

# Belfast International Airport



Over 100 domestic, European and transatlantic destinations can be reached from Belfast International Airport.

With 5.5 million passengers passing through its doors in 2007 Belfast International Airport has seen steady growth over the last few years.

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In 2004 Amsterdam was the only scheduled international service available from the airport. In order to get anywhere local travellers had to make the trek to Dublin or transfer through London Heathrow. This is not the case now with passengers being able to choose from over 100 destinations (scheduled and chartered) direct from their local airport.

A sign of how far Belfast International Airport has come was the announcement in August 2007 that the airport was to become the new European base for Aer Lingus, beating off competition from many other cities across Europe. The move by Aer Lingus has significant ramifications not only for the airport but also for Northern Ireland as a whole and is a significant endorsement of the political changes that have taken place in Northern Ireland, as well as a signal to other international companies to follow suit.

The airline has initially based three Airbus aircraft, flying to ten destinations, the most significant of which is London Heathrow. Belfast International has not had a London Heathrow service since 2001; the reinstatement of this service is good news for business travellers who have previously had to pay high prices and for those passengers

wanting to travel long haul. The Aer Lingus Heathrow service will codeshare with British Airways, linking into their massive network, effectively meaning you can check in at Belfast and fly to anywhere in the BA network. The other significant route is Amsterdam, allowing passengers to link into the massive KLM network at Schipol.

Aer Lingus are not the only airline to see the potential in Northern Ireland. EasyJet has been in the Northern Ireland market for nine years and has based a sixth aircraft at the airport, adding to the number of scheduled destinations that are now accessible from Belfast International. This news will also make Belfast a much more attractive investment location; 32 European and transatlantic destinations can be reached from Belfast International Airport and incoming companies will now have easy, direct access to a wide range of markets.

At the airport, Business travellers can benefit from the well-equipped Business Lounge in association with the Bank of Ireland. Facilities include fax, photocopying and internet access points. Refreshments are also available in the lounge ranging from freshly brewed coffee or a choice of complimentary alcoholic refreshments. Customers can also enjoy a range of snacks specially chosen from the Café Paul Rankin menu. ▶

► Belfast International Airport continued...

### Connections:

**By Rail:** Services to/from Belfast, Lisburn and Londonderry operate from the nearby town of Antrim, just six miles from Belfast International Airport. Passengers travelling to Dublin can connect with the high speed Enterprise train, which departs from Belfast Central Station.

**By Bus:** Airport Express 300 now operates a 24 hour service between the airport and Belfast with buses departing every 10 minutes throughout the day. Single Ticket £6, return ticket £9, Smartlink 10 journey ticket £40. Frequency: Every ten minutes at peak times Mon – Fri, (reduced frequency Sat & Sun). The Ulsterbus (109A) service operates

hourly from 6am - 6pm, Monday to Saturday between Lisburn Rail Station, Belfast International Airport and Antrim Bus Station.

**By Coach:** The Airporter connects Londonderry in the north west with Belfast International Airport. The service runs 12 times daily.

**By Taxi:** The International Airport Taxi Company, the official taxi operator for the airport, are available for hire outside the right hand door of the airport Exit Lobby. Only taxis approved by BIA are permitted to use the taxi rank. A list of sample fares is displayed in the exit hall of the terminal building. The fare to Belfast City Centre is approximately £25.00. A taxi share scheme to Belfast is available for those who wish to use it.

Belfast city centre  
is just 20 minutes  
away by car.

**Car Hire:** Car hire is advisable for visitors who wish to travel around Northern Ireland, and there are five car-hire desks located in the arrivals hall, all of which are open for all inbound flights. Belfast city centre is just 20 minutes away by car, whilst the historical city of Londonderry in the North West is approx 1hr 25 minutes away by car.

[www.belfastairport.com/en](http://www.belfastairport.com/en)  
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