# visitBelfast

Autumn Winter 2024/25





Northern Ireland

T) Translink



# Game of Thrones Studio Tour

# **DINE AFTER DARK**

We invite guests to enjoy a menu matched with scenes and storylines from Game of Thrones while you experience the Studio Tour (includes Studio Tour admission)

# 31ST OCT - 02ND NOV A BELFAST VISITOR ATTRACTION • DAILY BUSES AVAILABLE FROM BELFAST

CHRISTMAS LUNCH

Dine like royalty this Christmas at Game of Thrones Studio Tour, where you'll enjoy fine food and good company while immersed in the world of Westeros (includes Studio Tour admission)

29TH OCT - 23RD NOV



199

BOOK NOW GAMEOFTHRONESSTUDIOTOUR.COM

GAME OF THRONES and all related characters and elements 8 & \* Home Box Office, Inc.





Belfast City & Region Guide is available free from the Visit Belfast Welcome Centre and outlets across the city. Designed by McCadd Front cover: Victoria Square © Visit Belfast

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With special thanks to our strategic and corporate partners Translink, Diageo NI, Belfast Harbour, Queen's Arcade, Value Cabs, ICC Belfast, Hastings Hotels and the Irish Football Association

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Disclaimer All information in this guide is correct at the time of publication but is subject to change without notice. Check online for latest info at visitbelfast.com



BELFAST BUCKET LIST

Check out our guide to the best Belfast events not to be missed!

# **FOOD & DRINK**

#### Oktoberfest

# 26 September - 26 October Custom House Square

Oktoberfest Belfast offers the full German experience with quality beer, music, food and Heidi girls. Soak up the atmosphere of the great Munich Festival in the heart of Belfast.

oktoberfestbelfast.com

# FILM

# Cinemagic

# 28 September - 3 November

The 35th festival brings the best in new world cinema, action packed with talent lab and creativity corner masterclasses with television and film professionals.

cinemagic.org.uk

# FESTIVAL

# Belfast International Arts Festival

**16 October - 26 November** A festival of contemporary arts and cultural events including theatre, dance, classical and roots music, visual, film and digital arts and literature. **belfastinternational artsfestival.com** 

# FAMILY FUN

# Halloween 27 - 31 October Various Venues

Spooktacular fun for all the family with loads of creepy events taking place at various venues across the city. See page 14. visitbelfast.com

# FILM

# Belfast Film Festival 31 October - 9 November Various Venues

Featuring a host of feature film premieres and the best of international cinema, with site specific screenings and in person appearances from top film talent. **belfastfilmfestival.org** 

# MUSIC

(03)

# Sound of Belfast 7-17 November Various Venues

An annual celebration of the music of the city showcasing the talent that resides and moves through Belfast's streets and studios, venues and homes. soundofbelfast.com



# DANCE

(04)

# Belfast Tango Winter Mini-Fest 22-24 November

Various Locations Belfast Argentine Tango proudly present for the first time in Ireland Argentinian Teachers and Dancers Gustavo Russo and Florencia Lucano. They will hold a weekend of workshops, showcases and private classes.

# FESTIVE

# Belfast Christmas Market 16 November - 22 December Belfast City Hall

(08)

The award-winning Belfast Christmas Market is back and celebrating its 20th Birthday in style. See page 16 for more details. visitbelfast.com/christmas

# visitBelfast



(09)

# SPORT

# Friendship Series 29 & 30 November SSE Arena, Belfast

University of Notre Dame, Boston University, Harvard University, and Merrimack College go head-to-head for the Belpot Trophy at the home of the Belfast Giants. **friendshipfour.com** 

# FESTIVE

# Christmas Twilight Market 26 & 27 November St George's Market

From sampling delicious artisan food and drink to finding the perfect Christmas gift for someone special, the market has something special for every visitor. Alcohol will be on sale at this evening event. The event is for adults only after 9pm.

belfastcity.gov.uk/ Events/Christmas-Twilight-Market-2024



# FAMILY FUN

Winter Circus 13 December - 1 January Writers' Square

Tumble Circus are back with Winter Circus. One hour of hammer-smashing Belfastinspired Circus, comedy and riotous fun for all the family. tumblecircus.com

# FESTIVE

# Christmas Evenings at the Ulster Folk Museum 6th & 13th December

Enjoy an enchanting Christmas evening at the Ulster Folk Museum. Taste traditional Christmas cake as you meet our talented craft demonstrators. Sing Christmas carols with Fortwilliam Musical Society and enjoy the sounds of a harpist. Stop by McCusker's pub and listen to a Christmas story. ulsterfolkmuseum.org

# **FESTIVAL**

# Out to Lunch 4-26 January Various Venues

Serving up top-class comedy, theatre, literature and music in a unique lunchtime format, it's the perfect antidote to the January blues! cqaf.com



# FESTIVE

# Christmas in the Poor House 13/14/20 &21 December Clifton House

See inside this beautiful Georgian building and while surrounded by our gorgeous traditional decorations, hear from expert guides what life was like within the Poor House over the festive season. cliftonbelfast.com

# CULTURE

# Chinese New Year 29 January

Various Venues

The city will celebrate the Year of the Snake with lanterns dressing the city centre and events featuring traditional music and dance. www.cwa-ni.org



# CULTURE

# Belfast Burns Week 25 January Various Venues

Celebrating the links between Burns and Ulster with a programme of drama, poetry and music. ulsterscotsagency.com/ events

# BELFAST BUCKET LIST



Check out our essential list of places not to be missed this winter in Belfast.



# TIME OUT

**Belfast City Hall** 

Enjoy an hour long guided tour of Belfast's most iconic building or visit the visitor exhibition, which offers a self-guided journey through Belfast's past to present, showing the vibrancy of the city across six themed zones. SEE MAP (A)

# EXPERIENCE

# Titanic Belfast 🧭

Get ready to see more, hear more, and feel more at the re-imagined Titanic Experience! With four exciting new themed galleries, guests can delve deeper in a reflective journey of the hopes and dreams of those impacted by the iconic ship. SEE MAP (E)

# 6 VISITBELFAST.COM

# SHOPPING

Victoria Square

An exceptional shopping experience with spectacular 360° views across the city from The Dome. Four levels of shopping, including Frasers department store, and great places to eat and drink. SEE MAP (A)

# TOUR

(03)

Belfast Cathedral Take a personal audio tour of Belfast's magnificent St Anne's Cathedral. Discover its rich historic artefacts and learn about the people who helped to shape this sacred place. SEE MAP (A) (P)





# MARKETS

# St George's Market

Browse stalls full of the finest fresh produce, local arts and crafts and delicious hot food at the charming Victorian St George's Market every Friday, Saturday and Sunday. SEE MAP (DA)

# EXPERIENCE

# **Crumlin Road Gaol**

Try life behind bars with a tour of the 150 year old gaol and learn first-hand how this Victorian prison evolved through history. SEE MAP (B2)

# TOUR

# Stormont Parliament Buildings

Home to the NI Assembly and one of the most striking pieces of architecture in Northern Ireland. Take a free tour (online booking required), relax in the gift & coffee shop or enjoy a walk around the stunning Stormont Estate.

# EXPERIENCE

# **Ulster Museum**

Surrounded by the beautiful Botanic Gardens, the Ulster Museum's impressive galleries and interactive discovery zones bring history, science and art collections to life for visitors of all ages. SEE MAP (G)

# TOUR

# **Visit a Distillery**

From city centre brewpubs to gin schools or stunning country estate distilleries, make sure to visit one of these fine establishments to learn about the creation of our finely crafted beers and spirits. See More: Page 24

# FAMILY FUN

# W5

A great family day of adventure awaits at this award-winning science and discovery centre, with exhibits and experiences covering everything from climate change and nature





to film and TV production, optical illusions, built engineering, medical science and more. SEE MAP (E3)

# TOUR

# Game of Thrones Studio Tour

Located at the show's principal filming setting - Linen Mill Studios - this immersive and interactive experience takes visitors beyond the Seven Kingdoms and into the world of Game of Thrones like never before.

# TOUR

12

# **Hillsborough Castle**

Take a tour of Northern Ireland's only royal residence to learn about how this grand house has welcomed the world and witnessed pivotal chapters in politics, before exploring the stunning and tranquil 100 acres of beautiful gardens.



city centre

**City Areas** 

cathedrater



For locations, check out our handy map on pages **64-65**.

tanic ex

At the heart of the city centre is Belfast City Hall. Opened in 1906, it hosts a visitor exhibition that tracks the city's history, offers quided tours of the Council Chambers and is home to the Titanic Memorial Garden. After exploring the shops and stores on Donegall Place and Royal Avenue, or the Victorian St George's Market, hunt out the many cool cafés, cosy pubs and tasty restaurants hidden in the entries, streets and avenues

# 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. This historic trading quarter is a maze of cobblestoned streets and warehouses that are now home to trendy bars, clubs and restaurants. Visitor attractions include the Metropolitan Arts Centre (the MAC), St Anne's Cathedral, the NI War Memorial, the Oh Yeah Music Centre and the Discover Ulster Scots Centre. Full of colourful street art, this area of town is buzzina with music, entertainment and fun at night.

TOP TIP

Make time for afternoon

tea in the luxurious

Merchant Hotel to

admire the opulent

surroundings, huge

domed ceilina and

Ireland's largest

chandelier

# Belfast was once the linen capital of the world with factories, warehouses and grand buildings springing up to the south of the Old White Linen Hall, now the site of Belfast City Hall, Today visitors can enjoy the architecture of these old linen mills which house a mix of offices, chic bars and award-winning restaurants. This is a great part of town to enjoy pre-theatre dinner and drinks before catching an entertaining show at the Grand Opera House.

inenter

# TOP TIP

Be sure to visit Ireland's tallest bar, the Observatory at the Grand Central Hotel, where you can take in the view and savour the most masterfully mixed cocktail creations. Steeped in memories when Belfast was a world centre of maritime trade, ship-building and commerce, the Titanic Quarter is one of the World's largest urban waterfront regeneration schemes. Visit or take a tour of the many Titanic related visitor attractions. be wowed by the interactive visitor centre W5, catch a show, concert or ice hockey match at the SSE Arena or discover the fascinating history of World War One survivor, HMS Caroline.

# TOP TIP

Enjoy afternoon tea in the opulent 'Drawing Office Two' at the Titanic Hotel Belfast, where many of the world's most famous ocean liners were designed. 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 Belfast with this taster to help navigate your way around the city's areas and quarters.

52ertacht

Home to Queen's University Belfast, the area is abound with tranguil parks and gardens. Come faceto-face with dinosaurs, meteorites and Spanish sailors with a visit to Ulster Museum. Stroll through the Victorian Palm House in Botanic Gardens. take in an art-house movie at QFT. relax in one of the many cool coffee shops or enjoy areat live music or stand-up comedy at the Empire Music Hall.

# TOP TIP

The neighbouring Lisburn Road offers the ultimate designer shopping experience dotted with a selection of cafés, artisan delis, salons and wine bars. The focus of 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. See Clonard Monastery or enjoy the three mile Divis Summit Trail, a loop walk on Divis Mountain with spectacular views over Belfast.

TOP TIP

Don't miss the James

(Áras Uí Chonghaile) which offers a thought

Connolly Visitor Centre

provoking insight into his

he had on the history of the island of Ireland.

life, politics and the impact

# Once the beating heart of the citv's industrial past with thousands of people employed in linen mills, rope factories, engineering works and shipyards, EastSide is now thriving once again but this time as a hub of culture and creativity. Make the EastSide Visitor Centre your first stop, with information on key attractions in east Belfast and famous people who lived in the area including CS Lewis, George Best and Van Morrison.

icast side

### TOP TIP

Rediscover The Chronicles of Narnia with a walk through CS Lewis Square, featuring seven bronze sculptures from 'The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe'. Straddling North and West Belfast, the Shankill is home to a wide collection of painted murals depicting the social and political history of the area. Places of interest include the Old Shankill Graveyard, dating back to the 14th century, the Shankill Memorial Park and the ancient Bullaun Stone. St Matthew's Church, built in 1872, is nearby and is known as the Shankill Shamrock due to its unique design and distinctive shape.

The Shankill

# TOP TIP

Stop at Cupar Way to see the murals, graffiti and short messages of peace and hope left by thousands of visitors to the Peace Wall.



North Belfast is rich in history and natural beauty, offering a blend of rugged landscapes, diverse wildlife, and historical landmarks, making it perfect for adventure and exploration.

# **Crumlin Road Gaol**

The Crumlin Road Gaol is a 19th century Grade A listed jail, open to the public for tours, concerts and events. Take a tour to experience all aspects of the Gaol from the tunnel linking the courthouse on the other side of the Crumlin Road to the hanging cell, Governor's office, hospital and graveyard.

# **McConnell's Distillery**

A legend is restored in Belfast. McConnell's Irish Whisky is back in the city it calls home. They welcome you to their state-of-theart McConnell's Distillery, where every step echoes heritage and innovation. Experience their new home at A-wing, Crumlin Road Gaol and immerse yourself in the passion behind their award-winning whiskies.

# Belfast Zoo

Belfast Zoological Gardens is home to more than 120 species of animal, many of which are in danger in their natural habitat. Popular attractions include the Grant's zebra,



Barbary lions, Rothschild's giraffes, California sea lions, penguins, apes, red squirrels, giant anteater, Malayan sun bears, Visayan warty pigs, Goodfellow's tree kangaroo, red panda, Eastern bongo, ring-tailed lemurs and reptiles.

# **Clifton House**

Clifton House, formerly the Poor House, was built in 1774 by the Belfast Charitable Society and is one of Belfast's most historic buildings. Clifton House offer immersive tours of the former Poor House, where you can hear the stories of those who lived in the house in the 18th and 19th century. Clifton House also offer tours of Clifton Street Cemetery, where the great and good of Belfast are buried side by side the poorest of the City.

# Cave Hill

Visitors to Cave Hill Country Park can enjoy panoramic views across Belfast from vantage points on the hillside. The Country Park features include Cave Hill Adventurous Playground, archaeological sites, Cave Hill Visitor Centre, an ecotrail, aardens, orienteering routes, refreshments in Belfast Castle, scenic views and waymarked walking trails suitable for casual walkers or serious ramblers. Its most famous feature, known locally as Napoleon's Nose, is believed to have been the inspiration for Jonathan Swift's novel. Gulliver's Travels.

# **Belfast Castle**

Belfast Castle is located in the Cave Hill area of north Belfast. It was built in the 1860s and is one of the city's most famous landmarks to visit. Set on the slopes of Cave Hill Country Park, the castle is a talisman for the city. It has a commanding a view from 120 metres above the heart of Belfast.

NEIGHBOURHOOD SPOTLIGHT

# South Belfast

South Belfast is a vibrant area rich in attractions. With its mix of green spaces, cultural landmarks, and a buzzing social scene, South Belfast has something for everyone.

# **Queen's University**

Queen's University is one of the great architectural landmarks and mustsee attractions in Belfast with over 160 years of heritage. The Queen's Welcome Centre is the official tourist information centre for south Belfast. It hosts a regular programme of exhibitions and serves as an information point for visitors and tourists, as well as offering a varied selection of souvenirs and gifts. Guided campus tours are available throughout the year on request.

# **Ulster Museum**

Come face-to-face with dinosaurs, meteorites and Spanish sailors with a visit to Ulster Museum. Ulster Museum is home to Northern Ireland's treasures of past and present. Home to rich collections of art, history and natural sciences all set within the beautiful surroundings of Belfast's Botanic Gardens. Discover new perspectives about Ancient Ireland, inclusive global histories, the Troubles, and whatever the future may hold.



# **Botanic Gardens**

Botanic Gardens is an important part of Belfast's Victorian heritage and a popular meeting place for residents, students and tourists. It is home to the Palm House and the Tropical Ravine. The Tropical Ravine contains some of the oldest seed plants around today, as well as banana, cinnamon, bromeliad and orchid plants. The listed building dates back to 1887 and has been restored with many of its original Victorian features reinstated and preserved. The Palm House contains a range of tropical plants, hanging baskets, seasonal displays and birds of paradise, and is one of the earliest examples of a glasshouse made from curved iron and glass.

#### Lyric Theatre

The Lyric Theatre is Northern Ireland's only full time producing theatre. With its continually full programme, there's always a production worth seeing no matter when you visit. The theatre has breathtaking views of the River Lagan and its gourmet café makes the venue well worth a visit on its own merits.

# Lisburn Road & Botanic Avenue

Lisburn Road and Botanic Avenue are two must-visit spots in South Belfast, each with its own charm. Lisburn Road is a bustling hub of high-end boutiques, chic cafes, and gourmet restaurants, perfect for those seeking a stylish shopping or dining experience. In contrast, Botanic Avenue has a lively, student-friendly atmosphere with its eclectic mix of coffee shops, global eateries, and vibrant nightlife.

# ALL MARINE STATES

As autumn takes hold and the dark evenings draw in, let this fantastic line-up of festivals brighten up your days and nights. Whether your passion's music, theatre, dance, film, comedy or experiencing something new, there's a feast of festivals to be enjoyed throughout Belfast this autumn and winter!

# 35<sup>TH</sup> CINEMAGIC **INTERNATIONAL FILM & TELEVISION FESTIVAL** FOR YOUNG PEOPLE 28 September - 3 November Various Venues

The 35th Cinemagic International Film and **Television Festival for Young** People offers a programme of unmissable opportunities for families, schools, and young filmmakers this Autumn with over 120 events in Ulster Museum, Queen's Film Theatre, The Belfast Barge, Accidental Theatre, Black Box, and Odeon Cinemas Belfast. They also feature a number of Halloween themed screenings to give you a fright. cinemagic.org.uk

# **BELFAST INTERNATIONAL** ARTS FESTIVAL 16 October - 26 November

arious Venues

Northern Ireland's largest contemporary arts festival and cornerstone of the annual cultural calendar celebrates 61 years with a new season of contemporary arts and cultural events. Showcasing some of the world's best artistic talents all right here in Belfast, enjoy the very best in theatre, dance and music performances as well as the latest literary releases, independent film, and visual art exhibitions! Highlights include 'North Star', 'The Vanishing Elephant', 'Anti Slavery cultural walking tour' and 'They Might be Giants'. stinternationa<u>larts</u> stival.com



# BELFAST FILM FESTIVAL 31 October - 9 Novemb Various Venues es

Film should be an experience. so as well as presenting the best in new, short and classic cinema during the festival, you can also enjoy site-specific screenings where the classics of the silver screen are hosted in unique surroundings that enhance and intensify your experience. In addition, you can also enjoy audio visual performances with live film soundtracks. The festival also supports local talent with their short film competition and the Northern Ireland independents section supports filmmakers who have made feature or mid length films. belfastfilmfestival.org

# The Wiggle Room by Boom Clap Play The MAC

lfasi

**19 September - 29 November** A brand new immersive experience encouraging curiosity and play - an exploration of kinetic energy, interactive technology, and the joy of childhood for all ages!

# Are you on the Bus?

Various City Centre Locations 16 November - 1 December Are You on The Bus? is a

ground-breaking collaboration between some of Belfast's most inventive arts companies and artists, culminating at the 18th Outburst Queer Arts Festival in November 2024 to bring us the city's most ambitious and daring queer arts project to date.

# **Our Stories Festival**

21-24 November Various Locations

Belfast 2024 and Belfast Stories have partnered with the Nerve Centre and NI Science Festival to explore the themes of Our People. Our Place, Our Planet and reflect on our year of creativity while looking forward to Belfast Stories with Our Stories Festival bringing together artists, thinkers, designers, and musicians on 21-24 November for a series of talks, workshops, creative events, conversations and interventions across Belfast's city centre.

# Belfast City Hall AR Experience Belfast City Hall

2024

**OMBS**V

1 October - 31 March

Set in the heart of Belfast City Hall, this magical new addition to the existing visitor exhibition uses cutting-edge digital technology delivered by BT to offer visitors interactive ways to explore the stories of our city.

# The Hearth Cineworld 12 December

@Belfast2024

A premiere of a film about Belfast created by the people of Belfast. The film is a self-portrait of the city exploring the distinctive aspects of Belfast- its people, its buildings, businesses and landscapes.

Visit Belfast2024.co.uk to find out more and book tickets!

O @Belfast

# C.S. LEWIS FESTIVAL 29 November - 1 Decembe C.S. Lewis Square

Come along to a weekend of fun-filled family festive events! Events include the annual Christmas lights switch on with Father Christmas and Mrs Claus, a Winter Wonderland Narnia Food and craft market and festive wreath making. Fore more details please see visiteastside.com/events

# FLEADH FEIRSTE:

27 November – 1 December

Fleadh Feirste is a co-operative festival organised by groups and organisations in Belfast's Gaeltacht Quarter every November and December. Events range from concerts, book launch and Family Christmas events including Christmas lights switch on at Cultúrlann. eulturlann.je



# Fright & Delights

Belfast boasts a variety of thrilling events to satisfy your love for all things spooky. From ghost tours and costume parties to special movie screenings, there's something for everyone to enjoy a frightfully good time!

# Paranormal Tour at Crumlin Road Gaol 12 - 31 October

This Paranormal tour will take you to the various hot spots of the Gaol where Paranormal Activity has been reported and the guide will tell you off the harrowing stories associated with these areas. crumlinroadgaol.com

# Fear Forest at Colin Glen 11 - 31 October

Experience a one-of-a-kind event in Belfast. Colin Glen forest will transform into a terrifying landscape filled with demonic clowns and spinechilling Halloween characters lurking in the shadows. colinglen.org

#### Creepy Campfire Tales 12 October - 3 November

W5 is conjuring up an experience like no other this Halloween, transforming their state-of-the-art AMAZE space into a spine-chilling campsite deep within an ancient forest. w5online.co.uk

# Belfast One Monstrous Halloween Takeover 25 - 31 October

Get ready for some monster madness as huge inflatable monsters return to take over Belfast City Centrel A special monster map will guide you to all the spooky spots from 25th October - 1st November. 2 Royal Avenue has a fang-tastic line-up of activities, including no-carve pumpkin decorating, face painting, and colouring stations. There's something for everyone at this FREE family-friendly event! belfastone.co.uk

# Halloween at the Ulster Folk Museum 29 - 31 October

Discover the origins, traditions and customs of the spookiest time of year, a celebration derived from the Celtic festival of Samhain. ulsterfolkmuseum.org

### Boo at the Zoo 26 - 27 October

Gather your ghosts and goblins, put on your favourite costume, and come to the zoo for a frightfully delightful time with a range of eerie activities including creepy crafts, spooky animal talks, terrifying ghost story trail and eerie sensory play. belfastcity.gov.uk/zoo

# Worth The Trip:

# Halloween at Hillsborough Castle & Gardens

26 October - 3 November Navigate the twisty maze, go on a storytelling walk, and hunt for scarecrows designed by talented local artists and communities. hrp.org.uk

# Fright Night 11 October – 31 October

Welcome to Fright Night – Northern Ireland's No. 1 Halloween Scare event! This year, there's an all-new Woodland Trail, six spine-chilling Scare Attractions, and a twisted ensemble of Street Theatre characters. Surprises lurk at every corner, so brace yourself for the unexpected. thejungleni.com

### Hallowe'en Torchlight Tour 26, 29 & 30 October

After years of research, we've made a ground-breaking discovery of something long buried. Now, a towering figure has been unearthed from the archives at the Folk Park. Join us, if you dare, for a night at the museum as we enter the uncanny and mysterious world of Crudden Boyle. Ages 12+ ulsteramericanfolkpark.org

### Halloween at Montalto 12 - 27 October

This Halloween, Montalto Estate has been overtaken by dark forces, transforming the landscape with eerie sounds and sights, creating an unforgettable experience for all who dare to explore.

montaltoestate.com

For updated information on everything to do and see in Belfast this Halloween, visit: visitbelfast.com/ Halloween

# Belfast CHRISTMAS MARKET

16 Nov – 22 Dec 2024 Belfast City Hall

Operator





Media Partner

www.mpel.co.uk

# Christmass in Beleast \*

The festive season is here, and Belfast is brimming with Christmas cheer! Explore the festive markets, enjoy magical performances, visit Santa's Grottos, and take in the twinkling lights that bring the city to life. Make this holiday season in Belfast one to remember!

celebrations, the Christmas Market will transport you to the Victorian era with its Dickensianthemed Christmas market experience. On the opening weekend (16th-17th Nov) and again on the third weekend (30th Nov-1st Dec), you'll be immersed in the charm of Dickens' world. Stroll through the market alongside iconic characters from his stories, while enjoying enchanting storytelling and lively performances that bring his works to life.

# Belfast Christmas Lights switch-on 16 November

Join the Lord Mayor and guests at the official switchon of the Christmas lights to mark the start of the festive season. Soak up the yuletide atmosphere and enjoy a host of family-friendly fun and entertainment. The celebrations will continue with activities in 2 Royal Avenue's Winter's Den every day across the Christmas period. Look out for information coming soon on how to get tickets for the switch on. This is a free event.

# Belfast Christmas Market 16 November - 22 December Belfast City Hall

The award-winning Belfast Christmas Market is back and celebrating its 20th Birthday in style. As part of the





# Switch on the Season Victoria Square 9 & 10 November

Feel it here first! Enjoy the sights, smells and sounds of Christmas all weekend with special guests, live performances, Local Christmas Fayre, facepainting and much more! Father Christmas will be in residence from 9 November - 24 December and shop for the best local crafts and handmade items at the Christmas Fayre from 9 November - 24 December.

# CastleCourt Christmas Parade 16 November, 12pm

Little eyes will sparkle at the sight of Santa aboard his sleigh with Mrs Claus, surrounded by over 40 characters from Disney, Marvel and the North Pole. Make way for the drums from Beat Carnival, animated floats, singing, our giant Christmas tree... plus much more! Watch in wonder as Santa and his elves glide down Royal Avenue and open up the magical CastleCourt grotto. Santa's Grotto is open until the 24th December. castlecourt-uk.com

# Santa's Post Office

# November / December 2 Royal Avenue

Santa's Post Office will be located inside 2 Royal Avenue this year, with elves on site to help your little ones craft their letters to Santa and post to the North Pole. Dates to be announced. **belfastone.co.uk** 

# A Magical Christmas Experience

# 27 November - 23 December Titanic Belfast

Watch the excitement unfold as Father Christmas and his Elves count down to their favourite night of the year on a guided tour of the Magical Christmas Experience! titanicbelfast.com/ magicalchristmas

# Christmas at the Ulster Folk Museum Select dates 30 November - 22 December

Experience Christmas the traditional way as you wander the snowy, cobbled streets of the Ulster Folk Museum, decorated for the festive season. Listen out for carol singers and a brass band, settle in for a festive story and take in the seasonal scents of cinnamon toast warming on the open fire. Get hands-on with our Christmasthemed craft stations, post your letter to Santa and say hello to the Donkeys! ulsterfolkmuseum.org



# Visit Father Christmas and his Elves at Ulster American Folk Park

# 7 & 8 Dec, 14 & 15 Dec, 21, 22 & 23 Dec

Take in the magic of Christmas with a stroll through the snowy streets of Ulster and America, where one of our elves will then guide you to the magical home of Father Christmas and Mrs Claus. If you've made it on the good list, you might even receive a traditional wooden gift to bring home. ulsteramericanfolkpark.org

# Christmas Wonderland 30 November - 23 December

Get ready to experience the magic of Christmas like never before! This December, visit one of the most unique Christmas experiences in Ireland. Christmas Wonderland at The Jungle is the ultimate festive day out for families, where colourfully illuminated woodlands, friendly elves and sackfuls of festive cheer set the scene for a different kind of family day out. thejungleni.com

For updated information on everything to do and see in Belfast this Christmas, see: visitbelfast.com/ Christmas

# **Belfast Plus and Hillsborough**

Christmas at Hillsborough Castle and Gardens 23 November - 5 January



Explore gardens transformed with beautiful decorations inspired by the 12 Days of Christmas. Wander at your own pace and discover all 12 festive displays. Keep your eyes peeled for a few surprises along the way, including a polar bear swimming in our pond and a giant Advent calendar!

www.hrp.org.uk/hillsborough-castle



BELFAST IS A GREAT CITY FOR SPORTS FANS WITH AMPLE OPPORTUNITIES FOR SPECTATING AND TAKING PART! HERE'S OUR GUIDE TO FINDING THE BEST OF THE ACTION...

# **ULSTER RUGBY**

Ulster Rugby competes in the Investec Champions Cup and the European Cup with home games played regularly on Friday nights at the Kingspan Stadium. The season kicks off in September and runs through to late April. There's always a cracking atmosphere and plenty of action to follow, so come along and 'stand up for the Ulstermen!'' #SUFTUM

# ulsterrugby.com

# ICE HOCKEY

Belfast Giants home games take place nearly every weekend in The SSE Arena from August until April, and with plenty of on and off ice entertainment, there's something for everyone. Don't miss the Friendship Four tournament (29-30 Nov) which brings four top U.S. college hockey teams together to compete for the coveted Belpot trophy over Thanksgiving weekend. ssearenabelfast.com

# INTERNATIONAL FOOTBALL

On Tuesday 29th October, Northern Ireland's senior women's team will take on Croatia in the first round of the UEFA Women's Euro 2025 Play offs. Follow this and all the Green and White Army action on social media using the hashtag #GAWA. And be sure to follow the Men's and Women's Senior teams on irishfa.com

# GAELIC GAMES

While Casement Park is closed for redevelopment, Gaelic games fixtures are currently being played in Corrigan Park in the west of the city. Gaelic Football,



LOCAL SPORT



Football fans can visit the Irish FA Education and Heritage Centre, which tells the unique story of Northern Ireland football from the 1880s to the present day. Admission to the centre lasts up to one hour, which is then followed by a 1 hour guided tour of the stadium.

# pon't miss...

FRIENDSHIP SERIES 29 & 30 November The SSE Arena, Belfast University of Notre Dame, Boston University, Harvard University, and Merrimack College go head-to-head for the Belpot Trophy at the home of the Belfast Giants. friendshipfour.com

BETVICTOR NORTHERN IRELAND SNOOKER OPEN 20 - 27 October Waterfront Hall

Some of the biggest names in snooker return to the Waterfront for eight days of world-class competition.

Hurling and Camogie are fast-paced action sports. The season runs from February until October with the All-Ireland finals taking place in Dublin's Croke Park. Check individual fixtures online. gaa.ie

# HORSE RACING

There's nothing like a day at the races and Down Royal Racecourse, located just outside Lisburn, has plenty of dates to put in the diary including the Ladbrokes Festival of Racing including Ladies Day (1 & 2 Nov) as well as the annual Boxing Day, St Patrick's Day and May Dav meetings and the Summer Festival of Racing in June. Student rate and bus shuttle tickets from Belfast are available. downroyal.com

# **GREYHOUND RACING**

Drumbo Park offers two action-packed race nights every week, so everyone's a winner! Wherever you sit to eat or have a drink, you can watch all the live racing action on large plasma screens, enjoying the electric atmosphere of a race night. drumbopark.com

# **NI FOOTBALL LEAGUE**

Follow all the games from the Men's and Women's Premierships, plus Championship and Cup games and the latest team and player news. If you love local football, start here! **nifootballleague.com** 

THE BELFAST CITY MARATHON takes place on Sunday 4 May 2025. Remember that if you don't want to run you can always sign up as a volunteer. Find out more at: belfastcitymarathon.com

# ANAGICAL HRUSHAS EXPERIENCE

Bring the kids along to A Magical Christmas Experience where they will meet the Chief Elf who will guide them on a journey through the Enchanted Forest before exploring the Elves Workshop.

FROM: 27th Nov To: 23rd Dec

\*

They can make a wish by the Magical Wishing Tree, hear a festive tale when they visit Mrs Claus in her cosy kitchen, write and post their Christmas letter in the bustling Post Office and let their creative juices flow with some arts and crafts. Each child will have their name checked off the Naughty or Nice list by their Chief Elf guide – those on the nice list will get to meet Father Christmas individually with their families and receive an exclusive Titanic Belfast Christmas bear!

# Child: £25 | Adult: £12.50

Every child ticket to A Magical Christmas Experience purchased includes free child entry\* to the Titanic Experience, worth £11!

\*Must be used by end of December 2024. Each child must be accompanied in the Titanic Experience by one paying adult. Redeemable at ticket desk by showing your Magical Christmas Experience ticket.

# Join us throughout the festive seaSon. TITANIC BELFAST

# **FESTIVE AFTERNOON TEA**

Sunday 8th December Adult: £45 | Child: £17.50

Step back in time to a period of luxury and 5-star service, with a festive Afternoon Tea including a Christmas Cocktail on arrival.

Set in the opulent surroundings of the Titanic Suite, featuring the stunning Grand Staircase and live jazz music, it is a festive experience not to be missed!

Special Afternoon Tea menu available for kids aged 2 – 11 years old.





# FESTIVE FAYRE 7th-8th/14th-15th/21st-22nd Dec

Festive Fayre returns this winter to Titanic Belfast's Grand Atrium, giving you the perfect opportunity to treat yourself, friends or family and pick up some last-minute stocking fillers!

You'll find lots of local traders selling artisan and seasonal handcrafted wares, so why not come along and do some Christmas shopping for those unique and beautiful gifts?



# HICKSON'S HOLIDAY TAVERN 20th Dec – 5th Jan Closed 24th, 25th and 26th Dec

Leave the cold behind and step into the cozy warm atmosphere of Hickson's Holiday Tavern, the perfect place for meeting up with family and (four-legged) friends this festive season!

Indulge in seasonal treats and board games while warming up with a mulled wine, or take some time to enjoy a refreshing pint with your pup in our cozy, heated space. Mantin

# SINCLAIR

SEAMEN'S CHURCH Built by Charles Lanyon in 1857-58 to meet the spiritual needs of visiting sailors, this part church, part maritime museum has a pulpit shaped like a ship's prow, a brass ship's wheel and binnacle (used as a baptismal font) salvaged from a WWI wreck and the ship's bell from HMS Hood.

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### BELFAST HARBOUR COMMISSIONERS

This stunning building dates back to 1847, and you can visit an exhibition in the Heritage Room which celebrates 400 years of Belfast's maritime history, detailing Belfast's emergence as a major port and the city's subsequent growth and development as an industrial hub.

# CLARENDON DOCK & CITY QUAYS

The dry docks where Belfast's shipbuilding industry was born date back to 1800-1826. Both docks were used to work on ships' hulls and the workshop was designed for working on the rigging of sailing ships. The area has now been transformed into the City Quays development, home to a mix of commercial offices, shops, cafes, restaurants as well as the AC Hotel by Marriott Belfast.

### THE BIG FISH

The beautiful blue scales on the Salmon of Knowledge (affectionately known as The Big Fish) are made up of ceramic tiles depicting scenes from the city's history. Legend has it that if you kiss the fish you'll gain all of its wisdom!

#### LAGAN WEIR

A wide, modern foot and cycle bridge connecting the city centre with Titanic Quarter. Beautifully illuminated in the evening, take a seat and enjoy the views of the city from the River Lagan.

#### **GLASS OF THRONES**

You'll find 6 Game of Thrones stained glass windows dotted along the Maritime Mile, from AC Hotel past Titanic Studios to HMS Caroline. Take a stroll to rediscover the most iconic moments from the saga immortalised in stained glass.

#### THE BELFAST BUOYS

The three buoys are estimated to be around 80 years old, and would have been used by mariners to find a safe channel to and from port. Recently restored to their original colours, they have been installed as a permanent display at Abercorn Basin.

### SS NOMADIC

The last remaining White Star Line vessel, SS Nomadic, has been restored to her original glory and is back home in the historic Hamilton Dock, near Titanic Belfast. Come on board and experience over 100 years of authentic maritime and social history.



The Maritime Mile starts on the city side of the river, connecting Belfast's historic Sailortown to the Titanic Quarter. Take a walk through this storied area and uncover the rich history and legacy of the city's shipbuilding tradition.

#### **TITANIC BELFAST**

Get ready to see more, hear more and feel more at the reimagined Titanic Experience! With the launch of four exciting new themed galleries, guests will delve deeper into a reflective journey of the hopes and dreams of those impacted by the iconic ship. (2)

#### TITANIC & OLYMPIC SLIPWAYS

Behind Titanic Belfast you'll find the historic slipways where these famous ships were built and launched over a hundred years ago. Containing many original features, a Memorial Garden illustrates the proportion of Titanic's victims and survivors from each of the passenger classes and crew. The outline of the sister ships illuminate at night and are the perfect space to reflect.

#### TITANIC HOTEL BELFAST

The original red brick building is a truly authentic part of Titanic's story. Harland and Wolff had two main drawing offices within the building, Drawing Office Two is now the vibrant heart of the hotel where you can relax and enjoy lunch, dinner or even a cocktail or two. This breathtaking room is where many of the world's most famous ocean liners, including RMS Titanic, were painstakingly designed.

### THE GREAT LIGHT

This former lighthouse optic is a unique heritage object with significance to Belfast's economic industrial maritime past. Originally serving both Mew and Tory Island lighthouses, the optic is the largest of its kind ever constructed and dates back to 1887. It is lit all year round and has amazing views over Belfast Harbour and Lough.

#### **TITANIC DISTILLERY**

In the heart of the Maritime Mile, Thompson Dock and Pumphouse- the home of Titanic Distillers. Inspired by the people who worked in Belfast's shipyards more than a century ago- you will now be able to walk in their footsteps in the very pump-house and dry dock that represents such an authentic part of the Titanic story and indeed the history of Belfast. (P

#### **SOUND YARD**

SoundYard is a playful art installation inspired by the sounds of Belfast's shipyards. Located on Queen's Quay close to the Odyssey and Abercorn Marina, visitors can enjoy this interactive sound and play experience which brings to life the story of Belfast's maritime heritage.

#### **HMS CAROLINE**

One ship, one hundred years, one thousand stories! This April step back on board HMS Caroline and experience an incredible day out the whole family can enjoy. Explore this First World War ship, get hands on with a variety of interactive exhibits and take part in some family friendly activities.

To discover more visit maritime-mile.com

# A astro Experience

Whether you're sampling plates of local deliciousness on a fun filled food tour, handpicking botanicals to distil gin, learning about the history of Irish whiskey or developing your culinary skills at a cookery class, there's plenty of fantastic food and drink experiences to savour in and around Belfast.



# Taste & Tour

# Belfast Food Tour

Belfast is quickly acquiring a reputation as one of the foodie capitals of Europe, and the multi-award winning Belfast Food Tour is a great way to get acquainted with the city. This 4-hour guided walk around the city centre begins in the bustling St George's Market and ends in a Cathedral Quarter restaurant. Other tours available include the 'Belfast Gin Jaunt', 'Belfast Whiskey Walk', 'Craft Beer & Street Eats' and 'City Cocktail Circuit', as well as a range of bespoke private tours. tasteandtour.co.uk

# Vegan Table Tour

For passionate vegans and nonvegans alike, this combined food & guided walking tour allows you to experience Belfast's expanding Vegan food scene, while simultaneously enjoying the sights and history of Belfast. Explore the city and hear about the range of foods Northern Ireland is famous for, while eating & drinking your way through a tasty plant-based menu. townlandtours.co.uk

# The Spirit Circle

Encompassing two brand new exceptional experiences, 'Sensorium' enables you to drink and think, by exploring why you like what you like through a series of sensory



experiments and incredible cocktails. 'Belfast by the Glass' lets you sit back and sip and get swept away in the story of Belfast as you enjoy six delicious chapters, served with spirit by the storytellers. tasteandtour.co.uk/

the-spirit-circle

# Meet The Maker

# Echlinville Distillery, Kircubbin

Believed to be Ireland's only field-to-glass distillery, this family-run distillery loves to share their devotion to quality spirits with visitors from around the world, offering tours, tastings and special experiences. Private tours and bespoke group packages are also available. echlinville.com

# TASTY EXPERIENCE

# **Titanic Distillers**

Visitors to Thompson Dock and Pumphouse will clock in, as workers did a century ago, to experience the workings of the distillery and hear the story of Belfast's whiskey tradition; why it disappeared and how it has returned to the home of Titanic Distillers - the city's first working distillery in almost 90 years. **titanicdistillers.com** 

# Hilden Brewery, Lisburn

Ireland's oldest independent brewery selects the finest ingredients to produce a fabulous array of delicious craft beer. Brewery tours are available on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday at noon followed by a bowl of Irish stout stew and wheaten bread, and a flight of three beers. hildenbrewery.com

# Hinch Distillery, Ballynahinch

Take a guided tour at Hinch for an up-close view of the whole distilling process. Upon arrival you will be met by a professionally trained tour guide who will take you on a fun, informative and hands-on journey through the various distilling processes, before relaxing in one of the tasting rooms. hinchdistillery.com

# McConnell's Distillery

A working Distillery and Visitor Experience in the North of Belfast based in the Crumlin Road Gaol. McConnell's Irish Whisky is a brand that dates back to 1776 and thanks to it's re-launch by Belfast Distillery Company it is once again finding great success across the city of Belfast and across Northern Ireland. Learn about the distilling process and of course, taste some of McConnell's award-winning Irish whiskies along the way. intl.mcconnellsirishwhisky.com

# Art Of Craft

# The Deer's Head & Brewery

Inside this city centre saloon bar, you'll find Bell's Brewery on full display, where you can observe the entire brewing process from the comfort of your seat. This pub has a core range named after old bars of the area, rotating seasonal Bell's Brewery specials and an unparalleled local craft beer selection. thedeersheadbelfast.com

# Out of Office

Belfast's first dedicated brewery and taproom, located on the 2nd floor of the popular Ulster Sports Club. The Taproom is open Thursday to Sunday offering a range of freshly brewedon-site beers and other local craft offerings or book a tour and tasting experience.

# outofofficebrewing.co.uk

# **Bullhouse East**

Located next to CS Lewis Square, Bullhouse East is an original brewery taproom, serving 20 taps of the freshest craft beer and the finest woodfired pizza Belfast has to offer. You're guaranteed a fresh pint from their regularly rotating taps of exclusive beer and brewery tours will be available soon.

# bullhousebrewco.com

# **Boundary Tap Room**

Boundary Taproom and Brewery is located in the heart of East Belfast. With 20 taps, 3 enormous fridges full of Boundary cans, specialty imported Belgian beers and a delicious wine list. Take a tour of the Brewery and experience everything that goes into making their unique beers. **boundarybrewing.coop** 



# Get Cooking

# Waterman House Cookery School

Set in the heart of the Cathedral Quarter, come and participate in one of the interactive cookery classes which range from the day-to-day cooking of one pot wonders, to firm favourites from around the world to fun experiences making sushi and cocktails. cookinbelfast.co.uk

# Bakehouse NI

A small, homely cookery school set in the countryside of Bellaghy, offering cookery experiences and classes in baking, cooking and foraging based around traditional recipes and seasonal produce. **bakehouseni.com** 

# Baker & Chef

Located in the Gasworks, Baker & Chef is a fun and relaxed premium baking and decorating studio. Providing carefully curated seasonal classes suitable for all levels of experience. **bakerandchef.co.uk** 

# Wee Buns Cookery School

Wee Buns Cookery School is nestled in the beautiful countryside of N.Ireland, just outside the village of Moy. At Wee Buns, they offer hands-on baking & cooking classes in an idyllic setting and all classes are inspired by the Seasons. weebuns.com

# Arts & Culture

For a great day out that is both educational and fun, visit a museum or gallery. From local history to modern art; dinosaurs to space rockets, there's something for everybody.

# Ulster Museum Botanic Gardens

Ulster Museum is home to Northern Ireland's treasures of past and present. Home to rich collections of art, history and natural sciences all set within the beautiful surroundings of Botanic Gardens. (E) ulstermuseum.org

# The MAC St Anne's Square

With free admission to its three outstanding galleries, seven days a week, The MAC showcases the very best of local and international talent, from a wide range of exciting exhibitions to newly commissioned works and monumental sculptures. (S) themaclive.com

# Belfast Exposed Photography Gallery Donegall Street

Born from engagement with the community, Belfast Exposed houses contemporary photography galleries, a bookshop, and a Troubles image archive. (S) belfastexposed.org

# Áras Uí Chonghaile 374-376 Falls Road

An award winning, modern, inspirational visitor centre based in the heart of Belfast's Gaeltacht Quarter with an interactive exhibition, telling the story of James Connolly. (E) **arasuichonghaile.com** 

# Craft NI Gallery 115-119 Royal Avenue

A combination of shop and gallery, showcasing a range of ceramics, jewellery, sculptures, design items, fabrics, cards and at by local makers. The crafts exhibited change constantly and showcase work by young, emerging artists. **(E)** 

# War Memorial Gallery Talbot Street

A must see attraction for visitors with an interest in the Second World War. The exhibition recalls the contribution of the Home Front, the Belfast blitz of 1941 and the presence of US forces from 1942 to 1944. niwarmemorial.org

# Making Christmas Ulster Folk Museum

23, 24 & 30 Nov and 1 Dec Embrace the festive spirit with four themed workshops at the Ulster Folk Museum! Try your hand at baking Traditional Treats, crafting Willow Decorations for your tree, making festive candles, or creating a classic Rag Wreath.





# Museum of Orange Heritage 368 Cregagh Road

Located at Schomberg House, Belfast, the Museum of Orange Heritage offers a fantastic and interactive visitor experience learning about the Orange culture. orangeheritage.co.uk

# ArtisAnn Gallery 70 Bloomfield Avenue

This gallery features an array of artworks by both emerging and established artists, from painters and sculptors to photographers and collagemakers. The exhibition space hosts a new show each month with all showcased work for sale. (E) (P) artisann.org

# Gerard Dillon Gallery Cultúrlann McAdam Ó Fiaich, 216 Falls Road

The gallery is dedicated to local artist Gerard Dillon RHA RUA 1916-1971 who earned worldwide fame. The gallery focuses on work from professional artists, hosting eight exhibitions per year. (E) culturlann.ie

# Banana Block

**310 Upper Newtownards Rd** A new living museum and

events space set within a historic linen mill and inspired by the curious connections between Belfast and bananas! Check out their packed programme of events and workshops or tour their exhibitor outlets and grab a bite to eat while you learn about the history of the space. bananablock.org

# The Naughton Gallery Lanyon Building, Queen's University

One of Belfast's most vibrant and exciting art galleries, featuring a rolling programme of works from Queen's own collection, touring exhibitions and shows by local and international artists. (E) (The second naughtongallery.org

# Terry Bradley Art 1 Victoria Square

One of the most recognisable and collectable artists working in Ireland today, Terry is known the world over for his signature stylised portraits inspired by the assertive female models of Ireland and Paris, and by the 'salt-of-the-earth' working men of Belfast. The gallery offers a wide range of limited edition prints and Bradley merchandise. terrybradley.com

# SEASONAL EVENTS

# Halloween Cakepops Spooktacular 1st November

Baker & Chef

Enjoy a Witches Brew cocktail on arrival and a beautiful selection of wine and cheeses throughout the evening. Using silicon moulds you'll learn how to line them with chocolate and then fill them with a selection of delicious cakes, including carrot and cinnamon, red velvet or gooey chocolate, before decorating your cakesicles with Halloween decorations. bakerandchef.co.uk

# Christmas Baking 30 November

Wee Buns Cookery School Learn the techniques and lots of useful tips to bring your festive baking to a new level. You will make mince pies filled with homemade mincemeat and your own shortcrust pastry. weebuns.com

# Frock around the Clock

23 & 24 November 12 noon - 5pm

# Belfast City Castle

Start your Christmas shopping at the two-day fair in Belfast Castle. There will be 30 stalls each day with 60 makers and vintage-sellers spread over two days of festive loveliness. It is free to visit the fair. **belfastcity.gov.uk/Events/ Frock-Around-the-Clock-The-Magical-Christmas-Fair** 

To find out about more seasonal crafts including pumpkin carving, wreath making and more check out visitbelfast.com/whats-on Welcome to shopping in Belfast, a dream for style lovers, savvy shoppers, and foodies alike. With a mix of high street favourites, quirky independent stores, specialty shops, cool boutiques, and bustling markets, there's something for everyone to enjoy.

# Victoria Square

Victoria Square is Belfast's premiere shoppina destination featuring over 70 international and local brand stores including Fraser, Apple, Urban Outfitters, Pull & Bear. Hollister and Vans. The centre is also home to a variety of cafés and restaurants as well as the Odeon cinema, and with panoramic views that stretch for miles across the city, the iconic Dome is a must visit when in Belfast. SEE MAP (D4)

# Castle Court

This one-stop shopping spot on Roval Avenue is home to a whole host of your favourite fashion stores including; Jack & Jones, New Look, DV8, Quiz and Matalan as well as popular plus size store Yours Clothing. It's a fashion fix for the whole family and with 13 great food places to choose from. The Avenue Cinema and on-site parking, there's never been a better time to visit. SEE MAP (C3)

# Queen's Arcade

BOLIEX @

If you're looking for exclusive and luxury brands, a visit to this stunning, fully enclosed Victorian arcade in the heart of the city is a must. Here vou'll find alobal fashion names such as Gucci, as well as Ireland's only Rolex, OMEGA, TAG Heuer and Montblanc outlets. There are also premium local boutiques, offering everything from jewellery, luxury eyewear and footwear to handmade gifts. A truly unique shopping experience. SEE MAP (D4)

### SHOPPING PROFILE

# Hidden Gems

From cool boutique to so unique. Belfast has some hidden aems on our side streets that are very worth exploring. Happy hunting!



**Indie Fude** Specialising in authentic Irish food and drink and offering a meticulously curated selection of artisan products.



Dougie's Goodies Dougies Goodies is a vibrant bakery brand who love sharing their tasty goodies and "Do Good" culture throughout NI!



Voque Fashions Vogue Fashions is a local fashion retailer specialising in relaxed classic clothing with sizes ranging from 10-22.



# Place

In the heart of the City Centre vou will find the main shopping district, lined by eight huge masts which represent famous ships that were engineered and built in Belfast. You will find everything from big brand chain stores and bijou boutiques to gourmet coffee shops and delectable local delis. Don't miss the historic and charming Queen's Arcade, containing many of the city's more opulent stores. SEE MAP (D4)

# Market

Head to St George's Market and experience the wonderful atmosphere, with street food from around the world, and an amazing selection of traders and stalls offering some of the finest local produce. arts and crafts. The Friday Variety Market is open 8am-2pm, the Saturday City Food & Garden Market is open 9am-3pm and the Sunday Market is open 10am-3pm. SEE MAP (D4)

# Donegall St George's Sustainable Shopping

Discover the brands in Belfast city centre that are committed to sustainability, reducing environmental impact, and providing eco-friendly products. Find quirky gifts at Born and Bred (Ann Street), vintage clothing at 4good Oxfam Store (CastleCourt), art and craft at Craft NI Gallery (Royal Avenue) as well as high street favourites H&M. FatFace and The Body Shop in Victoria Square.

# 

There are plenty of fantastic attractions and activities around the city to keep the kids, tweens and teens entertained. Here's our top boredom busting tips for a great family day out!

# **LEARN & EXPLORE**

# Aunt Sandra's Candy Factory

Travel back in time and learn how toffee and sweets were made from 100 year old recipes. Make your own candy floss and shop for yummy treats including yellow man, raspberry ruffles and macaroons. auntsandras.com

# Nature and Nurture

Nature and Nurture is an imaginative play centre with a role play village and sensory room. Suitable for ages 0-7. Cafe on site. naturenurtureni.com

# Ulster Folk Museum

Uncover a way of life from 100 years ago and discover cottages, farms, schools and shops as you wander through the beautiful parkland Folk Museum. (2) (12) ulsterfolkmuseum.org

# **Ulster Transport Museum**

Climb aboard steam locomotives, horse drawn carriages, electric trams, fire-engines and vintage cars or experience the sensation of flight in the Transport Museum.

# **CS** Lewis Square

Return to Narnia with a walk through CS Lewis Square. Your little book worms will discover seven bronze sculptures of much loved characters including Aslan, Mr Tumnus, The White Witch and more. Free trail maps can be found in EastSide Visitor Centre. visiteastside.com

# Gruffalo & Stickman Guided Walk

Bring your little ones along and go right inside the glorious Gruffalo and Stickman stories – search for the famous characters in the woods, listen to the classic tales and take home your very own Julia Donaldson and friends book, sticker and certificate, to keep forever! **colinglen.org** 

# W5

W5 has been completely transformed with two reimagined exhibition floors to excite and inspire, with exhibits and experiences covering everything from climate change and nature to film and TV production, optical illusions, built engineering, medical science and much, much more. @ w5online.co.uk



# ANIMAL KINGDOM

# The Ark Open Farm

A great day out for all the family, with lots of educational and fun experiences including feeding and handling opportunities. A multitude of activities such as an extensive outdoor play area, kangaroo bouncer and quad trailer rides are sure to keep the kids entertained. thearkopenfarm.co.uk

# Belfast Zoo

Home to more than 1,000 animals and 150 species, Belfast Zoo is a family favourite. Visit the California sea lions, the Sumatran tigers and watch the penguins play in their pool. In the belfastzoo.co.uk

# **Castle Espie**

A quackers day out for all! Meet the ducks & geese, spot the colourful kingfishers or venture into the mossy glades through the Secret Swamp Walk @ wwt.org.uk/castleespie

# **Exploris Aquarium**

Discover what really happens under the sea as you visit the home of sharks, jellyfish, otters and seals. Explore the dark depths of the Reptile filled rainforest where a snappy crocodile and green gecko hide. explorisni.com

# Belfast's Window on Wildilfe

Nestled in the heart of Belfast Harbour Estate, Belfast Window on Wildlife is home to birds and wildlife from all over the world. Belfast WOW has two hides which offer great views of nature. They are constructed from shipping containers to tie in with their industrial surroundings. www.rspb.org.uk

# **ACTION PACKED**

Airtastic Ultimate Challenges Northern Ireland's unmissable, interactive and state-of-theart team game experience, exclusive to Airtastic Lisburn. Play as a team of 2-6 people as you navigate your way through 30 unique and fun challenge rooms which involve a mix of physical, mental and skill-based tasks. air-tastic.com

# High Rise Indoor Adventure Centre

Experience Northern Ireland's largest Clip 'n Climb indoor climbing arena with 24 exhilarating climbing challenges. There's also a soft play for younger children and innovative sensory rooms to support guests who have additional needs. highriseni.org

# Andersonstown Indoor Aqua Park

Experience Northern Ireland's largest indoor Aqua Park. With 3 high speed water slides, an adventure play area for under 12s, a Little Lagoon for the water babies and Ireland's only indoor surf simulator, there's something for all the family! better.org.uk/leisure-centre/ belfast/andersonstownleisure-centre

# The Lost City Adventure Golf

Choose from two 18-hole rainforest themed Indoor courses. Make your way around the course, amidst simulated thunder and lightning storms and challenge your skills against rainforest animals and moving walls. If you get a hole in one on the 18th hole, much Inca Gold will come your way. Iostcityadventuregolf.com

# Splash

Want to fill your day with laughs and excitement, while bouncing, sliding, jumping and crashing your way around a state-of-the-art Inflatable AquaPark, loaded with slides and obstacles? Or maybe you would prefer Paddle Boarding and Open Water Swimming? Located in Magherafelt, Splash has it all! **splashni.com** 

For more family fun ideas, see **visitbelfast.com** 

Sure, you can visit Belfast and lounge in luxurious accommodation and pamper yourself in a spa. But wouldn't it be better to get out and about for some high-octane laughs? If you're looking for something a bit different... an adventure, a thrilling twist on the average city break; we have it by the bucket-load!

# Forest Fitness NI

Forest Fitness NI is a leading outdoor adventure centre offering exciting activities including airsoft battles, bush camps, axe throwing and more! forestfitnessni.com

### Colin Glen

A spectacular 200-acre forest park located just 5 minutes from Belfast City Centre where you'll find the Sky Trek high-ropes course, Ireland's first Alpine Coaster and longest Zipline! So bring comfy shoes, and a sense of adventure! colinglen.org

# Go Quest Adventures

Your Quest will start at the Spirit of Belfast then wind you through the Cathedral Quarter's Entries, along the River Lagan and ending in Belfast's historic Linen Quarter. This is an ideal outdoor activity for couples, families, groups of friends, school groups and can be the perfect team building or corporate activity. goguestadventures.com

# Let's Go Hydro

This water sports resort offers a range of activities including an inflatable aqua park, stand-up paddleboarding, wakeboarding, kneeboarding, kayaking, open water swimming, aqua rugby and yoga & swim experiences along with a new spa. Glamping pods, café, BBQ pods, pizza restaurant and drive-in movie nights are also available. **letsgohydro.com** 

#### **Prison Island Belfast**

This multi-activity venue is a must visit in Belfast. With 4 unique activities including Prison Island with 31 unique challenge cells to tackle, Axe Yard, Quiz Boxing, a TV style quiz hosted in a boxing ring and THINKBOX, a mind challenge perfect for puzzle aficionados, there's something for everyone to enjoy.

# The Jungle NI

Just a 45 minute drive from Belfast, awaits a daring adventure unlike any other. Adrenaline-packed activities include zorbing, paintball, highwire tree-top adventure courses, clay pigeon shooting, forest segways, and Ilama trekking. thejungleni.com



# **Xtreme Bowling**

Are you brave enough to play in the dark? Enjoy all the fun of tenpin bowling with glow balls, pins and ultra violet lights for the ultimate bowling experience. You can also party while you bowl with DJ entertainment, prize competitions, disco lighting and smoke effects. Sessions run on Fridays & Saturday evenings and Saturdays & Sunday afternoons. theicebowl.com

# Lagan Adventures

Head down to the River Lagan to go Hydrobiking, for a water sport where you don't get wet! Get the workout you want depending on how fast you pedal! It's an ideal way to soak up the city sights, take some cool photography and it's dog friendly. Single and tandem bikes available. laganadventures.com

# Life Adventure Centre

Powered by an endless passion for adventure, we offer an extensive range of activities including mountain biking, hillwalking, stand up paddle boarding, wet bouldering, tour biking, rock climbing, kayaking, coasteering, electric biking and open canoeing. Whether beginner or addict, individual or group, from equipment hire to self-guided or guided experiences, we've got it all. **onegreatadventure.com** 

# Strangford Lough Adventure Centre

Strangford Lough Activity Centre is a quirky, experiential adventure centre offering a range of outdoor activities. Situated on the shores of Strangford Lough, just a short drive from Belfast, activities on offer include: archery, boat tours, canoeing, climbing, hill walking, kayaking, laser tag, orienteering, bushcraft, stand-up paddle boarding (SUP) and wet bouldering. strangfordlough activitycentre.com

### **Ballyburren Outdoor Escapes**

Ballyburren Outdoor Escapes offers alpaca trekking, forest school, luxury picnics, and more, all set in serene natural surroundings near Belfast. Ballyburren is the perfect escape for those looking to connect with nature while enjoying unique and memorable activities. ballyburren.com

# Surf Belfast

Experience the thrill of catching a wave indoors on Northern Ireland's first ever indoor surf simulator! Pumps fire a constant 5 metre wide wave sheet to challenge riders. Designed for a variety of age groups and skill levels, Surf Belfast has four different performance settings to ensure that the ride can be enjoyed by just about everyone. better.org.uk/surf-belfast

> For even more action packed activities, see visitbelfast.com

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# Shop Local this Christmas

Explore our range of locally produced gifts in the Visit Belfast Welcome Centre. Supporting over 30 local small businesses, you're sure to find something uniquely Belfast and Northern Ireland this Christmas!







9 Donegall Square North Belfast BT1 5GB (opposite front of Belfast City Hall) visitbelfast.com



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# VALUE EVERY JOURNEY







VALU





# NATIONAL FOOTBALL STADIUM At Windsor Park

STADIUM TOUR INCLUDING EDUCATION & HERITAGE CENTRE **BOOK NOW** www.irishfa.com/tours

# Belfast Box Office

Belfast's entertainment scene attracts a combination of big-name stars while continuing to develop top home-grown talent. So, whether it's rising stars or established artists you're after, you'll find Belfast's entertainment scene in good shape!

The Grand Opera House will be welcoming a programme of fabulous productions to Belfast this season; experience West-end musical spectaculars such as Now that's what I call a Musical, Joseph and his Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat, Dear Evan Hansen and Chicago. You can tickle your funny bone with comedy shows from Andrew Ryan and Colin Murphy. Enjoy music tributes to Elvis, Jonny Cash and the Eagles. To get in the festive spirit make sure to see local festive comedy Miracle at number 34 or this year's panto, The Pantomime Adventures of Peter Pan. goh.co.uk

The Lyric Theatre is the only full-time producing theatre in NI and has won a series of awards for its architecture. Upcoming performanes include the *Tragedy of Richard III*, an adaptation of Shakespeare's Richard III. *Oh Whistle..two Ghost stories* by *M R James*, a spine-chillling performance of M

R James' masterpiece Oh Whistle as well as "The Ash Tree" a story of witchcraft and vengeance. Gwyenth Goes Skiing, a comedy show around the infamous trial of Gwyenth Paltrow. This year's festive treat is a re-telling of Dickens' A Christmas Carol. Iyrictheatre.co.uk @

The SSE Arena. Belfast is the home of the Belfast Giants ice hockey team as well as hosting a top line-up of concerts, shows and sporting events. This winter you can dance the night away at UB40 & Soul Il Soul, Keith & Kristen Getty, James Blunt, Cyndie Lauper and Snow Patrol. Comedy nights include Neil Delamere, Shane Todd and Mrs Brown's Boys D'Live Show. Join the 'Teal Army' this season and cheer on the Belfast Giants as they aim to bring Elite Ice Hockey League titles home. ssearenabelfast.com

The **Waterfront Hall** offers a packed programme of live entertainment throughout the year! Comedy highlights include Colin Geddis, Tea with me live, William Thompson, Jarlath Regan, Tommy Tiernan, Greg Davies and Katherine Ryan. There's live music from the David Essex, the High Kings, Smokie and Carly Pearce. For festive fun, enjoy Beauty and the Beast pantomime or the Snowman Family Concert performed by the Ulster Orchestra.

The Victorian **Uister Hall** dates back to 1862 and is also home to the Ulster Orchestra. This winter you can check out live musical performances from Lisa McHugh, Midge Ure, the Coronas, the Undertones, the Priests, Boyzlife and Mary Black. Enjoy a night of laughs with Nish Kumar, Vittorio Angelone, Viggo Venn, Jake O'Kane and Pady McGuinness. Musical theatre fans can enjoy a night with Sir Time Rice: My Life in Musicals as he reflects on his career and share anecdotes behind his biggest songs. ulsterhall.co.uk



## The 62nd Belfast International Arts Festival Returning 16 October – 26 November 2024, the festival showcases some of the world's best artistic talents all right here in Belfast. Enjoy the very best in theatre, dance and music performances as well as a hybrid of talks and ideas to enjoy live and in the comfort of your own home! belfastinternationalartsfestival.com

# worth finding

In the heart of Cathedral Quarter, **The MAC** brings music, theatre, dance and visual art under one roof. Open daily, you can also browse the free admission galleries before relaxing in the café bar. **themaclive.com** 

## The Crescent Arts Centre

provides classes and workshops in music, dance, spoken and written word, as well as live music performances, theatre, poetry open mic nights and other events. crescentarts.org

## Cultúrlann McAdam Ó Fiaich in

the Gaeltacht Quarter is an Irish language arts and cultural centre where you can experience traditional music, poetry readings, céilís and workshops. culturlann.ie

The atmospheric **Sanctuary Theatre** is the home of the Bright Umbrella Drama Company and hosts a full programme of theatre, music and comedy events. **brightumbrella.co.uk** 

## Accidental Theatre is a

collision of perspectives, art forms and unusual collaborations - curious stories told through vibrant, ambitious performances and every production is a fresh invention. accidentaltheatre.co.uk

Belvoir Players Theatre is a unique little theatre in South Belfast, offering performances most weekends with something to suit people of all ages. belvoirplayers.org

## The Duncairn Centre for Culture

and Arts is in the north of the city, offering an intimate and authentic Belfast experience, from art exhibitions and workshops to concerts and live performances. theduncairn.com

visitbelfast.com

BELFAST IISITOR PASS

# Belfast Visitor Pass

Belfast

Unlimited travel, discounted tours, attractions and so much more.







Reasons to visit don't end at our city limits. One of the great things about Belfast is that within a short drive you can discover a completely different world filled with lush valleys, a stunning coastline, country parks, magnificent estates, wonderful wildlife and historic attractions. Take a breather and discover some of the other fantastic things to see and do, all just a few minutes' drive outside the capital.

## **EXPLORE AND EXPERIENCE**

## Autumn coastal escapes in

Annnnnd relax! All within an hour of Belfast, unwind and embrace a slower pace, as you experience everything that is on offer in the coastal haven of Ards and North Down.

Over 115 miles of coastline are yours to explore, take in the landscapes and seascapes in this beautiful part of the island, savour delicious local food and drink, cultural experiences, and adventures aplenty. A friendly smile, welcoming chat and renowned hospitality await you, all the elements to make the perfect escape this autumn.



## Great value short breaks and day trips

Escape from the stresses of daily life and take the opportunity to relax and recharge. With great accommodation ranging from distinctive self-catering options, cosy quest houses to three. four and five-star hotel and spa facilities. You don't have to go far to enjoy fresh open spaces and the calming ambience of nature. Ards and North Down is packed with peaceful places just waiting to be explored. Our itineraries help to guide you on exciting journeys, discover History and Legends, Coastal Gems, itineraries for the family and if indulgence is what you need, we have you covered, explore all this and more!



Find out more about great value short breaks in the area, go to visitardsandnorthdown. com/offers or you can contact our friendly Visitor Information Centre Team in Newtownards (028 9182 6846) or Bangor (028 9127 0069)



## **PeliCious Food and Prink**

Ards and North Down is a foodie region, with small artisan producers to largescale distributors., offering an abundance of great flavours and unique world class ingredients including the Comber Earlies potato (with PGI status), Portavogie Prawns, Strangford Lough Langoustines, and grass-fed rare-breed Irish beef to name just a few examples. Throughout the year we celebrate our famed agricultural and nautical heritage with food festivals, markets and food and drink themed experiences to enjoy.



Portaferry



The Old Inn, Crawfordsburn

Eisenhower Pier, Bangor



At many of these events celebrity chefs and local college lecturers from South Eastern Regional College (SERC) work to curate delicious recipes using local produce for their demonstrations in the festival kitchen. You can try a selection of these recipes for yourself at visitardsandnorthdown. com/recipes.

The most recent you'll find will be from Tide and Turf Portavogie provided by celebrity chefs Rachel Allen and James Tanner.

## Family fun this Halloween

Enjoy themed seasonal fun for all this year in Ards and North Down, from family friendly events for the little ones to the teens, and even some adult only excursions thrown in too! See what we have in store for you, including Pickie Funpark's Hallowe'en Extravaganza, North Down Museum's Not-soscary Hallowe'en: Storytelling Event and Not-so-scary Hallowe'en: Craft Workshop.

> Find out more about all the Halloween happenings at: visitardsandnorthdown. com/whats-on





## Love Christmas in Ards and North Down

A festive calendar of events throughout November and December filled to the brim with family fun, markets and craft workshops.



## Christmas Light Switch On Events

**City of Bangor Christmas Lights Switch On** Saturday 23 November

**Newtownards Christmas Lights Switch On** Saturday 30 November

Find out more at visitardsandnorthdown. com/whats-on

Details correct at time of print.

# Paddington Visits Newtownards

Statues of everyone's favourite bear will be taking a seat in locations across the UK and Ireland in early October – with Newtownards, Co. Down being Paddington's only stop in Northern Ireland.

Each statue is meticulously crafted and painted, sporting the bear's signature red hat, blue duffle coat, and a marmalade sandwich in his paw.

They will be placed on benches, inviting fans to sit with Paddington for a spot of tea, a sandwich, or to write a postcard to Aunt Lucy. So why not plan a visit to Newtownards for a spot of shopping, some coffee or brunch and make sure you stop for a picture with Paddington?

The 'Paddington Visits', a trail launches ahead of the beloved bear's return to the big screen in PADDINGTON IN PERU (in cinemas November 8, 2024).

Keep an eye on Ards and North Down Borough Council socials for information on how long Paddington will be visiting for.

Details correct at time of print.

## EXPLORE AND EXPERIENCE

## Explore more... in

# Lisburn & Castlere

Set in the beautiful Lagan Valley and Castlereagh Hills, Lisburn & Castlereagh offers award winning attractions, fantastic food, fun activities and unique shopping. Just 20 minutes from Belfast, you can explore the city of Lisburn or immerse yourself in the rich heritage of our stunning historic villages.



## Discover the History

Explore the beautifully restored Castle Gardens in Lisburn's Historic Quarter or learn about our industrial heritage at the Irish Linen Centre and Lisburn Museum. Take a stroll through Royal Hillsborough to visit the 17th century Fort which was built to protect the road leading from Carrickfergus to Dublin, then explore the historic Parish Church dedicated to Saint Malachy, which is one of the finest examples of Gothic Revival architecture, dating back to 1773.

## Hillsborough Castle & Gardens

Immerse yourself in rich heritage in the official residence of the Roval Family in Northern Ireland. With its fascinating history and glorious gardens, it offers a memorable glimpse into the village's history. On your visit vou will hear stories of celebration, entertainment, diplomacy, and negotiation as you explore Hillsborough Castle's fascinating history and stunning State Rooms, before enjoying the 100-acres of glorious gardens.

## Winter Walks

Explore the tranquil Hillsborough Forest with its scenic lakeside trails and follow the digital sculpture trail to bring 10 artworks to life. Take a stroll through the parkland of Moira Demesne or escape the city by relaxing in the green oasis of Wallace Park. The Lagan Valley Regional Park stetches along 11 miles from Lisburn to Belfast where you can enjoy a walk, run or cycle while immersing yourself with the sounds of the ebb and flow of the river.

## Experience Fine Food & Prink

Discover the magic of traditional brewing by taking a tour of Ireland's oldest independent brewery at the 19th Century courtyard of Hilden House or take an immersive sensory journey to explore the history and production of Hinch Distillery's bold range of triple distilled whiskeys. Gain some new culinary skills at Forestside Cookery School or savour the true taste of the region in vibrant restaurants, gastropubs, cafés and markets, to enjoy quality local produce from some of the area's award-winning growers, makers and producers.

## Action & Adventure

Enjoy a day of action-packed horseracing at Down Royal or make a night of it with greyhound racing at Drumbo Park. You can also get your adrenaline fix behind the wheel at Lyon's Karting, go for a skate at Dundonald International Ice Bowl, have some water-based fun at Lagan Valley Leisureplex or let the kids burn off some steam at We are Vertigo, Airtastic or High Rise Adventure Centre.

## Stay a while

With so much to do in the area, stay a while longer and explore the variety of accommodation to make your adventure complete. From luxury boutique hotels to cosy B&B's, or selfcatering cottages to unique glamping pods - you'll find your home-from-home right here!

To find out more, see: visitlisburncastlereagh.com





## AUTUMN/WINTER EVENTS

#### Down Royal Festival of Racing 1 & 2 November 26 December

Down Royal Racecourse features top-quality National Hunt and Flat racing and is proud to boast some of the most modern facilities for any racegoer. The racing events provide an exciting, actionpacked day out, with a range of hospitality packages and dining options within the grounds to suit every budget. Tickets and return coach travel from Belfast can be booked online at: **downroyal.com** 

## Lisburn Light Trail at Castle Gardens

22 November – 23 December. 4pm - 8.30pm (last entry 8pm) Bring the whole family to enjoy a magical stroll through the illuminated pathways, where you'll discover dazzling light displays and dancing beams lighting up the sky. Open with free entry every night of the week, the festivities ramp up with a mix of live music. Santa's grotto, and a mini-Christmas Market every Wednesday-Saturday. Whether you're looking for a fun family outing or a festive date night, the Lisburn Light Trail offers something for everyone.



## Christmas at Hillsborough Castle & Gardens

23 November – 5 January

The aardens will be transformed with beautiful decorations inspired by the 12 Days of Christmas. Wander at your own pace and discover all 12 festive displays and watch out for a few surprises along the way, including a polar bear swimming in the pond and a giant Advent calendar! You may also discover a special garden play trail, a walled garden and a secret grotto - all with plenty of space to explore and play. On special days in December, little ones can also meet Santa himself - the perfect end to an unforgettable family day out.





#### A Magical Christmas Experience Streamvale Farm

## 23 November – 24 December

Embark on a special festive tour around the farm. visiting Mrs Claus' Kitchen to decorate gingerbread before taking a 'sing-a-long' tractor ride out to see and feed the deer. Follow the Christmas Tree Trail, listen to Christmas stories and have fun making reindeer food in the Elf Village. Enjoy some cuddle time with some of the animals before meeting Santa in his Grotto and finish your visit with some delicious marshmallow toasting in the Cosy Cabin.

#### Royal Hillsborough Christmas Market The Dark Walk & Hillsborough Fort Friday 13 December, 3pm - 9pm.

Come and celebrate the season with festive fun, artisan food, and art and craft from the local makers. The treelined Dark Walk will be decked with twinkling lights and festive music from local choirs and musicians will fill the air. Stroll through stalls of local artisans and discover gifts to treat your family and friends as well as food delights for your table. Keep warm by enjoying hot drinks and delicious street food, all set against the beautiful backdrop of Hillsborough Fort.

To find out more, see: visitlisburncastlereagh.com



## coca-cola Visitor Experience

Recently re-opened, book a free tour to explore, learn, and have fun discovering the world's number one soft drink. Get Coke

a bird's eye view of the manufacturing floor, step back in time in the heritage American-style theatre and explore the interactive zone. Age 13+ only.

visitorexperience.coca-colahbc.ie



You may already know what you want from your trip to Belfast: from Titanic and the political wall murals to the Giants Causeway or the famous film locations featured in Game of Thrones. Tie it all together with an open-topped bus tour, or hire a personal tour guide for a bespoke experience.



# Tours

## HOP ON / **HOP OFF** TOURS

## **Belfast City Sightseeing**

The hop on / hop off open-top bus tour operates daily, taking in the Titanic Belfast and Titanic Quarter. Cathedral Quarter, the Peace Wall and political murals and the picturesque Queen's Quarter. Departs from Donegal Square West beside City Hall.

#### 028 9032 1321 belfastcity sightseeing.com

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#### **City Tours Belfast**

This comprehensive open top hop on-hop off bus tour of Belfast includes St George's Market, Titanic Quarter, the Falls and Shankill Roads, Queen's Quarter and Crumlin Road Gaol. Departs from Donegal Square West beside City Hall.

028 9032 1912 citytoursbelfast.com **VP** 

GUIDED **COACH TOURS** 

## Allen's Giant's Causeway Tours

Spend a memorable day visiting the unforgettable Giant's Causeway. Travel on board a private coach taking in the spectacular natural beauty of the Antrim Coast.

028 9091 5613

allensbelfastbustours.com

## Causeway/Game of Thrones Coach Tour

Depart Belfast and travel along one of the top 5 scenic drives in the world, the Antrim Coastal Route. stopping at Carrickfergus Castle, Carnlough Harbour, Cushendun, Carrick-a-rede (viewing point), the Dark Hedges, Giant's Causeway and Dunluce Castle.

#### 028 9032 1321 belfastcitysightseeing. com



#### . Game of Thrones Tours

Full day coach tours to Game of Thrones locations throughout Northern Ireland. Stark cloaks. Iron Island costumes and replica swords add to the adventure.

#### 028 9568 0023 gameofthrones tours.com

## McComb's Coach Tours

Belfast's longest established daily tour to the Giants Causeway as well as the unique #WeeLoveBelfast citv tour, Grub Crawl food tour and Game of Thrones guided tour.

## 028 9031 5333 mccombscoaches.com

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Odyssey Coach Tours Offering a variety of tours departing from Belfast to various destinations of interest throughout Northern Ireland, including the Giants Causeway and the Belfast City Tour. 028 9024 0300

## odysseycoachtours



## Paddywagon Tours

Daily guided tours from Belfast to the Giant's Causeway including admission to the Causeway visitor centre. Enjoy stunning coastal views, a photo stop at Dunluce Castle and time to cross the Carrick-a-Rede Rope Bridge.

## 028 9033 3367

paddywagontours.com

#### Prestige Tours

Private tours covering both North and South Ireland. Choose from a selection of suggested trips or create your own custom tour itinerary with one of Prestige's local guides. irelandprestigetours.com

## **GUIDED TAXI** TOURS

#### Belfast Sightseeing

Choose from a wide range of award winning auided tours includina Political History, Titanic & Maritime, Giants Causeway and Game of Throne. Customised tours also available TripAdvisor Travellers' Choice Award 2022.

## 07702 060 573

#### belfastsightseeing.com

## The Black Cab Tour

A Blue Badge certified tour guide takes you through Loyalist and Republican heartlands where the murals tell the story from a historical perspective. Write its famous people. The your own message on the Peace walls and enjoy a city sightseeing tour.

## 07798 602401 touringaround

belfast.com ......

## Taxitrax Tours

Visit the famous wall murals throughout Belfast which convey local politics, meeting its people and history and culture. Go for a journey into the politics of Belfast from the late 60's of the city including art, to present day.

#### 07892 716660 taxitrax.com



## Value Cabs Taxi Tour

A variety of vehicles are on offer on this tour which takes in sights including Belfast City Hall, Queen's University, Stormont, Titanic Quarter, Shankill and Falls Roads, including murals and peace line.

## 028 9080 9080





## WALKING TOURS

#### Belfast Free Walking Tour

Discover the history of the city and its people on this tip-based 2 hour walking tour, which departs daily at 11am from the front of Belfast City Hall – look out for the yellow umbrella!

## 07393 585531 belfastfreewalking

tourcom

## Belfast à Pied

Explore Belfast City Centre on this French-speaking tour of the city, and discover its architecture, history, industrial glory, religious and social divides, a clarification on "The Troubles" and the political situation and tour starts and finishes in front of Belfast City Hall and lasts 2-21/2 hours.

#### 07772 873 342 belfast-a-pied.com

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#### **Belfast Hidden Tours**

The best way to discover Belfast is by walking through its streets, enjoying the craic. The tour visits many aspects history, politics and culture.

07971 895746 belfasthiddentours.com

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# Tours

#### **Belfast Walking Tours**

Looking for an active, sustainable but relaxing experience? You have come to the right place. Belfast is a city full of stories, fascinating characters, remarkable events, beautiful street art and architecture. Step back in time. walk its historic streets and see the sites with a certified and enthusiastic local guide.

07845 536119

belfastwalkingtours.com

#### \_\_\_\_\_ Belfastology Walking Tours

Offering a number of original tours and experiences that take vou all over Northern Ireland. Most of the tours are based in Belfast. and cover everything from street art to architecture and the city's incredible history.

#### 07552 309575 belfastology.com

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## **Belfast Traditional** Music Trail

With two professional musicians as your guides, walk through cobbled alleyways, past famous landmarks and on to private bars in some of the city's oldest buildings to enjoy a performance of traditional tunes, songs and stories.

## 028 9028 8818 belfasttradtrail.com

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#### **Coiste Political Tours**

Providing in depth tours of West Belfast. Learn about the conflict from those who lived through it. Tours in Irish, Basque, Spanish and French are available for prearranged groups. 028 9020 0770

## coiste.ie

VP 🌭

#### **Creative Tours Belfast**

Join your expert music guide for a fun, music-filled walk around cool music venues in the city to hear stories about our music legends past and present, plus our rising stars. We offer scheduled dates on two tours: the popular 'Belfast Music Walking Tour' that covers many genres, and the 'Belfast Punk Music Walking Tour.' 07305 754028 creativetoursbelfast.

## com \_.....

#### Dr Tom's Tours

Dr Tom is a Belfast historian, resident and Green Badge Tour Guide offering guided historical walking tours through Belfast's complex past. Choose from a variety of tours including People & Places, Diseases & Drs, Queen's Quarter, Maritime Belfast and Anti-Slavery Belfast - book at: antislaverybelfast.com 07779 269 182

#### drtomstours.com Æ

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## DC Tours

City centre walking tours with award winning, expert local guides. The No. 1 Belfast walking tour. 'A History of Terror', runs every day and explains the history of the Troubles and the path to peace. The 'Best of Belfast' tour is the perfect introduction to the art, architecture and history of the city and runs Fridays to Sundays. 07716 949460 deadcentretours.com

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### **Discovery Tour** at Titanic Belfast

Visitors are introduced to the historic story and landmarks, through to the modern day concept, build and fascinating facts and features of Titanic Belfast - the iconic tribute to Titanic's story. 028 9076 6386 titanicbelfast.com

#### Hometown Tours Hometown Tours provides fun and memorable guided bike and walking tours along the cycle paths and greenways of Belfast with local expert Steven Patterson. hometowntoursbelfast. com

## If Buildings Could Talk Tour

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Every building in every city has a story to tell and Belfast is no different. Join this leisurely walk, billed as "the most entertaining tour in Belfast" and hear stories of interesting, unusual and entertaining events that have happened in Belfast over the last 150 years. 07714 684804 ifbuildingscouldtalk

#### tour.com .....

#### Streets of Belfast

This self-quided tour pools together political and oral history, archive images and voice recordings to give you a sense of Belfast's most famous, and infamous, streets. Wander at your own pace and on your own unique route and use the recordings to bring the soul of the city to life. 028 9024 3343 streetsofbelfast.

kabosh.net

## **BIKE TOURS**

#### Belfast Bike Tours

Experience a comfortable cycle through beautiful Belfast. Each tour is unique and quests can experience the city how they like, guided by our experienced, fun, and knowledgeable guides. 07733 169476

## belfastbiketours.co.uk



#### Belfast City Bike Tours A fun eco-friendly tour of Belfast and bevond taking in over 20 points of interest. Bike hire available. Departs from Norm's Bikes, Smithfield Market. 07780 496969

## ······ belfastcitybike

tours.com .....

#### Bike Mourne

Bike Mourne offer mountain, touring and electric bike hire from their extensive fleet or enjoy a guided bike or electric bike tour with one of their passionate guides.

#### 028 4377 0714 bikemourne.com

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U:Move E-Bike Tour

See Belfast in style! Join us for a guided E-Bike tour of Belfast. Designed for those who like to travel comfortably and enjoy the outdoors. 90-minute, accompanied tour, of Belfast's key sights. umoveebikes.com ••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••

## FILM TOURS

## Winterfell Tours

Located at Old Castle Ward, this unique ..... tour brings you into

the heart of Game of Thrones. Meet Direwolves, try your hand at archery and axe throwing and much more on the stunning banks of Strangford Lough.

## winterfell-tours.com

#### Line of Duty Walking Tour

Your 2 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> hour Line of Duty tour takes you on a behind-the-scenes look at this popular series giving you a chance to stand on the spot of your screen heroes. You'll get the chance to see the locations where some of the most exciting and memorable scenes were filmed. **britmovietours.com** 

## Game of Thrones

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Studio Tour Step behind the scenes of the Seven Kingdoms and beyond. Located at the authentic filming location of Linen Mill Studios in Banbridge. this immersive experience will give visitors the chance to journey through the lands of Westeros and explore the world of Game of Thrones like never before..

#### gameofthrones studiotour.com

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## PRIVATE / GROUP TOURS

#### BelfastLad Tours

BelfastLad Tours are in the top 5% of 5 Star Rated tours in the world and offer exclusive private and small group experiences across Northern Ireland using 'V' Class Mercedes vehicles and expert guides. Tours include professionally led Belfast Political, Giant's Causeway, Sightseeing and Titanic full and half day itineraries. 07825 631550 belfastlad.com

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NI Chauffeurs A professional chauffeur service with a variety of executive vehicles offering political tours of Belfast, day trips to the Causeway coast or Game of Thrones filming locations as well as executive/ corporate travel and airport/hotel transfers. 07762 448697 nichauffeurs.

## Northern Ireland Tourist Guiding

com/tours

Association (NITGA) Full members are Blue Badge Guides and National Guides. accredited by the Institute of Tourist Guidina in London or Failte Ireland. Qualified for coach. walking, religious and site-specific tours, the guides are fantastic ambassadors for Northern Ireland as well as being recognised experts in key subject areas. nitga.co.uk .....

#### Tour Guides NI Established and

experienced guides for groups looking to experience the best that Northern Ireland has to offer. Tours can be delivered in a variety of ways; walking, taxi, driver/guides and by coach. Their fields of expertise are extensive with a blend of past, present and future and all tours can be tailored to meet your specific needs. tourguidesni.com

## STADIUM TOURS

#### Irish FA Tours

The Education and Heritage Centre at the National Football Stadium at Windsor Park tells the unique story of Northern Irish football from the 1880s to the present day. Visitors will relive the atmosphere of match day, gain insights into the drama on and off the pitch and feel the rush of emotions shared by everyone inside the stadium, whether their team wins or loses! irishfa.com/tours

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## FOOD & DRINK TOURS

#### **Belfast Pub Crawl**

Join us for a night to remember experiencing Belfast's historic & modern pubs and lively music scene on our Irish Traditional pub crawl **07712 603764** 

## belfastcrawl.com

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#### Taste and Tour

Exclusively offering the multi-award winning 4-hour fun & food filled 'Belfast Food Tour', 'Belfast Gin Jaunt', 'Belfast Whiskey Walk', 'Craft Beer & Street Eats' and 'City Cocktail Circuit', as well as a range of bespoke private tours.

#### 028 9045 7723 tasteandtour.co.uk

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#### Vegan Table Tour

For passionate vegans and non-vegans alike, this combined food & guided walking tour allows you to experience Belfast's expanding Vegan food scene, while simultaneously enjoying the sights and history of Belfast.

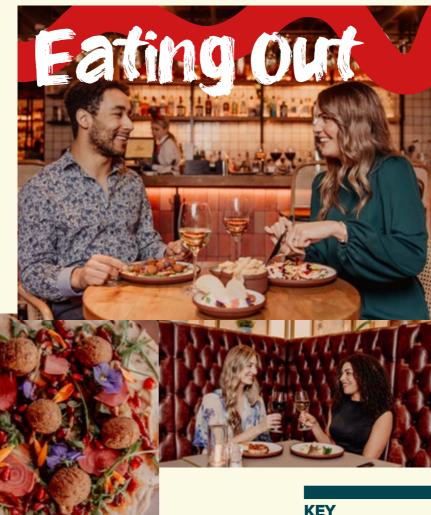
07511 177 718 townlandtours.co.uk

## BOAT TOURS

#### Waterways Belfast

Enjoy a leisurely tour of the docks where the Titanic was built, allowing you to relive the historical significance of this iconic shipyard. Sit back and relax while listening to live commentary from the knowledgeable crew. who will auide vou through the fascinating stories and landmarks that make up the city's rich history.

waterwaysbelfast.com



Belfast boasts an amazing choice of places to eat, offering everything from the traditional Ulster Fry breakfast, gourmet coffee bars and express lunch deals to tasty gastro pub fare, cosy bistros and award-winning fine dining, showcasing the very best fresh local produce available.

## **KEY**

@4	Map grid location
$\overline{\mathbf{c}}$	City Centre
$\overline{\mathbf{o}}$	Cathedral Quarter
	Titanic Quarter
Q	Linen Quarter
00	Queen's Quarter
GQ	Gaeltacht Quarter

Celebrating life, be drinkaware.co.uk every day, everywhere

DIAGEO Northern Ireland

# **Eating Out**

## visitBelfast

## MODERN CUISINE

#### Actons 17 Brunswick Street

Situated in the heart of Belfast's Linen Quarter, close to the Grand Opera House, the Ulster Hall and many of Belfast's hotels. A modern, vibrant and relaxed restaurant, offering a menu that will appeal to all!

028 9024 0239 actonandsons.com

C4 LQ

#### AMPM 38-44 Upper Arthur Street

This quirky venue has become synonymous with wholesome cuisine and intimate ambience. AMPM boasts one of Belfast's most varied small plate menus, sumptuous afternoon teas, sophisticated world-inspired dining and arguably Northern Ireland's most varied cocktail list.

## 028 9024 9009 ampmbelfast.com

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## Bert's Jazz Bar High Street

Bert's Jazz Bar is the first authentic jazz bar in Northern Ireland, offering an excellent selection of live jazz and mouthwatering food. **028 9026 2713** 

# themerchanthotel.

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#### Ben Madigan's Bar & Kitchen 169-175 Cavehill Road

169-175 Cavehill Road Ben Madigan's Bar and Kitchen is a welcoming community bar in the North of the City. The cosy pub serves lunches and main meals from 12 noon 7 days a week. benmadigansbar.com

#### Cellar Restaurant Belfast Castle, off Antrim Road

Whether you're looking for morning coffee, a quick snack or a full evening meal, there's something to suit all tastes in this intimate and quaint eatery within historic Belfast Castle. **028 9037 0133** 

## belfastcastle.co.uk

Coco Restaurant 7-11 Linenhall Street

The chic boutique surroundings of Coco welcome those who love to eat well, in style. Relax and enjoy locally sourced food, cooked to perfection. **028 9031 1150** 

## cocobelfast.com

## Cutters Wharf Lockview Road, Stranmillis

Relax overlooking the river with an intimate lunch or dinner. The extensive menu offers dishes ranging from re-interpreted classics to modern flavours, which are sure to tempt your taste buds. **028 9080 5100** 

## cutterswharf.co.uk

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#### Deanes at Queens 1 College Gardens

With its glorious terrace, Deanes at Queens takes full advantage of its enviable location. Chris Fearon of Great British Menu fame serves up a variety of menu options. **028 9038 2111 michaeldeane.co.uk** 

## Deanes Meat Locker 28-40 Howard Street

When you combine the sheer skill of Deanes chefs with the superb quality of Hannan Meats and the accuracy of the Asador Grill you create a dining experience that simply excels. **028** 9033 **1134** 

michaeldeane.co.uk 🖗 🚾

#### Flame Restaurant The Ewart, 3 Bedford Square

Flame's custom built 10ft Asador Grill and Tandoori ovens bring cooking to life. Soak up the relaxed, friendly atmosphere as you sit at your table overlooking the open kitchen.

#### 028 9033 2121 flamerestaurant.co.uk

## Granny Annie's Kitchen

#### 81 Chichester Street Casual destination for

a comfort food menu served in front of a real fire in a brick-lined space. This Irish trad meets classic pub-grub diner brings the phrase "eat up, you're at your granny's" to a whole new belly-busting level!

## 028 9032 1331 grannyannies.co.uk

## Bank Square Brasserie 56-58 Berry Street

Located in Bank Square this intimate restaurant is one of Belfast's hidden gems, serving locally sourced food seven days and six nights a week, as well as a fresh mix of cocktails to evoke summer memories.

## 028 9031 0809 banksqbrasserie.co.uk

44 Hill Street

## 44 Hill Street

A vibrant celebration of modern food influenced by the flavours of the Mediterranean, using local products from local, independent producers. Enjoy seasonal cuisine serving everything from casual lunch to plates you can share with your friends or family.

## 028 9590 8444 44hillstreet.com

©3 ©0 **€** 

#### Holohan's Pantry 43 University Road

Located in the Queen's Quarter you'll find Belfast's only boxty house! Whether you're popping in for a quick lunch or relaxing dinner, you will find true Irish hospitality at its best in this family run restaurant.

## 028 9029 1103 holohanspantry.co.uk

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# **Eating Out**

#### Home Restaurant 22 Wellington Place

Feel good food served in a well-established, award-winning restaurant in the heart of the city centre. Head chef Jonny Glass and his team have created an extensive menu of all-time favourites using fresh and seasonal produce. **028 9023 4946** 

## homebelfast.co.uk

#### Horatio Todds 406 Upper Newtownards Rd

Situated in Ballyhackamore, Horatio Todd's is an award-winning, comfortable and welcoming local bar serving delicious dishes with a real emphasis on local produce. **028 9065 3090 horatiotodds.com** 

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#### Howard Street Restaurant 56 Howard Street

Serving up fullflavoured dishes created from the current season's ingredients sourced locally. Complementing the menu is a rejuvenated cocktail list and a range of artisan wines. 028 9024 8362 howardstbelfast.com

#### Henry's 4-5 Joy's Entry

Henry's, named after historic Belfast figure and United Irish man Henry Joy McCracken, has been a pub for over 100 years. Call into this Joys Entry bar for great drinks, traditional food, live music and plenty of history. 028 9032 6711 henrysbelfast.com

(D3) (CC)

#### James St 21 James Street South

James St really is the place where good food, wine and service come together in relaxed surroundings. Enjoy lunch specials, the pre-theatre menu, an extensive a la carte menu, alongside weekend brunch and a great Sunday Roast. **028** 9560 0700

jamesstandco.com

#### Le Winters 92 Church Street, Newtownards

With an innovative approach to dining offering great value food and wines of high quality at affordable prices. The menu has something to offer every taste ranging from traditional, local favourites to exotic dishes from around the world.

## 028 9181 4141 strangfordhotel. com/lewinters

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#### MrDeanes 28-40 Howard Street

The 90-seater restaurant offers a La carte menus featuring many Deanes' classics, reflecting the restaurateur's long running passion for hospitality.

## michealdeane.co.uk

#### Nancy Mulligans Bar & Kitchen 95 Castle Street

Experience the charm of a traditional Irish bar with good food, great drinks, live entertainment & warm hospitality.

## nancymulligans.ie

Novelli at City Quays 90 Donegall Quay

Situated on the waterfront, with unparalleled views across Belfast Lough, the multi-Michelinstarred and 5-out-of-5 AA Rosette-winning



chef Jean Christophe Novelli's Ireland début serves an authentic Mediterranean menu with locally sourced produce and all-day dining. **028 9531 3191** 

#### novellirestaurants. co.uk/belfast p3 @ @

**6 6** 

### The Morning Star 17-19 Pottinger's Entry, Ann Street

Tuck into gargantuan steaks of quality assured Ulster beef and Irish stew. The kitchen also has a great sense of adventure crocodile, shark and kangaroo all pop up from time to time. **028 9023 5986** 

## themorningstarbar .co.uk 193 @

## The Muddlers Club Warehouse Lane, Waring St

Tucked away in the historic back streets of Cathedral Quarter is this modern, industrial-style restaurant named after a 200 year old secret society. The menus are a beautiful balance of local delicacies combined with the finest of international touches.

## 028 9031 3199 themuddlers clubbelfast.com 03 @

## Parisien Cleaver House

Parisien offers a cosmopolitan location with a view for a memorable dining experience, perfect for gathering with friends

and family for elegant dining in the heart of the city, with stunning views of Belfast City Hall.

## 028 9590 4338 cafeparisienbelfast. com

@4 🚾 WP

## Pizza on the Square 1 Donegall Square West

Located in the heart of Belfast City Centre, Pizza on the Square is an authentic Italian restaurant offering a selection of freshly baked pizza, pasta, wine and cocktails.

## pizzaonthesquare.ie

## OX Restaurant

## 1 Oxford Street

With an enthusiastic approach to seasonality, Michelin starred OX works every day to provide the best possible fine dining experience in a relaxed, riverside environment. 028 9031 4121

## oxbelfast.com

## Ryan's Bar & Restaurant 116-118 Lisburn Road

A traditional menu with a fresh contemporary twist, from sharing platters to veggie grazers, farm quality assured steaks to Irish boxtys. A family friendly venue with a relaxed atmosphere. **028 9050 9850 ryansbelfast.com** 

## Saga Kitchen & Cellar 43 Malone Road

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At Saga, our ethos is "Eat Local, Think Global." We are dedicated to using the freshest local ingredients, supporting our community's farmers and producers.

## sagabelfast.com

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## Shed Bistro 467 Ormeau Road

The perfect lunch and dinner experience with a tantalising menu including chargrilled steaks, lamb, fresh fish, pasta, Belfast's best burger, daily specials and more.

## 028 9064 2630 shedbelfast.com

## Shu Restaurant

## 253 Lisburn Road

One of the most renowned eateries in Belfast, Shu offers simple French influenced food using the best seasonal ingredients, served at a reasonable price, in an elegant location.

## 028 9038 1655 shu-restaurant.com

## Stock Kitchen & Bar 1st Floor St

George's Market At Stock Kitchen, the

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## Stove Bistro

**455 Ormeau Road** Stove serves up modern Irish cuisine in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere. The menus change weekly to serve up the best seasonal local produce. stovebistro.com

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#### ..... Taylor & Clay

40a Church Lane

Taylor and Clay is an award-winning restaurant which boasts an open kitchen built around an incredible bespoke Asador wood-fired grill. The talented team cook the best local meat, seafood and vegetables over roaring flames, delivering some of the finest food in the city!

## 028 9590 0600 bullitthotel.com 03 @

## Yardbird 3 Hill Street

Yardbird is a free range rotisserie chicken restaurant. Here the chicken is marinated overnight before being cooked before your eyes on the restaurant's speciality Brazilian rotisserie.

## 028 9024 3712 thedirtyonion.com

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#### Waterman 5-23 Hill Street

A no frills restaurant serving a European menu using local Irish ingredients. Menus change weekly depending on availability of seasonal produce, with local beers and gins changing monthly. **028 9043 4310** 

waterman.restaurant

# **Eating Out**

## SEAFOOD

#### Fish City 33 Ann Street

Open all day serving breakfast, lunch and dinner using local and sustainably sourced food. As well as the traditional and award winning fish & chips, enjoy an extensive menu of seafood, meat and vegetarian dishes.

## 028 9023 1000 fish-city.com

04) CC

## Mourne Seafood Bar 34-36 Bank Street

Fresh, locally sourced seafood traditionally prepared with an Asian or continental twist. Enjoy local ingredients, value for money and friendly service with shellfish sourced from Mourne's very own shellfish beds.

## 028 9024 8544 mourneseafood.com

04 CC

#### The Oyster Rooms 2-4 Winecellar Entry

Located above the historic White's Tavern, step upstairs to enjoy a menu of locally sourced, authentic Irish food alongside great drinks and live music. 028 9031 2582 whitestavern belfast.com

03 00

## ITALIAN

## Coppi St Anne's Square

Open seven days a week, Coppi specialises in simple Italian classics big on flavour and offers a range of cichetti (Italian style tapas), starters, main courses, pizzetta and pasta freshly made daily. **028 9031 1959** 

coppi.co.uk (D3) (C0) (C0)

## Fratelli

## 60 Great Victoria Street

Oozing rustic Italian charm with contemporary edge Fratelli Belfast serves traditional dishes in a family friendly setting in the heart of the city. 028 9031 0862 fratellibelfast.com

## Ge @ ♥ Little Wing Pizzeria

## Ann Street / Ormeau Road / Lisburn Road / Upper

#### Newtownards Road

Passionate about pizzas, Little Wing use time honoured methods to create traditionally made Naples style pizzas, prepared with the finest fresh ingredients. **028 9024 7000** 

## littlewingpizzeria.com

Nico's Pizzeria Restaurant

## 54 Lisburn Road

Nico's blends the best of Italy and more to create an entirely unique offering for the people of Belfast and beyond. 028 9030 0192 mynicos.co.uk

## **CE QQ**

#### Scalini 85 Botanic Avenue

Whether you are seated under the stars or up

in Romeo & Juliet's balcony, diners will feel they are actually there. With a superb selection of pizza, pasta and extensive grill dishes, enjoy this Italian experience.

028 9032 0303 scalinirestaurant .co.uk (ce @

## Villa Italia Restaurant 39-41 University Road

In the heart of the bustling Queen's Quarter, Villa Italia, is a firm favourite with visitors and locals. The extensive grill, pizza and pasta menu offers a selection of authentic Italian dishes. 028 9032 8356 villaitaliarestaurant .co.uk

## SPANISH

## EDŌ

Upper Queen Street A new, contemporary, European dining experience in the heart of the city offering tapas style sharing plates, robust meat and fish dishes and charcoal oven cooked steaks. 028 9031 3054

## edorestaurant.co.uk

#### 2Taps 42 Waring Street

From the heart of Belfast's Cathedral Quarter, boasting one of the city's largest outdoor terraces, 2Taps creates all the atmosphere of summer regardless of the season. Welcoming family, friends, and admirers from across the world.

028 9031 1414 2taps-winebar.com

## MEXICAN

## La Taqueria 53 Castle St

La Taqueria's craft is rooted in trusted, traditional Mexican flavours and recipes that not only showcase some of Northern Ireland's famous local produce but also Mexico's amazing ingredients that the team at La Taqueria ships in themselves.

07748786654 lataqueriabelfast.co.uk @ @

## ASIAN

## BaoBun 48 Botanic Avenue

Offering exciting, fresh, vegan friendly Taiwanese street food. All ingredients are cooked, steamed, baked and pickled in-house, with a mission to create fresh food fast.

## 028 9032 9686 baobunbelfast.com

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## Cosmo Victoria Square

From the Chinese countryside and fishing villages of Japan, to the food markets of Delhi and everywhere in between; experience your favourite dishes

#### from around the world. 028 9023 6660

## cosmo-restaurants .co.uk

#### (D4) (CC) .....

#### Sakura Sushi 82 Botanic Ave

Specialising in the art of sushi as well as offering a variety of fusion food. Carefully chosen dishes are prepared using only fresh ingredients; creating deliciously nutritious and naturally low fat cuisine.

## 028 9043 9590 sakurabelfast.com

(C6) (QQ)

## 7 Spice St Anne's Square

Located in the heart of the Cathedral Quarter, 7 Spice is ideal for a preshow meal of authentic Bangladeshi cuisine – or spend make an evening of it in one of its unique VIP dining pods! 028 9031 0210

## 7spicebelfast.online 03 00

#### Wagamama Belfast Victoria Square

Inspired by delicious Japanese noodle bars and flavours, Wagamama offers an exciting and inclusive casual dinina experience. 028 9023 6098

## wagamamani.com (D4) (CC)

CAFÉS / ΤΔΚΕΔΨΔΥ

## Daisies 7b Chichester Street

Local Belfast chocolatier, specialising in Artisan chocolates to delight vour taste buds. daisiesbelfast.com

## (D4) (CC)

## Neighbourhood Cafe

33 Donegall Street Nestled in the heart of Belfast's Cathedral Quarter, the menu features locally ..... sourced ingredients,



### showcasing the best of Irish produce, with options to suit all tastes and dietary needs.

#### neighbourhood.cafe (C4) (CC)

The Lamppost Café 19 Upper

## **Newtownards Road**

A cosy, C.S Lewis themed cafe in the heart of East Belfast with vintage crockery and a warm and welcoming atmosphere. Family friendly and dog friendly.

#### 028 9058 0059 thelamppostcafe.com

..... Starbucks

**Castle Lane/Great** Victoria St/Cornmarket/ Wellington Place/ Victoria Sq/ CastleCourt/Botanic Ave/ Lisburn Rd

Starbucks are passionate about making perfect handcrafted beverages. Catch up with friends or just enjoy the

## visitBelfast Welcome Centre

## Official Visitor Information for **Belfast & Northern Ireland**

Call in and discover what our city and the rest of Northern Ireland has to offer ... you'll be surprised!

#### 9 Donegall Square North Belfast BT1 5GB (directly opposite front of Belfast City Hall) +44 (0)28 9024 6609 visitbelfast com

lickets and enauiries Bus & Train



relaxed atmosphere with a delicious range of coffee, tea and light bites.

## 028 9023 6679 starbucks.co.uk



#### **Oui Poutine** 1 Donegall Quay

Located at the Big Fish, Oui Poutine serves up Canadian street food. Poutine, as well as other Canadian delights.

## **63 60**

#### Belfast Breakfast Baps 353 Woodstock Road

They say breakfast is the most important meal of the day and at Belfast Breakfast Baps we serve just that. Using only locally sourced breads, quality bacon, sausages and black pudding, cooked to perfection. served in Belfast's famous Belfast Bap.

#### breakfastbaps.co.uk .....

## Bread Street Bakery 13/14 Great Northern Mall

Bread Street Bakery & Café produces and sells flour-based baked goods made in an oven such as bread cookies, doughnuts, pastries and savoury pies.

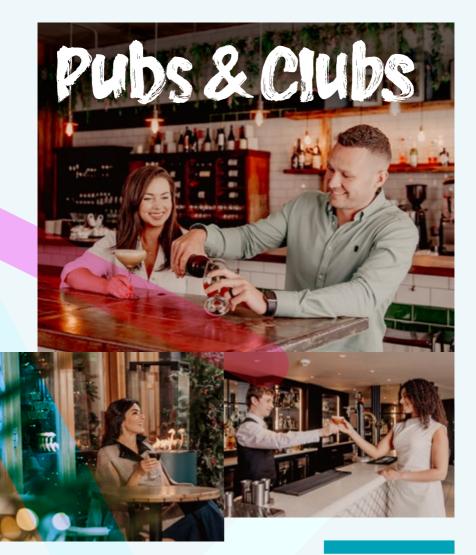
#### northsouthretail.com ......

## **Dougie's Goodies** Bakery

## 51-53 Fountain Street

Dougies Goodies is a vibrant bakery brand who love sharing their tasty goodies and "Do Good" culture throughout NI! 028 2564 9241

dougiesgoodies.com (D4) (CC)



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

## KEY

- Map grid location
  Serves food
  Traditional music
  Live music
- O DJ/Club

Celebrating life, bedrinkaware.couk every day, everywhere



# Pubs & Clubs

## CITY CENTRE

#### Angel And Two Bibles **1 Goose Entry**

Buzz for entry and climb the stairway to Belfast's hidden cocktail bar. Cosy up with a cocktail by the fire or enjoy rooftop drinks on the heated outdoor terrace.

07518 283 884 angelandtwo biblesbelfast.com (D3) (W)

## Brennan's Bar 48-50 Great Victoria Street

Brennans Bar is in a fantastic location opposite the Europa Hotel and situated close to the Grand Opera House. The spacious interior boasts an open fire, old-style mahogany and brass bar and counter, with snug seating. 028 9024 2986

**C**4)

#### Fountain Lane **16 Fountain Street**

Established in 1901. make a stop at the newly refurbished Fountain Lane for fantastic food and drink with big screen sports. live local and trad music and great company, 7 davs a week!

028 9032 4769 fountainlanebelfast.

## com

C4 (4) (\* J)

### The Garrick Bar **29 Chichester Street**

The Garrick Bar is a traditional pub in the heart of the city centre serving food every day from 12pm. Well known for trad music sessions and showing sport fixtures. 028 9032 1984 thegarrickbar.com

## $(\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{W}, \mathbf{A})$

Granny Annie's

## **81 Chichester Street**

"You're at vour grannv's" is a local saying that means, relax and let us spoil you a bit. And that's what Granny Annies is all about – with its quirky setting, fresh, local food, great choice of drinks plus regular live music. Look out for regular meal, cocktails and entertainment promotions too. 028 9032 1331

## grannyannies.co.uk

#### 04 (Y) 🛞 🎵

Henry's

## 4 Joy's Entry

Henrys, named after historic Belfast figure and United Irish man Henry Joy McCracken, has been a pub for over 100 years. Call into this Joys Entry bar for great drinks, traditional food, live music An airy and sophisticated and plenty of history. 028 9032 6711

## henrysbelfast.com

63 (W) (I)

## The Jailhouse

Joy's Entry The Jailhouse, and adjoining sister bar Henrys, offers a fantastic range of traditional food, local drinks and entertainment alongside the rich history of their name sake Henry Joy. 028 9032 6711 thejailhousebelfast.com

D3 (W) 🛞 \_\_\_\_\_

#### Margot **18 Donegall** Square East

Tucked away below street level is Margot. serving small plates, flat breads, creative cocktails and carefully curated drinks every day of the week. Late Late Club every Friday and Saturday from 9pm - 2am.

## 028 9693 1211

#### margotbelfast.com (D4) (Y1) .....

#### The Morning Star 17-19 Pottinger's Entry

This historic pub dates back to 1810 with the original mahogany counter and old terrazzo floor. The upstairs restaurant prides itself on serving freshly made food using the best ingredients sourced locally.

#### 028 9023 5986 themorningstarbar. co.uk

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(D3) (W)

## The National 62-68 High Street

space to relax and socialise with friends, it offers a paired back cocktail menu, simple but bold food menus and coffee that packs a punch. 028 9031 1130

## thenationalbelfast.com

(D3) (W) (D)

#### Out of Office 96-98 High Street

Out of Office is a micro-brewery and taproom located above the Ulster Sports Club. The taproom is open Thursday-Sunday,

serving a core range of freshly brewed beers. Guided tours take place Friday's & Saturday's. outofofficebrewing. co.uk



#### Queens Café Bar Queen's Arcade

Located a stone's throw from City Hall in the heart of the shopping quarter of Belfast, Queens is the perfect pit stop for food and drinks throughout the week. You can always expect a warm Belfast welcome and friendly service from the Queens' team in the most comfortable surroundings.

## 028 9024 9105

queensarcadebelfast. com

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#### Revolución de Cuba 25-39 Arthur Street

The ultimate Cuban food, cocktail and fiesta experience. With dazzling handcrafted cocktails, dishes loaded with exotic flavours and full on tropical party vibes unlike anything you've experienced before!

### 028 9590 9249

revoluciondecuba.com (04) (VI) (II)

#### Voodoo 9-11 Fountain Street

Relax in the intimate bottom bar or venture upstairs to the club and music venue. The lunch menu is a perfect blend of traditional and Cajun style dishes at very affordable prices.

#### 028 9027 8290 voodoobelfast.com

@ (II) (II)

# **Pubs & Clubs**

## CATHEDRAL QUARTER

#### The Cloth Ear 35-39 Waring Street

The Cloth Ear's warm and welcoming interior provides the ideal environment to relax in style. Combining both modern and traditional elements with a healthy dose of the eccentric! Food served daily.

## 028 9026 2719 themerchanthotel.com

**BWD** 

## The Deer's Head

1-3 Lower Garfield St Inside this historic saloon bar (1885) you'll find Bell's Brewery on full display, where you can observe the entire brewing process from the comfort of your seat.

#### 028 9043 4655 thedeershead belfast.com

(D3 (Y)

#### The Dirty Onion 3 Hill Street

A modern take on the traditional Irish pub with live entertainment and great 'craic', 7 nights a week including open workshops in singing and traditional instruments, to sessions with traditional musicians.

#### 028 9024 3712

## thedirtyonion.com

**B\$\$\$** 

#### The Second Fiddle 3 Hill Street

The Second Fiddle is The Dirty Onion's sister bar and home to local trad and folk music offered 4 days a week from Thursday through to Sunday. 028 9024 3712 thedirtyonion.com/ the-second-fiddle/

## The Duke of York Commercial Court

A traditional Belfast bar, crammed with original mirrors and memorabilia. Cold beer, great Guinness and the largest selection of Irish whiskeys in Ireland. 028 9024 1062

## dukeofyorkbelfast.com

## 03 🏶

## The Northern Whig 2-10 Bridge Street

With a blend of luxury, comfort and glamour the Whig is dedicated to bringing you the best that Belfast has to offer in all aspects of hospitality with the best in local cuisine and specialist cocktails. **028 9050 9888** 

# thenorthernwhig.com

#### The Reporter Bar 3 Union Street

Located in the district which was once home to many of the city's press offices, The Reporter Bar honours Belfast's newspaper printing and publishing heritage, while supporting local produce from all over Northern Ireland. facebook.com/ TheReporter.Bar

## (C3 (W)

## Tetto Rooftop Bar and Garden 70-74 Ann Street

Located on the top floor of Bullitt Hotel, Tetto is a rooftop bar, garden and kitchen complete with panoramic city views across Belfast. Offering cocktails, sharing platters, live music and more.

## 028 9590 0600 bullitthotel.com

#### Rattlebag 61-63 Ann Street

Late-night cocktail bar hidden within Bullitt Hotel with a seasonal rotating menu. Rattlebag focuses on showcasing premium products and modern drink techniques all whilst being enjoyed in an intimate environment. rattlebag.co.uk

## 03 🕖

## Tipsy Bird 96-100 Ann Street

A quirky style bar in Belfast's city centre with amazing cocktails, impressive drink serves, live music and a bustling atmosphere, open every Friday – Sunday. **028 9099 3542** 

thetipsybirdbelfast.co.uk

#### White's Tavern 2-4 Winecellar Entry

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Built in 1630, Whites Tavern serves a great selection of Irish and traditional food, beers and of course, Guinness. They host live music every weekend including traditional Irish from local musicians with no cover charge.

## 028 9031 2582 whitestavern

belfast.com

## LINEN QUARTER

#### Limelight 17 Ormeau Avenue

The Limelight complex encompasses 2 great live music venues hosting international acts and local bands, as well as Katy's bar and the Rock Garden rooftop terrace.

### 028 9032 7007 limelightbelfast.com

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## Crown Liquor Saloon 46 Great Victoria Street

The ornate Victorian exterior and delightful interior make the Crown Bar Belfast's greatest treasure since 1884. Enjoy a unique selection of real ales and local brews with a great seasonal menu.

## 028 9024 3187

nicholsonspubs.co.uk

Filthy McNasty's

## 45 Dublin Road

Always busy, Filthy's is a Dublin Road hotspot where the focus is on fun, music and live sport. Features a nightclub, plus live music and DJs 7 nights a week.

## 028 9033 3836 facebook.com/Filthy McNastysBelfast

**C**5 **W** 

#### Haymarket 84 Royal Avenue

Haymarket Belfast has something for everyone, situated in the heart of Belfast's

City Centre! Enjoy great drinks, tasty food & live music, sport & events in the courtyard.

## haymarketbelfast.com

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## Lavery's

## 12-18 Bradbury Place

A true Belfast institution, Lavery's is legendary for its atmosphere, live music, pool tables, pub grub and beer selection. Also has a heated beer garden and covered roof terrace.

## 028 9087 1106

## laverysbelfast.com

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## Linen House

12 Brunswick Street

This is a brilliant multivenue complex with a gastropub, Sweet Afton, Rita's Cocktail Bar, The Perch Rooftop Bar, Franklins Sports Bar plus an outdoor market space - all in the one location!

## 028 9024 8000

sweetaftonbelfast.com

### **@**

#### The Points 44 Dublin Road

Relax in a cosy snug in the The Points - a traditional pub with live Irish music every night. Great whiskey selection, and you can even pour your Guinness!

#### 028 9508 4533 facebook.com/

## ThePointsBelfast

## Pug Ugly's

21 Bedford Street

Welcome to Pug Ugly's, old dog, new tricks bringing you a quirky Irish venue in the heart of Belfast. Pub with grub, live music, trad, comedy, quizzes and more.

#### 028 9032 0030 puguglys.com (C5 (M) (R) (D)

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## Robinsons 38-40 Great

## Victoria Street

Enjoy a pint in the Saloon Bar, fine food in the Bistro, live Irish music in Fibber Magees nightly, or even sing the night away in the Karaoke bar BT1. **028 9024 7447** 

## robinsonsbar.co.uk

## QUEEN'S QUARTER

#### The Empire 42 Botanic Avenue

The heartbeat of Belfast's live music scene, The Empire offers great live music, a weekly comedy club, food served daily and shows all major sporting fixtures. **028 9024 9276** 

## thebelfastempire.com

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## The Parlour

#### 2-4 Elmwood Avenue

The ultimate student haunt, with entertainment every night, special drinks offers and reasonably priced food including the popular Parlour Pizzas. **028** 9068 6970

## parlourbar.co.uk

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## SOUTH BELFAST

#### The Bowery 701 Lisburn Road

Set in the heart of the Lisburn Road, The Bowery is South Belfast's premier neighbourhood pub for fantastic food, classic drinks, live sport and entertainment.

## 028 9066 2600 thebowerybelfast.co.uk

The Crafty Vintner 705 Lisburn Road

Belfast's premier café and bar with a stunning outside terrace and state-of-the-art wine machines. The Tasting Room is the perfect place for a catch-up with friends and family with a selection of delicious plates, snacks, cheese and charcuterie.

## 028 9066 2601 thecraftyvintner tastingroom.co.uk

AB 🖤 🞜

## Cutter's Wharf Lockview Road

Idyllically located on the banks of the Lagan, rowers and boats drift by this bright airy bar and restaurant making it the perfect spot for relaxing and enjoying the food and drink.

#### 028 9080 5100 cutterswharf.co.uk

## 08 1 1

#### The Doyen 829 Lisburn Road

The Doyen boasts a beautifully new designed traditional bar, perfect for listening to live music, sipping carefully crafted cocktails, watching the sport and enjoying a specially created gastropub menu.

## 028 9050 9950

thedoyenbelfast.com

#### The Errigle Inn 312-320 Ormeau Road

A famous traditional pub offering 5 bars, roof gardens and a beer garden, serving food throughout.

## 028 9064 1410

errigle.com

## EAST BELFAST

#### Boundary Tap Room A4-A7, 310

#### **Newtownards Road**

Boundary Taproom has 20 taps, 3 enormous fridges full of Boundary cans, specialty imported Belgian beers and a delicious wine list. boundarybrewing.coop

## (F4) (W)

#### Bullhouse East 442-446

## Newtownards Road

Located next to CS Lewis Square, Bullhouse East is Belfast's very first and original brewery taproom serving 20 taps of the freshest craft beer.

## bullhousebrewco.com/ pages/bullhouse-east

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Belfast is compact and bijou, so getting around the city is easy on foot, by bike or by taxi. However, if you want to wander a little further afield then we've got a network of transport options which will get you to your desired destination.

## TO/FROM AIRPORTS

George Best Belfast City Airport is located 3 miles from the city centre. Airport Express 600 bus service runs from the airport terminal to the city centre.

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Belfast International Airport is a 30 minute drive from Belfast. The Airbus Express 300 operates between the airport and Belfast Grand Central Station in the city.

## BELFAST BIKES

Belfast Bikes is a simple, fun and inexpensive way to get around with 300 bikes and 30 docking stations positioned across the city centre. For just £6 you can get a threeday pass. The first 30 minutes of each trip is free of charge, with £1 charges for each additional hour up to 4 hours and £2 every extra 30 minutes up to 24 hours. Register, at belfastbikes.co.uk. download the Nextbike app or call 034 3357 1551 ......

## **TAXI HIRE**

#### Value Cabs

Value Cabs have a fleet of over 650 vehicles offering a professional taxi service, sightseeing tours and executive vehicles. Debit/credit card payment facility available in every vehicle. 028 9080 9080 valuecabs.co.uk

## valuecaps.co.uk

#### fonaCAB

fonaCAB has 400 cars and over 40 years' experience in the taxi industry. The services provided include airport transfers, executive cars and tours by taxi, on request. **028 9033 3333** 

fonacab.com

## COACH SERVICES

#### Aircoach

High frequency, high quality non-stop express coach service connecting Derry/ Londonderry, Dublin City and Dublin Airport with Belfast.

00353 1 844 7118 aircoach.ie

## **CAR HIRE**

Renting a car is another great way to get around Belfast and to visit some of the many attractions throughout Northern Ireland. Providers available online at visitbelfast.com

## PUBLIC TRANSPORT

Translink is responsible for Metro, Glider, Ulsterbus and NI Railways, operating a network of bus and rail services throughout Northern Ireland and on cross border routes. **028 9066 6630** 

translink.co.uk

## BELFAST VISITOR PASS

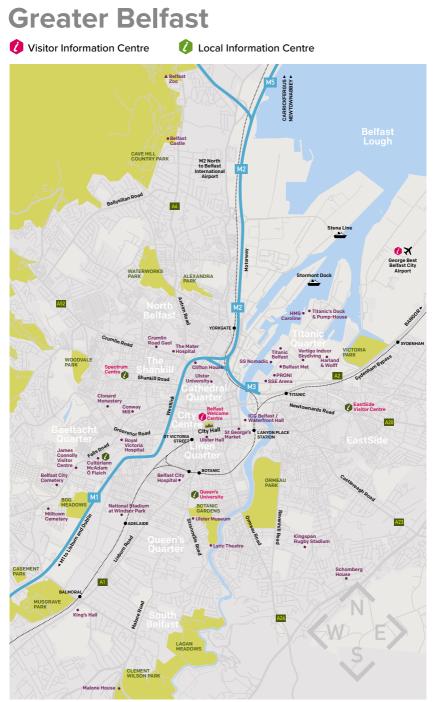
Offering unlimited travel around the city and exclusive discounts on a variety of attractions, tours, restaurants, cafés and shops. Available from the Visit Belfast Welcome Centre @





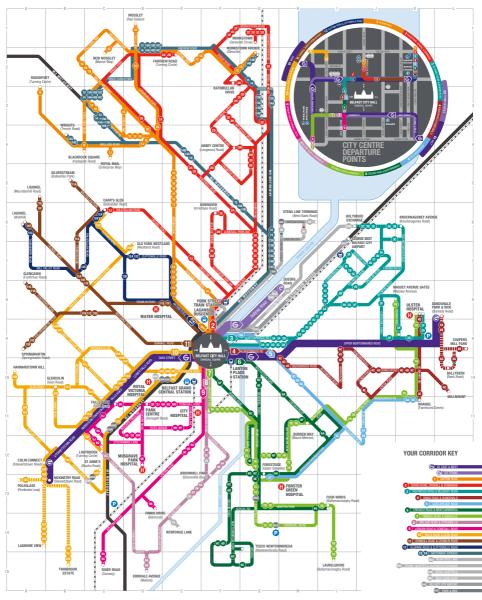
VALUE CABS (028) 90 80 90 80





# Belfast City Centre Glider and Metro Bus Routes

www.translink.co.uk





Better. Connected



# **Getting around the city**

There are many fascinating and beautiful places to visit in Belfast and Northern Ireland, and making your way around using public transport couldn't be easier, you can reach every county in a couple of hours.

## WHICH SERVICE?

Metro – Bus services operating throughout the Belfast area. Metro and Glider tickets are interchangeable and can be used on both services.



Glider – A cross-city service, G1 runs between east and west Belfast and G2 runs between Belfast City Centre and Titanic Quarter. Glider and Metro tickets are interchangeable and can be used on both services.

\* Before you board Glider you must always buy your ticket or tap your Smartcard at the validator.

#### Ulsterbus and urby -

Local bus services, serving all main towns and villages in Northern Ireland.

**Goldliner** – Express coach services which link together the main towns and cities across Northern Ireland.

NI Railways / Enterprise – Rail Services across Northern Ireland and from Belfast to Dublin.

Airport Services – Bus services from Belfast Grand Central Station to airports in Belfast, Dublin and Derry~Londonderry.

## WHICH TICKET?

**DayLink** – unlimited day travel on Glider and Metro available for 1, 5 or 10 days.

## Smartlink Weekly or Monthly Travel Card –

unlimited travel on Glider and Metro for 1 week or 1 month.

Multi Journey Smartlink Card – Can be loaded with journeys to travel on Metro and Glider (minimum 10 to maximum 40). Not valid for Glider journeys across the city centre.

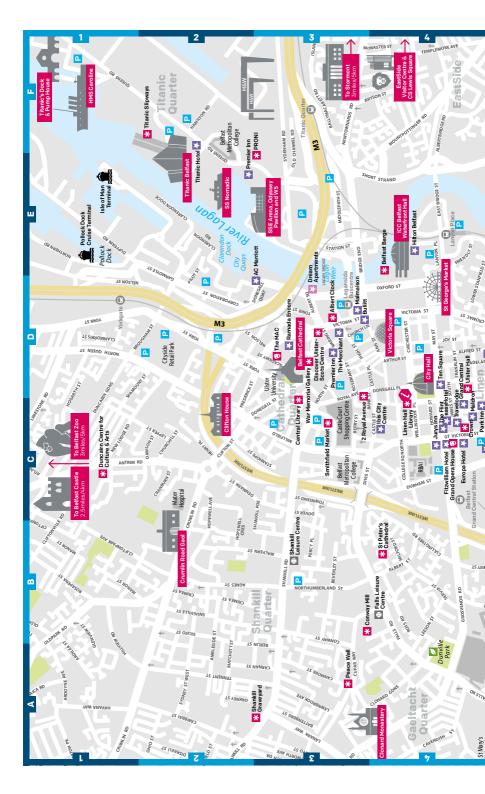
#### **MLINK TICKETING APP**

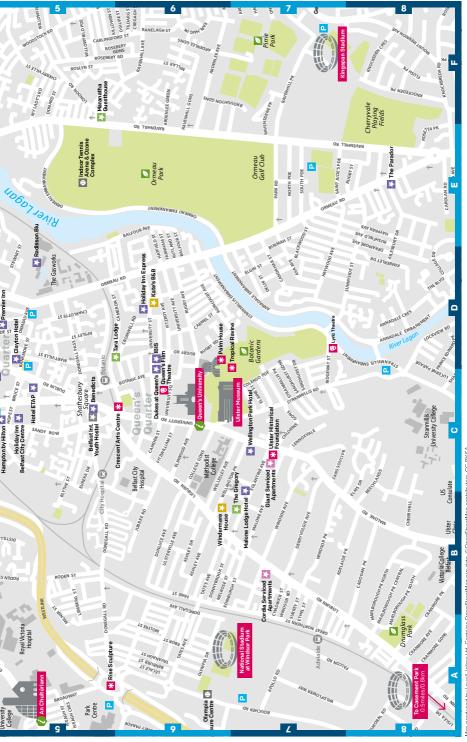
The mLink mobile ticketing App is available to download on IOS and Android devices. You can purchase NI Railways, Metro/Glider, Foyle Metro, yLink and 24+, Airport Express 300, Goldliner services (within Northern Ireland), selected Ulsterbus and urby tickets.

## THE BELFAST VISITOR PASS

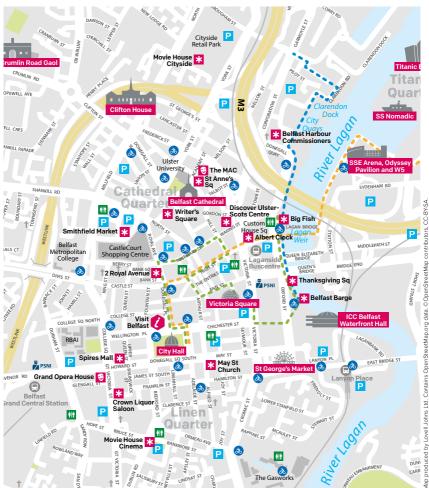
An integrated Translink smartcard providing unlimited bus and rail travel for 1. 2 or 3 consecutive days within the Belfast Visitor Pass Zone. This means you can get out and about and explore more of our vibrant, lively city. Your Belfast Visitor Pass will also let you enjoy a whole world of fantastic offers and discounts, from savings on key attractions and tours to special offers and incentives in some of our main cultural venues. restaurants, cafés and shops! You can purchase vour pass from the Visit Belfast Welcome Centre, at both airports and bus or train stations in the city.

Plan a journey or download a timetable at **translink.co.uk** or download the 'Translink NI' app from Google Play, Apple Store and Windows Store.





## Belfast



## Discover more at visitbelfast.com

Visit Belfast Welcome Centre

- **V** \*
  - Points of Interest
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