



## NTAB Trip to Northern Ireland 2022

Association of National Trust Members & Supporters in Belgium

**REGISTRATION NOW OPEN**

**Direct flights** Brussels - Dublin, Air Lingus (*incl. 20 kg checked-in luggage*)

DATE	FROM	TO	FLIGHT	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL
Tuesday June 7 - 2022	Brussels Zaventem	Dublin	Air Lingus E1631	10:20	11:05
Sunday June 12 - 2022	Dublin	Brussels Zaventem	Air Lingus E1638	18:30	21:15

**Accommodation:** Maldron Hotel Belfast City, 20 Brunswick Street Tel. +44 (0)28 9600 1680

4-star Half Board (B&B + dinner)

<https://www.maldronhotelbelfastcity.com/hotel-gallery/>

**Day excursions:** Eamon Rooney Coach Hire

<https://www.rooneycoachhire.com/>

**Local guide:** Laura (Lolly) Spence, Blue Badge Tourist Guide, Media Consultant, Local Historian, Former BBC Producer

<https://www.hiddenulstertours.com/>

**Price: € 1.260 p. pers., two persons sharing a room - Single room supplement € 115**

The tour price is based on a minimum of 25 participants. We have reserved 30 seats on the flights and 12 double and 8 single hotel rooms. These numbers can be adjusted until a given date, see "Cancellation - Refund Conditions".

Included:

Direct flights Brussels-Dublin, 4-star hotel in Belfast City center with B&B and dinner (Half Board), daily group excursions in comfortable coach and local top rate guide entry ticket to Titanic Museum, farewell lunch on the day of departure, a drink at some special stops during day excursions (limited).

Not included:

Lunch on five days, drinks with meals, personal expenses and individual excursions outside the programme, entries to NT properties (participants are expected to be NT members), insurance, driver's tip.

**Registration and Payment:**

You can sign up until latest March 31 – confirm by paying € 175 deposit p. pers. upon booking

The balance is due latest April 15.

Payable to NTAB - IBAN: BE17 0016 2443 2021

**Programme overview**

June	Theme	Morning	lunch	Afternoon	Dinner	evening
Tue 7	living on a divided island	flight Brussels>Dublin - drive Dublin>Belfast	Sandwich on coach	Ulster Museum - Coach Tour Belfast	Hotel 7pm	free
Wed 8	County Down - Ards Peninsula	Mount Stewart House & Gardens (NT)	free	Peninsula scenery - Ferry>Strangford	Hotel 7pm	free
Thu 9	Antrim and Causeway Coasts	Antrim Coast & Glens - Giant's Causeway (NT)	free	Causeway Coast - Dark Hedges	Hotel 8pm	shopping evening
Fr 10	Armagh County	Armagh County museum - Robinson Library	free	The Argory (NT)	Hotel 8pm	Titanic museum
Sat 11	Derry City	drive to Derry - Historic Walls - The Guildhall	free	Springhill House (NT)	Hotel 7pm	free
Sun 12	The Mourne Mountains	Rowallane Garden (NT) - Murlough Nature Res. (NT)	The Buck's Head, Dundrum	Mourne Mountains - Dublin airport 4:30pm		Flight dept 6:30pm

## What to expect:

Northern Ireland is a region of scenic beauty with a rich culture and Celtic charm, but recent history has been marred by political tension and violence. Since the end of the 'Troubles', Northern Ireland has witnessed an increasing number of tourists.

Lolly Spence, a professional Blue Badge Tour Guide, who was the excellent guide during our virtual tour in March 2021, has accepted to be the guide for this tour as well. She will introduce us to her country and tell us what makes it unique.

We will hear about the history, daily life, food and drink culture, and the literary and musical traditions. We will visit towns and villages as well as rural landscapes, delving deeper into National Trust supported places of outstanding beauty, from the Giant's Causeway to the Big Houses, from mountainous areas to beaches.

The Maldron hotel is located in the Cathedral Quarter of Belfast, the bustling part of the city with galleries, bars, restaurants and street theater (Covid permitting). A highlight is the nearby Crown Bar (46 Great Victoria Street). Known as the Crown Liquor Saloon, it was originally a Victorian gin palace. Now restored and owned by the National Trust, it remains an icon of the city.

## Lunches during the daily excursions

Most lunches are at National Trust properties, and you can choose how much time and money you want to spend on them as long as you are back on the coach at the departure time!

During our return journey to Dublin airport, we will have a farewell group lunch at The Buck's Head in Dundrum, near the Murlough beaches (included in the tour price).

### What Lolly Says About Lunches:

*"Our custom in Northern Ireland is to have a very light lunch - usually soup or a sandwich or an omelet - and to have our main meal in the evening. I usually find on group trips that members eat a hearty breakfast and perhaps bring some fruit or a bread roll with them and enjoy those as a daytime snack. Guests often bring their own preferred travel snacks (biscuits, nuts etc.) with them when they travel."*

## Dinners and free evenings

The hotel price is half board (HB) which includes a standard daily dinner menu which we will take at 7 or 8pm according to the day's programme.

Those who prefer to spend the entire evening in the city at their own pace, can skip dinner at the hotel provided the tour leader is informed no later than the morning before departure from the hotel. There is no discount for skipped HB dinners.

If you are planning to eat out privately, we recommend that you make a reservation at a restaurant in advance, especially on Friday evenings.

After each day's trip, the coach will drop us off at the hotel, except on Thursday and Friday evenings. On these days the coach will take us to the city shopping area (many shops open until 9pm) and to the Titanic Museum (open until 7pm) respectively. However, on both nights you can choose to stay on the coach to return to the hotel early and have HB dinner as usual.

### What Lolly Says About Evenings Out:

*"In Belfast City, you have a wealth of attractions on your doorstep. Things are not expensive here in Northern Ireland, certainly you will find food and drink much cheaper than in England."*

## Entrance to National Trust properties

NT members have free access. Therefore, entrance fees to NT properties are not included in the tour price, as participants are expected to be NT members. Don't forget to bring your NT membership card.

If you are not an NT member, it may be worth registering as a member at the first property. Individual entrances are not cheap and the total cost for a couple can add up quickly. We estimate the total amount for NT entrances on this journey at about £44 per person.

The NT Touring Pass is not available for Northern Ireland.

## Cancellation – refund conditions

Payments will be fully refunded if the trip is canceled before April 15.

A strict cancellation period applies to both flights and hotel accommodation. After April 15, canceled seats and rooms are non-refundable.

Depending on the covid-related travel conditions, the final go-ahead or cancellation of the Northern Ireland trip will be decided by April 10. You will be immediately informed of the decision.

The trip may be canceled if travel conditions on April 10 are - or are expected to become - impeding on group travel to Northern Ireland, e.g., due to a formal travel ban, mandatory quarantine after arrival, full lockdown at destination, etc. ...

## Insurance

We trust all participants to take out their own cancellation and travel insurance. There is NO insurance contract linked to this trip.

You should have your insurance in order at least a month before departure, but preferably as soon as possible after booking.

You can cancel the trip via your insurance if you become ill yourself (and can present a doctor's certificate or a positive Covid test).

For most insurance companies a preventive quarantine – i.e., if you do not yet know whether you will test positive or negative - is not a valid reason to cancel.

You can find policies which do cover preventive quarantine. They come at a higher annual premium and might replace your current insurance.

Furthermore, be aware that government decisions are excluded in all policies, e.g., when the government decides to close the borders, the insurer will invoke force majeure and there is no cover.

## Travel formalities:

**A valid passport** is needed, an ID card is not sufficient (remember Brexit)

We expect all participants to be able to present proof that they have been fully vaccinated.

Because we travel to Northern Ireland via Dublin, we must follow the Irish rules for travelling to the Republic of Ireland (Eire), the rules for travelling to Northern Ireland (UK) from abroad, and the Belgian rules to return home. Participants must meet the local Covid restrictions for entry into each of these countries.

At the present time, (January 2022), all three countries have two rules in common:

1. **Proof that you qualify as fully vaccinated,**
2. **Complete a Passenger Locator Form** (specific for each country).

Additionally, Northern Ireland requires all visitors to take a **day-2 test** after arrival, to be booked online before departure (January 2022).

*In the case that the day-2 test is still required closer to our travel dates, we will work out a practical solution for the group.*

*We are exploring options to book group tests and to have testing done near or at the hotel.*

*If this day-2 test requirement still stands in June 2022, it would certainly be wise for participants to take a self-test before departure.*

**BOOKING FORM**

NTAB

Association of National Trust Members &amp; Supporters in Belgium

Founded in 1997 to promote and prosper the work of the National Trust

Tour Name NTAB - Northern Ireland 2022

Departure date June 7, 2022

You can sign up until March 31

confirm by paying deposit p. pers. upon booking

Tour price p. pers. in a shared double room	€ 1.260
Supplement single room	€ 115
Deposit payment p. pers. (latest March 31)	€ 175
Balance due by April 15	

- √ Check the validity date of your passport. Be sure to complete all personal data as stated on your passport, which you will use for flight check-in and border control. A fee of €100 applies for name change after flight ticket is issued!
- √ Don't forget to bring your mobile phone and your NT membership card on the trip.
- √ A booking is not confirmed until the appropriate deposit has been received and this form has been returned completed and signed to Johan Vanbrabant ([johan.vanbrabant3@telenet.be](mailto:johan.vanbrabant3@telenet.be))

**Travel document data**

	SURNAME	FIRST NAME	Passport no.	Country of issue	Date of birth
FIRST PERSON					
SECOND PERSON					

Room type	No.
Double	
Twin	
Single	

Do you have an NT membership or NT volunteer card that gives people registered on this form free access to NT properties?

- Yes, for everyone
- Only for 1 person
- No, for no one

**Contact details**

Mobile phone (each person)	e-mail	Post address	Town	Post code

**Insurance disclaimer**

I/We have decided to make my/our own insurance arrangements for those people named on the booking form. We therefore agree to indemnify NTAB for any expense incurred by anyone in the party as a result of having inadequate insurance protection with effect as of today.

SIGNATURE, on behalf of all persons listed on this booking form
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NAME
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DATE
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**Special requests** including dietary requirements (all requests will be forwarded to the hotel but cannot guaranteed):