

Belfast

Travel Guide



Introduction

Named the world's best business conference destination in 2022 for the second year in a row, Belfast remains a favoured destination for those attending meetings, events and exhibitions. Belfast continues to thrive as a corporate and cultural capital, with a growing infrastructure and global companies basing their operations in the city.

At Selective Travel Management, we have put our knowledge and expertise into this handy travel guide, with some top tips for your next corporate trip to the NI capital.



Airport Options

Belfast has 2 major airports: George Best Belfast City and Belfast International Airport. Belfast City Airport is situated just five minutes from the city centre and is mostly served by domestic routes as well as some European. Belfast International Airport is located a bit further away from the capital, but has various transport options that will get you into the city centre with little travel time. Which airport you fly into will depend where you are flying from, but both airports offer a variety of domestic routes.

Below is a rough guide on bus journey times from the 2 airports to Belfast City Centre.



Getting into Belfast

Belfast City Airport

If you are travelling from Belfast City Airport, the best option to use is public transport. To reach the city centre, you can board a train at Sydenham rail halt, a short walking distance from the terminal building. The train service runs regularly during peak times and you will arrive at either Belfast Lanyon Place or Great Victoria Street Station. Otherwise you can board the designated Airport Express 600 service running every 30 minutes during peak times. There is also the option of using the airport's long standing official taxi and chauffeur partner, Value Cabs, who have a taxi rank and booking office located outside the front of the airport terminal. Passengers may have a brief wait for a taxi to transport them to their next destination.

Belfast International Airport

If you are travelling from Belfast International Airport, the cheapest and most convenient travel option to use is public transport. To reach Belfast City Centre, you can board the designated Translink Airport Express 300 service, running every 15 minutes. The bus stop is located a short distance from the airport, opposite the terminal exit. Alternatively, there is the International Airport Taxi Company (available for 24/7 hire) located outside the airport exit lobby. The service provides a taxi share scheme to Belfast for those who wish to use it.



Transport Options

Within the city centre, buses are the most common form of public transport to get you from A to B, with Translink offering twelve different routes around the city. To view the timetables and bus routes, visit the user friendly [Translink](#) website or download the Translink Journey Planner app to help map your route.

Belfast is served by a series of train services also managed by Translink, which cover the greater Belfast area as well as the outer areas of Northern Ireland. If you need to travel from Belfast to Dublin, you can board the Enterprise service at Lanyon Place Station (soon to depart from Belfast Grand Central Station – due to be completed in 2025). The journey is just over two hours and the train will arrive at Connolly Rail Station in Dublin.

Another travel option is the Translink Glider service, with two routes (G1, G2) that go from east–west or from the city centre to the Titanic Quarter. The Glider uses diesel hybrid fuel and is therefore a more sustainable transport option.

You can purchase a Belfast Visitor Pass to use on Translink services within the city centre via the [Translink](#) or [Visit Belfast](#) websites. Alternatively, you can purchase a pass at the Visit Belfast Welcome Centre (9 Donegall Square North), Belfast airport tourist information desks or at any Translink station in Belfast. Travel cards and tickets can also be purchased via the mobile app (mLink) or onboard Translink services.

If you wish to use an alternative service, Belfast has many registered taxi companies that are safe to use. Most taxi companies operate via their free mobile apps, allowing you to book taxis, track and watch your taxi arrive on a map. Bikes are also available for public hire, with over 50 docking stations located across Belfast City Centre. To rent a bike, download the nextbike app and take advantage of the low cost tariffs. If you will be based in the city centre during your stay, getting around on foot could be the best option. Belfast is a compact city, making it easy for visitors to navigate during their trip.



Hotel Options

Belfast is home to a wide range of hotels offering the necessary amenities to fulfil your travel requirements. From the city centre to the outskirts of the city, Belfast offers a wide range of budget, chain and 5-star luxury hotels. With so many options to choose from, there is sure to be an accommodation option to fit your corporate budget.

At Selective Travel Management, we have a Hotel Process in place to ensure we fulfil our Duty of Care as a professional travel Booker and to make sure you receive the service you expect. We quality check all hotels and make recommendations based upon a benchmark of the review sites on the day that you confirm your hotel. The final choice of where you want to stay is yours, we will simply provide our recommendations.

For recommendations on hotel options in Belfast, please get in touch with your Dedicated Team, who can advise on the best accommodation to suit your travel needs. Our team of experts will use their personal experience, expertise, and knowledge to advise on the best accommodation for your trip. We will take into consideration many factors including: the reason for travel, your travelling scenario (solo, female, group etc.), your personal preferences, and more.



Work Facilities

If you require a co-working space during your stay, there are a range of options to choose from in Belfast. These include Hubflow, Regus Lincoln Building F4 & F5, and Work Clockwise, each offering day pass options available for purchase. These workspaces are equipped with high-speed internet, hot beverage facilities, private phone booths and hot desk options to facilitate your working needs. If you are looking for free working spaces, there are many locations that offer places to work and collaborate with colleagues including The Fitzwilliam Hotel, Malmaison Hotel, Established Coffee and many more.



Business Environment

When it comes to Belfast, the city centre is regarded as the business district of the capital. As the main hub for inward investment in Northern Ireland, Belfast has become a home to many thriving global companies and sectors. Particular strengths include financial and professional services, creative industries, technology services and advanced engineering. When companies base their operations in Belfast, they benefit from the city's strong infrastructure, highly experienced workforce and supportive local business community. Many global companies are based in Belfast including corporate giants like Amazon, IBM, Coca Cola, Danske Bank UK, PwC, J.P. Morgan and more. The city continues to experience large investment from outside corporate investors across a multitude of businesses to facilitate future growth. This includes the Business Growth Fund (BGF) who opened their Belfast office in 2015 and have invested almost £70m in businesses across the region within that time. Belfast remains an attractive proposition for outside investors, providing diverse corporate opportunities with significant returns.



Seeing Belfast

Belfast is a vibrant and diverse city, with a thriving corporate environment and a welcoming atmosphere. If you have free time during your stay, there are many things to see and do across the city. A major historic landmark is the Titanic Belfast museum, set in the exact location where the infamous Titanic ship was built. The building houses nine interactive exhibitions showing how Belfast has developed as a city over the years. You could also take a free tour of City Hall, a distinctive landmark and popular choice for many tourists in Belfast. Why not take in a show or concert at the iconic Grand Opera House, a historic entertainment building dating back to 1895.

If you're a fan of the hit tv show Game of Thrones, there are several bus tours travelling from Belfast to specific filming locations across Northern Ireland. If you would prefer a more relaxing activity then taking a walk in Botanic Gardens is the perfect opportunity to do so. If you're seeking a good restaurant in the city, you're in luck as there are numerous options to choose from, including Michelin Star restaurants. Most restaurants in Belfast accommodate eating solo, with a group or on the go. If you are looking for general advice or guidance on Belfast, please speak to your Dedicated Team.



Useful Apps

Before your trip to Belfast, it's useful to download mobile apps to help your trip run more smoothly. We recommend the following mobile apps to help you get around during your stay: Value Cabs or fonaCAB (taxi services), Translink Journey Planner (scheduled public transport services), Translink mLink (purchase public transport tickets), and nextbike (Belfast bikes for hire). There are also individual apps for George Best Belfast City Airport and Belfast International Airport for the latest flight updates and airport information.

Other useful apps to use during your stay include: Open Table (restaurant reservations and reviews), Get Sociable (the latest event information and booking options for bars and entertainment venues), and Belfast: Go Explore 360 Virtual Reality App (let's you experience the city's top attractions including Titanic Belfast, City Hall, The Giant's Causeway and many more). You can also download The Sweetr App NI, offering vouchers for the many local restaurants and gyms available in Belfast.

Interested in other useful business travel apps? [View Top Business Travel Apps](#) 





Selective

Travel Management

Business Travel. Simplified.

Talk to us today



selective-travel.com



UK: hello@selective-travel.co.uk
IE: hello@selective-travel.com



UK: +44 (0) 2890 389 000
IE: +353 1 416 7089

