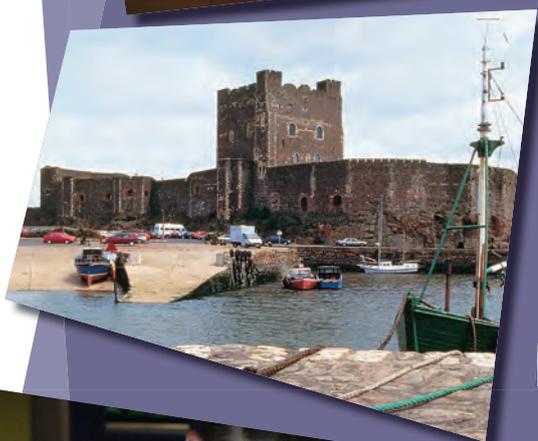


Educational Trips by Train 2012/13



let's go together
translink.co.uk

 **Translink
NI Railways**



Making a booking:

If you wish to make a group booking with NIRailways for your next educational trip, call (028) 9024 2420. Group bookings are subject to availability, and exclusion dates apply.

Every effort will be made to make group seat reservations, but these cannot be guaranteed. NIRailways do not process bookings for any of the visitor attractions listed within this brochure. We would recommend that you contact the attraction you are visiting to check availability with them before booking your travel.

Book now! Call NIR Travel:
(028) 9024 2420

or visit the Travel Centre, 10-12
Glengall Street, Belfast BT12 5AH

Educational Trips byTrain

Translink NIRailways are inviting educational and youth groups to travel on our trains at special discounted group rates for day trips to any location within our railways network, including Dublin. This booklet offers you a flavour of some of the leading educational and recreational attractions in Ireland that are easily accessible to one of our railway stations.

Travelling by train can add to the experience of a group outing as your journey is part of your day out rather than just simply a means of getting to your destination. There are many other benefits to making your journey by rail including:

- No traffic congestion or hassle of parking.
- A more relaxing, comfortable way to travel.
- A chance to take in spectacular coastal views and admire the countryside.
- Travelling by train is better for the environment and walking from the station helps to promote a healthier lifestyle for children.

Many of the attractions featured in this booklet offer activities and educational tours which are linked to the curriculum. We have highlighted a wide variety of museums, art galleries, historical sites and science centres for you to choose from. If your class/group deserves a special treat, why not take them to one of the many theatres and arts centres featured which offer educational based shows and events all year round. Younger children may enjoy a trip to Dublin Zoo or the Dunluce Centre for some end of term fun!

Whatever your reason for travelling, you can be sure there is something of relevance for your class to visit with NI Railways!



Please note that the railway line between Coleraine and Londonderry will be closed until April 2013 to facilitate major track improvements. Please check the Translink website for details of bus substitution services during the closure.



NIRailways Discount within NI (Groups of 10 or more)

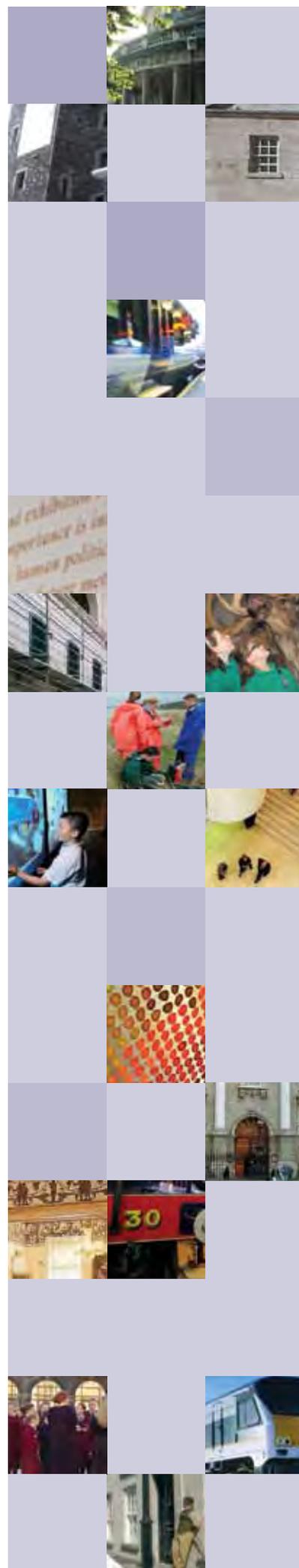
- 15% discount on single and day return child fares
- If a better promotional offer exists at the time of booking, groups may avail of this offer (eg: an off peak offer)
- 1 FREE adult place for every 8 fare paying children
- Under 5yrs travel free. 1 full fare paying adult must accompany every 4 children under 5yrs

Cross-Border Discount to Dublin (Groups of 10 or more)

- 10% discount on the standard child single fare
- 10% discount on the standard child day return excursion fare* available Monday - Saturday
- 20% discount on the standard child monthly return fare
- 20% discount on 1st Plus child single and day/monthly return fares
- 1 FREE adult place for every 20 fare paying children
- Under 5yrs travel free. 1 full fare paying adult must accompany every 4 children under 5yrs

Terms & Conditions: Child fare = 5-18yrs. Exclusion dates apply. Group bookings are subject to availability.

* This is a promotional ticket and may be withdrawn at any time.



Educational Trips byTrain

Maps

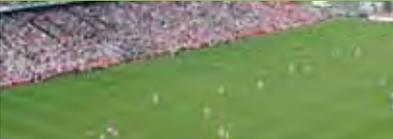
Northern Ireland



Dublin, Ireland



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Ulster Folk & Transport Museum

Ulster Folk & Transport Museum offers opportunities for visitors to experience living history and explore a way of life from 100 years ago. It also illustrates the history of transport in Ireland from its earliest forms to the present day. The Folk Museum recreates a bygone era through a rural landscape of farms, houses, traditional crops and local breeds of livestock. A typical Ulster town of the early 1900s is brought to life with homes, shops, workplaces, churches and schools.

The Transport Galleries take visitors through the history of transport, marking Northern Ireland's unique contribution at each stage. Highlights include

the Irish Rail Collection, the Road Transport galleries and the interactive Flight Experience Gallery where groups can ride the full motion flight simulator. In the TITANIC exhibition discover why *Titanic* was built in Belfast and about life on-board through fascinating objects and personal stories that explore the tragic loss of *Titanic* in 1912.

Learning centre staff have developed a range of interactive school programmes and resources linked to the curriculum.



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Address: Cultra, Holywood, Co. Down, BT18 0EU

Opening Hrs: Times vary depending on time of year. Closed Monday.

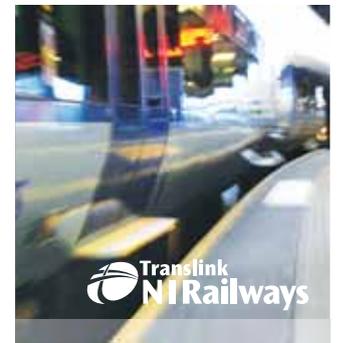
Admission: Special Group rates apply. (Telephone or check website for details)

Tel: (028) 9039 5091

Web: www.nmni.com/uftm

NIR Station: Cultra

Walking dist: 5 min walk to Transport Museum, 15 min walk to Folk Museum



Ulster Museum

A visit to the award-winning Ulster Museum is a must if you are seeking inspiring learning opportunities outside the classroom. The museum tells the story of the people from this part of Ireland from earliest times to the present day and is home to rich collections of art, history and natural sciences.

From Ireland to the South Pacific, from ancient artefacts to modern masterpieces, the museum offers something for everyone. With an exciting range of interactive programmes developed to support the curriculum, engaging displays and

hands-on discovery areas, a visit will provide an unforgettable learning experience.

To find out more look on the website or telephone to request a School Programmes booklet.



Address: Botanic Gardens, Belfast, BT9 5AB

Opening Hrs: Tuesday to Sunday 10.00am - 5.00pm. Closed Monday

Admission: Free entry with charges for education programmes

Tel: (028) 9044 0100

Web: www.nmni.com/um

NIR Station: Botanic

Walking dist: 10 min walk through Botanic Gardens



Foyle Valley Railway Museum

Step Back in Time at the Foyle Valley Railway Museum

Bring the family along to the Foyle Valley Railway Museum for a trip down memory lane

Discover more about our city's rich railway past.

The museum is dedicated to telling the rich railway heritage of the city and surrounding area. At the heart of the exhibition is a recreated railway station platform and within the displays visitors can find out about some of the various railway companies which once operated out of the city.



Address: Foyle Road, Derry, BT48 6SQ

Opening Hrs: 10 am – 4.30pm

Admission: Free

Tel: (028) 7136 5151 ext 8256

Web: www.derrycity.gov.uk/museums

NIR Station: Londonderry

Walking dist: 15 min walk from Londonderry Station



Irish Museum of Modern Art, Dublin

The Irish Museum of Modern Art (IMMA) is Ireland's leading national institution for the collection and presentation of modern and contemporary art.

The Museum presents a wide variety of art in a dynamic programme of exhibitions, which regularly includes bodies of work from its own collection and its award-winning Education and Community Department. It also creates more widespread access to art and artists through its Studio and National programmes.

IMMA is situated on the historic grounds of the Royal Hospital Kilmainham, which include a formal garden, large meadows and artists' studios and residence.

Admission to IMMA is free. Groups are invited to visit the exciting exhibitions and magnificent grounds at IMMA. 45 min guided visits can be booked throughout the school year. IMMA is within walking distance from both Kilmainham Gaol and the National Museum at Collins Barracks.

Further details of IMMA's opening hours, how to book a tour, and how to get there can be found on the website.

The Irish Museum of Modern Art's main galleries at the RHK are partially closed until July 2013 but the New Galleries remain open and temporary galleries are also open at the National Concert Hall at Earlsfort Terrace.



Address: Royal Hospital, Military Road, Kilmainham, Dublin 8

Opening Hrs: Check website for details

Admission: Free

Tel: 00353 1612 9900

Web: www.imma.ie

NIR Station: Dublin Connolly & connection to Suir Road LUAS Stop

Walking dist: 25 min walk from Dublin Connolly Station or 5 mins from Suir Road LUAS Station



Dublin Writers Museum

Situated in a magnificent eighteenth century mansion in the north city centre, the collection features the lives and works of Dublin's literary celebrities over the past three hundred years.

Swift and Sheridan, Shaw and Wilde, Yeats, Joyce and Beckett are among those presented through their books, letters, portraits and personal items.

It may also be possible to arrange a guided tour for groups from the Museum's Curator. Group guided tours may be subject to an additional charge and arrangements should be made in advance.



Address: 18 Parnell Square, Dublin 1

Opening Hrs: Depends on time of year. Check website

Admission: Special Group rates apply. See website for latest prices

Tel: 00353 1872 2077

Web: www.writersmuseum.com

NIR Station: Dublin Connolly

Walking dist: 20 min walk from Dublin Connolly Station



National Museum of Ireland - Archaeology, Dublin

The museum first opened its doors in 1890 and since then it has been filling in the blanks for us through its extensive archaeological collections.

Take time at The Treasury, which features outstanding examples of Celtic and Medieval art, such as the famous Ardagh Chalice, the Tara Brooch and the Derrynaflan Hoard. Gaze in wonder at the finest collection of prehistoric gold artefacts in Europe, which is to found in Ór - Ireland's Gold. Ramble through Prehistoric Ireland and experience life at the time of the Vikings in Viking Age Ireland. Medieval Ireland 1150-1550 documents life in Ireland in the age of cathedrals,

monasteries and castles. The new and fascinating Kingship & Sacrifice exhibition centres on a number of recently found bog bodies dating back to the Iron Age. Displayed along with other bog finds from the Museum's collections, it offers you an opportunity to come 'face to face' with your ancient ancestors.

Explore the exhibitions "Ancient Egypt", "Ceramics and Glass from Ancient Cyprus" and "Life and Death in the Roman World".

Special tours and educational workshops are available at frequent intervals. Contact the educational department for details.



Address: Kildare Street, Dublin 2

Opening Hrs: Tuesday to Saturday 10am - 5pm, Sunday 2pm - 5pm. Closed Mondays and Bank Holidays

Admission: Free

Tel: 00353 1648 6453 (Education Dept)

Web: www.museum.ie

NIR Station: Dublin Connolly

Walking dist: 15 min walk from Dublin Connolly Station, or 2 min walk from St Stephen's Green LUAS Stop



National Museum of Ireland - Decorative Arts & History, Dublin

Collins Barracks has been completely renovated and restored to become the National Museum of Ireland - Decorative Arts & History - charting Ireland's economic, social, political and military progress through the ages.

Artifacts on display range from silver, ceramic and glassware pieces to weaponry, furniture, examples of folk life and costume.

All of these pieces are displayed with imagination in innovative and contemporary galleries, which entice you to go further, look harder and examine more closely. You can also explore the 1914

Howth gun-running vessel "Asgard".

Special tours and educational workshops are available. Contact the Education Department for details.



Address: Collins Barracks, Benburb Street, Dublin 7

Opening Hrs: Tuesday to Saturday 10am - 5pm, Sunday 2pm - 5pm. Closed Mondays, Wednesdays and Bank Holidays

Admission: Free

Tel: 00353 1648 6453 (Education Dept)

Web: www.museum.ie

NIR Station: Dublin Connolly - connection to Museum LUAS Stop

Walking dist: 3 min walk from Museum LUAS Stop



National Museum of Ireland - Natural History, Dublin

This building is now open again following a major restoration project.

Our exhibitions have changed very little in over a century. The ground floor is dedicated to Irish animals, featuring giant deer skeletons and a variety of mammals, birds and fish.

The upper floors of the building were laid out in the 19th Century in a scientific arrangement showing animals by taxonomic group. This scheme demonstrated the diversity of animal life in an evolutionary sequence.

The first floor can now be

accessed from the original grand stone staircase which has been recently restored. New facilities include the Discovery Zone where visitors can handle taxidermy and open drawers to see what is lurking inside, our Reading Area located on the first floor is a great place to rest and settle down with a good book. Contact the Education Department for details.



Address: Merrion Street, Dublin 2

Opening Hrs: Tuesday - Saturday 10am - 5pm, Sunday 2pm - 5pm. Closed on Mondays and Bank Holidays

Admission: Free

Tel: 00353 1648 6453

Web: www.museum.ie

NIR Station: Dublin Connolly

Walking dist: 15 min walk from Dublin Connolly Station



National Gallery of Ireland, Dublin

The National Gallery of Ireland's superb collection of Western European art ranges from the middle ages to the twentieth century.

Among its treasures is one of the most important holdings of Irish art in the world, including the Yeats Museum devoted to the work of Jack B Yeats. Other highlights of the collection include works by Caravaggio, Vermeer, Rembrandt, Poussin, Monet, Velázquez, Picasso, Goya and van Gogh.

In addition to its outstanding permanent collection, the Gallery hosts a variety of special

exhibitions and events designed to appeal to all ages.

Please note that during renovation work entrance to the gallery is at Clare Street and rooms may be subject to closure at short notice. Admission is free of charge for school groups. Tours must be booked in advance.



Address: Clare Street, Dublin 2

Opening Hrs: Monday to Saturday 9:30am - 5:30pm (Except Thursday 9:30am - 8:30pm)

Sun 12 midday - 5:30pm

Admission: Free

Tel: 00353 1663 3510 (Tour booking)

Web: www.nationalgallery.ie

NIR Station: Dublin Connolly

Walking dist: 15 min walk from Dublin Connolly Stn



Grey Point Fort Educational Tour

Situated on the shores of Belfast Lough, Grey Point is one of the most attractive areas within Crawfordsburn County Park, with excellent views of Belfast Lough and its wildlife. Grey Point Fort itself is a unique coastal defence – the best preserved within Northern Ireland and easily reached from Helen's Bay Train Station.

Of particular interest are the two 23 feet long, six-inch bore guns pointing out over the Lough. These guns were capable of firing forged or cast iron shells, weighing about 100 lbs, a distance of up to six miles. Grey Point

Fort was historically part of a network of forts, built during the early 20th century to defend the coast of Ireland. In particular, Belfast and its approaches needed to be defended from naval attack as the city was home to a huge shipbuilding industry.

Now the fort is open to the public, and is home to a museum of military memorabilia. Access to the site is free and educational tours are available.



Address: Crawfordsburn Country Park, Bridge Road South, Helen's Bay BT19 1LD.

Opening Hrs: Check website for details

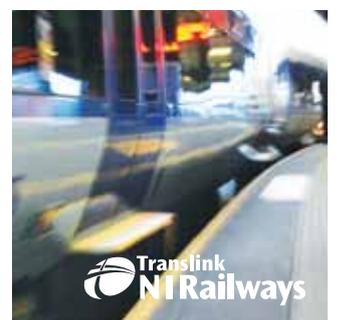
Admission: Free

Tel: (028) 9185 3621

Web: www.ni-environment.gov.uk

NIR Station: Helen's Bay

Walking dist: 15 min walk from Helen's Bay Station



Carrickfergus Castle

Carrickfergus Castle is a self guiding facility. Information boards around the Castle and a range of audio visual displays allow you to explore this historic monument at your leisure whilst getting an insight into the history of the Castle.

Guided tours are also available. Pre-booking is essential for schools and other large groups.

As you walk around the Castle you will find historic figures that bring it's stormy history to life. From the Norman knight, John de Courcy and his wife Lady Affreca to guards at their posts keeping watch over the Castle, these life

size models portray the characters that make up the Castle's history.

A range of events take place at the Castle throughout the year. Check the website for details.

While visiting the Castle, why not take a short walking tour of the historic town walls or visit the Flame Centre gasworks museum.

Further details are available from the Castle.



Address: Marine Highway, Carrickfergus, Co. Antrim, BT38 7BG

Opening Hrs: Depends on time of year. Check website

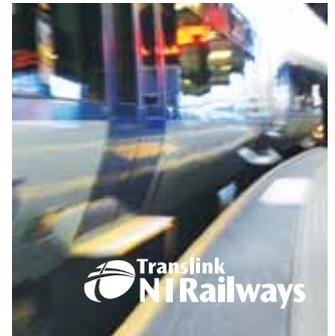
Admission: Telephone or check website for details

Tel: (028) 9335 1273

Web: www.ni-environment.gov.uk

NIR Station: Carrickfergus

Walking dist: 10 min walk from Carrickfergus Station



LegenDerry Road Train Sights and Sounds Trip

The LegenDerry Road Train Sights and Sounds Trip is a unique and inspiring experience of Derry including a digital snapshot of the city, to the amazing music of some of the city's greatest singers and anthems, via state of the art technology.

The Roadtrain is a state-of-the-art, luxury, top of the range vehicle and is the only road train in Ireland. You are sure to be impressed with both the professionalism of the dedicated team as well as the great culture, stories, legends and history of the wonderful city, that they will share with you. The aim is to inspire locals and visitors to see the

city in a new light; to go and explore the history, heritage and culture of Derry and to offer a taste of many different things there are to see and do in this wonderful place.



Address: Derry Visitor and Convention Bureau, 44 Foyle Street, Derry, BT48 6AT

Opening Hrs: The train departs from outside the Tourist Office Daily 10am to 4pm

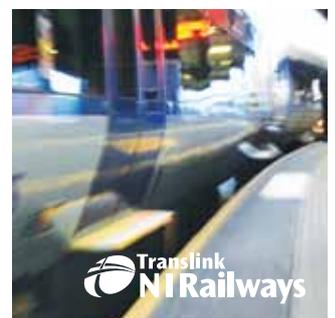
Admission: Group rates are available. Check website for details.

Tel: 07813 043 147

Web: www.legenderryroadtrain.com

NIR Station: Londonderry

Walking dist: 20mins walk or take the free bus from the station.



Dublinia

Dublinia is one of Dublin's top visitor attractions located at the historic crossroads of Dublin.

There are three exciting exhibitions, Viking Dublin and Medieval Dublin recreate the city through life size reconstructions, including a Viking house and a medieval fair while Death and Disease are also investigated. Finally unearth the city's past at the new interactive History Hunters exhibition, visit an excavation site and see medieval bugs under the microscope in the Lab.

See Dublin from a new perspective and come away knowing more about its citizens throughout the ages!



Address: St. Michaels Hill, Christ Church, Dublin 8

Opening Hrs: Depends on time of year. Check website

Admission: Telephone or check website for details

Tel: 00353 1679 4611

Web: www.dublinia.ie

NIR Station: Dublin Connolly

Walking dist: 15 min walk from Dublin Connolly Station



Trinity College & Book of Kells, Dublin

Trinity College Library holds an exceptional collection of medieval manuscripts. Materials on display range in date from the 9th to the 19th century.

Three areas of the old library are open to visitors. The main chamber of the Old Library, the Long Room, is nearly 65 metres in length and houses around 200,000 of the library's oldest books.

The Book of Kells was written around the year 800 AD and is one of the most beautifully illuminated manuscripts in the world. It has been on display in the Old Library since the 19th century.

Supervised school visits, accompanied by teachers are welcome. Accompanied school groups have free admission from 1st October to 1st April.

Please note tours are self guided and information packs are available online. There are sets of worksheets which can be used during and after a tour by students. These give some background text to the exhibition and pose related questions.

Similarly, teachers' guides provide some ideas for preparation prior to a class visit and some further resources.



Address: College Street, Dublin 2

Opening Hrs: Depends on time of year. Check website

Admission: Telephone or check website for details

Tel: 00353 1896 2320

Web: www.bookofkells.ie

NIR Station: Dublin Connolly

Walking dist: 10 min walk from Dublin Connolly Station



Kilmainham Gaol, Dublin

One of the largest unoccupied gaols in Europe, covering some of the most heroic and tragic events in Ireland's emergence as a modern nation from 1780's to the 1920's

Attractions include a major exhibition detailing the political and penal history of the prison and its restoration. The tour of the prison includes an audio-visual show.

Tours may be arranged for visitors with special needs by prior arrangement. Access to Kilmainham Gaol is by guided tour only. All groups must be booked in advance. Maximum number: 50 to 55. Duration: 60 mins.



Address: Inchicore Road, Kilmainham, Dublin 8
Opening Hrs: Depends on time of year. Check website
Admission: Telephone or check website for details
Tel: 00353 1453 5984
Web: www.heritageireland.ie
NIR Station: Dublin Connolly & connection to Suir Road LUAS Stop
Walking dist: 25 min walk from Connolly Station, or 5 min walk from Suir Road LUAS Stop



Malahide Castle, Dublin

Set on 250 acres of parkland in the pretty seaside town of Malahide, the Castle was both a fortress and a private home for nearly eight hundred years, and is an interesting mix of architectural styles.

The Castle is furnished with beautiful period furniture together with an extensive collection of Irish portrait paintings, mainly from the National Gallery of Ireland. The history of the Talbot family is recorded in the Great Hall, with portraits of generations of the family telling their own story of Ireland's stormy history.

The castle and garden have recently undergone a €10 million redevelopment project and now offers three wonderful experiences:

Malahide Castle, The Walled Garden & West Lawn and a new exhibition and interpretive centre. Guided tours of the Castle are available and advance booking is necessary for groups. Dine in the Avoca restaurant or enjoy their unique shopping experience.



Address: Malahide Castle, Malahide, Co Dublin
Opening Hrs: 9.00 am – 5.00 pm daily
NB Opening hours are subject to change
Admission: Check website for details
Tel: 00353 1846 2184
Web: www.malahidecastleandgardens.ie
NIR Station: Dublin Connolly, DART connection to Malahide Station
Walking dist: 15min from Malahide Station



Dublin Castle

Originally built in the 13th century on a site previously settled by the Vikings it functioned as a military fortress, a prison, treasury, courts of law and the seat of English Administration in Ireland for 700 years.

Rebuilt in the 17th, 18th, 19th and 20th centuries, Dublin Castle is now used for state receptions and presidential inaugurations. The State Apartments, Mediaeval Undercroft and Chapel are open to visitors. Access is available for visitors with disabilities to State Apartments and Chapel.

Access by guided tour only.

Max. No: 40; Average Duration: 50 mins.

Please enquire about our special educational activities and worksheets.

N.B. Dublin Castle can be closed at short notice for government business.



Address: Dame Street, Dublin 2

Opening Hrs:
Mon - Sat: 10am - 4.45pm; Sun and Bank Holidays: 2pm - 4.45pm

Admission: Free for primary and secondary school visits booked in advance. T&C's apply.

Tel: 00353 1645 8813

Web:
www.heritageireland.ie

NIR Station: Connolly Station

Walking dist: 15min walk from Connolly Station



Titanic Belfast

Titanic Belfast is not just a visitor attraction: it is an educational facility which provides a wealth of learning experiences and facilities for year-round community engagement.

Each gallery focuses on a unique part of the Titanic story and the context of the period in which it was built. This offers young people a comprehensive overview of the key aspects of social history, industrial developments and engineering advancements. Factual information is brought to life through scale replicas, multimedia displays, digital interactive displays, moving images and sensory experiences. From inception to modern day, 100 years of landmark

ship building and ocean exploration offers a diverse range of topics for discussion and learning.

Putting education at the heart of Titanic Belfast is vital to the ethos of the project.



Address: Titanic Belfast, Queen's Road, Titanic Quarter, Belfast BT3 9DT

Opening Hrs:
April – September: Monday - Saturday: 9am-7pm
Sunday: 10am – 7pm
October – March: 10am – 5pm every day

Admission: See website for details

Tel: (028) 9076 6386

Web: www.titanicbelfast.com

NIR Station: Titanic Quarter

Walking dist: 20 min walk from Titanic Quarter Station



Belfast Waterfront

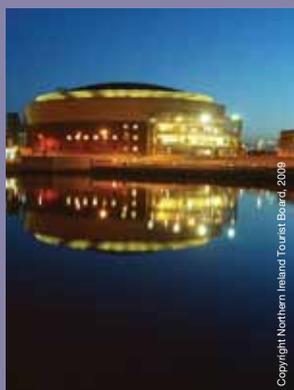
Belfast Waterfront hosts a wide range of arts and entertainment events throughout the year and, with easy access from Belfast Central Station, is ideally placed for a school visit.

With dedicated schools' performances, the annual pantomime is always a favourite. Special pupil rates and free teacher places are available.

The venue also regularly stages other events for and involving young people, including Belfast Children's Festival events, theatre and art exhibitions. Building tours are also available for a unique insight 'behind the scenes' and can be tailored

to the group's needs.

Group or concession rates are available for selected performances. Please check the website for full details of forthcoming events or contact the venue for any specific requirements.



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Address: 2 Lanyon Place, Belfast, BT1 3WH

Opening Hrs: Monday - Saturday: 10am - 5pm

Admission: Exhibitions free of charge. For event ticket prices contact box office or visit website

Tel: Box Office: (028) 9033 4455
Education: (028) 9033 4400

Web: www.waterfront.co.uk

NIR Station: Belfast Central Station

Walking dist: 5min



The Ulster Hall

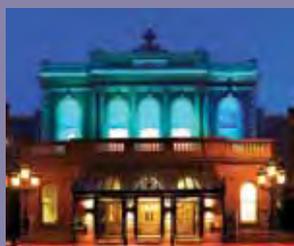
The recently refurbished Ulster Hall is a fabulous example of a Victorian concert hall. Designed by Newry architect W J Barre and funded by public subscription it beautifully illustrates the vigour, industry and energy of Victorian Belfast.

Our education team can tailor competitively-priced visits, film screenings, tours and interactive workshops to meet curriculum relevant themes from pre-school right through to Key Stage 4.

In close partnership with the Ulster Orchestra we deliver a number of music activities ranging from workshops to open

rehearsals and activities focused on The Mulholland Grand Organ.

An audio tour, exhibitions and numerous interpretative panels help bring the history of this landmark alive but if you would like to tailor a visit and guided tour to your specific requirements please contact the education department for more information.



Address: Bedford Street, Belfast, BT1 7FF

Opening Hrs: Monday - Saturday: 10am - 5pm
Sundays, evenings and Bank Holidays in line with events programme.

Admission: Check website for details

Tel: Box Office: (028) 9033 4455
Education: (028) 9033 4400

Web: www.ulsterhall.co.uk

NIR Station: Great Victoria Street

Walking dist: 5min



Riverside Theatre

The Riverside Theatre is located at the University of Ulster at Coleraine. It was opened in 1976 and is the fifth-largest professional theatre in Northern Ireland.

It is architecturally unique in Ireland for its flexible staging facilities. The Riverside Theatre won a design award in the year of its completion, and another shortly after for its provision for disabled patrons.

It is an established touring venue that specialises in photographic exhibitions with related schools activities. It features productions from all over the island of Ireland, from

Great Britain, mainland Europe and North America. The Riverside programme incorporates drama, contemporary dance, rock bands, ballet, opera, variety, children's shows, pantomime, music recitals and recordings for television and radio.

Many performances have relevance to students who are studying English Literature, Music or Drama.



Address: University of Ulster, Coleraine, Co. Londonderry, BT52 1SA

Opening Hrs: Performances are scheduled throughout the year, including many matinee shows

Admission: Telephone the Box Office, or check website for details

Tel: (028) 70 123 123

Web: www.riversidetheatre.org.uk

NIR Station: University

Walking dist: 10min



Grand Opera House

Let your students experience the enchantment of live theatre with a visit to the Grand Opera House.

Situated just metres from Great Victoria Street Rail Station they are perfectly located to be the destination for your group's train journey. They have great offers for schools with reduced ticket prices & free teacher's places.

The Grand Opera House programme is packed with productions that will educate, engage and entertain young people of all ages.

From dramas to operas, ballets to musicals and of course our spectacular

annual pantomime. Many of the productions feature weekday matinee performances and most have special discounted ticket prices for schools.

They have regular education events and workshops which are a great introduction to the delights of live theatre.



Address: Great Victoria Street, Belfast, BT2 7HR

Opening Hrs: Check website for details

Admission: Telephone or check website for details

Tel: (028) 9024 1919 (Box Office)

Web: www.goh.co.uk

NIR Station: Great Victoria Street, Belfast

Walking dist: 2 minute walk



Millennium Forum

Since its opening in 2001 the Millennium Forum has earned an outstanding reputation for the scale, diversity, and quality of its entertainment and artistic programming which encompasses musicals, drama, ballet, music, comedy, family shows and much more.

Such is the popularity of the annual pantomime, with young and those not so young, that it enjoys a 40-show run throughout December and January each year.

Our youth education strand reflects our commitment to encouraging young people of all ages and all capabilities to experience

the arts as a means of education, entertainment, expression and engaging creative minds via our Youth Forum, Millennium Forum Youth Theatre Group and InterAct Youth Arts Festival for 12-21 year olds (www.interactyouth.com), shows for schools, work placements and talks & tours. Reduced ticket prices and free teachers places are also available for selected performances.



Address: 3 Newmarket Street, Derry/Londonderry, BT48 6EB

Opening Hrs: Mon to Sat: 9am - 5.30pm Sun, evenings and Bank Hol. as specified in programme.

Admission: Group/school booking discounts available

Tel: Box Office: (028) 7126 4455
Education: (028) 7127 2776

Web: www.millenniumforum.co.uk

NIR Station: Londonderry

Walking dist: 20min



RDS (Royal Dublin Society)

For almost 300 years the RDS (Royal Dublin Society) has pursued its commitment to furthering the broad economic and cultural development of Ireland by providing Irish people with opportunities to fulfil their potential in the areas of agriculture, arts, science, industry and equestrianism.

With a diverse annual programme of activity which includes the Dublin Horse Show, RDS Primary Science Fair and the National Craft and Student Art Exhibitions the RDS has something for all the family.

The current RDS Foundation programme has an extensive range

of activities for young people as well as teachers and those at third-level. To see the latest events and learn more about our programme, please visit our website.



Address: RDS, Ballsbridge, Dublin 4

Opening Hrs: Check website for details

Admission: Telephone or check website for details

Tel: 00 353 1 668 0866

Web: www.rds.ie

NIR Station: Dublin Connolly – connection to Sandymount DART Station

Walking dist: 10 min from Sandymount Dart Station



ISLAND Arts Centre

ISLAND is delighted to welcome you and your students to ISLAND Arts Centre throughout the school year. Across the breadth of theatre, exhibition and workshop programmes there's a great range of opportunities for schools to participate.

Enjoy live theatre at its very best, live music up close and personal or cutting edge dance, the common denominator is the talent of the brilliant artists performing and creating, that is worthy of you and your students' time and attention.

Artists see the world differently. So do young enquiring creative student minds. By engaging with ISLAND's inspiring courses and visual arts students can draw on the enthusiasm of a host of experts and practicing

artists, teaching achievable ways to get their creative juices flowing!

Discover the XPLOART Public Art and Sculpture Trail or be our guest on a special Arts Centre tour to delve into the history, design and architectural elements of the ISLAND complex. Learn about its transformation from linen spinning mill to landmark Arts Centre and hear about the Great Fire of Lisburn in 1707. Tours are FREE, but must be pre-booked and a minimum of six people is required.



Address: ISLAND Civic Centre, The Island, Lisburn, BT27 4RL

Opening Hrs: Telephone or check website for details

Admission: Telephone or check website for details

Tel: Box Office: (028) 9250 9509.
Arts Information Line: (028) 9250 9509

Web:
www.islandartscentre.com

NIR Station: Lisburn

Walking dist: 10 min walk



W5

Whowhatwherewhenwhy, or W5 as it is known, is the ideal place for inquisitive minds of all ages.

Your admission to W5 is valid all day and there is no time limit to your stay. With over 250 amazing hands-on exhibits, a changing programme of temporary exhibitions, special events, daily floor shows and demonstrations, one day may not be enough! Discover four dynamic areas, full of exhibits to explore and discover and keep you entertained.

Educational visits to W5 are designed to provide a unique and stimulating experience for pupil and

teacher alike. All of W5's workshops, programmes and exhibits have been developed for every Key Stage and support the education curriculum in both Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland. Ask about the special education brochures for your age group. Special rates are available for educational visits. For further details please contact the group bookings department.



Address: W5 at Odyssey, 2 Queens Quay, Belfast, BT3 9QQ

Opening Hrs:
 Mon to Fri: 10am - 5pm
 Sat: 10am - 6pm
 Sun: 12pm - 6pm

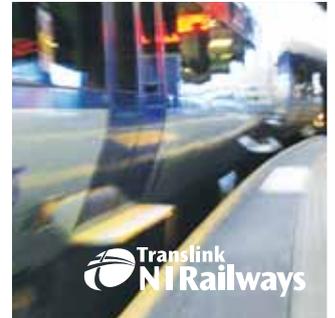
Admission: Telephone or check website for details

Tel: (028) 9046 7700

Web: www.w5online.co.uk

NIR Station:
 Titanic Quarter

Walking dist: 15 min walk from Titanic Quarter Station



Magilligan Field Centre

Magilligan Field Centre is ideally located to provide stimulating experiences of the natural environment in one of the most varied and unspoilt parts of the coast of Northern Ireland.

There is accommodation for both residential and day visits.

The Centre aims to provide field courses that maximise participation through hands-on learning in the environment. Courses are closely linked to the current Northern Ireland Curriculum and to examination board specifications. They cater for all Key Stages and post-16 education. Schools

may choose from a range of topics or follow their own tailor-made programme.

Magilligan Field Centre provides excellent facilities for learning outside the classroom with a wide range of appropriate fieldwork equipment as well as waterproof and protective clothing for students and staff. There are three classrooms for preparatory work and follow up, and a computer suite for ICT. Specialist CASS Advisory Teachers with appropriate qualifications and experience are available to accompany all groups.



Address: 375 Seacoast Road, Limavady, BT49 0LF

Opening Hrs: Contact the centre for details

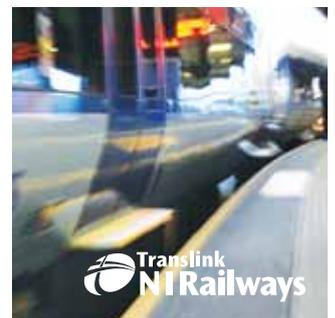
Admission: Telephone or check website for details

Tel: (028) 7775 0731

Web:
www.welb-cass.org/mfc

NIR Station: Bellarena

Walking dist: Collection from Bellarena Station can be arranged



Dublin Science Gallery

The Science Gallery is a world first - a new type of venue where today's white-hot scientific issues are thrashed out and where you can have your say: a place where ideas meet.

Science impacts all of our daily lives, yet can still seem mysterious. Science Gallery opens science up to passionate debate and encourages involvement through a programme of exhibitions, public experiments, challenges, festivals, debates and workshops.

Ireland needs young, motivated scientists if it is to thrive in this new century. We especially try

to connect with 15-25 year olds to fire them up with a passion for science.

Science Gallery has had over 1 million visitors and 17,000 members since opening in February 2008.



Address: Naughton Institute, Pearse Street, Trinity College Dublin

Opening Hrs:
During exhibition times -
Tues to Fri: 12am - 8pm;
Sat to Sun: 12am - 6pm

Admission: Check website

Tel: 00353 1896 4107

Web:
www.sciencegallery.com

NIR Station: Dublin Connolly

Walking dist: 1.5km walk or take the DART from Connolly Station to Pearse St DART Station



Dunluce Centre

The Dunluce Centre is a large family entertainment complex situated in the heart of Portrush, County Antrim.

The centre features unique attractions designed to provide thrills and enjoyment for all including:

4D Turbo Tours - Ireland's only 4d special effects theatre.

The 4D giant screen action and adventure motion simulator effects synchronise individual seat movement with the giant-size on-screen action to deliver a unique and thrilling experience!!!

Finn McCool's adventure playground - 3 floors

of fun! A multi level soft play structure with spiral tube slides and tunnels, ballpool, cargo nets and tunnels, rope bridge, aerial glide, echo well, magic mirror, suspended Pod, obstacle course, climbing wall and tumble steps.

Darklight Laserdrome - The ultimate in laser tag adventure! (Suitable for age 8+)

There is also a Tourist Information Centre, shops, café and outdoor playground. The centre is popular with primary school children.



Address: 10 Sandhill Drive, Portrush, Co. Antrim, BT56 8EF

Opening Hrs: Apr, May, Jun, Sept, Oct: Sat & Sun 12pm - 5pm. Easter Holidays, July & Aug: Daily 10.30am - 5.30pm

Admission: Telephone or check website for details

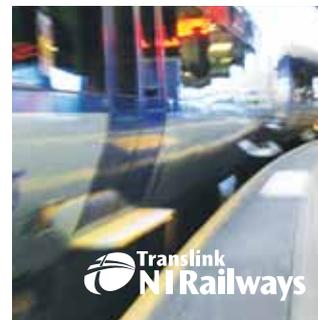
Tel: (028) 7082 4444

Web: www.dunlucecentre.co.uk

NIR Station: Portrush

Walking dist: 5 minute walk from Portrush Station

Leisure



Croke Park, Dublin

A visit to the GAA Museum in Croke Park offers schools a unique opportunity to learn more about the history of the Gaelic Athletic Association through guided tours and sporting artefacts.

The museum houses a vast collection of sporting artefacts including hurleys, jerseys, trophies, medals and programmes illustrating the development of gaelic games. Visitors can also test their GAA skills in a specially designed interactive games area on the museum's first floor.

The Croke Park Stadium Tour entails a behind-the-scenes look at one

of the most historic and modern sporting arenas in the world. The tour guides will bring to life the history and magic of Croke Park by guiding your class through the dressing rooms, warm-up area, player's tunnel, corporate levels and of course, pitch side. Tours are wheelchair accessible and can be tailored to suit the needs of particular groups.



Address: Croke Park, St. Joseph's Avenue (via Clonliffe Road), Dublin 3

Opening Hrs: Mon - Sat 9.30am - 5pm; Sun & Bank Holiday Monday 12 - 5pm

Admission: Check website

Tel: 00353 1819 2374

Web: www.crokepark.ie/gaa-museum

NIR Station: Dublin Connolly

Walking dist: 20 min



Dublin Zoo

Dublin Zoo, located in the Phoenix Park in the heart of Dublin city, is Ireland's most popular family attraction and welcomed over one million visitors last year. As one of the world's oldest and most popular zoos, the 70-acre park is home to some 600 animals in an environment where education and conservation combine for an exciting and unforgettable experience.

Dublin Zoo's education department offers a range of exciting, interactive and structured educational programmes, workshops and resources, tailored to meet the specific needs of all learners. Curriculum linked programmes

for schools are offered throughout the year led by specialist teachers.

For more information contact the Education Department.



Address: Dublin Zoo, Phoenix Park, Dublin 8

Opening Hrs: Mar - Sept 9.30am - 6.30pm

Admission: Special group rates available

Tel: General: 00353 1474 8900
Education & Group bookings: 00353 1474 8932

Web: www.dublinozoo.ie

NIR Station: Dublin Connolly Station & Connection to LUAS

Walking dist: 10 min from Heuston Station LUAS stop



Aviva Stadium Tour, Dublin

Follow in the footsteps of sporting heroes and take a look behind the scenes at Aviva Stadium. Experience the magic of a match day and discover more about the iconic home of Irish football and rugby.

The tour offers a unique opportunity to get a sense of what the Irish football and rugby stars really feel like on a match day. Get an insight into the players' match day routines as this unmissable tour leads into areas that are only accessible to players and officials

Visit the dressing rooms and have a chance to sit in the seats of the players, walk through the players' tunnel and go pitch side to view the hallowed turf and

the dugouts, and discover the breathtaking view of the stadium and surrounding areas from the top stand.

The Aviva Stadium Tour includes a look at the state of the art press facilities and engaging film footage of rich sporting heritage portraying the essence of this historic ground. This privileged view of one of the world's finest and most technologically advanced stadiums is an experience never to be forgotten.

The tour also offers school groups the chance to learn about the environmentally sustainable initiatives at the stadium. These initiatives are highlighted throughout the tour.



Address: Aviva Stadium, 62 Lansdowne Road, Dublin 4

Opening Hrs: Tours run on the hour between 10am and 4pm, 7 days a week

Admission: Check website for group booking rate

Tel: For bookings: 00353 1238 2300

Web: www.avivastadium.ie

NIR Station: Dublin Connolly Station & Connection to DART

Walking dist: 5 mins walk from Lansdowne Road DART stop.







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