## visitBelfast



## Belfast Studient Bunde







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Belfast Student Guide is available free from the Visit Belfast Welcome Centre and outlets across the city.

Designed by McCadden

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Tel: +44 (0)28 9023 9026 Fax: +44 (0)28 9024 9026 Email: info@visitbelfast.com www.visitbelfast.com 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

## City Areas



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.



#### CITY CENTRE

Home to the iconic Belfast City Hall, St George's Market and the main shopping district. You'll be spoilt for choice with the abundance of cool cafés, great pubs, trendy bars and an amazing restaurant scene. Start off in the Visit Belfast Welcome Centre (opposite City Hall) to pick up information, book tours and find out everything to make the most of your time while studying in Belfast.



#### CATHEDRAL QUARTER

Packed full of fascinating architecture, buzzing beer gardens, trendy warehouse restaurants, cobblestoned streets, and colourful street art, this area of town contrasts the old with the new, with St. Anne's Square, home to the Metropolitan Arts Centre (MAC) and a piazza of welcoming eateries, alongside some of the oldest streets in Belfast.



#### LINEN QUARTER

Belfast was once nicknamed "Linenopolis" as it was the world leader in the production of linen in the 19th Century. Just south of City Hall, you can enjoy the architecture of the old linen mills which house a mix of offices, chic bars and renowned restaurants. This is a great part of town to enjoy dinner and drinks before a show at the Grand Opera House.



#### TITANIC QUARTER

Steeped in memories of a bygone era, the Titanic Quarter is now a fun and energetic urban waterfront development. Visit or take a tour of the many historic and state-of-the-art Titanic visitor attractions, or simply stroll around the Maritime Mile to learn more about the city's shipbuilding heritage.



#### QUEEN'S QUARTER

The area surrounding Queen's University is a treasure trove of eclectic shops. boutiques, cafés, affordable places to eat, bars and art galleries. Visit the collections of the Ulster Museum, sign up for a class in the Crescent Arts Centre, eniov world cinema at QFT, chill out in Botanic Gardens or take a jog along the banks of the River Lagan.



#### GAELTACHT QUARTER

The centre for Irish language, music and culture is in the west of the city. An Cultúrlann showcases cultural Irish Gaelic traditions and contains a restaurant. gift shop, theatre and gallery. Explore the stunning Clonard Monastery or enjoy the 3 mile Divis Summit Trail, a specifically designed loop walk on Divis Mountain with spectacular views over Belfast.



EAST SIDE

EastSide was once the beating heart of the city'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 things to do in east Belfast.



#### THE SHANKILL

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 Peace Wall, the Old Shankill Graveyard, dating back to the 14th century, the Shankill Memorial Park and the ancient Bullaun Stone. The Spectrum Centre, a major landmark in the area, hosts a range of events and exhibitions.

### **Under 27? Get** £4.50 cinema tickets every day.

## Join LUMI at **QFT** for free.











## **STARBUCKS<sup>®</sup>**



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# CHECKLIST:

It's inevitable. As you transition from the comforts of living at home to single-handedly facing the big bad world, you will make your fair share of blunders. Here's a checklist of things not to forget as you pack up and wave goodbye to the folks.

#### **BANK ACCOUNT**

Remember to shop around for a student bank account that works for you, and one that can give you a good interest-free overdraft.

#### **IDENTIFICATION**

This is an obvious one, but it's easy to forget that I.D. will be necessary for registration and of course getting into bars and clubs!

#### HEALTH

When moving to a new city, make sure that you register with a local GP and dentist, so that your medical details can be transferred.

#### LAPTOP

A staple for any student, laptops are essential for assignments, coursework and presentations.



#### MOBILE PHONE

Shop around for different mobile networks if you are looking for a contract of your own. Most providers offer unlimited calls and texts and be realistic about the amount of data you will need. If you're planning to travel check if roaming is included.

#### SAFETY DEPOSIT BOX 06

Make sure to pack something to store valuables in, e.g. passports, jewellery etc.

#### SET YOUR ALARM

Punctuality is key for university, especially if you've got 9 o'clock lectures to get to!

#### INSURANCE

Check if your student accommodation includes contents insurance, and if not then make sure you shop around for a decent student policy to get your belongings covered.

#### STATIONERY

Pens, paper, folders and files are going to be must-haves for your first few weeks so make sure you're stocked up!



#### CLOTHES

A new city and a new university might give you a chance to re-invent your wardrobe, so don't miss those all-important student shopping night events (see P14/15). Lots of stores offer student discount all year round, so make sure you always bring your student card when you're shopping!

#### BOOKS

Prior to starting your course, you will most likely find that you have a required reading list. Check what's on it before you arrive on campus and see if you can source some of the books or download digital editions.

#### **TV LICENCE**

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The law still applies to students, so check the TV licensing website to see if you're covered.



### need a **thirst quenching** cure? ...look no further



#### BELFAST BUCKET LIST

# Bucket List:

No matter how long you are studying in Belfast, make sure to tick off our bucket list of must-do's during your time in the city.

#### OUTDOORS

#### OUTDOORS

#### EXPERIENCE

### Chill out in the grounds of City Hall

A popular green space right in the heart of the city, with park benches and a large lawn it's the perfect sunspot for lying around with a book, an ice-cream or takeout lunch.

#### SEE

#### **Kiss the Big Fish!**

Legend has it that if you kiss The Salmon of Knowledge (affectionately known as The Big Fish), you'll gain all of its wisdom - it's got to be worth a try! The beautiful blue scales are made up of ceramic tiles describing different scenes from the city's history.



Take a trek up Cavehill Spectacular views of the city await you at the top of this popular walking trail, so pack a picnic and pull on your hiking boots to see Belfast in all its glory.

#### SPORT

#### Watch an Ulster Rugby game

Ulster play games regularly on Friday nights at the Kingspan Stadium in the east of city. With a cracking atmosphere and plenty of action to follow it delivers a great night out. #SUFTUM



#### Explore the Maritime Mile

Take a stroll or cycle from Belfast's historic Sailortown across to Titanic Quarter to explore and discover the rich history and tradition of the city's shipbuilding heritage, where RMS Titanic was built.



#### EXPERIENCE

#### **Festival Fever**

Whether its culture, cuisine, comedy or music, there's plenty to celebrate, so make sure to experience the city's jam-packed programme of annual events and festivals. See P48/49





#### NIGHTLIFE

#### **Rooftop Cocktails**

Belfast is now home to an array of rooftop bars, a great way to take in the city views whilst having a sip. Some of our favourites include The Perch, Babel, The Observatory and The Loft.



#### PUB

#### Have a pint in one of Belfast's oldest pubs

Make a stop at one of the city's historic hostelries including the Crown Bar, Kelly's Cellars or McHugh's, where you can enjoy great beer and maybe a spot of traditional music.



#### COMEDY

#### Laugh your leg off at The Empire's comedy night

Every Tuesday enjoy a great line-up from the comedy circuit. With plenty of drinks deals on offer, it's a night of all-round great fun.

#### SEE

#### Discover some Urban Art

The Cathedral Quarter offers a distinctly varied and modern street art scene. Take some time to stroll around the area to view these amazing pieces of art and don't miss the fabulous ceiling of colourful umbrellas in the alley off Commercial Court, which contains a mural of some of Belfast's most famous faces.

#### CAFÉS

#### Treat yourself to a Belfast Bap

Nothing says Belfast like an Ulster Fry or a good old Belfast Bap. The city is brimming with tasty spots for breakfast and brunch, but there's no greater spot to enjoy the 'belly-busting' Belfast Bap than St George's Market.

#### visitBelfast



#### TOUR

(12)

Game of Thrones Studio Tour Step inside the Seven Kingdoms for an immersive experience and explore the world of Game of Thrones like never before. If you're looking for an epic film experience, it's the ultimate day out!

#### OUTDOORS

#### (13

#### **Hire a Belfast Bike**

Hire a bike from one of the 40 docking stations located across the city to explore the flat paths along the traffic-free Lagan and Lough Cycle Way, for a picturesque day out on two wheels.

### FUN

#### Experience Ireland's longest zipline!

Take the Glider to Colin Glen for a fun-filled action packed adventure. There's a range of activities on offer including Ireland's only Alpine Coaster and the new 700m River Rapid zipline!







Traditional Music Trail



TV & Movie Tours

A great way of getting familiar with your new home city is to take a tour, and we've got a great selection of unique and guirky ways of getting to know the real Belfast.

#### 1 Belfast Traditional **Music Trail**

A unique way to experience Irish music. 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. At each of the three stops vou will be treated to a performance of traditional tunes, songs and stories. Starts in the Dirty Onion at 4pm every Saturday. belfasttradtrail.com

#### Pood & Drink Tours

There are a number of delicious food and drink tours on offer in and around the city. Choose from the Belfast Food Tour around the city's gastronomic hot spots, the Belfast Gin Jaunt around the best cocktail bars, the Crafty Beer & Street Eats tour around the best beer bars or the Whiskey Walk around the Cathedral Quarter. tasteandtour.co.uk

#### **3** TV & Movie Tours

If you're a fan of HBO's fantasy drama 'Game of Thrones', crime busting BBC drama 'Line of Duty' or the entertaining and loveable 'Derry Girls', make sure to take a tour of the filming locations to get behind the scenes and discover secrets about these awardwinning series. britmovietours.com







Street Art Tours

#### 4 Coiste Irish **Political Tours**

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

#### **5** Eazy Riderz **Bike Tours**

Get camera ready for a 2 hour electric bike tour around the top 10 Instagrammable locations in Belfast. Full safety briefing and all equipment is provided. Tours can take up to 6 people eazyriderz.com

#### 6 Street Art Walking Tour

As you stroll the city streets, you'll stumble across world-class masterpieces in the most unexpected nooks and crannies around the city. Take a tour to understand Belfast's relationship with street art and how the narrative of the city is changing. seedheadarts.com/ street-art/walking-tour

#### DC Self-Guided **Audio Tours**

Explore the city at your own pace with a range of audio tours to take you on a journey through the city's history, culture, architecture and stories. The 'Best of Belfast City Trail' is available on the DC Tours app in English. Spanish and French. deadcentretours.com

#### 8 Belfast Free Walking Tour

Discover the history of the city and its people with a passionate and entertaining local quide. This tip based 2 hour walking tour is available in English or Spanish and departs daily at 11am and 2.30pm from the front of Belfast City Hall - look out for the vellow umbrella! belfastfreewalkingtour.com

#### 9 Belfast UNESCO City of Music Walking Tour

Music plays a significant part in the fabric of Belfast. making it a vibrant city to live in. This walking tour explores the rich music scene, taking in some off the beaten track venues before enjoying a live performance at the Oh Yeah Music Centre. creativetoursbelfast.com

For more inspiration, see visitbelfast.com

## tips

Look after the pennies and the pounds will look after themselves! Don't be wasting your money unnecessarily, when there are so many things you'll be wanting to do in your first term. Check out our top money saving tips.

#### **RECEIPT TREATS**

If you get a taxi with Value Cabs, don't forget to ask for a receipt. Their Receipt Treats scheme offers exclusive offers and discounts with a wide range of local businesses including restaurants, cafes, entertainment venues and clubs. Just present a Value Cabs receipt within 7 days of your journey.

#### SAVE ON TRAVEL!

With a free Translink yLink card, you will get a massive 1/3 off all Translink bus (including Glider) and rail travel across Northern Ireland, plus up to 50% off the Belfast-Dublin Enterprise service.

#### DISCOUNT STORES/ POUND SHOPS

Key essentials like toothpaste, deodorant and shower gel are normally much cheaper here than in the supermarket or the local shop, so it's worth shopping around and stock up whilst you're there!

#### SUPERMARKET OWN BRANDS

Lots of own brand products taste exactly the same as their far more expensive counterparts – so have a think before you lift that big brand and pay double! Also, many supermarkets have great reductions on short-date items, so look out for the yellow stickers. Great for picking up bargains for the freezer or if you're looking for something to eat the same day.

#### TRIM THE COST OF A HAIR CUT

Many salons offer student discount, and it's even cheaper to get your hair cut at a training college. If you're happy to queue, head down to the Academy Hair & Beauty Training School on Rosemary Street, or book an appointment for the open clinics at Urban Escape in Belfast Met's Titanic Quarter campus.

#### FILL A TROLLEY AT IKEA

For all your kitchen, bedroom and living room essentials, it's definitely worth a trip to IKEA. You won't believe the bargains.

#### SCOUR DISCOUNT SITES

Students can access big savings with UNIDAYS, TOTUM and Student Beans, offering free discounts for sixth form, college and university students for everything from fashion and food to fitness. It's also worth checking out discount websites like Groupon, Pigsback and VoucherCloud. Sign up for the daily email alerts to keep an eye on the top offers.

## WE'LL GET

### THERE

#### Going to Belfast?

13 return services between Belfast and Dublin daily

Great student fares available online at aircoach.ie

## DUBLIN - CORK - BELFAST - GALWAY

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

## RETAIL THERAPY

### Victoria Square

Belfast's premiere shopping destination features over 70 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. Student offers include 10% off at Mango, Tommy Hilfiger and FatFace and 30% off at Pizza Express. Don't miss their Student Day promotional event on 4 October. SEE MAP (D4)

### Castle Court

CastleCo

This one-stop shopping spot on Roval Avenue is home to a whole host of vour favourite fashion stores including; Jack & Jones, New Look, Miss Selfridge. Dorothy Perkins and Burtons as well as popular plus size stores Evans and Yours Clothing, There's 15 great food outlets to choose from and on-site parking. Don't miss the Big Discount Night on 29 September, 5-9pm with student goodie bags (ID required) and job fair. SEE MAP (C3)

### Donegall Place

In the heart of the City Centre you 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)

#### 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!



**Born & Bred** A unique treasure trove located on Ann Street showcasing a range of unique gifts for friends, family and you. All products are created by local makers and celebrate Belfast, Northern Ireland and beyond.



Unique

Browse this student led art and design shop located at Ulster University in Cathedral Quarter, where you can purchase bespoke pieces from an array of art and design. ulster.ac.uk/artshop



#### Belfast Christmas Market

The Christmas Market at Belfast City Hall is returning in 2022. Indulge in the fantastic smells, sights, crafts, food, drinks and festive atmosphere at this popular event from 19 November - 22 December.



### St George's Lisburn Market

Get down 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)

## Road

This walkable Queen's Quarter stretch has a sprinkling of designer boutiques, art galleries, home accessories and to-die-for shoes, jewels and lingerie. Bespoke aifts. melt-in-the-mouth chocolates and relaxing day spas are all there for the asking. With an assortment of cafés, bars and restaurants you can easily make a day of it. SEE MAP (A8)

### **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). traditional artisan sweets at Old Time Favourites (Smithfield), art and craft at Craft NI Gallery and UNIQUE Art & Design Shop (Royal Avenue) as well as high street favourites H&M. FatFace and the Body Shop in Victoria Square.

#### BARGAIN BELFAST

## Budget Belfast

There are loads of fun, fascinating and free things to do around Belfast, so if you're on a budget, here are some tips for a day out that doesn't cost a bundle...



#### Belfast City Hall

Enjoy a free self-guided exhibition inside this iconic buildina (1906). The grounds contain a wealth of memorials to the history, people and events associated with the city. Visit the Cenotaph, built in memory of all those who died in the First World War and the Titanic Memorial Gardens which name all 1.512 victims of the disaster.

#### Ulster Museum & Botanic Gardens (01)

Enjoy the impressive galleries and interactive discovery zones that bring history, science and art collections to life. Plus visit Botanic Garden's for a relaxing stroll around this stunning city park.

#### Cave Hill

Offering spectacular views over the city, a trek up to the top of Cave Hill is well worth the effort. At the base you can explore the gardens of the stunning Belfast Castle, one of the city's most beautiful buildings.

#### The MAC @2

Open 7 days a week, the MAC includes three outstanding free admission art galleries within its impressive six-storey building, offering a wide-range of exciting exhibitions, newly commissioned works and monumental sculptures.

#### St George's Market

Oozing Victorian charm, the Friday, Saturday and Sunday markets offer some of the finest fresh produce, local arts and crafts. Make a stop for brunch and soak up the atmosphere.

#### CS Lewis Square

Rediscover The Chronicles of Narnia with a walk through CS Lewis Square. Featuring seven bronze sculptures from 'The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe', it is a stunning display of public art.

#### Linenhall Library

The city's oldest library (1788) houses one of the most renowned collections of Irish material in the world. Browse the collections, visit the gift shop or relax in the coffee shop.

#### The Dome at

Victoria Square (3) Boasting 360° views across the city, don't miss taking the lift to the top of this stunning shopping destination. In house tour guide Gerry is on hand to point out local attractions and points of interest.

#### Cultúrlann McAdam Ó Fiaich

Discover a varied programme of Irish language and cultural events as well as a café/restaurant, bookshop, art gallery and visitor information.

#### Discover Ulster-Scots Centre

Discover more about the Ulster-Scots heritage and how they emigrated around the world to become some of the more important world leaders and entrepreneurs in history.

#### Stormont Parliament Buildings

Home to the NI Assembly and one of the most striking pieces of architecture in Northern Ireland. Enjoy a walk around the stunning 407 acre Stormont Estate.

#### Political Murals

You can learn more about the history of 'The Troubles' with a walk along two of the most prolific areas in Belfast, the Falls Road and the Shankill Road, to view these amazing works of art.

See **visitbelfast.com** for more information on free things to see and do in the city.

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Belfast packs a punch when it comes to high quality speciality coffee, with excellent baristas, funky interiors and, of course, an excellent cuppa, you'll be kick starting your day the right way.

What's more, many of these local gems stay open late, hosting everything from craft circles and acoustic music to regular board game nights, dishing up fabulous treats and keeping the caffeine flowing for late nights in the library! Here are a few of the best ones to check out:

#### **CLEMENTS**

One of the longest established locally-owned coffee chains, Clements is a firm favourite offering great coffee and tasty treats. They pride themselves on being passionate about the products they sell, and you can visit them at a number of locations across the city centre and Queen's Quarter including Queen's University's PEC, MBC, Elmwood Avenue and McClay Library and also The Mall at Ulster University.

#### **ESTABLISHED COFFEE**

Established was one of the first trailblazers on Belfast's coffee scene and is probably at the top of many a Belfast coffee lover's list. It's located in Belfast's trendy Cathedral Quarter and is a hipster's paradise, with industrial bare cement floors and walls and plenty of plug sockets to hook up your MacBook. Not only do they make amazing coffee, but the food is top notch also.

#### **KAFFE O**

Kaffe O brings a little Scandinavian charm to Belfast — as well as great coffee. This Nordic-inspired coffee house has branches on Botanic Avenue, Ormeau Road as well as their kiosk on Donegall Square North opposite Belfast City Hall. Their coveted blend is the reason for their success, which is imported from Ricco's Kaffe bars in Copenhagen.

#### **GROUND ESPRESSO BARS**

A local coffee chain which prides itself in maintaining a welcoming atmosphere producing excellent coffee, served with innovation in an ethical manner. In Belfast you'll find them at Victoria Square, Queen Street, Waterstones on Fountain Street and Next on Donegall Place.

#### **DILLY AND DOLLY'S**

Opened with the aim to be 'the most Instagrammable coffee shop in Ireland', Dilly and Dolly's has been stopping people in their tracks since they opened the doors on Ann Street. This pretty pink, quirky coffee shop is known for its delicious gelato, tasty coffees and treats that almost look too perfect to eat.

#### **STARBUCKS**

Found on street corners in cities across the globe, the green-aproned baristas have become the mascots of many people's morning routine. Concerned with



more than flavour, Starbucks strives to fill its menu with responsibly sourced coffee, cocoa and tea that protect the farmers and bioregions they come from.

#### **GENERAL MERCHANTS**

This relaxed local neighbourhood eatery serves fine coffee and Antipodean brunches with the finest and freshest locally sourced food daily. There are 5 locations to discover: Ormeau Road, Stranmillis, Forestside, East Belfast, and a new kiosk on Donegall Place in Belfast City Centre.

#### THE DOCK CAFÉ

The Dock Café is perhaps one of the most interesting and eclectic cafés in Belfast. Run by volunteers and based in the Titanic Quarter, it's an 'Honesty Box' café which means it doesn't charge for the food and drinks served; it simply asks for donations based on what you think your order is worth.

#### ROOT & BRANCH CAFÉ & ROASTERS

A roastery & brew bar on the Newtownards Road, it's a place for creativity, experimentation and regular new roasts. Most of all, it's a place where you can have a wonderful cup of coffee or buy some beans to bring home. They also offer a carefully curated programme of events designed to elevate your coffee experience.

#### **GUILT TRIP**

This destination coffee and donut shop is the brainchild of ex-Ulster Rugby stars, Callum Black and Darren Cave. Guilt Trip is one of the coolest coffee spots in town, serving aeropress, batch and some seriously tasty donuts. With two stores in Belfast to choose from, the East Belfast Original on Orangefield Lane or Southside on Lisburn Road, you can pre-order your donuts for pick-up.

#### DISTRICT

District is an independentlyowned coffee shop/deli serving fine coffee and great food on Stranmillis Road, Lisburn Road and Ormeau Road, with loads of vegan and vegetarian options. District uses local roaster, Bailies, with singleorigins served on espresso and pour-over through the V60.

#### THE POCKET

A small, humble establishment in the city centre located in the FlatIron Building on Upper Church Lane, serving high quality fresh food with a delicious brunch style menu. Enjoy great coffee, hot chocolate and iced teas in a chilled atmosphere.

#### LAMPPOST CAFÉ

For something a little bit different, check out this CS Lewis-themed café on the Newtownards Road. With a Narnia twist on tea shop decor, a ragtime soundtrack and everything served on vintage crockery, you will feel as though you have stepped back in time (or into the wardrobe!).







It can be hard staying fit and healthy if you are a student. Between exams, looming assignment deadlines and trying to maintain a social life, it's not always easy to eat well or fit in a workout. Here's some top tips to get some exercise into your new routine.



#### JOIN A STUDENT CLUB 🗿

There's a multitude of sports that you can take part in while studying in Belfast, whether you're interested in social, club or performance sport. Check out what's on offer through your students union where you can get involved in everything from hockey, rowing, tennis, golf and athletics to more unusual options like Wado Ryu Karate, cheerleading, Aikido, under-water hockey and lacrosse.

#### JOIN A GYM

If you are going to sign up to a gym, just make sure to get the best deal you can possibly get. Check which gyms offer student discounts, get an off peak membership, take advantage of free trials and do whatever you can to get the price down.

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#### STRESS BUSTERS

You're much more likely to reach for the junk food when you're feeling stressed. Download a mindfulness app, grab a yoga mat or go for a walk to clear your head. And during exam time in May, Streamvale Farm have student nights on Thursday's – so you can forget about revision and go and cuddle their pups and chicks, and feed their adorable lambs.

#### TRY SOMETHING NEW

It doesn't have to be all about treadmills and weights - try an indoor skydive or the Ninja assault course at WeAreVertigo, get together for a round of golf with a difference at rainforest-themed Lost City Adventure Golf, test your head for heights with some challenging fun at Clip 'n Climb, or check out SKYTrek - Ireland's premier high and low ropes activity centre at Colin Glen Forest Park which also includes Ireland's longest zipline and the Black Bull Run Alpine Coaster.

#### **5k PARKRUN**

Parkrun operate free 5km (3.1 mile) timed runs at 9 different locations in Belfast on a Saturday morning at 9.30am. You can sign up online, bring along your personalised barcode and track your performance, or just do it for fun! Many of the venues even offer refreshments afterwards. Find your local run at **parkrun.org.uk** 

#### TAKE A HIKE

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(05)

Grab those walking boots, pack a picnic and set off on a hike – there's some great hiking trails on offer in the surrounding Belfast Hills, which offer fantastic views across the city and beyond. Download the Belfast Hills app to choose your trail and find out more.

#### **GET 'APPY!**

(07)

There are a load of fitness apps popping up all over the place that will help you track your progress and work towards different goals. Instagram is also full of its own fitness celebs with God-like status – check out Joe Wickes, Kayla Itsines or local girl Maeve Madden if you haven't already.



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 United Rugby Championships 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. Key European games this season will see the Ulster face La Rochelle and Sale Sharks. 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** (25-26 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

The Northern Ireland international team will face Kosovo on 24 September as part of the UEFA Nations League group stage. You can book a visit to the Education and Heritage Centre at the National Football Stadium at Windsor Park to learn more about the history of football in Northern Ireland and follow the Green and White Army on social media with #GAWA 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, 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. **qaa.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 Molson Coors Race Day (26 Sept), Ladbrokes Festival of Racing including Ladies Day (4 & 5 Nov) as well as the annual Boxing Day, St Patrick's Day and May Day 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

#### QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY BOAT RACE 2023

With the best view of the finish line guaranteed and BBQ included in your ticket, Queen's Sport Boathouse is the place to be on the second Saturday in June as Queen's Rowing and Dublin University Boat Club (Trinity College Dublin) battle it out on the River Lagan for the 2023 edition of this prestigious race. queenssport.com/ BoatRace2023

### Take Part

#### GOLF

There's plenty of courses scattered throughout the city to enable you to keep your handicap down. From challenging parkland courses includina Malone, Belvoir Park and Roval Belfast to relaxed 9 hole courses at Ormeau and Colin Glen. For a great night's craic with your golfing buddies, the new Toptracer Range at Colin Glen offers a fun and tech-driven experience or enjoy some crazy indoor mini golf fun at Lost City Adventure Golf or ScrapYard Golf.



#### BELFAST CITY MARATHON

The Belfast City Half Marathon takes place on Sunday 18 September, or start your training plan for the annual Belfast City Marathon, taking place on Sunday 30 April 2023. If you choose not to run, you can still get involved by signing up as a volunteer. belfastcitymarathon.com



#### BELFAST MAY BE COMPACT IN SIZE, BUT IT'S HUGE IN IMAGINATION!

MAKE SURE YOU SPEND SOME TIME INDULGING YOUR INTELLECTUAL SIDE AND SOAK UP SOME CULTURE IN THE CITY.

#### **Ulster Museum**

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

#### Galleries

Belfast has an impressive array of gallery spaces, displaying everything from the most contemporary visual art at the Golden Thread Gallery and contemporary photographic exhibitions at Belfast Exposed to the freshest modern art in The MAC. The Naughton Gallery at Queen's features a rolling programme of works from the University's own collection, touring exhibitions and shows by local and international artists and the Atypical Gallery is the only permanent exhibition space in Ireland dedicated specifically to highlighting the work of disabled and D/deaf artists.

#### Space Craft

Make a stop at the Fountain Centre where you'll find this lovely combination of shop and gallery, showcasing a range of ceramics, jewellery, sculptures, design items, fabrics, cards and art by local makers. The crafts exhibited change constantly and also showcase work by young, emerging artists.

#### **The Bradley Gallery**

Terry Bradley is probably one of the most recognisable and collectable artists working in Ireland today, so make a stop at his pop-up gallery on the ground floor of Victoria Square. terrybradley.com



#### The Murals

Once described as "the world's greatest open-air gallery", the murals of Belfast are a must-see experience. Artworks range from Republican and Loyalist political statements to colourful celebrations of the city's famous sons and daughters. The Peace Wall that divides two communities in West Belfast is home to a vibrant mix of political murals, graffiti and commissioned public art - stop by to add your own message of peace and hope.

#### Public Art

Belfast has over 150 pieces of distinctive public art scattered across the city. Highlights include the 'Big Fish' on Donegall Quay, whose scales are made up of ceramic tiles decorated with texts and images relating to the history of Belfast, while the biggest art sculpture in the city is 'Rise' - its concentric globes symbolising the rising sun and new hope for the city's future.

#### **Linen Hall Library**

Founded in 1788, the Linen Hall Library is the oldest library in Belfast and the last subscribing library in Ireland. It is renowned for its unparalleled Irish and Local Studies Collection and is a tranquil reading nook in the heart of the city.



#### WORTH THE TRIP

Northern Ireland's Nobel Prize winning poet, **Seamus Heaney**, is celebrated with an exhibition space and world class programme of literary events at **HomePlace** in Bellaghy. MUSEUMS & GALLERIES



#### BELFAST INTERNATIONAL ARTS FESTIVAL 5 October –

6 November 2022

Northern Ireland's largest contemporary arts festival and cornerstone of the annual cultural calendar celebrates 60 years with a new extended 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 a hybrid of talks and ideas to enjoy live and in the comfort of your own home! belfastinternational artsfestival.com

#### ROYAL ULSTER ACADEMY OF ARTS

The 141st RUA Annual Exhibition will be held at the **Ulster Museum** from 14 **October 2022** to **3 January 2023**, showcasing original works across the disciplines of the visual arts by emerging and established artists.

royalulsteracademy.org

#### LATE NIGHT ART

On the first Thursday of every month, over a dozen galleries in the city open their doors until 9pm, for an evening celebration of the vibrant visual arts scene in Belfast. facebook.com/ latenightartbelfast



All university cities have student areas which tend to be swamped with offers and deals available exclusively by flashing your student card.

In Belfast, get familiar with the multitude of hotspots dotted along the leafy Botanic Avenue and around the Queen's Quarter. The majority of cafes and fast food outlets offer loyalty apps, so make sure to download to earn stamps for a well-deserved freebie. Keep an eye out for unlicensed eateries that allow you to bring your own bottle (BYO), so you can enjoy a nice meal out without worrying about the added cost of your drinks.

#### EAT OUT

From local cuisine and fusion cooking, the city's diverse cultural traditions are also showcased with the very best of Chinese, Indian, Mexican, Spanish, Italian and Japanese food all well represented, so there's plenty to choose from. Check out BaoBun on Botanic Ave for exciting Taiwanese street food or award winning ramen shop. Bia Rebel on the Ormeau Rd, who make their own noodles, mix their own salts and dressings and source meat from small-scale, traditional local farmers.

#### **ST GEORGE'S MARKET**

Swing by the market on a Friday, Saturday or Sunday and you can easily pick up a delicious and very affordable meal from one of the many different vendors. From filled crepes to paella and Indian food, there's something to suit every taste bud. It's free to get in and is a great way to sample excellent local produce and eat great street food. Browse the stalls, grab a bite, enjoy the live music and soak up the cracking atmosphere in this Victorian gem.

#### **COOK UP A STORM**

With your brand new student cookbook firmly in hand, give your culinary skills free reign and whip up your own sumptuous feasts, with ingredients from around the world. Take a trip to a local deli or one of the many specialist food emporiums, with Asian and Bangladeshi supermarkets, Eastern European and African stores all within easy walking distance around the Queen's Quarter and Ormeau Rd area. the only limit on what you can make is your imagination!



#### TREAT YOURSELF

Explore amazing delis such as Sawers on Fountain St and Avoca on Arthur St where you'll find a treasure trove of weird and wonderful ingredients. If you have a sweet tooth, don't miss a stop at Hotel Chocolat on Donegall Square North or donut addicts can get their fix at Guilt Trip on the Lisburn Road

#### ART OF CRAFT

Craft beers and ciders continue to take the brewing world by storm and there are two Brewpubs in Belfast city centre where you can sample beers made onsite. Inside the Deer's Head you'll find Bell's Brewery, where you can observe the entire brewing process from the comfort of your seat. Make a stop at the Ulster Sports Club where you will find the new Out of Office brewery and taproom on the top floor. Why not hop on

a train to take a tour at Lisburn's **Hilden Brewery**, which has been creating some of the finest quality craft beers for 35 years – you'll find many of their beers served in bars across the city.

#### DISTILLERY EXPERIENCES

While you're here, make sure to take a trip out to tour one of the local spirit distilleries including **Rademon** Estate (Shortcross Gin), Hinch Distillery & Gin School (Ninth Wave) or Old Bushmills (Bushmills whiskey). The Belfast Gin & Spirits School and Belfast Artisan Gin School both offer classes where you can blend your own masterpiece.

### Top PiCks

#### Trademarket

Don't miss this exciting new retail and street food market situated on the Dublin Road. Trademarket houses 8 local retailers, 12 amazing street food vendors, 3 fully licensed bars, a bespoke cocktail menu, rotating guests, fantastic entertainment and 25% fresher's week promos across all outlets. Open Wed-Sun from 12pm

#### **Little Wing**

This local chain serves yummy, traditional Naples style pizzas you'll find them in the city centre on Ann St & Lisburn Rd near Queen's Elms. Their huge 24" pizzas are great for sharing with your flatmates and you can save some dough by flashing your student ID card to get a tasty 20% discount on your food (up to parties of 4).

#### Boojum

Serving great burritos, tacos, bowls, salads and nachos at a very reasonable price, this is a student favourite! Download their app to collect, track and redeem loyalty stamps to unlock free meals and bag yourself a coveted Boojum Addict Tee. Located on Botanic Ave, Lisburn Rd, Great Victoria St & Chichester St.

#### **Maggie Mays**

Another must is a Maggie Mays Ulster Fry, a plate loaded with bacon, sausage, egg, tomato, mushrooms, hash browns, soda bread, potato bread and pancake. Enjoy a vast menu of wallet friendly home cooking and seriously good milkshakes at their Stranmillis, Botanic Ave and Castle St locations.

#### **Common Market**

The tastiest street food that Belfast has to offer brought together under one roof. With food options for all, three fully-stocked bars and great live music, it's a great place to eat, drink and socialise in the heart of the city. Open 12pm-midnight Thursday to Sunday at 16-20 Dunbar Street.



BELFAST HAS A HUGE SELECTION OF WATERING HOLES, BEER GARDENS, COURTYARDS AND OPEN ROOFTOP BARS THAT REMAIN DRY AND COSY ALL YEAR ROUND WITH HEATERS AND CANOPIES. HERE ARE A FEW OF OUR FAVOURITES...

#### Duke of York

This traditional bar offers a true Belfast welcome of craic, music and humour, boasting cold beer, great Guinness and the largest selection of Irish whiskeys in Ireland. On a dry evening, outside is where you'll find most of Belfast standing along the fairy light lit cobblestoned courtyard. Visited by many and missed by few, it's one of the "must see" places in the city. dukeofyorkbelfast.com

#### The Dirty Onion

This old bonding warehouse in the Cathedral Quarter has

been transformed into one of the city's coolest bars and boasts one of the biggest beer gardens in Belfast. Enjoy live entertainment 7 nights a week, with a strong focus on contemporary live bands and acoustic acts. Open daily from 12 noon and admission is free. thedirtyonion.com

#### The Bone Yard

A quirky outdoor venue on Bedford Street with picnic tables inside and out (available on first come, first served basis), or book a private living room container. Enjoy a wide range of drinks, watch live sport on the big TV screens and tuck into something from the on-site food trucks. Dogs are welcome too! **thebonevardbelfast.com** 

#### Kelly's Cellars

Built in 1720, Kelly's Cellars is one of Belfast's oldest traditional Irish pubs. The garden in front of Kelly's Cellars transforms in summer with picnic benches, beer barrels and bar stools to perch on where you can enjoy live traditional music in the "garden sessions". kellyscellars.co.uk



#### The National

Open daily from midday to late, the National boasts an indoor-outdoor feel with plants growing from the rafters and a very tempting cocktail menu put together with local produce. Outside in the National Garden you can kick back and relax with summer slushies, regular live music sessions and a BBQ serving 4-8pm every Friday & Saturday. thenationalbelfast.com

#### The Jailhouse

The Jailhouse offers a fantastic range of traditional food, local drinks and entertainment alongside the heritage of Joys Entry. Among the historical buildings in the entry, there's a cosy outdoor seating area which is beautifully decorated seasonally and especially stunning at Christmas. thejailhousebelfast.com

#### White's Garden

An outdoor food and drink hall attached to Belfast's oldest Tavern (1630) on Winecellar Entry. Enjoy a year-round garden party at White's with live music, local DJs, ice cold beers, cocktails and some of the best pizza this side of Naples, plus an array of sides. Open daily 12.30pm-late. whitestavernbelfast.com

#### FLAXX at Linen Quarter

An exciting new outdoor social space along Brunswick Street, this recently opened colourful hub is a vibrant spot for people to enjoy. With outdoor seating for food and drink, a games area complete with a pétanque court, a performance area with a stage for small concerts and a cool lighting projection. **linenquarter.org** 

#### The Perch Rooftop Bar

Travel up 5 floors in an old service elevator to discover The Perch, with its large centre bar surrounded by original window features, brick clad walls and adorned with birdcages and artwork. Sip on cocktails and sangria in the height of summer with blankets on hand if the evening turns cool. **theperchbelfast.com** 

#### Babel Rooftop Bar & Garden

Reopening in October 2022, Babel is listed as one of Big 7 Travel's 50 Best European Rooftop Bars. Soak up the panoramic city views and enjoy modern, classic cocktails and homemade locally inspired sour-dough pizzas from the DoH seasonal pop-up kitchen. Open Thursday to Sunday. bullitthotel.com

## **BIG SCREEN SPORTS**

For Premier league football and all the big national and international sporting events, there's no better place to congregate with fellow fans to shout, cheer, sing, and hurl abuse at the referee than at the pub. Here's our favourite big screen sports bars in Belfast

#### THE DEER'S HEAD City Centre

Established in 1885, this traditional saloon bar in the city centre has a fully operational on-site craft brewery where you can enjoy fine craft beer and all the best sporting fixtures across their big screens.

#### THE DOFFER

#### Donegall Square South

In a city that celebrates its industrial heritage with pride, this downtown bar gives a nod to Belfast's linen heyday. Live music sessions and all the big screen sporting action can be enjoyed with great local beers and light bites.

#### THE EMPIRE Botanic Avenue

The atmosphere can get pretty electric in this old converted church when there's a big match on, and if you're in the mood for celebrating come the final whistle you might as well hang about for some great live music.

#### THE ERRIGLE INN Ormeau Road

Offering some of the best sports coverage that Belfast has to offer over 26 HD and 4K screens. Ideal for the beer connoisseurs amongst you, choose from a variety of over twenty different beers on tap from big brands to more unusual craft beers.

#### FOUNTAIN LANE Fountain Street

This refurbished bar has been feeding and watering Belfast since 1901. With a wealth of history as a tavern for the city, call in for good food, great drinks, local music and live sport on the screens daily.

#### **GRANNY ANNIE'S** Chichester Street

Enjoy all the great sporting events on Sky and BT Sport, shown on 11 flat screens in the bar area. Coverage includes football, rugby union and league, GAA, golf, boxing, horse racing and NFL.

#### THE HATFIELD Ormeau Road

Head up to The Liquor Library sports bar and lounge to catch all the sporting action. It boasts 30 LCD screens with the capacity to screen six live events simultaneously, along with four pool tables and a roof garden.

#### HENRY'S Joy's Entry

Steeped in Belfast history, Henry's was named after Henry Joy McCracken, founder of the Society of the United Irishmen. As well as amazing pub grub, you can catch football, rugby, golf, boxing and more on the big screen behind the bar, giving you the perfect view!

#### PUG UGLY'S & THE BONEYARD Bedford Street

A quirky dog-friendly Irish venue in the heart of Belfast with a great outdoor space. Come and enjoy pints, cocktails, good grub, live music, trad, comedy, quizzes and all the sporting action shown on the big screens.

#### ROBINSON'S Great Victoria Street

Head up to the Pool Loft, a traditional sports bar hosting 8 Pool Tables and 5 mega surround screens showing all live sports. Pool, tasty grub and cold pints makes this just the spot for a quick lunch-time game, an after-work kickback or a weekend hideout!

For more inspiration, see visitbelfast.com

## **STUDENTS** EXPERIENCE THE LEGEND OF TITANIC FOR ONLY £17\*

11 MIL

ADVANCE BOOKING ONLY AT TITANICBELFAST.COM





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

brings the glitz of London's West End to the heart of Belfast. Shows to look out for this year include smash hit musicals Saturday Night Fever. Mamma Mia, The Dreamgirls, The Commitments and Six. You'll find a bit of local humour with Bridesmaids of Northern Ireland and Give My Head Peace or enjoy a night of dance with The Little Mermaid ballet or Johannes Radebe. To get in the festive spirit make sure to see local festive comedy Home Malone or this year's panto, Cinderella.. 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 performances include 'The Gap Year' - a journey of craic, coffee shops and self-discovery for three women in their 60s, 'Propaganda: A New Musical' - an old-fashioned Soviet love story set in Berlin in 1949, 'Big Man' - a play which explores how two men in pursuit of love move beyond the barrier of age and conflicting gay experience and Patrick Kielty's critically acclaimed show 'Borderline'. Get in the festive spirit with Grimes & McKee hilarious show, Christmas Craic'er. **lyrictheatre.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 coming year you can sing your heart out with Snoop Dog, George Ezra, Biffy Clyro, The Cure, Westlife, The Vamps and Elton John, dance the night away at Lush! Classical, Clubland Hallowe'en and the Biggest 90's Disco, eniov a night of top comedy with Paddy Raff, Kevin Bridges, Colin Geddes and Neil Delamere or eniov classical performances from Andrea Bocelli and Andre Rieu.. ssearenabelfast.com

#### The Belfast Waterfront offers

a packed programme of live entertainment throughout the year! Comedy highlights include Jack Dee. Jimeoin. Daniel Sloss, Rob Beckett, Paddy McDonnell, Micky Bartlet and Sarah Millican. There's live music with Blue. Suzi Quatro, Christy Moore, The Proclaimers, and Curtis Stigers. Enjoy a thrilling night at the Dreamboys or enjoy tribute performances celebrating the music of Tina Turner, Whitney Houston, The Eagles, Queen and Dire Straits. waterfront.co.uk

The Victorian **Ulster Hall** dates back to 1862 and is home to the Ulster Orchestra, who perform regularly with both evening and lunchtime concerts. You can also check out live music performances from Gavin James, Beabadoobee, Paul Weller, Mary Black, The Pretty Reckless, Fontaines DC, UB40, Ash and Sam



Ryder. If you're up for a laugh check out Celeste Barber, Jason Byrne, Sara Pascoe and Phil Wang and there's tributes galore

that bring the music of George Michael, The Blues Brothers, Michael Buble, Take That and David Bowie. ulsterhall.co.uk

The 60th Belfast International Arts Festival returns 5 October – 6 November 2022, 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 a hybrid of talks and ideas to enjoy live and in the comfort of your own home! belfastinternationalartsfestival.com

### worth finding

Located in heart of Cathedral Quarter in St Anne's Square, **The MAC** brings music, theatre, dance and visual art under one roof. Open daily, you can also call in to browse the three free admission galleries before relaxing in the café bar. themaclive.com

Also in Cathedral Quarter, **The Black Box** is home to live music, theatre, literature, comedy, film, visual art, science, circus, cabaret and all points in between! Check out The Green Room Sessions and the Comedy Lab events. **blackboxbelfast.com** 

#### The Crescent Arts Centre

in the Queen's Quarter provides classes and workshops in music, dance, spoken and written word for all ages and abilities, 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, céllís and workshops. culturlann.ie

The Duncairn Centre for Culture and Arts is located on the Antrim Road in the north of the city. It offers an intimate and authentic Belfast experience, from art exhibitions and workshops to concerts and live performances. theduncairn.com Northern Ireland is currently the location of choice for many movie-makers, thanks to its tax relief incentives, funding, scenic backdrops and talented crews. There have been many top TV shows and Hollywood blockbusters filmed out on location and in the Titanic Studios in Titanic Quarter, but we also love a good ald night at the flicks, so grab your popcorn and 3D specs to explore the cinema scene in Belfast!

#### BIG SCREEN BLOCKBUSTERS

You can enjoy the latest big screen movie releases at a range of multi-screen cinemas across the city. The Odeon in Victoria Square has 8 screens and if you sign up to free myODEON membership, you get Saver tickets (from £6) on selected shows Tuesday - Sunday and all-day on Member Mondays. Cineworld in the **Odyssey Pavilion**, Titanic Quarter offers 13 screens including IMAX, 4DX, Screen X and Dolby Atmos. Student admission is from £7.99 and vou can take out a 'Mv **Cineworld Plus' subscription** for 10% off or an Unlimited membership for £15.99 per month. Movie House Cinema at the Citvside Retail & Leisure Park on York Street offer a £5.50 ticket on 'Crazv Tuesdays' with regular student admission at £7.

#### QUEEN'S FILM THEATRE (QFT)

Belfast's only full-time provider of non-mainstream cinema shows the verv best in new and classic world cinema as well as an interesting and diverse programme of excellent small-budget, foreignlanguage and unusual screenings. This intimate venue boasts two screens, a spacious coffee/drinks bar and a modern lounge. LUMI Membership is free to join for anyone aged 26 or under, offering £4.50 tickets to standard screenings, discounted tickets for special events and loyalty points for ticket and bar purchases. queensfilmtheatre.com

#### THE STRAND ARTS CENTRE

A jewel of art deco design, The Strand on Holywood Road dates back to 1935, with 4 screens offering new releases, classics, silver screenings, live events, a film club and heritage tours. Sign up for 15-24 membership to get discounted tickets at £5. strandartscentre.com

#### BELFAST FILM FESTIVAL

**3-12 November** Featuring a host of Northern Irish feature film premieres and the best of international cinema. The Belfast Film Festival believe that film should be an experience, and so, as well as presenting the best in new, short and classic cinema during our festival, they've set themselves apart by having site-specific

screenings and in person interviews and appearances from international film talent. In addition, the festival prides itself on experimenting with media in all its forms, by presenting audio visual performances and live film soundtracks. Belfast Film Festival also supports local talent with their short film competition, which provides a platform for fledgling filmmakers from across the island of Ireland to showcase their work. The festival's Northern Ireland independents section supports filmmakers who have made feature or mid length films. belfastfilmfestival.org

#### CINEMAGIC INTERNATIONAL FILM & TELEVISION FESTIVAL FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

This flagship festival takes place in venues across the city from 1-31 October. There's an action packed screening and events programme for 4-25 year olds, showcasing the best of world cinema, presenting talent lab and creativity corner masterclasses with creative industry professionals, fun-filled film events, and the annual 'CineSeekers' and 'CineFocus' film juries which offer participants a chance to become movie reviewers and choose the winning films of the festival. cinemagic.org.uk

#### GAME OF THRONES STUDIO TOUR

Located at the authentic filming location of Linen Mill Studios in Banbridge, step inside the Seven Kinadoms for an immersive experience and explore the world of Game of Thrones like never before. Whether vou're a Game of Thrones mega fan or looking for an epic film experience, it's the ultimate day out. gameofthrones studiotour.com

5 5 5

Belfast is buzzing with cosy bars, craft beers and a vibrant live music scene. From up and coming talent playing in gigs across the city to toe-tapping traditional Irish sessions, you'll not be disappointed. **Many of the bars across the city offer live music but here's some of our favourites.** 

#### THE LIMELIGHT Ormeau Ave

This establishment has two concert venues, Limelight 1 and 2 with a cosy Irish bar positioned between the two, Katy's Bar, with the popular rock beer garden on its roof. From small upcoming bands to headline acts, Limelight is a premier show venue with a tiny pub atmosphere, all year round.

#### THE EMPIRE Botanic Ave

This converted church has provided live music and comedy since 1987, and has the best atmosphere anywhere south of the city, every weekend. Friday nights are dedicated to new local musicians, from folk to rock; the Empire Bar has staged many stars in their beginning, including Two Door Cinema Club and General Fiasco.

#### PUG UGLYS Bedford St

Pug Uglys resident artists and guests bring you a mix of Traditional Irish Sessions, acoustic sounds and DJ sets.

#### MCHUGH'S Queen's Square

Located just across from Custom House Square, McHugh's Basement Bar truly is a hidden gem. With the same traditional feel as the main bar, the basement is often used as an intimate live music venue. Over the years it has hosted established artists such as Sea Sick Steve, Kodaline and more.

#### THE ERRIGLE INN Ormeau Rd

The very first bar in Belfast to receive an entertainments license, The Errigle has a great history for excellent music and atmosphere, and has earned its reputation for serving fabulous food, drink and entertainment. Check out the weekly traditional or monthly bluegrass sessions, plus a range of live acts and DJ's in the upstairs Arbele Lounge.

#### JOHN HEWITT Donegall St

Named after the legendary Northern Irish poet, this Cathedral Quarter bar showcases some of the best live music in the city from folk, jazz, blues, trad and everything in between. It's a must-see!

## BONUS GIGS



#### OH YEAH CENTRE Gordon St

Essentially a networking centre for bands and creative types, Oh Yeah hosts practice rooms, the renowned 'Start Together' studio, a music exhibition and the occasional gig.

#### SONIC ARTS RESEARCH CENTRE QUB

SARC is established in a purpose-built facility on campus and its Sonic Laboratory provides a unique space for cuttingedge initiatives in the creation and delivery of music and audio – check out one of their regular concerts!

#### LIVE MUSIC FESTIVALS

The main live music festivals take place in the summer months. Check out the **AVA Festival** on Titanic Slipways in early June followed by a big name line-up at **Belsonic**, Ormeau Park or in August there's 10 nights of great live music at **CHSq**, Custom House Square.

#### VOODOO Fountain St

Local music is at the heart of this wellestablished Belfast hotspot, adding a bit of spice for those who like things a little different. At night, the bottom bar takes on a very relaxed and moody atmosphere with regular DJs, open mic nights and singer song writers adding to the ambience.

#### THE DEER'S HEAD MUSIC HALL

#### Lower Garfield Street

Enjoy live music sessions in this popular brewpub every Wed-Sat from the best local talent. Upstairs, you'll find The Deer's Head Music Halt a 200-capacity venue showcasing everything from local blues artists to popular touring bands from the UK, Ireland and beyond.

#### THE DIRTY ONION Hill St

This rustic bar and beer garden puts the 'folk' in Belfast, lined with wooden benches, barrels and the finest whiskey in the city. The Dirty Onion inhabits one of Belfast's oldest buildings, honouring its Irish tradition with seven nights of music every week. TRADITIONAL SESSIONS

BLACK BOX Hill St

This original landmark

now home to a variety

of traditional folk artists

Room Sessions are an

opportunity to catch

from guest artists as

well as regular slots

of local selectors.

from an esteemed cast

one-off performances

alike. The Green

and modern musicians

building, built in 1850, is

The city hosts a wide variety of traditional music sessions where you'll find chat, cheer and ceol. Some of the best venues to experience 'trad' include Kelly's Cellars, Bank Square, The Dirty Onion in Cathedral Quarter. Fibber Magee's in the city centre. Hatfield House on Ormeau Rd or An Cultúrlann in the Gaeltacht Quarter. The Points on the **Dublin Road prides** itself on having one of the best Irish music scenes in Belfast.



Belfast has recently become a UNESCO City of Music, recognising the importance of music to the city and celebrating its rich musical heritage. As a UNESCO city, Belfast is now part of the global Creative Cities Network and will showcase its music story on a worldwide stage.



Belfast is a buzzing and diverse city offering a range of colourful events and vibrant nightlife. Home to the largest lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender festival in Ireland, the city has a thriving LGBT+ community and gay scene.

#### NIGHTLIFE

Belfast's best gay bars and clubs\* are located in the city's Smithfield and Union Quarter area, north of the city centre on the edge of the Cathedral Quarter.

#### Union Street Bar 8–14 Union Street

Situated in a 19th century shoe factory, Union Street Bar is one of the city's most stylish bars with a cool yet comfy vibe. Upstairs, the Green Room Cocktail Lounge is particularly worth a visit, and the adjoining Shoe Factory provides wacky entertainment, from bingo and karaoke to quizzes and cabaret. unionstreetbar.com

#### Maverick Bar 1 Union Street

Maverick Bar on Union Street is a popular gay bar, well-loved for its eclectic live music nights and comedy shows. The open mic sessions are unmissable, taking place every Wednesday. maverickbelfast.com

#### Kremlin

#### 96 Donegall Street

The citv's most famous gay club is probably Kremlin on Donegall Street. A Soviet-style industrial opulence exudes throughout the venue's extravagant decor, with the Tsar Cocktail Lounge, the Long Bar and Red Square continuing the communistchic vibe. A huge variety of theme nights, celebrity performances and the friendliest up-for-it clubbers gives Kremlin the reputation of being the best gay venue in Ireland. kremlin-belfast.com

#### **Other Bars**

Other gay-friendly bars include **Muriel's** on Church Lane, **The Spaniard** on Skipper Street and **The Bear and The Doll** on Little Donegall Street.

## PRIDE

#### **Belfast Pride Festival**

Belfast bursts into a rainbow of colour every summer with Belfast City Hall lighting up in rainbow colours to celebrate Pride Day when the annual Pride Parade takes place at the end of July. This award winning festival is a celebration packed with a variety of events from film and music to drama and debate. **belfastpride.com** 

#### **More Information**

The Belfast LGBT Centre is located at 23-31 Waring Street in Belfast's Cathedral Quarter, which houses a number of charities including the Rainbow Project and Cara Friend, providing counselling, befriending, information and a health and social space for the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community.

# LAUGH OUT LOUP!

They say that laughter is the best medicine, and we have to agree. There are very few things a good laugh can't cure, and with Belfast's thriving comedy scene, there's always a load of gigs on to give you a giggle, so all you have to do is pick one.



#### QUEEN'S COMEDY CLUB (9) Held in the Elmwood

Hall & Mandela Hall, the Queens Comedy Club plays host to the big names in comedy. Shows coming later in the year include Kevin McAleer and Tom Stade with many more to be announced from September. *queenscomedy belfast.com* 

#### THE EMPIRE LAUGHS BACK Botanic Ave

The granddaddy of Belfast's laughter scene with regular comedy nights every Tuesday from 9pm to late, featuring top quality acts from the UK and international comedy circuit, top supporting acts, and open spots from across the country. Student admission. with a free pint on entry, is only £10. empirelaughsback. com

#### THE SUNFLOWER COMEDY CLUB Union Street

Showcasing a mix of international and local talent on the first Sunday of the month with 10 comedians doing 10 minutes for a £10 admission fee. Always the best of acts on the scene and always just enough pints to not be dying in your Monday morning lecture!

#### ACCIDENTAL THEATRE Shaftesbury Square

Every Sunday at 8pm a range of Belfast performers take to the stage to perform engaging comedy routines. After taking an audience suggestion (a location, emotion, line of dialogue), improvisers perform a series of sketches on the spot. Fast-paced and hilarious, it's the perfect way to spend your Sunday evening. Tickets £5

#### THE BLACK BOX Hill Street

Get down to the Black Box in Cathedral Quarter for an afternoon of comedy with rotating acts in the Green Room every Saturday at 2.30pm, and tickets only £5 (pre-booking advised).

#### LAVERY'S COMEDY CLUB 03

**Bradbury Place** Colin Geddis has curated one of the funniest comedy nights Belfast has to offer. He transforms Lavery's middle floor into an intimate, side-splittingly funny evening with guaranteed laughs. Get down early to avoid sitting in the front row! Wednesday & Thursday nights, tickets available online £10.

#### THE PAVILION BAR Ormeau Rd

Comedy is back in the Pavilion on Monday nights! 6 comedians, some brand new, some old pros trying new jokes, each with 5-10 minutes to make you laugh. Limited tickets available at only £4. Arrive early for a chance to win £10 in drinks!

#### PUG UGLYS Bedford St

Pug Uglys Comedy Club runs every other Thursday, doors open at 8.30pm and show at 9pm featuring local talent and special guests. Check out their Facebook for the latest listings or to reserve seats. Tickets £10.

#### STAND UP 2022 2

Ulster Hall, Bedford St Colin Murphy, Tim McGarry, Jake O'Kane and Wendy Wason will take to the iconic Ulster Hall stage on 13 October 2022 for a night of hilarity in aid of the Integrated Education Fund. Tickets must be booked online at £25.





Belfast city does not disappoint when it comes to a night on the town, with an abundance of buzzing beer gardens, cosy pubs, stylish bars and cool clubs, there's something for everyone! The Cathedral Quarter is full of character and a great place to hang out on a Saturday night, with a mixture of bars, restaurants, theatre and live music. hidden along cobblestone and fairy light lined alleys. Check out the Duke of York boasting the largest whiskey collection in Ireland, the Dirty Onion in Belfast's oldest building and the John Hewitt for its extensive craft beer selection and diverse range of live music.

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

Shake it up at one of our cool cocktail bars! Buzz for entry and climb the stairway to Belfast's hidden cocktail bar, **Angel and Two Bibles** for an extensive range of cocktails, punch bowls and non-alcoholic serves. Tucked below street level is **Margot**, serving carefully curated drinks with a late club every Thurs-



Sunday. **Revolución de Cuba** is the ultimate in Cuban food, cocktails and fiesta experiences with a full on tropical party vibe or drop by the **Tipsy Bird**, a quirky bar with impressive drink serves, live music and a bustling atmosphere. Full of rustic charm reminiscent of your granny's house,

Granny Annies is a lively bar and restaurant offering quirky cocktails, shots paddles and a wide range of gin serves and there's plenty of choice at **The National**, which contains a beer garden, cocktail bar, nightclub and roof terrace housed over three floors.

For those that want to party on into the small hours, there's a vibrant club scene on offer. The Limelight is a student staple and one of the city's main venues for sell out club nights and international and local live bands Alibi in the Queen's Quarter showcases the very best in local and European DJ talent, or right across the street Laverys is more pub than nightclub but it has a big late-night spot that attracts the party hard crowd. Thompsons Garage is a bonafied Belfast Clubbing Institution. operating seven nights a week featuring some of the best DJs & musicians from around the world and in Cathedral Quarter vou'll find the exclusive Ollie's Club in the basement of the luxurious Merchant Hotel



Whatever nightlife you seek, Belfast is happy to oblige! For more inspiration, see visitbelfast.com



Don't waste your weekends lounging in your student flat, wouldn't it be more fun to get out and about for some high-octane laughs? If you're looking for something a bit different... a bit of an adventure... Belfast has it by the bucket-load!

#### Colin Glen

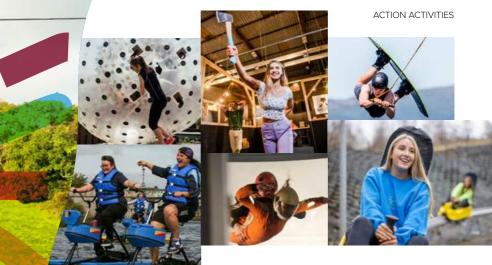
Just a short drive from Belfast city centre, Colin Glen is perfectly placed for a fun-filled, action-packed adventure. Choose from a range of fun activities including the Black Bull Run, Ireland's first Alpine Coaster, the Forest Flyover zipline and new for 2022 is Ireland's longest 700m zipline, River Rapid. Other activities include: the SKYTrek high/ low ropes climbing course. archery, laser tag, 9-hole golf course, TopTracer driving range and 3G pitches. colinglen.org

#### Axe Yard

Urban Axe Throwing is a really fun activity where you get to enjoy throwing axes at wooden targets. It's a group activity where you will play fun games and enjoy some friendly competition, so the more the merrier! All bookings include a dedicated coach to teach you all you need to know – we aim to have you sinking axes in no time! axeyard.co.uk

#### 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. Glamping pods, café, BBQ pods, pizza restaurant and drive-in movie nights are also available. Ietsgohydro.com



#### Vertigo Indoor Skydiving

Ireland's only indoor skydiving centre allows you to tick this exciting activity off your bucket list, without jumping out of an aeroplane. Put on the flight suit, helmet, goggles and earplugs and you're ready to spread your wings and fly. wearevertigo.com

#### **Prison Island Belfast**

Gather a team of your family or friends to solve exciting challenges in our themed Prison Cells. We have 25 Cells that require a combination of intellectual, technical & physical skills. It's not an escape room, you are free to leave a cell at any time. prisonisland belfast.com

#### The Jungle NI

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

#### **Xtreme Bowling**

Are you brave enough to play in the dark? Eniov 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 Fridavs & 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.

#### 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

#### Limitless Adventure Centre

Calling all thrill seekers... If you're up for a challenge then this is definitely for you! Head up to the Causeway Coast and choose from an array of experiences including hovercrafts, powerturn buggies, laser tag, target archery and football golf.

#### Gamelocker

Game Locker offers a visual benchmark for interactive gameplay, where you can select multiplayer tournaments or single player formats to enjoy with friends or family! Choose to play from all the major gaming title including, Call of Duty, Fortnite, FIFA, Minecraft and Apex. gamelocker.online



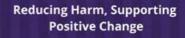


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Google Play





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#### GAME OF THRONES

window depicting scenes from seasons one to eight of the show. Each window represents the trials and tribulations of a different house and at the fifth window on Titanic Slipways you can pretend to be the ruler of the Seven Kingdoms, by taking your seat on a version of the throne – it makes a great selfie!

#### **DOORS OF THRONES**

Visit The Dark Horse café and bar in Cathedral Quarter where you'll find one of the famous Game of Thrones doors. Crafted from fallen trees of the Dark Hedges (King's Road), the ten doors dotted around Northern Ireland represent different aspects of the series – why not take a day trip to track them all down! The door in The Dark Horse celebrates the filming that took place in Belfast.

#### **GoT TO ESCAPE**

Take the escape room experience to a whole new level at GoT to Escape, Belfast's only dedicated Game of Thrones inspired escape room! Work your way through the clues to save King's Landing or choose to play the mystery game. gottoescape.com



For more inspiration and a list of Game of Thrones location tours and activities available, check out visitbelfast.com/ gameofthrones

# HOMEOF

Northern Ireland is Game of Thrones® territory. Home to the official Game of Thrones Studio Tour, unique filming locations, glass windows and crafted doors, we really do have it all. Belfast has lots for a 'Thronie' to enjoy - so make sure to discover all things Westeros while you're here.

#### GAME OF THRONES STUDIO TOUR

Located at the authentic filming location of Linen Mill Studios in Banbridge, step inside the Seven Kingdoms for an immersive experience and explore the world of Game of Thrones like never before. Whether you're a Game of Thrones mega fan or looking for an epic film experience, it's the ultimate day out. gameofthronesstudiotour.com

#### GLASS OF THRONES TRAIL

Stroll from the waterfront at Donegall Quay to HMS Caroline to take in the epic Glass of Thrones installations: six freestanding stained glass For a healthy dose of fresh air, we've got parks, hills, forests and even spots of tranquillity nestled neatly in the city centre.

#### **Belfast Botanic Gardens**

This is a no brainer for students at Queen's. This beautiful park covers 28 acres and is right next to the McClay Library, near the main Lanyon Building. Home to the famous Palm House and Tropical Ravine, you'll also see a ton of people here on a sunny day out relaxing on the lawns. After all, what's better than a nice picnic or an ice cream with your flatmates when the sun is out?

#### Ormeau Park

Not far from the River Lagan, this is the oldest municipal park in the city. Popular with walkers and joggers with a parkrun every Saturday at 9.30am, there are a range of eco trails and orienteering routes as well as sports facilities, including soccer pitches, bowling greens, a BMX track, and basketball, tennis and netball courts.

#### Victoria Park

This is a truly lovely park with a lake, great walks, viewing points, jogging trails and plenty of birds and ducks. It's also a short walk to Titanic Quarter or CS Lewis Square in EastSide. There are two possible circuits of the park, an inner and outer loop around the lake. A great place for aviation enthusiasts who can watch the planes flying in and out of the neighbouring Belfast City Airport.

#### **Divis & Black Mountain**

Just 6 miles from Belfast, this is a popular spot to head to for those looking to escape the hustle and bustle of the city. There are two main trails and both have incredible views. The Summit Trail is a challenging 3 mile circular hike which takes at least 1.5 hours. The Ridge Trail is a moderate but longer 4.2 mile route taking at least 3 hours.

#### Cave Hill Country Park

Whether you've been a dozen times or yet to go, Cave Hill in North Belfast never disappoints. Starting from the car park at Belfast Castle, it's a straightforward circular 4.5 mile route that'll stretch the legs with great views to clear the head - and not too much effort getting there. It's easy to see why it's so popular.



#### Lagan Valley Regional Park

Explore an area of 4,200 acres, extending 11 miles along both sides of the River Lagan between Stranmillis, in South Belfast to Union Locks, Lisburn. The towpath is a tranquil spot for an easy, level walk or cycle with plenty of attractions to stop at on the way including the Lock Keepers Cottage, Shaw's Bridge, Malone House, the Giants Ring and Sir Thomas & Lady Dixon Park.

#### North Down Coastal Path

Hop on the train to Holywood to enjoy this gem in Northern Ireland's leisure offering. The section up to Bangor stretches 10 miles along rocky shores, fine sandy beaches, quiet coves, country parkland, busy promenades and moments of perfect isolation.

## WORTH THE TRIP

Belfast is only just over an hour's drive away from the worldrenowned Giants Causeway, Northern Ireland's only UNESCO World Heritage Site. A geological wonder and home to a wealth of history and legend, the 40,000 basalt stone columns left by volcanic eruptions 60 million years ago intrigue and inspire everyone who visits.

The Mourne Mountains form the highest and most dramatic mountain range in Northern Ireland. With breathtaking views across the Irish Sea and an intricate map of weaving paths to explore, they are high on any keen hiker's to-do list. Starting from Donard car park it takes around 2½ hours to get to the top. Keep an eye on weather conditions and ensure you have the appropriate footwear, equipment, food and water for the day Throughout the year, Belfast celebrates different cultures and experiences with a wide range of events and festivals. So whether your passion's music, theatre, dance, film, comedy or experiencing something new, you'll find something to pencil into your diary!

#### SEPTEMBER

Belfast International Tattoo belfastinternational tattoo.com

European Heritage Open Days discovernorthernireland. com/ehod

Belfast City Half Marathon belfastcitymarathon.com

Belfast Restaurant Week belfastrestaurantweek.org

#### OCTOBER

Bounce Arts Festival universityofatypical.org/ bounce

OktoberFest oktoberfestbelfast.com

Cinemagic Festival cinemagic.org.uk

Belfast International Arts Festival belfastinternational artsfestival.com

#### NOVEMBER

Belfast Film Festival belfastfilmfestival.org

C.S Lewis Festival eastsidearts.net

Sound of Belfast soundofbelfast.com

Outburst Queer Arts Festival outburstarts.com

Fleadh Feirste -Gaeltacht Quarter Festival visitwestbelfast.com

Hallowe'en Celebrations visitbelfast.com

#### DECEMBER

Belfast Christmas Market visitbelfast.com/Christmas

Christmas Twilight Market stgeorgesmarket.com

#### JANUARY

Out to Lunch Festival cqaf.com

Belfast Burns Week ulsterscotsagency.com

#### **FEBRUARY**

Belfast TradFest belfasttraditionalmusic.com

Chinese New Year cwa-ni.org

Enlightenment Festival linenhall.com

Four Corners Festival 4cornersfestival.com

Sean-Nos na Fearsaide mhicreachtain.com

NI Science Festival nisciencefestival.com

#### MARCH

BMS International Festival of Chamber Music belfastmusicsociety.org



Belfast Nashville Songwriters Festival belfastnashville.com

Feile an Earraigh feilebelfast.com

Brilliant Corners Belfast Jazz Festival brilliantcornersbelfast.com

Imagine! Belfast Festival of Ideas & Politics imaginebelfast.com

St Patrick's Day belfastcity.gov.uk/events

#### APRIL

Belfast Film Festival belfastfilmfestival.org

Easter Events visitbelfast.com

Sonorities Festival of Contemporary Music sonorities.org.uk

#### MAY

Cathedral Quarter Arts Festival cqaf.com

Festival of Fools foolsfestival.com

Belfast City Marathon belfastcitymarathon.com

Belfast Maritime Festival belfastcity.gov.uk/events

# **/ENTS**

Belfast Craft Beer Festival belfastcraftbeerfest.com

Hit the North Street Art Festival seedheadarts.com

#### JUNE

AVA Festival avafestival.com

Belsonic belsonic.com

Belfast Photo Festival belfastphotofestival.com

AVA Music Festival and Conference avafestival.com

Belfast Book Festival belfastbookfestival.com

Belfast City Blues Festival belfastcityblues.com

#### JULY

Belfast Whiskey Week belfastwhiskeyweek.com

12th July Celebrations visitbelfast.com

McCracken Summer Festival mhicreachtain.com

Belfast Pride belfastpride.com

Belfast TradFest belfasttraditionalmusic.com

Information correct at time of printing, dates and details subject to change.

#### AUGUST

Craft Month craftni.org

Emerge emergebelfast.com

Feile an Phobail feilebelfast.com

Eastside Arts Festival eastsidearts.net

Belfast Guitar Festival belfastguitarfest.com

Feile an Droichead androichead.com

CHSq customhousesquare.com

Hilden Beer and Music Festival taproomhilden.com

Belfast Mela belfastmela.org.uk

Sign up to our mailing list and receive the latest events and ideas in your inbox! visitbelfast.com/signup





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**

04)	Map grid location
$\overline{\mathbf{c}}$	City Centre
0	Cathedral Quarter
σ	Titanic Quarter
Q	Linen Quarter
00	Queen's Quarter
GQ	Gaeltacht Quarter

# **Eating Out**

## visit Belfast

#### **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 (C4) (CC)

..... Banger 24-26 Church Lane

Specialising in hot damn dogs, loaded fries, wings and shakes. With an adaptable menu offering vegan, vegetarian and aluten free alternatives. there is something for everyone on this carefully curated menu.

#### 028 9590 3500 banger.dog (D3) CQ

#### Bert's Bar **High Street**

Bert's Jazz Bar is the first authentic jazz bar in Northern Ireland. offering an excellent selection of live jazz and mouth-watering food. 028 9026 2713 themerchanthotel.com **D3 CQ** \_\_\_\_\_

#### **Blank Restaurant** 43 Malone Road

Embark on a truly unique dining experience and leave all the choices to us. It's more than just a menu. it is about celebrating exceptional produce from this island. Bring an open mind and trust our expertise to gain a new perspective on unexpected and surprising ingredients. 028 9040 6399

#### blankbelfast.com (07) (00)

\_\_\_\_\_

#### Buba Belfast

St Anne's Square A fun and vibrant open-plan eatery serving modern day Eastern Mediterraneaninspired food and cocktails. The menu is comprised of lots of small plate dishes. designed to share. 028 9568 0162 bubabelfast.com

#### **D3 CQ** \_\_\_\_\_

#### **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 04 00

#### **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 08 00

#### **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

## 60 00

#### **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 C4 CC

#### \_\_\_\_\_ Flame Restaurant

46 Howard Street 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 C4 CC

#### ...... 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 grannv's" to a whole new belly-busting level!

#### 028 9032 1331 grannyannies.co.uk 64 CC

#### \_\_\_\_\_ Havana Bank Square 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 havanabanksq.com C3 CC

...... VISITBELFAST.COM 53

## **Eating Out**

#### 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 **D3 CQ**

#### 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 auick lunch or relaxing dinner, you will find true Irish hospitality at its best in this family run restaurant. 028 9029 1103 holohanspantry.co.uk 66 00

#### Home Restaurant 22 Wellington Place

\_\_\_\_\_

Feel good food served in a wellestablished, awardwinning restaurant in the heart of the city centre. Head chef Ben Arnold and his team have created an extensive menu of all-time favourites using fresh and seasonal produce. Pop in and check out the fantastic vegan, vegetarian, gluten free and skinny menus. 028 9023 4946 homebelfast.co.uk

C4) CC

#### Horatio Todds 406 Upper Newtownards Rd

Situated in Ballvhackamore, Horatio Todd's is an awardwinning, comfortable and welcoming local bar serving delicious dishes with a real emphasis on local produce.

#### 028 9065 3090 horatiotodds.com ......

#### Howard Street Restaurant 56 Howard Street

Serving up full-flavoured dishes created from the current season's inaredients sourced locally. Complementing the menu is a rejuvenated cocktail list and a range of artisan wines.

#### 028 9024 8362 howardstbelfast.com (C4) (CC)

#### Henry's Joy's Entry

Henry's, named after historic Belfast figure and United Irish man Henry Jov McCracken, has been a pub for over 100 vears. Call into this Jovs Entry bar for great drinks, traditional food, live music and plenty of history.

#### 028 9032 6711 henrysbelfast.com 03 00

...... 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 from 12pm, pre-theatre from 5pm, an extensive a la carte menu, alongside weekend brunch and a great Sunday Roast. 028 9560 0700

Belfast

jamesstandco.com (C4) (LQ)

Fat & Drin BELFAST

#### **Restaurant Vouchers**

The Eat & Drink Belfast Restaurant Voucher allows you to choose from a mouth-watering selection of eateries from Michelin Star fine dining and guirky restaurants, to gastropubs and cafes. visitbelfast.com/voucher

AVAILABLE TO PURCHASE AT VISIT BELFAST WELCOME CENTRE

### visitBelfast

#### 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 .....

#### Novelli at City Quavs 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 D3 CC \_\_\_\_\_

#### 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

(D3) (CC)



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 D3 CQ

#### \_\_\_\_\_ 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

(D4) (CC)

#### Rvan's Bar & Restaurant

116-118 Lisburn Road A traditional menu with a fresh contemporary twist, bullitthotel.com

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 66 00

#### 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 (E8) QQ

#### Shu Restaurant 253 Lisburn Road

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

#### 028 9038 1655 shu-restaurant.com (B7) QQ

#### .....

**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 03 00

#### Yardbird 3 Hill Street

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

#### 028 9024 3712 thedirtyonion.com

#### 03 00 .....

#### Waterman 33 Hill Street

A no frills restaurant serving a European menu using local Irish inaredients. Housed in Waterman House in Belfast's Cathedral Quarter, Waterman Restaurant also contains an associated cookerv weekly depending on availability of seasonal produce, with local beers and gins changing monthly.

028 9043 4310 waterman.restaurant D3 CQ

#### SEAFOOD

#### Deanes Love Fish 28-40 Howard Street

Seafood dominates the wide ranging menu but it is the extraordinary affordability of the signature dishes, excellent quality and presentation at Deanes Love Fish that will surprise and delight you. 028 9033 1134

#### michaeldeane.co.uk C4 CC

.....

#### Fish Citv 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 (D4) (CC)

......

## **Eating Out**

#### 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 mournesseafood.com** 

## 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

.....

#### 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

#### Deane and Decano 537 Lisburn Road

A stylish buzzing restaurant/café/bar with a distinctly Italian flavour. Located on the ever fashionable Lisburn Road, Deane and Decano is open for lunch, afternoon snacks & dinner. **028 9066 3108 michaeldeane.co.uk** 

#### Little Wing Pizzeria Ann Street/ 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

03 🚾 A8 00

#### 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

C6 QQ

#### Villa Italia Restaurant 37-41 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

**30-42 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, 2Taps is a holiday and a home in one.

#### 028 9031 1414 2taps-winebar.com

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

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 @ @

#### House of Zen St Anne's Square

Bringing a little bit of the Orient to the traditional cobbled streets of Cathedral Quarter. Offering a unique blend of Asian fusion cuisine, served up in cool, funky and relaxed surroundings. 028 9027 8688

houseofzenbelfast .co.uk

## visitBelfast

#### 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

#### Wagamama Belfast Victoria Square

Inspired by delicious Japanese noodle bars and flavours, Wagamama offers an exciting and inclusive casual dining experience. **028 9023 6098** wagamamani.com P

#### Zen 55-59 Adelaide Street

The innovative menu offers a wide range of new and exciting Japanese style dishes including a plethora of 'Fusion cuisine' consisting of Japanese and Asian food with a Western twist. **028 9023 2244 zenbelfast.co.uk** 

## 04 00

CAFÉS /

4 Orangefield

Lane, EastSide

497 Lisburn Road.

a wide selection of

unique donuts made

fresh in house each

morning alongside

they could source.

A7) QQ

guilttripcoffee.com

some of the best coffee

Guilt Trip proudly offers

Guilt Trip

SouthSide

ΤΔΚΕΔŴΔΥ

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

028 9023 6679 starbucks.ie 04 C3 CC C4 L0 C5 C6 00

#### The Yellow Door 427 Lisburn Rd/ Hillsborough Castle

The Yellow Door Deli pride themselves on showcasing world class produce grown locally. Serving flavoursome food which is freshly baked and cooked in house. vellowdoordeli.co.uk

#### CULINARY EXPERIENCES

Improve your culinary skills with a fun and practical cookery class!

Waterman House Cookery School Cathedral Quarter 028 9560 0701 cookinbelfast.co.uk @ @

Forestside Cookery School SouthSide 07709 827282 forestsidecookery school.com

The best beer in the world? Probably.





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

04	Map grid location
$\overline{\Psi}$	Serves food
۲	Traditional music
J	Live music
$\overline{0}$	DJ/Club

## **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. This intimate speakeasy boasts two extensive cocktail books complete with cocktails, punch bowls and non-alcoholic serves.

#### 07518 283 884 angelandtwo biblesbelfast.com

G3 (W)

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#### 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 days a week!

#### 028 9032 4769 fountainlanebelfast

.com @ @ & Ø

#### Henry's 4 Joy's Entry

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

**B W D** 

#### 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 thejailhouse

belfast.com

#### ..... Kelly's Cellars

**30-32 Bank Street** One of the oldest pubs in Belfast, Kelly's Cellars remains resolutely old fashioned, with vaulted ceilings and an elbow worn bar, providing food, traditional music sessions & plenty of craic.

#### 028 9024 6058 kellyscellars.com

#### €9 🖤 🛞

#### 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 Thursday to Sunday 10pm-late. **028 9693 1211** 

## margotbelfast.com

## 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. com

**D3 (Y)** 

#### The National 62-68 High Street

An airy and

sophisticated 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.

**03 (Y) (** 

Out of Office

#### 96-98 High Street

Belfast's first dedicated brewery and taproom, located on the 2nd floor of the popular Ulster Sports Club. Taproom will be open Thursday-Sunday offering a range of freshly brewed-on-site beers and other local craft offerings. Tours begin in August. ulstersportsclub.com

#### **D**3

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 gueensarcadebelfast.

. com @ @

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

**9 9 1** 

#### Santeria 19 Fountain Street

Laid back late night café bar complete with irresistible rhythms, funk and soul. Serving classic contemporary cocktails without pretension in the heart of Belfast City Centre. santeriabelfast.com

G D

#### 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

G W D O

## **Pubs & Clubs**

#### CATHEDRAL QUARTER

#### Babel Rooftop Bar and Garden

70-74 Ann Street Located on the top floor of Bullitt Hotel, Babel is a rooftop bar, garden and kitchen complete with panoramic city views across Belfast. Offering cocktails, sharing platters, live music and more.

#### 028 9590 0555

bullitthotel.com

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#### 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 eccentricl Food served daily.

#### 028 9026 2719

themerchanthotel. com



#### 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. Fully immerse yourself in the first Brew Pub experience in Belfast. **028 9043 4655** 

028 9043 4655 thedeershead belfast.com 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** 

#### ©3 🖤 🏶 🕖

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

#### John Hewitt Bar 51 Donegall Street

The John Hewitt has a traditional style and is a popular venue for quality, live music with regular gigs and sessions ranging from jazz, traditional folk and Cajun.

#### 028 9023 3768 thejohnhewitt.com

D3 🖤 🏶 🞜

#### 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

**B W D** 

#### 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

#### SU

#### Tipsy Bird 96-100 Ann Street

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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

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

#### The Bone Yard

**29-33 Bedford Street** A quirky outdoor venue in the heart of Belfast! There are picnic tables inside and out, or why not reserve one of the living room containers. Enjoy a wide range of drinks, big screen sports and food from the Pug Ugly and Tribal Burger Trucks. Dog friendly venue. **028 9032 0030** 

## theboneyardbelfast.

**G4 W** 

#### Brennan's Bar 46-50 Great Victoria Street

Beyond the modern red brick exterior lies an attractive old-style mahogany & brass bar, stained glass panels and traditional snugs. Live music at weekends upstairs and downstairs and food served daily.

028 9024 2986

#### facebook/ brennans-bar

C4 (4) J

#### Crown Liquor Saloon 46 Great Victoria Street

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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

#### Limelight Belfast

**17 Ormeau Avenue** The Limelight complex encompasses 2 great live music venues hosting international acts and local bands,

## visitBelfast

as well as Katy's Bar and The Rock Garden rooftop terrace, open daily until late.

#### 028 9032 7007

### limelightbelfast.com

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#### Pug Ugly's 21 Bedford Street

Welcome to Pug Uglys, 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

#### Robinsons 38-42 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

**∞ ₩ € 0** 

#### QUEEN'S QUARTER

#### The Empire 40-42 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

9000



#### The Bowery 701 Lisburn Road

South Belfast's premier neighbourhood gastro pub offers fantastic food, classic drinks, bar snacks, live sport, entertainment and a delicious à la carte menu. Expect a warm welcome, stunning décor and exceptional service from all the team. **028 9066 2600** 

#### thebowerybelfast.co.uk

AB (Y) I

#### The Chelsea 346 Lisburn Road

A modern gastropub serving quality bistro food & drinks seven days a week, where you can unwind with sophisticated cocktails, grab a lazy Sunday brunch, find the perfect spot for a date night, or simply celebrate the weekend in style.

#### 028 9068 7177 thechelseabar.com

AB (Y) 🕖

#### The Crafty Vintner 705 Lisburn Road

Belfast's premier café and bar with a stunning outside terrace and state-ofthe-art wine machines, offering a unique and interactive way to taste wines from around the world. From brunch and coffee by day to cheese and wine by night, The Crafty Vintner has something for every mood and occasion.

#### 028 9066 2601 thecraftyvintner tastingroom.co.uk (AB) (P) (I)

#### 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

#### 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** 

#### 028 9064 1410 errigle.com (B) (N) (D)

#### Hatfield House 130 Ormeau Road

Enjoy fusion inspired food served 7 days a week, live traditional music, all the sporting action, a roof garden, friendly staff and brilliant craic!

#### 028 9043 8764

hatfieldhouse belfast.com 🕫 🕐 🏵 🗊

#### TITANIC QUARTER

#### Hickson's Point at Titanic Belfast Queen's Road

Inspired by one of the first ship builders in the city, this authentic 1900's public house serves up the spirit of the shipyard with traditional music, entertainment, heritage décor and locally produced food.

#### 028 9076 6386 titanicbelfast.com/

Hicksonspoint



#### Scotts' Jazz Club 1 Sandown Road

Start your Friday evening with a pre-show meal for £10 at on site Indian restaurant, Kutum then relax into an evening of jazz at The Ballyhackamore Club, featuring the finest jazz musicians in Ireland and beyond.

## scottsjazzclub.com

# SURVIVAL GUIDE:

#### ACCOMMODATION



Whether you are an undergrad or postgrad, and whether you want to live on campus or rent privately, there are a wide variety of accommodation choices open to students throughout the city. Queen's Accommodation offers options for students wishing to make a specific lifestyle choice, e.g. quiet living, no alcohol and single sex blocks, visit stayatqueens. com to help you get started. Ulster University provides apartment living in a modern student village full of facilities on the Jordanstown campus, and there are brand new ensuite rooms and apartments at 123 York Street beside the new Belfast campus. Visit ulster.ac.uk/accommodation for further details. Both universities have a residential team on hand to offer students support and promote a weekly programme of social events.

#### WEATHER/CLIMATE

There's no such thing as bad weather, only the wrong clothes! We might be more famous for our rainy skies and beautiful greenery than we are for our blazing sunshine but Belfast is a city with a moderate climate. The local climate is characterised by equability - bringing relatively mild winters and cool summers. July is the hottest month with an average temperature of 18°C (64°F) and the coldest is January at 4°C (39°F).

#### TRAVEL CARDS

Tickets for Translink services can be made using the mlink App. Make sure to register for your free ylink or 24+ student travel card and link it in the app to take advantage of discounted 1/3 off travel. Visit **translink.co.uk/ylink** to get started.

#### BANKING

As Northern Ireland is part of the UK, the local currency is GBP. If you need to change money or to open an account, you can do this online or drop into a city centre branch. Both QUB and UU offer help and advice with any aspect of student finance, along with guidance and advice on general money management such as how to live on a budget or how best to deal with your student debt. Check out your University's information online or call into the Students Union.

#### DISCOUNTS



Many local shops and service providers offer great student discounts on everything from clothing and gym memberships to haircuts. You can sign up to UNIDAYS, TOTUM and Student Beans online or as both QUB and UU are members of the National Union of Students, your student ID card functions as an NUS student card and entitles students to a wide range of deals and discounts across the city and beyond.



#### WHAT'S ON

There's normally plenty of activity happening in and around the Student Union. Check online for the frequently updated programme of events, QUB: **qubsu.org/WhatSOn** or UU: **uusu.org**. Visit Belfast's website also has plenty of information on ways to keep you entertained –from bars, restaurants, tours and fun things to do in and around the city. **visitbelfast.com**.

#### PLACES OF WORSHIP @

Chaplains and other religious representatives are appointed by the Universities to represent and serve students and staff. The chaplaincy centres provide a focus for worship, a range of social events and activities, groups for prayer or study, in addition to pastoral care and counselling. Currently, 12 faiths and denominations are represented at Queen's. Ulster University campuses in Belfast and Jordanstown have a prayer and meditation room.

#### PART-TIME WORK

Part-time work can be a useful way of earning money and developing skills which are valued by graduate recruiters at the same time. QUB offers an On-Campus JobShop which advertises part-time jobs available in QUB Schools and Departments. In addition the off-campus JobShop helps students locate work with employers external to the university. You can also keep an eye out for opportunities at local retailers, bars and restaurants – many look for additional staff in the run up to Christmas.

#### VOLUNTEERING



Student life is all about the experiences – or at least so we are told! While studving and partying may take up a lot of your time, making space for some voluntary work can really add value to your overall experience. Student volunteering is of course a great way to make a real contribution to a cause you feel strongly about, or it can give you the chance to participate in new experiences. Keep an eye out on social media for volunteering opportunities or check online at: volunteernow.co.uk

## MIND YOUR MOOD

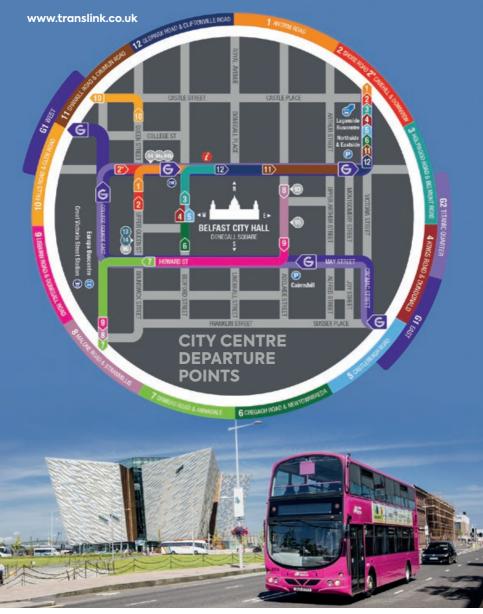
If you're a 'uni newbie', you might be away from home for the first time – it's a big change, but there's loads of support services available to make that transition a little bit easier. You can reach out to the residential team at your accommodation, the student wellbeing team, your personal tutor or your peer mentor for help and support.

Once you get settled it can be a busy time, and stresses can mount up and really take their toll - so it's important to take the time to prioritise your own mental wellbeing.

Here's some tips that might help: get in a good sleep routine, be mindful of your environment, do something that you enjoy, cook or bake something tasty, make time for physical activity, listen to some music, decide who to spend time with and write a to-do list.

If you find yourself experiencing mental health difficulties which are preventing you from doing the things you want to do, seek help – whether through friends, family, a doctor, or your university support services.

## BELFAST CITY CENTRE GLIDER AND METRO BUS DEPARTURE POINTS





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## **Belfast Route Map**

#### 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.



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

**Goldline** – 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 Europa Buscentre to airports in Belfast, Dublin and Derry~Londonderry.

#### **UNI-LINK**

The Belfast Uni-Link Service (U1 and U2) is a Metro service calling at Queen's University, Ulster University Belfast, Northern Regional College and Ulster University Jordanstown. Metro smart cards can be used on the Uni-Link bus service.

#### WHICH TICKET?

#### yLink Card

yLink is a free travelcard for all 16-23 years olds in Northern Ireland. You get 1/3 off all Translink bus and rail travel in Northern Ireland and up to 50% off Enterprise! Plus you also get discounts and offers from Translink partner business! \*yLink holders should use a ticket vending machine to buy their discounted tickets before boarding Glider.

#### 24+ Student Railcard

If you are 24 years of age or over and in full-time education you can get great savings on NI Railways with a massive 1/3 off single, day return, weekly and monthly tickets plus up to 50% off Enterprise fares. The free 24+ student railcard is valid for the academic year (September to August).

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



yLink Travel at Your Fingertips Buy NI Railways yLink & 24+ tickets and yLink Metro day tickets with the mLink app. Download now and get your free app on iPhone & Android.

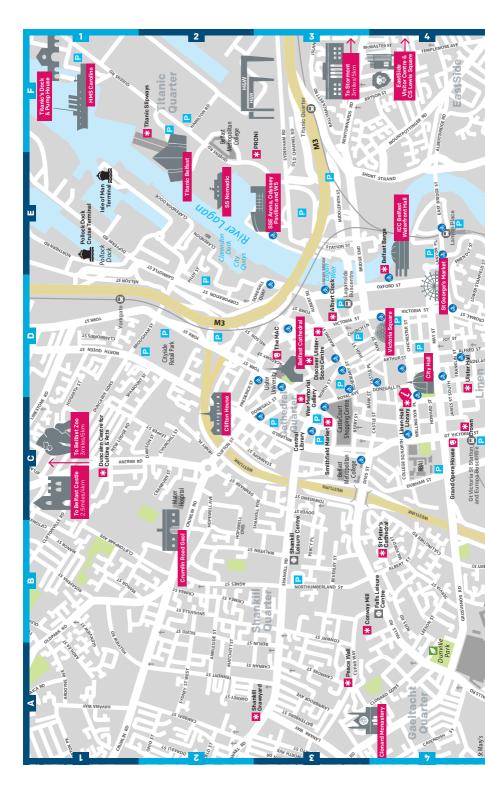
Smartlink Weekly or Monthly Travel Card – unlimited travel on Glider and Metro for 1 week or 1 month.

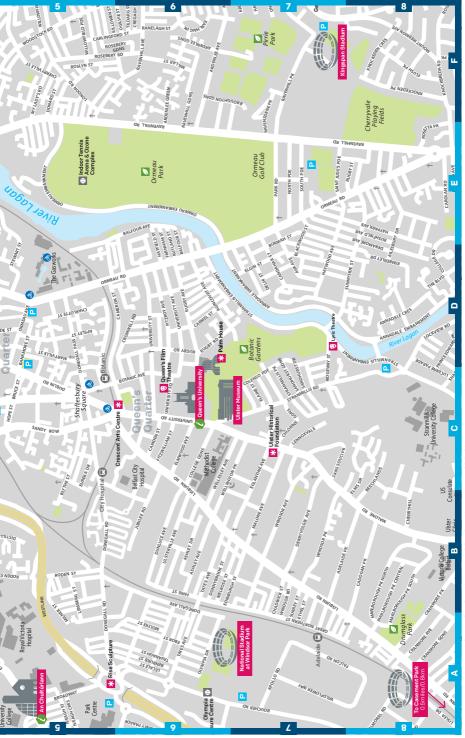
#### Multi Journey Smartlink

Card – for inner, city or extended zone Metro and Glider journeys. Not valid for Glider journeys across the City Centre.

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

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.





Map produced by Lovell Johns Ltd. Contains OpenStreetMap.org data. © OpenStreetMap contributors, CC-BYSA

# Getting About

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.

..... Belfast International Airport is a 30 minute drive from Belfast. The Airbus Express 300 operates between the airport and Europa Bus Centre in the city.

#### JUST EAT 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 three-day pass. The first 30 minutes of each trip is then free of charge, with 50p charges for each additional 30 minutes. To register, simply go online 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 offerina a professional taxi service, sightseeing tours and executive vehicles. Debit/credit card payment facility available in every vehicle. 028 9080 9080

#### valuecabs.com -----

#### 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

COACH

Aircoach

Belfast.

aircoach.ie

The Airporter

SERVICES

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express coach service

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and Dublin Airport with

.....

00353 1 844 7118

A direct scheduled service between both

Belfast airports and Derry/Londonderry.

028 7126 9996

airporter.co.uk .....

quality non-stop

#### **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

#### 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 🕪

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#### Visit Belfast **Welcome Centre**

+44 (0)28 9024 6609 visitbelfast.com

Donegall Square North, Belfast BT1 5GB



## .....



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