



## Packing Suggestions and Tips

This is a list of packing suggestions and tips for when planning for your move to Ireland. This is not a comprehensive list. If you have any other questions regarding packing, please do not hesitate to reach out to your regional representative.

### Carry-On Luggage

- **Passport and any other photo ID**
- **Folder to carry the following documents:**
- **Hard Copy of documents needed for Immigration**
  - Please reference [UCD's Immigration Page](#) for a list of what you should bring with you for Irish Border Control.
  - We recommend that you have a physical copy of all documents.
- **Health Insurance documents**
  - Please reference [UCD's Immigration page](#) for details on Health Insurance
- Medications (prescription AND over the counter)
  - Letter from your doctor for prescribed medications. Refer to the [U.S Embassy in Ireland](#) for more details.
- Electronics: Laptop, camera, headphones, mobile phone and chargers
- Any entertainment you want for the journey
- Adapter plugs for UK/Ireland (Type G)
  - If you plan to travel to Continental Europe, they use a different plug type so you may wish to purchase these as well (Type C)
- Travel-sized hand sanitizer
- Small change of clothes
- Essential toiletries
- Empty reusable water bottle
- Credit or Debit card for immediate expenses
- Irish Address
  - Permanent or short-term Irish address
  - If staying on campus, you may list this address:

Belfield Postal Address:

*UCD Village Welcome Desk, University College Dublin  
Belfield,  
Dublin 4,  
Ireland*

### Checked Luggage

- Light clothing that you can layer
  - Layering is key as the Irish weather can change quite often!
- Weatherproof jacket (preferably with a hood!)
- Weatherproof shoes
- Comfortable shoes
- Hiking boots (if applicable)
- Jeans
- Sweatshirts
- Sweaters
- Toiletries
- Undergarments
- 1-2 dressier outfits
- A warmer jacket
  - A waterproof jacket (with a hood) that is warm will be useful since the winter can often be a bit rainy in Dublin!
- Swimsuit
- Athletic clothes (sneakers, t-shirt, leggings, shorts)
  - If you're more active outdoors vs. an indoor gym, you should opt for activewear you can layer and can keep you warm.
- A power strip to charge multiple devices with one plug adapter
- Generic painkillers, cold medicine, or melatonin – these commonly used North American medicines aren't available in Ireland

## To Leave Behind:

- Hair Straightener/hair dryer/curling iron
  - The voltage is different and can cause issues.
- Kitchen and Bathroom Items
  - Bulky items are available to purchase in Ireland.
- Sheets and Towels
  - You'll be able to purchase these in Ireland (sheet/linen sizes are different in Ireland).

You'll be able to purchase all of these items in Ireland. Suggestions for where to purchase:

- Penneys
- Dunnes
- Ikea
- Boots
- Argos

## Reminders:

- You will go through Irish Border Control before you receive your checked luggage. Ensure that you have everything you may need for Irish Border Control or that you would need immediately, in the event luggage is delayed, with you in your carry-on.
- Ensure that your phone is unlocked so that you will be able to insert an Irish SIM card.
  - If you want to use your U.S. cell plan in Ireland until you get an Irish plan setup, call your carrier to check on plans and pricing. You can download apps for offline use, such as offline Google Maps and bus schedules.
- Alert your North American bank(s) that you will be traveling so that there aren't any holds or freezes on your account. Also, check if they have fees for international transactions.
  - Keep international numbers for your bank/credit cards handy if you need to call
  - If you prefer to use cash, you may withdraw Euros from ATMs at the airport or on campus.

## To Consider:

- Label your luggage with your full name, address in Ireland and contact information in the event that your luggage is misplaced. Mark your bag with a colorful ribbon or sticker to be sure you will recognize it easily.
- Check your airline's baggage allowance. Oversized bag charges can be expensive.
  - Despite the fees, if you want to bring extra personal items it can be cheaper to check additional bags with your airline than to pay international shipping fees.
- Dublin is a very walkable city! Dress for walking frequently as a 20-30 minute walk would be quite common.
- Make photocopies of your passport and carry it in a separate bag from your actual passport - if your passport gets lost, it is easier to replace with a photocopy available. Keep a photocopy at home with trusted family.
- You'll be surprised at how much you can accumulate in a few months. Don't overpack. If you forget something, there are plenty of options in Dublin for where to purchase necessary items!
- Check the weather! Get a sense of what the weather is like in Dublin and how this may be similar or different to what you may be used to back home.
- Remember, your room may not have a lot of storage space for many empty suitcases. Try limiting yourself to two checked suitcases (1 large suitcase & a carry on is ideal!).
- Will you be traveling back home during winter break?
  - You do not have to move out of your on-campus accommodations during the winter break.
  - This can help you decide if you should bring enough for all four seasons or if you will be able to exchange/bring different items after winter break.