

Basic Info for teams travelling to Dublin (18.05.07)

Bank hours

Banks are open from 9am-4pm Monday to Friday, with late opening until 5pm on Thursdays. Dublin is well served with countless ATM machines, most of which will accept Cirrus/Link.

Emergencies

Dial 999 or 112 for fire, Garda (police) and ambulances.

Getting around

Dublin is well served with a number of bus links to the surrounding area and suburbs. For information on all Dublin's bus routes, log onto Dublin Bus. The LUAS (tram system) serves the city center and surrounding areas. The Green Line connects Sandyford to Stephen's Green and the Red Line connects Tallaght to Connolly Station. The DART runs along Dublin Bay from Howth to Greystones and through the city center. Bicycles can be hired for about €20 a day from Cycle Ways Bike Rental at 185 Parnell Street.

Taxis

Here are some tips about taxi charges in Ireland.

Most taxis carry 4 people only. You can always specify when booking or on a rank for a 7 seater (on a rank a 7 seater can skip the queue if you ask for it).

Common charges as follows: Initial Charge €4.10
Booking Fee €2.00
Additional Person €1
(two children (under 12) or 1 adult = 1 additional person)

If you pass a Toll Bridge that will be added to total showing on the meter or you may be asked to pay toll at toll booth.

By law all fares should be based on the meter. Do not agree a fare unless you are familiar with the metered costs. At the airport you cannot be charged for your bags or a booking fee or an airport pick up charge. If you do phone for a taxi, they will charge you €2 booking fee. Tipping is entirely at your discretion. There are no conventions. The driver will appreciate a tip but relax, he won't chase after you if you don't.

As in any country there are some bad apples out there and there are many inexperienced drivers who may inadvertently make your journey a little edgy.

If you have an unresolved dispute about the fare/conduct of driver, pay the fare but do not leave the car until you have a receipt. Ask for a receipt and report to the taxi regulator 1890 60 60 90. The printed out receipt will have the Taxi ID, distance and charges on it. If the taxi driver is unable to print out a receipt, he is in contravention of the law. Note his driver ID and Plate Number (on roof) and ask for a written receipt with these details on it (even if it is on a scrap of paper). Report to taxi regulator 1890 60 60 90. www.taxireg.ie.

Driving

If you hire a car/van here, rules similar to UK. Dublin drivers are terribly idiosyncratic, everyone has their own idea of how to drive. So keep your distance and remain alert. Mobile speed traps numerous between 8am –10pm. There are many checkpoints to conduct random breath testing for alcohol in morning and in evening. Don't drive if hung over.

Parking

There are numerous car parks around the city centre, charging around €2.50 an hour. Parking charges apply for on-street parking operating under a Pay & Display system – you can get a ticket from a nearby automatic ticket machine. Failure to display a ticket results in clamping and heavy fines. Clampers are very busy bees, avoid coach parking spaces, double yellow lines and clearways in particular.

Getting away

Trains serving the South and West arrive and depart from Heuston Station. Trains serving the North, North West and South East arrive and depart at Connolly Station. For information on all arrivals and departures, log on to www.irishrail.ie.

Busaras operates services from Dublin to the rest of Ireland from the central bus station on Amiens Street. For information on arrivals and departures log onto www.buseireann.ie.

Dublin Airport is approx. 12km north of the city center and there are both public transport links (bus) and private operators (coach) serving the route from the airport to the city center. Car hire is also available at the airport. Regular ferry services operate between Dublin and the UK from Dublin Port and Dun Laoghaire Port. Log onto www.irishferries.com and www.stenaline.co.uk for more information.

Shopping Hours are generally 9am-6pm, Monday to Saturday, with late opening until 8pm on Thursday. Most shops are also now open on Sunday from 12pm-6pm. Blanchardstown has a big shopping campus a 20 minute walk from NAC.

Smoking

Smoking is not permitted anywhere indoors in Dublin, except in hotel rooms and private accommodations.

Tourist Information

The Dublin Tourism Centre is located at St Andrew's Church, Suffolk Street, Dublin 2; tel: + 353 1 605 7700.

Accommodation:

These websites are useful for making bookings for accommodation in Dublin

<http://www.goireland.com>

<http://www.booking.com>

You may know of other ones, I am sure they will be fine. It might be a good idea to contact the hotel directly, to see if they have any policies about children on their own in rooms.

Cootie Alert! Avoid accommodation on Gardiner Street, Dublin 1. Can be cheap but you take your chances. I'd leave it to the backpackers.

For Hotels in City Centre (Dublin 1, Dublin 2):

- Taxi for 7 to/from Airport €25-30
- Taxi for 7 to/from NAC €25-30
- 45mins by Car to NAC
- 38 Bus to 5min walk from NAC €2/person (45min+ journey).

I have not detailed city centre hotels below only accommodation that is closer to the National Aquatic Centre.

*I ran a quick look on Booking.com the prices were what was offered on May 19 and may change without notice. You might get a better deal that way than booking with the hotel/B&B directly. Grades are theirs not mine. Transport costs are estimates. For taxis with less than seven people, deduct €1 for each less e.g (if a Taxi for 7 = €15 then a taxi for 2 = €10)

4Star €100 or less a night per double room *

1 Crowne Plaza Blanchardstown (opening summer 2008)

BLANCHARDSTOWN CENTRE

Tel: 00-3531-8628877 | Fax: 00-3531-8628800

<http://www.ichotelsgroup.com/h/d/cp/1/en/hotel/dblbl?rpb=hotel&crUrl=/h/d/cp/1/en/availsearch&ias=y>

- Taxi for 7 to/from Airport €20-25
- Taxi for 7 to/from NAC €12 (**15 minute walk**)
- 2mins by Car to NAC
- No Bus Direct to NAC
- Rooms may be a little over €100 but is within walking distance and located in large shopping & leisure/cinema complex easy walk to village centre also. Local nightclub, Heaven, not for the faint hearted.

2 Charleville Lodge

268 North Circular Road, Phibsborough. Tel: +353 1 8386633

Fax: +353 1 8385854 Email: info@charlevillelodge.ie

<http://www.charlevillelodge.ie/>

- Taxi for 7 to/from Airport €20-35
- Taxi for 7 to/from NAC €15-20
- 15mins by Car to NAC
- 38 Bus to 5min walk from NAC €2/person (30mins).
- Pleasant B&B

3 Clarion Hotel Dublin Airport

Dublin Airport, Cloghran Tel: +353 1 808 0500

Fax: +353 1 844 6002 Email: info@clarionhoteldublinairport.com

<http://www.clariondublinairport.com/>

- **Free** Transfer to/from Airport
- Taxi for 7 to/from NAC €15-20
- 20mins by Car to NAC
- Hourly URBus to 10min walk from Centre €5/person
- In the airport, handy for getting home.

4 Carlton Hotel

Old Airport Road, Cloghran

Tel:+353-1-8667500 eMail:info@carltondublinairport.com

<http://www.carltondublinairport.com/>

- **Free** Transfer to/from Airport
- Taxi for 7 to/from NAC €15-20
- 20mins by Car to NAC
- Hourly URBUS to 10min walk from Centre €5/person
- New hotel across from a cemetery, beside a runway, not much else.

5 The Louis Fitzgerald Hotel

Newlands Cross, Naas Road, Clondalkin

Tel: + 353 (0) 1 403 3300 Fax: + 353 (0) 1 403 3301

E: stay@louisfitzgeraldhotel.com

<http://www.louisfitzgeraldhotel.com/>

- Taxi for 7 to/from Airport €30-35
- Taxi for 7 to/from NAC €20-25
- 20Mins by Car Toll Bridge €2
- No Bus
- Fancy pants hotel. Suitable for team with own transport

6 Castleknock Hotel & Country Club (enquire for Swim Ireland discount to Eileen Timmons, mention you are coming to our event) Porterstown Road, Castleknock

Tel: +353 (0)1 428 2400 Fax: +353 (0)1 428 2411 Email:reservations@thg.ie

<http://www.castleknockhotel.com/>

- Taxi for 7 to/from Airport €25-30
- Taxi for 7 to/from NAC €15-20
- 15mins by Car to NAC
- No Bus Direct to NAC
- Quiet surroundings, a pleasant option

3Star for less than €100/night/dbl room *

7 Park Plaza Tyrrelstown(enquire for Swim Ireland discount)

Church Street , Tyrrelstown

Telephone: +353 (0) 1 827 5600 Fax: +353 (0) 1 827 5601

http://secure.plazatyrrelstown.com/?bke_ratecode=pptswim

- Taxi for 7 to/from Airport €20-25
- Taxi for 7 to/from NAC €15
- 10mins by Car to NAC (40 minute walk thru bandit country)
- No Bus Direct to NAC

8 Days Hotel Dublin Airport

Santry Cross Ballymun Road

Tel: +353 (0)1 866 9500 Fax: +353 (0)1 866 9501 Email:

reservations@dayshoteldublinairport.com

<http://www.dayshoteldublinairport.com//index.php>

- Taxi for 7 to/from Airport €15-20
- Taxi for 7 to/from NAC €20-25
- 20mins by car to NAC
- No Bus Direct to NAC
- (Good value across from famous Ballymun Stables http://www.ballymunyouth.ie/youth/your_stories/ballymun_stables. Area going thru regeneration)

9 Bewleys Hotel Dublin Airport

Baskin Lane, Cloghran, Dublin

Telephone: +353 (0) 1 871 1000 Fax: +353 (0) 1 871 1001

Email DublinAirport@BewleysHotels.com

http://www.bewleyshotels.com/dublin_airport_hotel.asp

- **Free** Transfer to/from Airport
- Taxi for 7 to/from NAC €25-30
- 20mins by car to NAC
- No Bus Direct to NAC
- Excellent hotel near nowhere of interest, easy access to motorway.

10 Travelodge Dublin Airport Swords

Pinnock Hill Roundabout, Swords

<http://www.traveloggedublinairport.com/>

- Taxi for 7 to/from Airport €15-20
- Taxi for 7 to/from NAC €20-25
- 25mins by car to NAC
- Hourly URBUS to 10min walk from Centre €5/person 45min journey
- Good value for team with own transport, Swords has plenty of amenities
- Hotel not suitable for own catering, catering provided is greasy spoonish.

11 Premier Inn Dublin Airport (formerly The Tulip Inn Dublin Airport)

Airside Retail Park, Swords

<http://www.premier-inn-dublin-airport.com/>

- Taxi for 7 to/from Airport €15-20
- Taxi for 7 to/from NAC €25-30
- 25mins by car to NAC
- Hourly URBUS to 10min walk from Centre €5/person 45min journey)
- Suitable for team with own transport, Swords has plenty of amenities

12 Bewleys Hotel Newlands Cross

Naas Road, Clondalkin, Dublin

Telephone: + 353 (0)1 464 0140

Fax: + 353 (0)1 464 0900 Email: NewlandsCross@BewleysHotels.com

http://www.bewleyshotels.com/newlandscross_hotel_dublin.asp

- Taxi for 7 to/from Airport €30-35
- Taxi for 7 to/from NAC €20-25
- 20Mins by Car Toll Bridge €2
- No Bus
- Suitable for team with own transport

13 Travelodge Castleknock (rooms sleep up to 4)

http://www.travelodge.ie/hotel_locations/dublin_castleknock.474.1.10169.details.html

Auburn Avenue Roundabout, Castleknock, Dublin

- Taxi Transfer for 7 to/from Airport €25-30
- Taxi Transfer for 7 to/from NAC €15
- <10mins by car
- 38 Bus to 5min walk from NAC €1.50/person.
- Hotel not suitable for own catering, catering provided is greasy spoonish.
- Good value, close to NAC, near Phoenix Park

14 EGANS HOUSE Guesthouse

7 Iona Park, Glasnevin, Dublin 9

Tel: +353 1 8303611

<http://www.eganshouse.com/>

- Taxi for 7 to/from Airport €25-30
- Taxi for 7 to/from NAC €20
- 20mins by car to NAC
- No Bus Direct to NAC
- Nice leafy suburb, in summer

15 DUBLIN SKYLON HOTEL

Central Reservations Line: Northern Ireland / UK 0800-039-0035

Email: reservations@dublinskylonhotel.com

<http://www.dublinskylonhotel.com/>

Upper Drumcondra Road, Dublin 9

- Taxi for 7 to/from Airport €20-25
- Taxi for 7 to/from NAC €20
- 25mins by car to NAC
- No Bus Direct to NAC
- You might meet Bertie Ahern around here.

16 Ibis Dublin West

Monastery Road, Clondalkin

Tel : (+353)1/4641480 Fax : (+353)1/4641484

http://www.ibishotel.com/ibis/fichehotel/gb/ibi/0595/fiche_hotel.shtml

- Taxi for 7 to/from Airport €25-30
- Taxi for 7 to/from NAC €15-20
- 15Mins by Car Toll Bridge €2
- No Bus
- Clever option with own transport. Not bad by taxi but no amenities close to hotel.

17 Express by Holiday Inn Dublin Airport

Santry

Tel +353 1 8628888

jmckenna@crowneplazadublin.ie

www.hiexpress.com

- Taxi for 7 to/from Airport €15-20
- Taxi for 7 to/from NAC €20
- 20mins by car to NAC
- No Bus Direct to NAC
- Nice setting with park and pond opposite.

18 Ardmore Hotel

Tolka Valley, Glasnevin, Dublin

Tel: 00353 (0) 1 864 8300

<http://www.ardmore-hotel.com/>

- Taxi for 7 to/from Airport €20-25
- Taxi for 7 to/from NAC €15-20 (NB! via Cappagh Hospital, aka "de back road")
- 15mins by Car to NAC
- No Bus Direct to NAC
- Good value ½ way between NAC and City Centre



I hope this info will help you plan your trip.

Warm regards,

Brian Corcoran
NAC Dublin Masters

