.



## Late Night Art

Want to pack in as many galleries and as many new exhibitions as you possibly can? Visit the city on the first Thursday of the month to take the Late Night Art tour when most of Belfast's galleries stay open longer and have new shows just beginning.

experience for visitors. Artworks range from Republican and Loyalist political statements to colourful celebrations of the city's famous sons and daughters. These pieces of art often appear on the gable end of residential homes and provide an insight into the culture and traditions of Northern Ireland. The Peace Wall that divides two communities in West Belfast, is home to a vibrant mix of political murals, graffiti and commissioned public art. Many visitors stop here to add their own messages of peace and hope.

### Public Art

Belfast has over 150 pieces of distinctive, inspiring and imaginative pieces of public art scattered across the city. Highlights include the 'Big Fish' on Donegall Quay, a 10 metre long salmon whose scales are

made up of ceramic tiles decorated with texts and images relating to the history of Belfast. The 15 metre tall 'Beacon of Hope' is a female figure that stands proudly holding a ring of peace and reconciliation towering over the River Lagan, and the biggest art sculpture in the city is 'Rise' located at the M1 gateway to the city. The two globes symbolise the rising sun and new hope for Belfast's future.

### C.S. Lewis Trail

Explore Belfast's literary son by following the trail that will take you on a journey to the places that influenced and inspired the young Clive Staples Lewis. Learn of the events that helped to shape one of the most wonderfully creative minds of the twentieth century. Trail maps are available from the Eastside Visitor Centre.



Queen's Arcade

# Shopping

Shopping in Belfast is a dream come true for savvy shoppers, fashionistas and foodies alike, with a huge variety of independent retailers, speciality emporiums, high street chains, exclusive boutiques and traditional markets.

Whether it's high fashion or the high seas you need kitted out for, antiquarian books, artisan foods, exquisite jewellery or a unique piece of pottery, you're sure to find what you are looking for in one of the City's shopping districts.

Find literally everything you could ever need under one roof in Victoria Square, home to House of Fraser and many other stores from lingerie to the latest smart watches. Visit CastleCourt for all the leading high street stores or pop in to some of Belfast's beautiful craft shops, from



Steenison's Jewellers

Utopia for gorgeous gifts, Space CRAFT for unique Belfast design or The Wicker Man for traditional crafts that make special souvenirs to take home.

Compact in size, perhaps, but uncompromising in choice, Belfast offers the most sophisticated of shoppers the ultimate luxury retail experience along the Lisburn Road. Dotted with cafes, salons, wine bars and its own leafy oasis of tranquillity in Drumglass Park, this lengthy boulevard houses award winning delis, alongside designer





Victoria Square



St George's Market

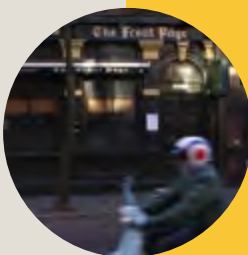


CastleCourt



## The Good Food and Wine Company

*Make a stop in Queen's Arcade at this fantastic award winning deli, teahouse and coffee brewbar that specialises in 100% locally sourced, home-grown, artisan food. Their all day 'afternoon tea' menu is not to be missed, and browse the range of delicious fine food gifts to take home, or build your own hamper and have it delivered anywhere in the world.*



## SMITHFIELD AND UNION

*The heart of old Belfast, home to the city's oldest buildings, its newspapers, library and Smithfield market. Though newly christened, Smithfield and Union has existed for generations. Always beating to a different rhythm than its neighbouring counterparts, Smithfield and Union celebrates the individual, the different, the separate, the idiosyncratic and the eclectic.*

*At the end of Winetavern Street you'll find yourself facing Smithfield Market, featuring an array of interesting oddities that no High Street would entertain; toy museum, Filipino deli, army surplus, seamstress, boxing regalia, Caribbean foodstore, organic growing equipment, exotic spiders, scorpions and reptiles.*

fashion, art galleries, party frocks, tailored suits and glitzy jewellery as far as the eye can see.

Meanwhile, in the city centre, vintage stores and specialist retailers sit alongside independent record shops, second hand book treasure troves and a wealth of high street chains and department stores. There's sportswear galore at SS Moore's, a Pandora's box of treats to be explored at Avoca and beautifully crafted jewellery at Steenson's and Lunn's.

A photograph of two women sitting at a wooden table in a restaurant, laughing and talking. They are both smiling broadly. The woman on the left has blonde hair and is wearing a white top. The woman on the right has dark hair and is wearing a blue top. On the table are plates of food, glasses of white wine, and a glass of water. In the background, there is a bar area with shelves of bottles and other patrons. The text 'EAT & DRINK' is overlaid in large white letters on the left side of the image.

# EAT & DRINK

The Muddlers Club

*Belfast's vibrant restaurant scene offers everything from Michelin Star fine dining and exciting midlevel restaurants to the classic 'Ulster fry' cooked breakfast. Leading restaurant reviewers have plated up praise for Belfast's buzzing food scene and labelled the city 'passionate' about its restaurant culture.*

## **Restaurant Scene**

Eating out is one of the great pleasures in life. It's also one of the joys of travel. The much coveted Michelin Stars awarded to fine dining restaurants 'Epic' and 'Ox' have put Belfast firmly back on the culinary map, and the finest in local cuisine can also be experienced in style at renowned establishments across the city including James Street South, The Muddlers Club and The Great Room Restaurant to name but a few.

Talented chefs, superb local produce and great value means

Belfast has one of the tastiest food scenes in the UK or Ireland. In the Cathedral Quarter, you'll find a selection of seven unique restaurants in the beautiful Italian style piazza of Saint Anne's Square, and you'll be spoilt for choice in the city centre with a selection of exciting restaurants including Mourne Seafood Bar, Robinson and Cleaver, Deanes and Howard Street. The city's diverse cultural traditions are showcased with the very best of Chinese, Indian, Mexican, Spanish, Italian and Japanese food all well

represented, so there's plenty to choose from.

With everything from fine dining, brasseries and bistros to gastro pubs, cafes, coffee shops and some of the best fish & chips around, there's something for everyone!

## **Markets and More**

Belfast is a foodies delight just waiting to be discovered. At the weekend, St George's Market oozes Victorian charm offering some of the finest fresh produce, local arts and crafts. Make a stop for brunch



## Ulsterly delicious: Belfast is on a gastronomic roll

Tom Parker Bowles  
Food Writer & Food Critic



Robinson & Cleaver



St George's Market



Ginaissance

and soak up the atmosphere with some great live music. The Folktown Market is a farmers and artisan market taking place every Thursday in one of the oldest and most unique parts of the city. Explore amazing delis such as Sawers, the Good Food & Wine Company and Avoca, which house an extensive range of high quality local artisan products. For the sweet tooth amongst you, don't miss a stop at Co Couture where you can buy locally made award-winning chocolates.

### Coffee Stop

Belfast has a vibrant café culture. From local artisan roasters, to incredible independent coffee shops and top class baristas... you'll never be far away from a great

handcrafted coffee or a boutique loose leaf blended tea. There are an abundance of coffee shops in Belfast but worth a stop are local chain Clements, Patisserie Valerie beside City Hall and the 'honesty box' Dock Café in Titanic Quarter.

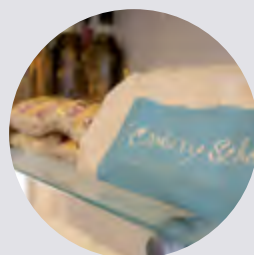
### Ginaissance

Belfast is experiencing something of a 'Ginaissance' with many bars and restaurants across the city offering an entire menu dedicated to this increasingly varied spirit. While you're here, make sure to try the best in our local craft distilled gin. 'Jawbox' is perfect served with ginger ale, mint leaves and a wedge of lime, or 'Shortcross' served with frozen orange ice cubes, fresh mint and elderflower tonic water.



## Art of Craft

Craft beers are taking the brewing world - and Belfast - by storm. So join other beer lovers in sampling the delicious wares of local microbreweries and smallscale producers. Check out the Woodworkers, offering six rotating taps of craft beers, served in a range of sizes from 7oz taster glasses to 2 litre 'growlers'. Brew your own beer using a smartphone app at Brewbot Belfast or take a tour at Lisburn's Hilden Brewery, which has been creating some of the finest quality craft beers for 35 years. You can enjoy one of their collection at many bars across the city.



## Culinary Experience

A fun treat for any food lover is to improve your skills by booking into a class at one of the City's cookery schools. Suitable for singles, couples or groups, you can choose from a wide range of classes available for all levels of ability and learn the craft of making your masterpiece under the guidance of top chefs, before relaxing and enjoying your meal with a well deserved glass of wine.



# Evening Entertainment

Lyric Theatre

Belfast's entertainment scene attracts a combination of big-name stars while continuing to develop top home-grown talent. Many Northern Irish performers have become international names - most notably Liam Neeson, Kenneth Branagh and Van Morrison. So, whether it's rising stars or established artists you're after, you'll find Belfast's entertainment scene in good shape!

## Lyric Theatre

The Lyric is the only full-time producing theatre in Northern Ireland and with its two performance spaces and perennially full programme, there's always a production worth seeing no matter when you visit. The new theatre with its breathtaking views of the River Lagan and its gourmet café make the venue well worth a visit on its own merits. Described by the Daily Telegraph's architecture critic Ellis Woodman as one of the "best British buildings built this century", the stunning £18m building has won a series of awards for its architecture.

## Grand Opera House

Since opening its doors in 1895, the Grand Opera House, designed by prolific theatrical architect Frank Matcham, has delivered an unrivalled programme of entertainment, playing host to some of the greatest names in theatre and music and bringing London's West End into the heart of Belfast. The modern extension to the original building created the notable addition of the 'Baby Grand' - which hosts smaller musical, dramatic and comedy performances.

## Ulster Hall

First opened in 1862, the 'Grand Dame of Bedford Street,' as she is affectionately known, is one of the oldest purpose-built concert halls in the UK and Ireland. This grand Victorian building has survived two World Wars and welcomed names as famous and diverse as Charles Dickens and Motorhead. Over the years it has served as a hugely popular dance hall, a venue for boxing, and in later years many top rock bands, pop stars and the latest stand-up comedians have chosen to play here. Home to the Ulster Orchestra, you can also enjoy a variety of lunchtime and evening classical concerts.





The MAC



Ulster Orchestra



Grand Opera House



Dara O'Briain at Belfast Waterfront

### Belfast Waterfront

A multi-purpose conference and entertainment centre, the main circular auditorium, with its glass front and copper dome, first opened in 1997 and was based on the Berlin Philharmonic Hall. With stunning city and river views, the building was extended to provide additional event halls and facilities in 2016. From unmissable pop and rock to world class comedy, theatre, opera, ballet, dance and much more, the Belfast Waterfront offers a packed programme of live entertainment throughout the year.

### The MAC

The Metropolitan Arts Centre (MAC) is home to music, theatre, dance and visual art, bringing you the very best of local and international talent under one roof. A particular highlight is The Permanent Present artwork by Mark Garry, a graceful spectrum

of light made up of hundreds of lines of colour that travels through the atrium space, symbolising the hopes, aspirations and ambitions of young people in the city. Enjoy casual pre-theatre dining with tasting plates of local deliciousness before your show at the onsite bar and restaurant, Native.

### SSE Arena

Northern Ireland's largest premier entertainment arena is home to the Belfast Giants hockey team as well as having hosted a top line up of international stars and sporting events to its stage. 2017 highlights already in the calendar include Scottish comedian Billy Connolly, The Vamps, The Stone Roses and the annual September highlight, the Belfast Tattoo. The surrounding Odyssey Pavilion offers a variety of bars and restaurants to provide the complete night out.



### Top Tips

*Most restaurants across the city centre offer great value pre-theatre menus. Make a night of it and enjoy some superb local produce at one of our many fine restaurants.*

*Travelling with a group? Make sure and check with the box office for group booking ticket discounts and offers.*

A photograph of a male musician with long, wavy brown hair, wearing a light-colored t-shirt, playing a white electric guitar and singing into a microphone. The scene is lit with warm, orange and yellow stage lights, creating a vibrant atmosphere. The background is dark and out of focus.

# music city

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***In Belfast the streets, pubs, entries, concert arenas and Victorian music halls are alive with the sound of music.***

Belfast resonates to an ever changing soundtrack of live music and you're guaranteed to find something musical to enjoy on your visit here, whether it be a great vintage record fair to browse, a standing room only gig to attend or a classical evening at the opera. Belfast has been the birthplace, spiritual home, inspiration and venue extraordinaire for musicians past and present in every genre, all around the world. 1950's chart storming songstress Ruby Murray was born and raised on the city's Donegall Road, while iconic blues rock guitarist Gary Moore and the legendary Van Morrison were both from east Belfast. The city has also been memorialised



Outdoor gigs, packed houses, intimate backroom acoustic sets and beautiful concert halls.



Belsonic, Custom House Square



Open House Festival



Oh Yeah Centre



### Traditional Sessions

On any given night in Belfast you can find open mic, karaoke, classical recitals and rock, pop and jazz concerts, but the city also holds true to its musical roots with a wide variety of traditional music sessions where you'll find chat, cheer and 'craic agus ceol' aplenty. Some of the best venues to experience trad include: Hatfield House, Robinson's Saloon Bar, Cultúrlann, Harp Bar and The Garrick.

### NI Music Exhibition

Make a stop at the Oh Yeah Music Centre in the Cathedral Quarter to visit the exhibition dedicated to telling the story of the great achievers of local music, with memorabilia on display from local heroes such as Van Morrison, Gary Moore and Snow Patrol.

in song down the decades, from recent pop hits such as Snow Patrol's 'Take Back the City' to classic punk anthem 'Alternative Ulster' by Stiff Little Fingers. Belfast's musical legacy is still alive and kicking today, with a stellar line up of international acts and up and coming local talent playing at venues across the city on a nightly basis.

Belfast is also a city of music festivals, from Out to Lunch in January, Feile an Earraigh in March, Cathedral Quarter Arts Festival in May, Belsonic and Tennent's Vital in August and Culture Night in September to name just a few. Belfast's festivals have hosted

a variety of top artists playing in outdoor gigs, packed bars, intimate backroom acoustic sets and beautiful concert halls. The city has plenty of venues worth seeing in their own right, from the majestic Ulster Hall and the elegant Belfast Waterfront, to The Empire, a glam rock music hall in a former church on Botanic Avenue. Other highlights include traditional sessions in the Duke of York in the City's Cathedral Quarter, a pub filled with old printers' paraphernalia or smooth jazz in the sumptuously decadent Bert's Jazz Bar at the Merchant Hotel.



# A NIGHT ON THE TOWN

Belfast city does not disappoint when it comes to a night on the town, with an abundance of smart and stylish bars, big screen sports, live music, nightclubs and gay venues, there's something for everyone!

AmPm

One of Belfast's most popular areas for evening entertainment is the Cathedral Quarter, where you'll find everything from live music to local theatre, classy cocktails to micro beers, smoky jazz to traditional Irish music, atmospheric beer gardens and gourmet cuisine to tapas on the go. Check out the Duke of York boasting the largest whiskey collection in Ireland, the Dirty Onion in Belfast's oldest building and the John Hewitt for its extensive craft beer selection and diverse range of

live music.

Find the best traditional pubs to enjoy the perfect pint of Guinness. With original features, a warm atmosphere and friendly welcome there is no better place to meet friends and enjoy the local craic. Relax in a cosy snug in the Crown Liquor Saloon, an ornate Victorian gin palace dating back to 1826 and one of the best known landmarks in the city, or enjoy a pint in Belfast's oldest pub, Kelly's Cellars.

Belfast resonates to an ever





Empire Comedy Night



Hudson Bar



Bank Square



## Your round or mine?

**Mixology:** Book in for a cocktail masterclass at the Fitzwilliam Hotel, a Sherry Cobbler at the Bar in The Merchant or kick things off with a Breakfast Martini in The Apartment - the choice is yours!

**Staying Snug:** The Crown Bar is perhaps the finest Victorian 'gin palace' in the UK. Owned by the National Trust, the ornate interior has been enjoyed by travellers since 1885. Look out for the cosy snugs, elaborate stained glass and antique bell system.

changing soundtrack of live music and you're guaranteed to find something musical to enjoy on your visit here, whether it's toe-tapping traditional Irish music in a historic pub, a packed live gig or an evening of soothing classical music, you'll find it all on offer in Belfast.

Love a laugh? Then head to The Empire in the Queen's Quarter for its weekly comedy night. Want to catch a night of big screen sports? Make a stop at Lavery's in Queens' Quarter, The Garrick in the city

centre or Rockies Sports Bar in the Odyssey Pavilion at Titanic Quarter, or for something a little different, book a table at Cabaret, where you can enjoy a 1920's Hollywood style supper club with a variety of entertaining dinner shows.

For those that want to party on into the small hours, there's a vibrant club scene on offer. Sixty6 features a 4th floor club, a 50s themed drinking lounge, a chic rooftop bar and an intimate cocktail bar, all under one roof! Ollie's Club in the

basement of the Merchant Hotel is one of Belfast's most exclusive nightclubs, and plays host to many celebrities, VIPs and socialites. While Alibi in the Queen's Quarter showcases the very best in local DJ talent as well as guests from the Marbella and Ibiza scene.

Whatever nightlife you seek, Belfast is happy to oblige!



W5



weareVertigo



Aunt Sandra's Candy Factory

# Family Fun

*Belfast is a great holiday destination for those with more than luggage in tow! There's plenty of entertaining attractions for the young (and the young at heart) around the city.*

Belfast's Odyssey Pavilion is sure to be a highlight for the younger visitor, with a bowling alley, gaming area, multiplex cinema, W5 interactive science museum, Belfast Giants ice hockey games, hamburgers and ice cream...all under one roof!

Sample the sweet treats at the city's very own Aunt Sandra's Candy Factory where seeing is believing as you watch the sweets being made! Plus, adults and kids alike can learn about the city's maritime heritage as SS Nomadic, HMS Caroline and Titanic Belfast are all family-friendly.

Ascend the city's Cave Hill for activities from tots to teens in Cave Hill Adventurous Playground, with its cradle swings, slides, spring rockers, spectacular space net and aerial runway, or go really wild at Belfast Zoo with spectacular wildlife, fun feeding times and trails to follow,

as well as panoramic views across Belfast. Or get up close and cuddling with Streamvale Farm's little animals, where you can enjoy tasty milkshakes, traybakes and lunches too.

Or if prehistoric beasts are of more interest to your young dinosaur hunter, head over to the Ulster Museum in Queen's Quarter, with its interactive learning zones full of great activities to keep the kids happy and its stylish café for mums and dads to re-fuel!

Venture out of the city to enjoy a wealth of National Trust properties with glorious gardens to explore and plenty of family events during the year. Make a splash at Bangor's Aurora Aquatic & Leisure Complex, or Aqualand at Lisburn's Lagan Valley LeisurePlex, choose from trampolining, high ropes courses

or indoor skiing at weareVertigo or they can get their skates on at Dundonald Ice Bowl. Visit the Ulster Folk and Transport Museum, which has one of the best rail galleries in Europe and also allows visitors to experience what life would have been like 100 years ago in its outdoor folk museum. But for the authentic rail experience take a steam train excursion where all little train conductors will relish the chance to get onboard. See the Railway Preservation Society of Ireland website to find out more.

Family event highlights include St Patrick's Carnival Parade and Belfast's Children's Festival in March, Belfast Maritime Festival in May, Orangefest in July, the Monster Mash Halloween spectacular in October and the Christmas lights switch-on in November.





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# Made for Golf

*Could this be the best golf you'll ever experience?*

Northern Ireland has found a new, super-star status in the world of golf during the past couple of years, aided by the trio of golf champions that our small country has produced. Rory McIlroy, Graeme McDowell and Darren Clarke have become not only ambassadors for the game of golf, but ambassadors for their homeland. Not only does Northern Ireland produce golf champions, it also boasts an enviable collection of some of the world's very best golf courses. Friendly and informal, challenging and invigorating, Northern Ireland's golf courses are increasingly being described as

a superb destination for both the serious and casual golfer.

This passion began when Royal Belfast laid down a golf course in 1881, reputed to be the oldest in Ireland. The game quickly caught on and today Northern Ireland can boast over ninety courses in what is a very small and compact area. Belfast itself boasts fourteen courses and golf centres within the city's boundary, making it a true golfer's paradise. You can enjoy the stunning 18 hole parkland courses of Royal Belfast, Shandon, Malone and Belvoir Park Golf Clubs just a few minutes drive from the city centre.

Meanwhile the world-renowned links courses of Royal County Down and Royal Portrush are only an hour's drive away.

So come and walk the hallowed ground of our great golfing giants, whether you're seeking championship courses, dramatically scenic settings, a slice of history, links or parkland, or simply idyllic tranquillity, Belfast and Northern Ireland has it all - every course is a unique gem.

*The Strand, Portstewart Golf Club*





Image courtesy PressEye.com



Royal Belfast Golf Course

## The Irish Open 6–9 July 2017

The European Tour confirmed that the Irish Open will return to Northern Ireland in 2017, when one of the country's finest links courses, Portstewart will be staging a European Tour event for the first time. It will be the third time in six years that Ireland's national Open has been held in the north, when tournament host Rory McIlroy defends his title this summer.

## The Open Championship 18–21 July 2019

The 148th Open will be played at Royal Portrush in 2019, marking a historic return to Northern Ireland for golf's oldest and most prestigious international Championship after nearly 70 years.





Cave Hill



Women's Rugby



Belfast Giants Ice Hockey



Barnett's Demesne Cycle Track



# SPORT & ACTIVITIES

*Belfast offers many different opportunities to stay active from zip-wiring to urban sports, hillwalking to golf, watersports to mountain biking.*

Whether you enjoy a night at the rugby, a Belfast Giant's ice hockey game, a soccer match or fancy checking out a fast-paced gaelic football or hurling match, Belfast is a great city for sports fans, with ample opportunities for spectating.

Prefer life on two wheels rather than two feet? Belfast is very bike friendly, with riverside cycle paths, bike tours and the new Belfast Bikes scheme offering easy cycle hire at many locations around the city centre. Up for a challenge? Sign up to

the annual Belfast City Marathon and take to the streets with over 20,000 participants from all around the world.

See the city from up high with a hike up Black Mountain or the iconic Cave Hill, and enjoy the fresh air, history, nature and fantastic city views. Or inject some adrenaline into your break with some high octane adventure sports from karting to high wire adventure courses and canoeing to rock climbing. There's nowhere quite like Belfast for a bit of action!

## Don't Miss

The world's eyes will be on Belfast in 2017 as we welcome these prestigious sporting championship events to the city for the first time.

### Ice Hockey World Championship 2017

23-29 April

Tickets available at:  
[belfastgiants.com](http://belfastgiants.com)

### UEFA Women's Under-19 Championship 2017

8-20 August

More info available at:  
[irishfa.com/uefawu19](http://irishfa.com/uefawu19)

### Women's Rugby World Cup 2017

22 & 26 August

Tickets available at:  
[ticketmaster.co.uk](http://ticketmaster.co.uk)  
More info available at:  
[rwcwomens.com](http://rwcwomens.com)





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# EVENTS & FESTIVALS

A full-page background image of a male musician wearing a light-colored fedora and a plaid shirt, playing a guitar on stage. The scene is lit with warm, reddish-orange stage lights, creating a vibrant and energetic atmosphere. The musician is in the foreground, slightly off-center, with his head tilted down as he plays. The background is blurred, showing other stage elements and lights.

## **Find your Belfast**

...in a city alive with unmissable events and festivals, with everything from international culture and arts to comedy, fashion and film. From food markets and seasonal fairs to the very best in top sporting action, Belfast has it all.





*Belfast is filled with colour by day and lit up by night through our world-class programme of annual festivals. No matter what time of the year you visit the city, your trip is bound to coincide with one of Belfast's many festivals giving you the chance to experience everything from world music, European theatre productions, gastronomic food festivals, traditional sessions and contemporary dance. Celebrate Chinese New Year, Mela or St. Patrick's Day in Belfast and see how diverse, vibrant and lively the city really is.*

## January

—  
**Out To Lunch Festival**  
cqaf.com

## February

—  
**NI Motorcycle Festival**  
motorcyclefest.tv

—  
**Four Corners Festival**  
4cornersfestival.com

—  
**Chinese New Year**  
cwa-ni.org

—  
**NI Science Festival**  
nisciencefestival.com

—  
**Belfast CityDance**  
crescentarts.org

—  
**BMS International Festival of Chamber Music**  
belfastmusicsociety.org

## March

—  
**Belfast Nashville Songwriters Festival**  
belfastnashville.com

—  
**Imagine! Belfast Festival of Ideas and Politics**  
bellylaughsbelfast.com

—  
**Belfast FashionWeek**  
belfastfashionweek.com

—  
**An Droichead Spring Festival**  
androichead.com

—  
**St Patrick's Day Celebrations**  
visitbelfast.com

—  
**Feile an Earraigh**  
feilebelfast.com

—  
**Brilliant Corners - Belfast Jazz Festival**  
movingonmusic.co.uk

—  
**Belfast Children's Festival**  
youngatart.co.uk

—  
**Ulster Festival of Art & Design**  
ulsterfestival.com

## April

—  
**Belfast Film Festival**  
belfastfilmfestival.org

—  
**Holi Festival of Colours**  
artsekta.org.uk

—  
**Ice Hockey World Championship**  
belfastgiants.com

—  
**Spring into Easter Festival**  
visitbelfast.com

—  
**Sonorities Festival of Contemporary Music**  
qub.ac.uk/sonorities

—  
**Spring Fair**  
visitbelfast.com

—  
**Ards Int. Guitar Festival**  
ardsguitarfestival.co.uk

## May

—  
**Cathedral Quarter Arts Festival**  
cqaf.com

—  
**Deep RiverRock Belfast City Marathon**  
belfastcitymarathon.com

—  
**Festival of Fools**  
foolsfestival.com

—  
**Writers on Writers Festival**  
linenhall.com

—  
**Tether**  
seedheadarts.com/tether

—  
**Belfast Spring Market**  
visitbelfast.com

—  
**Belfast Titanic Maritime Festival**  
visitbelfast.com

—  
**Balmoral Show**  
balmoralshow.co.uk

—  
**May Day in Hollywood**  
visitardsandnorthdown.com

—  
**Ards and North Down Puppet Festival**  
visitardsandnorthdown.com

## June

### Beat's Belfast Carnival Village

beatcarnival.com

### Belfast Photo Festival

belfastphotofestival.com

### Belfast International Tango Festival

belfasttangofestival.co.uk

### Belfast City Blues Festival

belfastcityblues.com

### Belfast Book Festival

belfastbookfestival.com

### UK National Pipe Band Championships

visitbelfast.com

### MCM Comic Con

mcmcomiccon.com/Belfast

### Summer Festival of Racing

downroyal.com

### Comber Earlies Food Festival

visitardsandnorthdown.com

### Lisburn Half Marathon

lisburnhalfmarathon.com

### Ards Half Marathon

visitardsandnorthdown.com

## July

### Belfast Guitar Festival

facebook.com/  
belfastguitarfest

### Orangefest

belfastorangefest.co.uk

### Rose Week

visitbelfast.com

### Belfast Pride

belfastpride.com

### McCracken Summer Festival

mhicreachtain.com

## August

### Féile an Phobail

feilebelfast.com

### Belsonic

belsonic.co.uk

### Tennants Vital

tennantsvital.com

### Women's UEFA U19

irishfa.com/uefawu19

### Women's Rugby World Cup

ticketmaster.co.uk

### Feile an Droichead

androichead.com

### EastSide Arts Festival

eastsidearts.net

### Belfast Mela

belfastmela.org.uk

### Craft Month

craftni.org

### Woodstock Rhythm & Blues

woodstockbelfast.co.uk

### Bounce! Arts Festival

adf.ie

### Hilden Beer and Music Festival

hildenbrewingco.com

### Sunflowerfest

sunflowerfest.co.uk

### Ulster Grand Prix

ulstergrandprix.net

### NI Speed Weekend

visitlisburncastlereagh.com

### Sea Bangor

visitardsandnorthdown.com

### Creative Peninsula

visitardsandnorthdown.com





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# Belfast Plus

Make the most of your visit

You can easily access both countryside and sea shore within a short drive of Belfast to enjoy a variety of exciting attractions, historic places of interest, informative tours, outdoor activities and amazing scenery.

**belfastplus.com**



Lisburn Market Square



Dundonald Ice Bowl



Down Royal Racecourse

## LISBURN AND CASTLEREAGH

**Lisburn & Castlereagh has a rich cultural heritage, from the historic quarter in Lisburn City Centre to the Memories of Castlereagh Heritage Trail, come and explore the unique history of the area.**

### Discover the History

Explore the beautifully restored Castle Gardens in the City's historic quarter, and learn about our industrial heritage with a visit to the award winning Irish Linen Centre, which tells the story of our spinning and weaving traditions through fascinating displays and artefacts. You can discover the magic of traditional brewing by visiting Ireland's oldest independent brewery in the 19th Century courtyard of Hilden House.

### Villages, Castles & Gardens

Enjoy a visit to the picturesque villages of Hillsborough and Moira, with their mix of boutique shops, gastro pubs and cafes offering superb local produce. Take time to

explore the beautiful parkland of Moira Demesne and the woodlands and lake at Hillsborough Forest. The Georgian village of Hillsborough is also home to the historic Courthouse and stunning Hillsborough Castle and Gardens, the official residence of the Royal Family in Northern Ireland. With its fascinating history and glorious gardens, it offers a memorable glimpse into the village's historic stories.

### Shop and Dine

Whether you are a seasoned foodie or want a quick bite, discover the true taste of Ulster in our vibrant restaurants, cafés and farmers markets, featuring produce from some of the area's award winning growers and producers. Memorable shopping opportunities await you at Bow Street Mall, Sprucefield and Forestside Shopping Centres and Lisburn Square. With a mix of intimate boutiques and high street names.


### Events and Festivals

There is a packed calendar of events on offer all year round from the Balmoral Show, Hillsborough International Oyster Festival and Down Royal Festival of Racing to vibrant music festivals Moira Calling and Hilden Beer and Music Festival. Families can enjoy an array of shows and workshops at the ISLAND Arts Centre and seasonal events in Lisburn's Market Square.

### Family Fun

The Lagan Valley Leisureplex provides fun for kids of all ages with its fantastic lazy river and water rides in Aqualand. Get active at Dundonald Ice Bowl or relax in the rural surrounding of Streamvale Farm. Sports enthusiasts won't be disappointed with a night at Drumbo Park Greyhound Stadium, or improve your golf handicap at one of the many terrific courses that Lisburn and Castlereagh has to offer.

For full events info see **visitlisburncastlereagh.com** or call into one of our Visitor Information Centres.

 **Lisburn Visitor Information Centre**  
15 Lisburn Square  
Lisburn BT28 1AN  
**028 9244 7622**

 **Hillsborough Visitor Information Centre**  
The Old Courthouse  
Hillsborough BT26 6AG  
**028 9244 7640**





Hillsborough Castle



Crawfordsburn Country Park



Ulster Folk & Transport Museum



Exploris Aquarium



Pickie Funpark

## ARDS AND NORTH DOWN

**Only 20 minutes from Belfast – escape the city and come and relax in this beautiful corner of Northern Ireland. Boasting miles of coastline, wonderful parks and gardens, and a rich heritage with fabulous attractions and activities dotted throughout, there is something for everyone.**

### Family Fun

When the sun is up, head to Pickie Funpark for activities galore, get up close and personal with sharks, sting rays and starfish at Exploris Aquarium or step back in time at the Ulster Folk and Transport Museum. Alternatively take it easy enjoying an ice-cream and leisurely stroll in one of the coastal villages, or cool off with a paddle in the sea.

### Great Outdoors

Explore the expansive shoreline with a bracing walk along one of the many beaches, visit Crawfordsburn Country Park to take in the spectacular North Down Coastal

Path, or climb to the top of Scrabo hill for panoramic views over Strangford Lough and County Down.

### Relax and Unwind

The peaceful surroundings of Bangor Castle Walled Garden, a gem in the heart of Bangor, or the spectacular lakeside garden and new trails at Mount Stewart provide the perfect retreat. Pack a picnic and make memories with friends and family or check out the range events.

### Foodie Heaven

The fertile fields are full of Comber Early Potatoes and many varieties of vegetables, which are straight from field to fork. Also Pedigree herds fed on the rich grasslands produce luxury beef, cheese, ice cream and yoghurt - this area has it all. Portavogie prawns and Strangford Oysters are renowned internationally and feature on many local menus. Local food can be enjoyed in award winning



restaurants or bought through small artisan stores, all offering their own specialities.

### Tee Off and Drive

There are also lots of activities to get your heart racing, from indoor karting to off road driving or trial flights from Ards Airfield. With many golf courses, all offering something different, either following in Rory McIlroy's footsteps at Holywood Golf Club, the wonderful links course at Kirkistown or the breath-taking views from Scrabo Golf Club, you will be spoiled for choice!

For more inspiration see [visitarndsandnorthdown.com](http://visitarndsandnorthdown.com) or call into one of our Visitor Information Centres.



### Ards Visitor Information Centre

31 Regent Street  
Newtownards BT23 3AD  
**028 9182 6846**



### Bangor Visitor Information Centre

34 Quay Street  
Bangor BT20 5ED  
**028 9127 0069**



# BELFAST: GATEWAY CITY

Giant's Causeway

While there's plenty to keep you entertained in Belfast, it's also worth keeping in mind that the city makes a great base for exploring the rest of Northern Ireland.

Just twenty minutes from Belfast visitors can discover pristine seafronts, country parks, boutique village shopping and plenty of places to enjoy the gourmet gastro-pub or country house experience.

County Antrim's Causeway Coastal Route runs north from Larne, and is the gateway to the Nine Glens of Antrim with Glenariff Forest Park at its heart. On the north coast you'll find the Giant's Causeway, the only World Heritage Site in Northern Ireland. Hire an audio tour from the state-of-the-art visitor centre, explore the interactive exhibition spaces, watch Finn McCool on the big screen and unlock the secrets of this inspirational landscape. Nearby, take a tour of the oldest licensed distillery in the world; Bushmills and challenge yourself to cross the 100 ft. high Carrick-a-Rede rope bridge. A short trip by train or bus takes you to Derry-Londonderry, where there's

plenty to see in the historical walled city, with its lively cultural scene, impressive architecture, carnivals, festivals and visitor attractions.

Shrouded in magic and majesty, the Mourne Mountains is an area of outstanding natural beauty, filled with dizzying peaks, rolling valleys, tranquil forests and golden coastline, just waiting to be discovered, enjoyed, experienced and never forgotten.

Don't miss out on island hopping in the unspoiled Fermanagh Lakelands, or to pay a visit to a number of stunning National Trust properties including Florence Court, Castle Ward and Mount Stewart.



**discover  
northern  
ireland.com**

To find out more about Northern Ireland and all that it has to offer visit the Tourism NI website.  
**discovernorthernireland.com**



Carrick-a-Rede rope bridge



Bonamargy Friary



Mourne Mountains

## Home Place

Take a trip to Bellaghy and step into Seamus Heaney HomePlace, which celebrates the life and legacy of the Nobel prize-winning poet. Standing at the heart of the place and people which so inspired him, HomePlace includes a stunning exhibition which interprets Seamus Heaney's work. The entire space over two floors is filled with personal stories and artefacts, dozens of family photographs, video recordings from friends, neighbours and cultural figures, and the voice of the poet himself reading his own words.



Seamus Heaney Home Place



# Visit Belfast Welcome Centre

*Call in and discover what our city has to offer...  
you'll be surprised!*

Start your journey in the Visit Belfast Welcome Centre. Located opposite Belfast City Hall, you'll find information on pretty much everything, whether you need to book accommodation, buy tickets for events or find out more about visitor attractions, tours, and transport. Our friendly travel advisers are here to help plan your perfect trip in Belfast and Northern Ireland.

Look out for exciting, fun features, including a video 'wall', self-service touch screens, digital maps of the city and discover Belfast's 'story' on

our interactive touch screens. Free WiFi will enable you to access and download information straight to your smartphone or tablet, making it even easier to plan your time in Belfast.

Souvenir hunters won't be disappointed with our selection of unique Belfast gifts and with our left luggage service you can go out and explore all that the city has to offer without the hassle.

Make us your first stop shop – we have the information and the tickets to help you explore the city and beyond.

## **Visit Belfast**

9 Donegall Square North  
Belfast BT1 5GB  
+44 (0)28 9024 6609  
[info@visitbelfast.com](mailto:info@visitbelfast.com)

*October - May opening hours*

*Mon - Sat: 9am - 5.30pm*

*Sun: 11am - 4pm*

*June - September opening hours*

*Mon - Sat: 9am - 7pm*

*Sun: 11am - 4pm*

## **Belfast International Airport Tourist Information Desk**

+44 (0)28 9448 4677

*Mon - Fri: 7.30am-7pm*

*Sat: 7.30am - 5.30pm*

*Sun: 8am - 4pm*

## **George Best Belfast City Airport Tourist Information Desk**

+44 (0)28 9093 5372

*Mon - Fri: 7.30am-7pm*

*Sat: 7.30am - 4.30pm,*

*Sun: 10.30am - 5.30pm*



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# Places to stay







**Tourism NI Quality Grading Scheme**

Tourism NI operates the Quality Grading Scheme for tourist accommodation and provides businesses with quality assessments and grading services. The scheme is the 'Common Standards' scheme and is used by Visit Scotland, Visit England, Visit Wales, AA, Guernsey and The Isle of Man. The scheme assesses quality and the visitor experience. Premises have the ability to achieve between 1 and 5 stars

To view the most up to date grading's visit [discovernorthernireland.com/accommodation](http://discovernorthernireland.com/accommodation)

★	1 star	acceptable
★★	2 star	good
★★★	3 star	very good
★★★★	4 star	excellent
★★★★★	5 star	outstanding

**Colour Coding**

All premises are listed alphabetically by grade and in coloured sections denoting the type of accommodation.

	Hotels
	Guest Accommodation
	Guesthouse
	Bed & Breakfast
	Academic/Campus
	Self Catering
	Hostels
	Camping, Caravans & Motorhomes

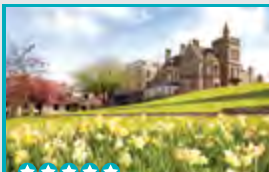
**Price Key**

<b>B&amp;B</b>	Bed and Breakfast
<b>pps</b>	per person sharing
<b>SS</b>	single supplement

**Symbols Key**

<b>P</b>	Parking
	Family room available on request
	TV in bedrooms
	Lift/elevator
	Licensed premises
	Swimming pool on premises
	Gym on premises
	Spa facilities on premises
<b>WiFi</b>	Wireless internet access
	No smoking in bedrooms
	Credit cards accepted
<b>€</b>	Euro accepted

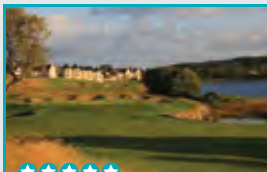
## Hotels



### Culloden Estate & Spa

Bangor Road, Cultra, Belfast BT18 0EX  
+44 (0)28 9042 1066  
hastingshotels.com

P WiFi € £ £ £ £ £ £ £



### Lough Erne Resort

Belleek Road, Enniskillen BT93 7ED  
+44 (0)28 6632 3230  
loughernerresort.com

P WiFi € £ £ £ £ £ £ £



### The Merchant Hotel

16 Skipper Street, Belfast BT1 2DZ  
+44 (0)28 9023 4888  
themerchanthotel.com

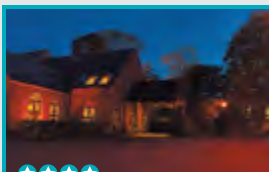
P WiFi € £ £ £ £ £ £ £



### Benedicts

7-21 Bradbury Place, Belfast BT7 1RQ  
+44 (0)28 9059 1999  
benedictshotel.co.uk

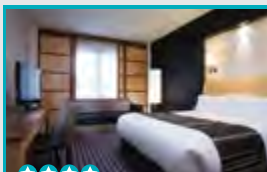
WiFi € £ £ £ £ £ £ £



### Clandeboye Lodge Hotel

10 Estate Road, Clandeboye  
Bangor BT19 1UR  
+44 (0)28 9185 2500  
clandeboylodge.com

WiFi P € £ £ £ £ £ £ £



### Clayton Hotel Belfast

22 Ormeau Avenue, Belfast BT2 8HS  
+44 (0)28 9032 8511  
claytonhotelbelfast.com

€ £ £ £ £ £ £ £ WiFi P €



### Dukes at Queens

65-67 University Street, Belfast BT7 1HL  
+44 (0)28 9023 6666  
dukesatqueens.com

WiFi € £ £ £ £ £ £ £



### Europa Belfast

Great Victoria Street, Belfast BT2 7AP  
+44 (0)28 9027 1066  
hastingshotels.com

P WiFi € £ £ £ £ £ £ £



### Galgorm Resort & Spa

136 Fenaghy Road, Galgorm  
Ballymena BT42 1EA  
+44 (0)28 2588 1001  
galgorm.com

P WiFi € £ £ £ £ £ £ £



### Hilton Belfast

4 Lanyon Place, Belfast BT1 3LP  
+44 (0)28 9027 7000  
hilton.co.uk/Belfast

P WiFi € £ £ £ £ £ £ £



### Hilton Templepatrick Hotel & Country Club

Castle Upton Estate  
Templepatrick BT39 0DD  
+44 (0)28 9443 5500  
hilton.co.uk/templepatrick

P € £ £ £ £ £ £ £ WiFi €



### Holiday Inn Belfast City Centre

40 Hope Street, Belfast BT12 5EE  
+44 (0)28 9024 2494  
hibelfastcitycentre.co.uk

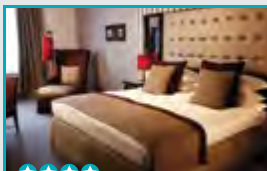
WiFi € £ £ £ £ £ £ £



### La Mon Hotel & Country Club

41 Gransha Road, Castlereagh  
Belfast BT23 5RF  
+44 (0)28 9044 8631  
lamon.co.uk

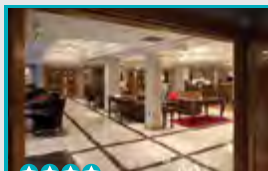
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### Malmaison Belfast

34-38 Victoria Street, Belfast BT1 3GH  
+44 (0)28 9600 1405  
malmaison.com

WiFi € £ £ £ £ £ £ £

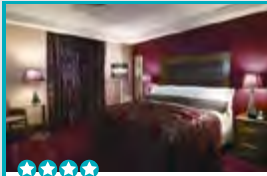


### Malone Lodge Hotel

60 Eglantine Avenue, Belfast BT9 6DY  
+44 (0)28 9038 8000  
malonelodgehotel.com

P WiFi € £ £ £ £ £ £ £





### Park Avenue Hotel

158 Hollywood Road, Belfast BT4 1PB  
+44 (0)28 9065 6520  
parkavenuehotel.co.uk

P WiFi ￼ ￼ ￼ ￼ ￼



### Radisson Blu

The Gasworks, 3 Cromac Place  
Ormeau Road, Belfast BT7 2JB  
+44 (0)28 9043 4065  
radissonblu.co.uk/hotel-belfast

P WiFi ￼ ￼ ￼ ￼ ￼



### Crowne Plaza Belfast

117 Milltown Road  
Shaws Bridge, Belfast BT8 7XP  
+44 (0)28 9092 3500  
ramadabelfast.com

P WiFi ￼ ￼ ￼ ￼ ￼



### Stormont Hotel

587 Upper Newtownards Road  
Belfast BT4 3LP  
+44 (0)28 9065 1066  
hastingshotels.com

P WiFi ￼ ￼ ￼ ￼ ￼



### Ten Square Boutique Hotel

10 Donegall Square South  
Belfast BT1 5JD  
+44 (0)28 9024 1001  
tensquare.co.uk

P WiFi ￼ ￼ ￼ ￼ ￼



### Balmoral Hotel

Blacks Road, Belfast BT10 ONF  
+44 (0)28 9030 1234  
balmoralhotelbelfast.co.uk

P ￼ ￼ WiFi ￼ ￼ ￼



### Beechlawn House Hotel

5 Dunmurry Lane, Belfast BT17 9RR  
+44 (0)28 9060 2010  
beechlawnhotel.com

P ￼ ￼ WiFi ￼ ￼ ￼



### Corr's Corner Hotel

315 Ballyclare Road, Newtownabbey  
BT36 4TQ  
+44 (0)28 9084 9221  
corrscorner.com

P ￼ ￼ ￼ WiFi ￼ ￼



### Express by Holiday Inn Antrim

Junction 1 Leisure Park  
Ballymena Road, Antrim BT41 4LL  
+44 (0)28 9442 5500  
hiexantrim.co.uk

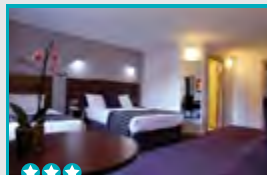
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### Holiday Inn Express Belfast

106 University Street, Belfast BT7 1HP  
+44 (0)28 9031 1909  
hiexpressbelfast.com

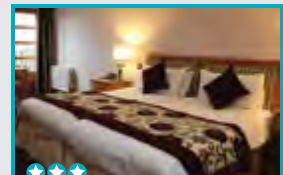
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### Jurys Belfast

Fisherwick Place  
Great Victoria Street, Belfast BT2 7AP  
+44 (0)28 9053 3500  
jurysinns.com

WiFi ￼ ￼ ￼ ￼ ￼



### Loughshore Hotel

75 Belfast Road  
Carrickfergus BT38 8BX  
+44 (0)28 9336 4556  
loughshorehotel.com

P ￼ ￼ ￼ ￼ WiFi ￼ ￼



### Maldron Hotel Belfast

Belfast International Airport  
200 Airport Road, Belfast BT29 4ZY  
+44 (0)28 9445 7000  
maldronhotelbelfast.com

P WiFi ￼ ￼ ￼ ￼ ￼



### Park Inn by Radisson Belfast

4 Clarence Street West, Belfast BT2 7GP  
+44 (0)28 9067 7700  
parkinn.co.uk/hotel-belfast

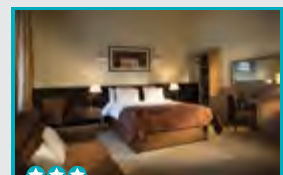
P WiFi ￼ ￼ ￼ ￼ ￼



### Ramada Encore

St Anne's Square  
20 Talbot Street, Belfast BT1 2LD  
+44 (0)28 9026 1800  
encorebelfast.co.uk

P WiFi ￼ ￼ ￼ ￼ ￼



### Strangford Arms Hotel

92 Church Street  
Newtownards BT23 4AL  
+44 (0)28 9181 4141  
strangfordhotel.com

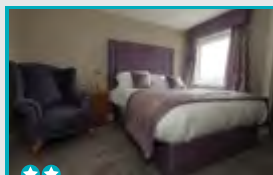
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### Wellington Park Hotel

21 Malone Road, Belfast BT9 6RU  
+44 (0)28 9038 1111  
mooneyhotelgroup.com

P WiFi € £ 📶 📺 🚿



### Chimney Corner Hotel

630 Antrim Road  
Newtownards BT36 4RH  
+44 (0)28 9084 4925  
chimneycorner.co.uk

P WiFi € £ 📶 📺 🚿



### Belfast City Travelodge

15 Brunswick Street, Belfast BT2 7GE  
+44 (0)28 9033 3555  
travelodge.ie

WiFi € £ 📶 📺 🚿



### Bullitt Hotel

40a Church Lane, Belfast BT1 4QN  
+44 (0)28 9590 0600  
bullitthotel.com

WiFi € £ 📶 📺 🚿



### ETAP Hotel Belfast

35-39 Dublin Road, Belfast BT2 7HE  
+44 (0)28 9032 8126  
ibis.com

WiFi € £ 📶 📺 🚿



### The Fitzwilliam Hotel Belfast

1-3 Great Victoria Street  
Belfast BT2 7BQ  
+44 (0)28 9044 2080  
fitzwilliamhotelbelfast.com

P WiFi € £ 📶 📺 🚿



### Ibis Belfast City Centre

100 Castle Street, Belfast BT1 1HF  
+44 (0)28 9023 8888  
ibisbelfastcity.com

P WiFi € £ 📶 📺 🚿



### Ibis Belfast Queen's Quarter

75 University Street, Belfast BT7 1HL  
+44 (0)28 9023 3366  
ibisbelfastqueens.com

P WiFi € £ 📶 📺 🚿



### The Salty Dog Hotel & Bistro

10-12 Seacliff Road, Bangor BT20 5EY  
+44 (0)28 9127 0696  
SaltyDogBangor.com

P 📶 📺 WiFi

## Guest Accommodation



### Tara Lodge

36 Cromwell Road, Belfast BT7 1JW  
+44 (0)28 9059 0900  
taralodge.com

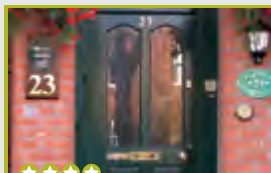
P WiFi € £ 📶 📺



### The Gregory Guest House

30 Eglantine Avenue, Belfast BT9 6DX  
+44 (0)28 9066 3454  
thegregorybelfast.com

P WiFi € £ 📶 📺



### Avenue Guest House

23 Eglantine Avenue, Belfast BT9 6DW  
+44 (0)28 9066 5904  
avenueguesthouse.com

P WiFi € 📶



### Farset International

466 Springfield Road, Belfast BT12 7DY  
+44 (0)28 9089 9833  
farsetinternational.co.uk


P WiFi € £ 📶 📺



### Maranatha

254 Ravenhill Road, Belfast BT6 8GJ  
+44 (0)28 9046 0200  
+44 (0)7759 168577  
maranathaguesthouse.com

P WiFi € 📶 📺



## START YOUR JOURNEY WITH US

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**9 Donegall Sq North  
Belfast BT1 5GB**



## Guesthouse



### Rayanne Country House

60 Demesne Road, Holywood BT18 9EX  
+44 (0)28 9042 5859  
rayannehouse.com

P



### An Old Rectory

148 Malone Road, Belfast BT9 5LH  
+44 (0)28 9066 7882  
anoldrectory.co.uk

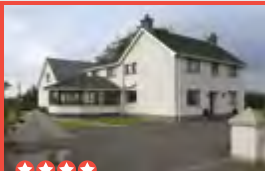
P



### The Cuan Licensed Guest Inn

6-12 The Square, Strangford BT30 7ND  
+44 (0)28 4488 1222  
thecuan.com

P



### Keef Halla

20 Tully Road, Crumlin BT29 4SW  
+44 (0)28 9082 5491  
keefhalla.com

P



### Ravenhill House

690 Ravenhill Road, Belfast BT6 0BZ  
+44 (0)28 9020 7444  
ravenhillhouse.com

P



### Roseleigh House

19 Rosetta Park, Belfast BT6 0DL  
+44 (0)28 9064 4414  
roseleighhouse.co.uk

P

## VISIT BELFAST.COM

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## Bed and Breakfast



### Botanic Rest

7-13 Cromwell Road, Botanic Avenue  
Belfast BT7 1JW  
+44 (0)28 9032 4820  
botanicrest.com

P



### Maryville House

2 Maryville Park, Belfast BT9 6LN  
+44 (0)28 9068 1510  
maryvillehouse.co.uk

P



### 207 Upper Malone Road

207 Upper Malone Road  
Belfast BT17 9JX  
+44 (0)28 9061 2432

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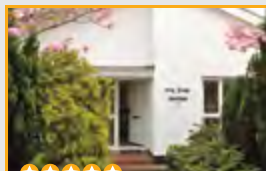


### Windermere House

60 Wellington Park, Belfast BT9 6DP  
+44 (0)28 9066 2693  
windermereguesthouse.co.uk

P

## Self Catering



### Abbey Self Catering

451 Shore Road  
Newtownabbey BT37 9SE  
+44 (0)28 9085 4777  
+44 (0)7821 921777  
abbeyselfcatering.co.uk

P



### Ballygally Holiday Apartments

210 Coast Road, Ballygally BT40 2QQ  
+44 (0)28 2858 3061  
ballygallyapartments.com

P



### Drumlin Lane

1 & 2 Drumlin Lane  
Hillsborough BT26 6PJ  
+44 (0)7748 458249  
drumlinlane.com

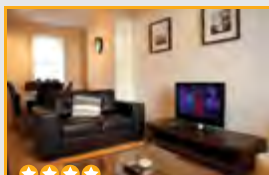
P €



### Hollywood Hill Country Cottages

40C Creightons Green Road  
Hollywood BT18 0HQ  
+44 (0)7870 493651  
hollywoodhill.com

P €



### Strangford Arms Serviced Self Catering

92 Church Street  
Newtownards BT23 4AL  
+44 (0)28 9181 4141  
strangfordhotel.com

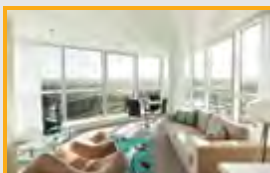
€



### Hallmount Cottage

53 Ballyleson Road, Shaws Bridge  
Belfast BT8 8JS  
+44 (0)28 9069 3507  
+44 (0)7843 765212  
hallmountcottage.com

P €



### Apple Apartments

Obel Tower, 62 Donegall Quay  
Belfast BT1 3AT  
0044 (0)208 519 5565  
appleapartments.co.uk/belfast

P €



### Castlewood Apartments

Paradise Walk, Castle Upton  
Templepatrick BT39 0GA  
+44 (0)28 9443 2473  
castlewoodapartments.co.uk

P €



### City Resorts Ltd

Various locations in the city centre,  
Queen's Quarter and south Belfast.  
+44 (0)28 9087 2457  
cityresorts.com

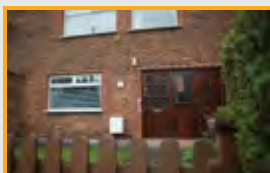
P €



### Cordia Serviced Apartments

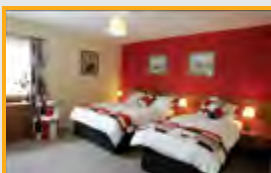
355-367 Lisburn Road, Belfast BT9 7EP  
+44 (0)28 9038 0900  
cordiaapartments.com

P €



### George Best House

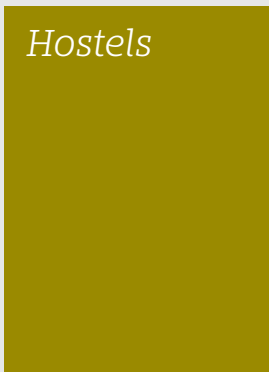
16 Burren Way, Cregagh  
Belfast BT6 0DW  
+44 (0)28 9045 1900  
georgebesthouse.com



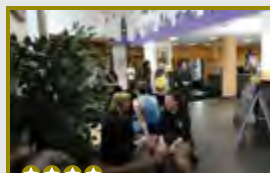
### Malone Lodge Apartments

70 Eglantine Avenue, Belfast BT9 6DY  
+44 (0)28 9038 8000  
malonelodgehotel.com

P



## Hostels



### Belfast International Hostel

22-23 Donegall Road, Belfast BT12 5JN  
+44 (0)28 9031 5435  
hini.org.uk

P

## Academic/ Campus



### Queen's Elms Village

78 Malone Road, Belfast BT9 5BW  
+44 (0)28 9097 4525  
stayatqueens.com

P



### Stranmillis University College

Stranmillis Road, Belfast BT9 5DY  
+44 (0)28 9038 4251  
stran-ni.ac.uk

P



### Ulster University

Dalriada Student Village, Shore Road,  
Newtownabbey BT37 0QB  
+44 (0)28 9036 6924  
accommodation.ulster.ac.uk

P €



## Camping, Caravans & Motorhomes



### Bunk Campers

Cyril Johnston Complex  
Ballynahinch Road, Carryduff BT8 8DJ  
+44 (0)28 9081 3057  
bunkcampers.com



### Causeway Campers

141 Atlantic Road, Portrush BT56 8PB  
+44 (0)7790 775471  
causewaycampers.com



### Dundonald Touring Caravan Park

111 Old Dundonald Road  
Belfast BT16 1XT  
+44 (0)28 9080 9100  
theicebowl.com

# EXPLORE BELFAST

in 360 virtual reality

Download the free app '**Belfast Go Explore VR 360**' and immerse yourself in an incredible virtual reality journey, exploring the life and energy of Belfast.



visit **Belfast**

Search: '**Belfast Go Explore VR 360**'  
App is optimised for use with Samsung Galaxy S6 and iPhone 6.



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#smartmovers

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best of Belfast by Metro

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Day Tickets  
**only £3\***  
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mLink app

**Pick up your copy  
in the city from:**

Europa Buscentre  
Visit Belfast  
Metro Kiosk, Donegall Square West  
George Best Belfast City Airport  
Belfast International Airport

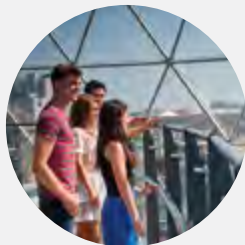
\*Conditions apply

let's go together  
[translink.co.uk](http://translink.co.uk)

 **Translink  
Metro**



# TRAVEL TIPS



## Communications

The international code for Northern Ireland is 00 44 28. The number for emergency services is 999. This will connect you to the fire brigade, police, ambulance, lifeboat and mountain rescue services.

Internet and Wi-Fi access is widely available throughout the city. Belfast is one of 10 UK cities set to become a Super-connected City. Plans include city wide access to high speed ultrafast broadband as well as widespread WiFi.

Most post offices are open Monday to Friday 9am to 5.30pm and some are also open on Saturday mornings. The main post office is located on Bridge Street in the city centre.

## Banking

Most banks are open Monday - Friday 9am to 5pm. All major credit cards are widely accepted in the city and some shops will accept euro. There are foreign exchange facilities in the Visit Belfast Welcome Centre and various retail outlets across the city.

## Tipping

Most restaurants add a discretionary service charge to the bill for parties of six people or more. If this charge is added to your bill, tipping is not

necessary. If a service charge is not included, a discretionary tip of 10-15% is customary.

## Shopping

Many shops in the city centre follow these opening hours:

Monday - Wednesday: 9am-6pm

Thursday: 9am-9pm

Friday & Saturday: 9am-6pm

Sunday 1pm-6pm

Shopping centres may have extended opening hours midweek.

## Stay Safe

Belfast is one of the safest cities in Europe with an extremely low crime rate. However, it is always wise to be sensible and to follow good advice when exploring a new destination. There are a number of Emergency Contact Points in the city which are monitored by the police.

## Smoking

Belfast has been a smoke free city since 2006. It is against the law to smoke in bars, restaurants, cafés, hotels, offices, factories and other places of work. The majority of hotels in Belfast no longer offer smoking rooms - please check this when booking your accommodation. Many bars, clubs and restaurants have installed outdoor smoking areas.



#lovinbelfast  
#translinklivesbetter



## BELFAST VISITOR PASS

Unlimited travel plus 39 special offers including discounted tours, attractions and so much more. The Belfast Visitor Pass is just the ticket to save you time and money, just like a VIP.



Purchase online at [translink.co.uk](http://translink.co.uk) or from the Visit Belfast Welcome Centre or main Belfast bus and train stations.



## Getting Here

### BY SEA

Belfast is easily accessed by sea with crossings from both Scotland and England. Travel by state of the art superfast ferries with journey times from just 2 hours 15 minutes.

### BY RAIL

The Enterprise service runs 8 times daily (5 times on Sundays) from Dublin to Belfast. The journey time is approximately 2 hours. T: 028 9066 6630  
Enterprise tickets and seat reservations T: 028 9089 9409 [translink.co.uk](http://translink.co.uk)

### BY BUS

Dublin Airport Express Coach Service operates from Dublin Airport 24 hours a day, with a journey time of approximately 2 hours. 028 9066 6630 [translink.co.uk](http://translink.co.uk)

### BY AIR

#### GEORGE BEST BELFAST CITY AIRPORT

The airport is situated just three miles from Belfast City Centre. The Airport Express 600 bus service runs from the airport terminal to the city centre every 20 minutes (06.00 - 22.05) Monday to Friday. (Please check the timetable for services on Saturdays and Sundays).

#### BELFAST INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

Belfast International Airport at Aldergrove is 30 minutes drive via the M2 Motorway. The Airbus service 300 operates between the airport and Belfast City Centre every 15 minutes during peak times Monday to Friday, every 20 minutes on Saturday and at 30 or 60 minute intervals on a Sunday. Please check the timetable for services during off peak times and weekends.

#### AIRPORT TRANSFERS

028 7126 9996  
[airporter.co.uk](http://airporter.co.uk)



## Value Cabs Privilege Partner Scheme

Present a Value Cabs receipt within 7 days of your journey to any of their participating partners including restaurants, cafes, entertainment venues, clubs and service providers to avail of exclusive offers and discounts.  
[valuecabs.com](http://valuecabs.com)



(028)

90 80 90 80



## Scheduled Airline Services

**GEORGE BEST  
BELFAST CITY  
AIRPORT**  
[belfastcityairport.com](http://belfastcityairport.com)  
028 9093 9093

**Aer Lingus**  
[aerlingus.com](http://aerlingus.com)  
0871 718 2020  
London Heathrow  
Alicante  
Faro  
Malaga  
Palma de Mallorca

**British Airways**  
[britishairways.com](http://britishairways.com)  
0844 8484 888  
London Heathrow

**Brussels Airlines**  
[brusselsairlines.com](http://brusselsairlines.com)  
+320 9025 1600  
Brussels

**Citywing**  
[citywing.com](http://citywing.com)  
0871 200 0440  
Isle of Man  
Blackpool (via IoM)  
Gloucester (via IoM)

**FlyBE**  
[flybe.com](http://flybe.com)  
0871 700 2000  
Aberdeen  
Birmingham  
Cardiff  
East Midlands  
Edinburgh  
Exeter  
Glasgow  
Inverness  
Leeds/ Bradford  
Liverpool  
London City  
Manchester  
Newquay  
Southampton

**KLM**  
[klm.com](http://klm.com)  
+4420 7660 0293  
Amsterdam

**BELFAST  
INTERNATIONAL  
AIRPORT**  
[belfastairport.com](http://belfastairport.com)  
028 9448 4848

**EasyJet**  
[easyjet.com](http://easyjet.com)  
0870 600 0000

Alicante  
Amsterdam  
Barcelona  
Birmingham  
Bristol  
Bordeaux  
Edinburgh  
Faro  
Geneva  
Glasgow  
Ibiza  
Jersey  
Krakow  
Lanzarote  
Liverpool  
London Gatwick  
London Luton  
London Stansted  
Lyon  
Malaga  
Manchester  
Newcastle  
Nice  
Palma (Majorca)  
Paris Charles de Gaulle  
Reykjavik (Iceland)

**Ryanair**  
[ryanair.com](http://ryanair.com)  
Alicante  
Berlin  
Faro  
Gdansk

Krakow  
Lanzarote  
London Gatwick  
Malaga  
Milan  
Tenerife  
Warsaw  
Wroclaw

**Jet2**  
[jet2.com](http://jet2.com)  
0871 226 1737

Alicante  
Dubrovnik  
Faro  
Fuerteventura  
Girona  
Ibiza  
Lanzarote  
Las Palmas (Gran Canaria)  
Malaga  
Menorca (Mahon)  
Palma Majorca  
Reus  
Tenerife  
Zante

**United**  
[united.com](http://united.com)  
0845 607 6760  
New York/ Newark

**Virgin Atlantic**  
[virgin-atlantic.com](http://virgin-atlantic.com)  
0344 209 7777  
Orlando

**Wizz Air**  
[wizzair.com](http://wizzair.com)  
0907 292 0102  
Katowice  
Vilnius

**FERRY  
RESERVATIONS**

**Stena Line**  
[stenaline.co.uk](http://stenaline.co.uk)  
0844 770 7070

**Steam Packet**  
[steam-packet.com](http://steam-packet.com)  
0872 299 2992

**P&O**  
[poirishea.com](http://poirishea.com)  
0871 6644 999

**Belfast Harbour**  
[belfast-harbour.co.uk](http://belfast-harbour.co.uk)  
028 9055 4422

**TAXIS**

**Value Cabs**  
[valuecabs.co.uk](http://valuecabs.co.uk)  
028 9080 9080

**fonaCAB**  
[fonacab.com](http://fonacab.com)  
028 9033 3333

**CAR  
HIRE**

**Enterprise Rent A Car**  
[enterprise.com](http://enterprise.com)  
0800 800 227

**Europcar**  
[europcar.co.uk](http://europcar.co.uk)  
Belfast City Centre  
028 9032 5520

Belfast International  
Airport  
028 9445 9644

George Best Belfast  
City Airport  
028 9073 9400

**Rhino Car Hire**  
[rhinocarhire.com](http://rhinocarhire.com)  
0845 508 9845



Depots located at:  
Belfast International  
Airport, George Best  
Belfast City Airport,  
Belfast Titanic Quarter  
and Belfast City Centre.

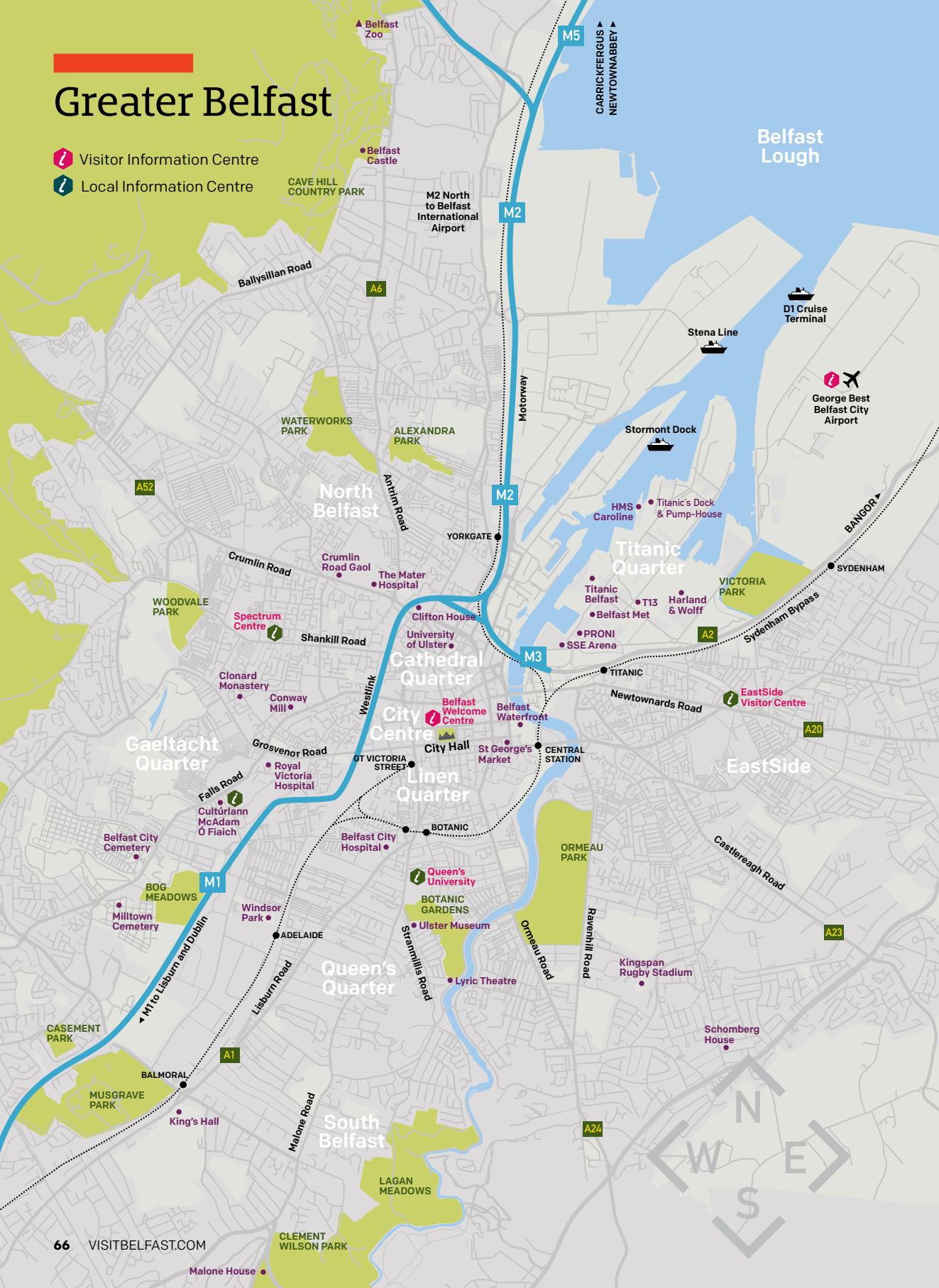
## Scheduled Ferry Sailings

Depart	Arrive	Carrier	Sailing Time
Cairnryan	Belfast	Stena Line (ferry)	2 hours 15 mins
Douglas	Belfast	Isle of Man Steam Packet Co	2 hours 55 mins
Liverpool	Belfast	Stena Line	8 hours
Cairnryan	Larne	P&O Irish Sea (fast-craft)	1 hour
Cairnryan	Larne	P&O Irish Sea (ferry)	2 hours
Troon	Larne	P&O Irish Sea (fast craft)	1 hour 50 mins
Holyhead	Dun Laoghaire	Stena HSS (Stena Express)	2 hours
Holyhead	Dublin Port	Stena Line (ferry)	3 hours 15 mins
Fishguard	Rosslare	Stena Line (ferry)	3 hours 30 mins

*This information is correct at time of publication but is subject to change without notice.  
Please check with carriers for confirmation of flight/ferry operating schedules.*

# Greater Belfast

-  Visitor Information Centre
-  Local Information Centre





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for the facts [drinkaware.co.uk](http://drinkaware.co.uk)

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[twitter.com/visitbelfast](https://twitter.com/visitbelfast)

**Visit Belfast**

9 Donegall Square North

Belfast BT1 5GB

+44 (0)28 9023 9026

[reception@visitbelfast.com](mailto:reception@visitbelfast.com)

For visitor information enquiries:

**Visit Belfast Welcome Centre**

+44 (0)28 9024 6609

[info@visitbelfast.com](mailto:info@visitbelfast.com)

[visitbelfast.com](https://visitbelfast.com)

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