

Only a few minutes outside Belfast city centre lies a world of historic castles and houses, history and heritage, family fun and outdoor adventure. All you need to do is get out there and enjoy it.



**Travel time by car**

Belfast - Lisburn	9 miles	15mins
Belfast - Hillsborough	13 miles	20mins
Belfast - Bangor	13 miles	30mins
Belfast - Portaferry	30 miles	1 hour
Belfast - Dundonald	6 miles	20mins
Belfast - Newtownards	14 miles	30mins

**Travel tips**

Frequent trains run from Belfast to Lisburn and Bangor. Ulsterbus and Goldline express bus services run throughout Northern Ireland. Unlimited day travel cards and tickets are available from the Translink desk in the Visit Belfast Welcome Centre, or find your travel options online at [translink.co.uk](http://translink.co.uk)

Make the most of your visit by taking the time to explore and enjoy the **Belfast Plus** experience.

LISBURN AND CASTLEREAGH | ARDS AND NORTH DOWN

## Why not drop in to one of our Visitor Information Centres...



**Visit Belfast Welcome Centre**

9 Donegall Square North  
Belfast BT1 5GB  
+44 (0)28 9024 6609

**Ards Visitor Information Centre**

31 Regent Street  
Newtownards BT23 4AD  
+44 (0)28 9182 6846

**Bangor Visitor Information Centre**

Tower House, 34 Quay Street  
Bangor BT20 5ED  
+44 (0)28 9127 0069

**Hillsborough Visitor Information Centre**

The Old Courthouse, The Square  
Hillsborough BT26 6AG  
+44 (0)28 9244 7640

**Lisburn Visitor Information Centre**

15 Lisburn Square  
Lisburn BT28 1AN  
+44 (0)28 9244 7622

**Belfastplus.com**



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# Plus Belfast

Free

MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR VISIT

**BELFASTPLUS.COM**



## EXPLORE MORE!

Your guide to beyond Belfast in Lisburn and Castlereagh and Ards and North Down

Hillsborough Castle

# Belfast Plus



## Step off the beaten track

Reasons to visit don't end at our city limits. One of the great things about Belfast is that within a short drive from the city centre, you can discover a completely different world filled with lush valleys, a stunning coastline, country parks, magnificent estates, wonderful wildlife and historic attractions. Take a breather and discover some of the other fantastic things to see and do, all just a few minutes' drive outside the capital.

The Lisburn and Castlereagh area lies just 6-9 miles south of Belfast. Explore historic villages with exquisite architecture, quaint shops, charming cafés and atmospheric gastro pubs. Visit the Royal residence of Hillsborough Castle and its 98 acres of beautiful gardens or discover the history of the Irish linen industry in Lisburn. You can explore ancient archaeological sites, the rolling hills of Lagan Valley Regional Park, learn the art of brewing at Hilden Brewery or enjoy a day at the races at Down Royal. With a wide range of fascinating heritage sites, outdoor and indoor activities for all ages, superb shopping and a fantastic food scene, come and relax and unwind in Lisburn and Castlereagh.

Just 13 miles east of Belfast you can explore the Ards and North Down area. Make time to enjoy peaceful walks along the coast, experience great days out with the family and uncover fascinating tales from the area's unique history and heritage. Take a day to amble through Mount Stewart's world class gardens, wander the trails around Castle Park and Bangor Castle Walled Garden or climb Scrabo Hill with its stunning panoramic views of County Down. See nature at her best at the Castle Espie Wetland Centre, enjoy a divers view of marine life at Exploris or walk around the stunning shoreline of Strangford Lough. There's 16 miles of North Down Coastal path waiting to be explored, so come and experience Ards and North Down for yourself.

### Lisburn and Castlereagh

Top 5 Must See and Do!

**Hillsborough Castle and Gardens**  
The Square, Hillsborough BT26 6AG  
This late Georgian mansion built in the 1770s is the official residence of the Royal Family when in Northern Ireland, and home to the Secretary of State. Take a tour to experience the Castle's fascinating history and explore the 98 acres of beautiful gardens in the surrounding grounds.  
**028 9268 1300**  
[hrp.org.uk/Hillsborough](http://hrp.org.uk/Hillsborough)

**Lagan Valley Regional Park**  
The Park Office, 3 Lock Keeper's Lane, Belfast BT8 7XT  
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**028 9049 1922**  
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**Irish Linen Centre and Lisburn Museum**  
Market Square, Lisburn BT28 1AG  
This award-winning museum is based in Lisburn's oldest building, a former 17th Century Market House. It brings to life the history of the Irish linen industry and its importance to Lisburn. Enjoy daily demonstrations of hand spinning and loom-weaving and browse the damask linen collections.  
**028 9266 3377**  
[lisburnmuseum.com](http://lisburnmuseum.com)

**Hilden Brewing Company**  
Grand Street, Lisburn BT27 4TY  
A working brewery with licensed restaurant in the beautiful and historic setting of Hilden House. Learn about this ancient craft from a Master Brewer and sample award winning beers on a brewery tour.  
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**Dundonald International Ice Bowl**  
111 Old Dundonald Road  
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Northern Ireland's only public Olympic size ice rink offers a great day out for all ages. The facility also offers Tenpin Bowling, a kids adventure play area or take the challenge to test your head for heights at Ireland's first 'Clip 'n' Climb'.  
**028 9080 9100**  
[theicebowl.com](http://theicebowl.com)



### Ards and North Down

Top 5 Must See and Do!

**Crawfordsburn Country Park**  
Bridge Road, Helen's Bay BT19 1JT  
Featuring two excellent beaches, spectacular scenery and views across Belfast Lough, Crawfordsburn Country Park provides a relaxing natural retreat. Enjoy tranquil walks through peaceful meadows and wooded glens and view a stunning waterfall.  
**028 9185 3621**  
[visitarndsandnorthdown.com](http://visitarndsandnorthdown.com)

**Pickie Funpark**  
Marine Gardens, Bangor BT20 5AG  
One of Northern Ireland's most popular visitor attractions, the park provides a fun day out, featuring 18-hole mini-golf course, giant pedal swans, Pickie Puffer train, children's play area, children's electric car track and splash pads.  
**028 9145 0746**  
[pickiefunpark.com](http://pickiefunpark.com)

**Scrabo Tower and Country Park**  
203a Scrabo Road  
Newtownards BT23 4SJ  
Standing tall Scrabo Tower boasts incredible views over Strangford Lough and the surrounding countryside. There are walking trails taking in the fine beech woodlands and the disused quarries allowing visitors many opportunities to enjoy the surrounding countryside.  
**028 9082 3207**  
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**Mount Stewart House & Gardens**  
Portaferry Road  
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[nationaltrust.org.uk/mount-stewart](http://nationaltrust.org.uk/mount-stewart)

**Ulster Folk & Transport Museum**  
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Holywood BT18 0EU  
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