

TRANSPORT

Ireland's capital and biggest city is the most important point of entry and departure for the country – the overwhelming majority of airlines fly in and out of Dublin Airport. The city has two ports that serve as the main points of sea transport with Britain; ferries from France arrive in the southern port of Rosslare. Dublin is also the nation's primary rail hub. Flights, tours and rail tickets can be booked online at www.lonelyplanet.com/travel_services.

AIR

There are direct flights to Dublin from all major European centres (including a dizzying array of options from the UK) and from Boston, Baltimore, Chicago, New York and Los Angeles in the USA. Flights from further afield (Australasia or Africa) are usually routed through London.

Airlines

No airline has a walk-in office in Dublin, but most have walk-up counters at Dublin airport. Those that don't, have their ticketing handled by other airlines. The website of the [Fáilte Ireland](http://www.fai.ie) (Irish Tourist Board; www.ireland.ie) has information on getting to Dublin from a number of countries.

Airlines that serve Dublin:

- Aer Árainn** (☎ 1890 462 726; www.aerarann.com)
- Aer Lingus** (☎ 01-886 8888; www.aerlingus.com)
- Air Baltic** (☎ +370 5 2356000; www.airbaltic.com)
- Air Canada** (☎ 1800 709 900; www.aircanada.ca)
- Air France** (☎ 01-605 0383; www.airfrance.com)

ONLINE BOOKING AGENCIES

- www.bestfares.com
- www.cheapflights.com
- www.ebookers.com
- www.expedia.com
- www.flycheap.com
- www.opodo.com
- www.priceline.com
- www.statravel.com
- www.travelocity.com

- Air Malta** (☎ 1800 397 400; www.airmalta.com)
- Air Wales** (☎ 1800 465 193; www.airwales.com)
- Air Southwest** (☎ +44 870 241 8202; www.airsouthwest.com)
- Air Transat** (☎ +44 8705 561 522; www.airtransat.com)
- American Airlines** (☎ 01-602 0550; www.aa.com)
- BMI** (☎ 01-407 3036; www.flybmi.com)
- British Airways** (☎ 1800 626 747; www.britishairways.com)
- City Jet** (☎ 01-870 0300; www.cityjet.com)
- Continental** (☎ 1890 925 252; www.continental.com)
- Delta Airlines** (☎ 1800 768 080; www.delta.com)
- Etihad Airways** (☎ 01-477 3479; www.etihadairways.com)
- Flybe** (☎ 1890 925 532; www.flybe.com)
- Flyglobespan** (☎ 01-874 7666; www.flyglobespan.ie)
- German Wings** (☎ 01-865 0125; www.germanwings.com)
- Iberia** (☎ 01-407 3017; www.iberia.com)
- Lufthansa** (☎ 01-844 5544; www.lufthansa.com)
- Luxair** (☎ +44 8003 899443; www.luxair.co.uk)
- Malev Hungarian Airlines** (☎ 01-844 4303; www.malev.com)
- Ryanair** (☎ 0818 30 30 30; www.ryanair.com)
- S7 Airlines** (☎ 01-663 3933; www.s7.ru)
- Scandinavian Airlines** (☎ 01-844 5440; www.flysas.com)
- Swiss Airlines** (☎ 1890 200 515; www.swiss.com)
- Turkish Airlines** (☎ 01-844 7920; www.turkishairlines.com)
- US Airways** (☎ 1890 925 065; www.usairways.com)

Airport

Dublin's international **airport** (DUB; [Map p225](#); ☎ 814 1111; www.dublinairport.com) is located 13km north of the city centre. Along with the usual selection of pubs, restaurants, shops, ATMs and car-hire desks, there is a variety of airport facilities in the one passenger terminal:

- Aer Rianta Information Desk** (Irish Airport Authority; ☎ 24hr Jun-Sep, 6am-1am Oct-May)

Bank of Ireland (☎ 10am–4pm Mon, Tue, Thu & Fri, 10am–5pm Wed, bureau de change 5.30am–9pm Mon–Fri, 5.30am–midnight Sat, 5.30am–10pm Sun)

Dublin Airport Pharmacy (☎ 814 4649; ☎ 6.30am–6.30pm Mon–Thu, 9am–10.30pm Fri–Sun)

Dublin Tourism Office (☎ 8am–10pm)

Greencaps Left Luggage & Portage Office (☎ 814 4633; left luggage per 24hr €5–11; ☎ 6am–11pm)

International Currency Exchange (☎ 5.30am–midnight)

Nursery (☎ 9am–10pm)

Post Office (☎ 9am–5pm Mon–Fri, 9am–12.30pm Sat)

BICYCLE

Despite the intermittent presence of rusted cycle lanes throughout the city centre, getting around by bike can be something of an obstacle course as cyclists have to share roads with buses and indifferent motorists. Bike theft is a major problem, so be sure to park on busier streets, preferably at one of the myriad U-shaped parking bars, and lock it securely. Never leave your bike on the street overnight or it may just be gone in the morning. The following cycle-orientated shops may come in handy for pedal pushers.

Cyclelogical (Map p102; ☎ 872 4635; www.cyclelogical-bikes.com; 3 Bachelor's Walk) A shop for serious enthusiasts. It has all the best equipment and is a good source of information on upcoming cycling events. It does not, however, do repairs.

DUBLIN BY BIKE

Since their introduction in September 2009, the blue bikes of **Dublinbikes** (www.dublinbikes.ie) have become a ubiquitous presence around the city centre, making this scheme one of the most successful transport initiatives of recent years. The pay-as-you-go service is exactly like the Parisian Vélib system: cyclists purchase a €10 Smart Card (as well as put a credit-card deposit of €150) – either online or at any of the 40 stations throughout the city centre – before ‘freeing’ a bike for use, which is then free of charge for the first 30 minutes and €0.50 for each half-hour thereafter.

MacDonald Cycles (Map p68; ☎ 475 2586; www.macdonaldcycles.ie; 38 Wexford St) Does repairs, and will have your bike back to you within a day or so (barring serious damage).

Bikes are only allowed on suburban trains (not the DART), either stowed in the guard's van or in a special compartment at the opposite end of the train from the engine. There's a flat €4 charge for transporting a bicycle up to 56km.

Hire

Bike rental has become increasingly difficult to find because of crippling insurance costs. Typical rental for a mountain bike is between €12 and €30 a day, or up to €150 per week. Raleigh Rent-a-Bike agencies can be found through **Eurotrek** (☎ 456 8847; www.raleigh.ie).

GETTING INTO TOWN

There is no train service to and from the airport. It takes about 45 minutes to get there by bus or taxi. For details of car hire, see p244. Transport options are as follows:

Bus

Aircoach (☎ 844 7118; www.aircoach.ie; one way/return €7/12) Private coach service with two routes from the airport to 18 destinations throughout the city, including the main streets of the city centre. Coaches run every 10 to 15 minutes between 6am and midnight, then hourly from midnight until 6am.

Airlink Express Coach (☎ 872 0000, 873 4222; www.dublinbus.ie; adult/child €6/3) Bus 747 runs every 10 to 20 minutes from 5.45am to 11.30pm between the airport, central bus station (Busáras) and Dublin Bus office on Upper O'Connell St; bus 748 runs every 15 to 30 minutes from 6.50am to 10.05pm between the airport, and Heuston and Connolly Stations.

Dublin Bus (Map p102; ☎ 872 0000; www.dublinbus.ie; 59 Upper O'Connell St; adult/child €2.20/1) A number of buses serve the airport from various points in Dublin, including buses 16A (Rathfarnham), 746 (Dun Laoghaire) and 230 (Portmarnock); all cross the city centre on their way to the airport.

Taxi

There is a taxi rank directly outside the arrivals concourse. A taxi should cost about €25 from the airport to the city centre, including a supplementary charge of €2.50 (not applied when going to the airport). Make sure the meter is switched on.