

Ireland FAQ Sheet

Currency: The Republic of Ireland uses the Euro, while Northern Ireland uses the pound. Visa and Mastercard are widely accepted in Ireland. If using euros or pounds, you may request that your bank exchange U.S. dollars for either other currency. This can take time, as many banks will need to get these currencies elsewhere, so please plan accordingly. There are ATMs in the airport that can exchange currency as well. When using cards, check with your bank to see if you need to input your travel before you go so your payments are authorized. Please note that Discover and American Express are not accepted by most places overseas.

Electrical Sockets: Ireland uses Type G electrical sockets. You must have an adapter to plug anything into the outlets (phone charger, hair dryers, etc.). Certain items, such as hair dryers, require a voltage converter as well. I have linked an adapter and converter combination:

<https://a.co/d/5pX7oTT>

Phone Plans: You will need to set up international cellular and data plans for your phone. Many phone companies will charge per day (\$10/day for Verizon and AT&T).

Suitcase Size Limit: 1 checked suitcase per traveler (plus appropriate instrument) at 50 lbs and 62 linear (length+width+height) inches max.

What do the kids have to pay for themselves other than souvenirs?

Travelers will need to have some money for Lunch en route to Chicago O'Hare International Airport on Saturday, 11 March and for a possible Dinner stop on the way back to Columbus stop on Saturday, 18 March. Suggested amount would be \$10-15 per meal. All other meals, admissions, transportation, accommodations, taxes, and gratuities are included, but they'll want money for snacks, souvenirs, and any other incidentals.

What do they typically do if they need a credit card?

They could use a credit or debit card for any additional purchases, but could get by with just cash. You would need to inform your financial/banking institution of intention to use in both the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland.

Prescription Medicine: It is recommended to bring the prescription in its original, labeled container from the pharmacy, as well as a copy of the written prescription and a letter from the Physician stating that the medication is necessary and is for the patient's own use. It's recommended to have enough medication to last a few days beyond the length of trip in case of any unforeseen travel delays. Make sure it is placed in a carry-on bag for easy access.

How do kids carry around their stuff? ie passports, etc. I.e., do they need clothes with zip pockets or do they take small backpacks/cinch sacks?

Passports are typically secured in a backpack once we arrive in Ireland and clear Irish customs. The only time they might need to use it during their visit would be when exchanging currency. Otherwise, we do frequent passport checks throughout the trip. Travelers will also get a drawstring bag to use on the trip, if they'd like.