



Travel pack

Dundalk, Co. Louth, Ireland

A warm welcome to Dundalk



Dundalk GoPro Timelapse - Mark Duffy Photography

On behalf of the entire Creative Spark team, we are thrilled to welcome you to Dundalk! We are excited to have you here and look forward to a productive and inspiring collaboration.

You have arrived in Dundalk, one of Ireland's largest towns and the historic heart of County Louth. Perfectly situated midway between Dublin and Belfast, our town is known as the "Land of Legends," steeped in history and mythology.

From its rich medieval past to the vibrant urban art murals that tell the story of its modern culture, Dundalk is a town of captivating contrasts.

We've put together this guide to help you feel at home and make the most of your stay in our wonderful town.



Since 2012, Creative Spark has been a central hub for innovation in this community, providing the space, tools, and support to help creative ideas flourish. We have two locations:



Our headquarters in Muirhevnamor provides a dynamic, hands-on environment where artists, makers, and entrepreneurs can prototype, create, and collaborate. It houses our Enterprise FabLab for cutting-edge digital fabrication, alongside a Print Studio, private artist studios, and shared workspaces.

[Google maps link](#)

Located in the heart of Dundalk on Clanbrassil Street, our Downtown Hub is a modern, professional co-working space. It offers flexible desks, meeting rooms, and a podcast studio, providing a central base for remote workers, freelancers, and startups.

[Google Maps link](#)



Our facilities



Getting Here & Getting Around

Flights and transfers

Dundalk is easily accessible from Ireland's main international airports. Here you have two options:

From Dublin Airport (DUB):

The most suitable airport for EU Citizens to travel into is Dublin Airport. The easiest way to travel to Dundalk from Dublin Airport is the 100X bus, you need to have cash (€) or card to pay for your ticket on board or you can book online in advance here <https://www.expressway.ie/route/100x-dublin-to-dundalk>

If you prefer to travel by train, there are buses that take you into Dublin's Connolly Station. From there you can take the train to Dundalk (Dundalk, Clarke Station).

From Belfast Airports (BFS & BHD):

Regular bus services connect both Belfast International Airport and George Best Belfast City Airport to the city centre, where you can catch a direct bus or train to Dundalk.

If you choose to fly into Belfast, you can take any of their buses into the City Centre, from there you have the option of getting a train to Dundalk from Grand Belfast Central or a bus from the Europa Bus Centre.

We recommend checking timetables and booking tickets in advance where possible.



Picture Ken Finegan/Newspics.

Local Transportation

Once you're here, Dundalk is easy to navigate. The town is compact and very walkable. For longer journeys, you can use:

- Local Buses: Routes 174, 174A, and 174B offer frequent services across the town and its suburbs, including on Sundays.
- Taxis: Local taxi services like 555 and 777 are widely available and are a convenient option for getting around.



Where to stay

Hotels

- The Gateway Hotel (15-minute walk from Creative Spark HQ)
 - Phone: +353 42 939 4900
 - Email: reservations@gatewayhotel.ie
- The Fairways Hotel (8-minute drive from Creative Spark HQ)
 - Phone: +353 42 934 3910
 - Email: reservations@fairwayshotel.ie
- The Imperial Hotel (10-minute walk from Creative Spark Downtown Hub)
 - Phone: +353 42 933 2241
 - Email: info@imhotel.ie

Bed & Breakfasts

- Glen Gat
 - Phone: +353 42 933 7938
 - Email: glengat@gmail.com
- Fairlawns
 - Phone: +353 42 932 3813
 - Email: info@fairlawnsdundalk.com
- Innisfree House
 - Phone: +353 42 933 4912
 - Email: info@innisfreehouse.ie



Mark Duffy Photography



A Taste of Dundalk: food and drink

Dundalk boasts a vibrant food culture, from cozy cafés to contemporary restaurants. Here are a few recommendations:

Cafés & Casual Bites

- **3rd Place Coffee House** A specialty coffee house perfect for a great brew and tasty food in a lively atmosphere at the Market Square.
- **Rocksalt Café** A stylish and popular spot for fresh, casual food, with locations in both Dundalk and the nearby seaside village of Blackrock

Restaurants

- **54 Degrees Restaurant** Known for its refreshing, creative menu that spotlights locally-sourced ingredients with an international street-food twist.
- **The Rum House** Offers a fantastic menu of Caribbean-inspired cuisine alongside expertly crafted cocktails.
- **Jocelyn Bistro** An iconic steak and seafood restaurant focused on high-quality ingredients in a luxurious setting.
- **The Windsor Bar & Restaurant** A local institution that expertly blends traditional and modern Irish cuisine in a classic, welcoming pub environment.

Nightlife

- **The Spirit Store** This is Dundalk's premier venue for live music, hosting a fantastic lineup of Irish and international acts in an intimate and renowned setting on the quays.
- **Mo Chara Pub** Award-winning pub, one of the most popular pub for food, drinks like local craft beer, live music and a lot of craic!



Picture Mo Chara



Explore Dundalk's Culture & Scenery

When you have some free time, we encourage you to explore the town and its beautiful surroundings. From the scenic coast to vibrant cultural places in County Louth.

In the Town

- **SEEK Urban Art Murals** Discover Dundalk's story through a stunning outdoor art gallery. Murals from top urban artists decorate the town's walls, illustrating local **heritage and folklore**.
- **County Museum Dundalk** Housed in a restored 18th-century warehouse, this museum's collection chronicles the history of County Louth from the Stone Age to the present.
- **St. Patrick's Cathedral** A magnificent Gothic-style cathedral whose stunning interior features beautiful mosaic floors and intricate granite work.
- **Cuchulainn's Castle** A motte-and-bailey castle with commanding views, this historical landmark dates back to the 12th century.

Walks & Nature

- **Ravensdale Forest Park** A short drive away, this park at the foot of the Cooley Mountains offers beautiful woodland trails and peaceful scenery.
- **Stephenstown Pond Nature Park** A popular and tranquil nature park perfect for a relaxing stroll around its well-maintained lakeside walkways.
- **Carlingford Lough Greenway** This scenic 7.7km path runs along the shoreline of Carlingford Lough, from Carlingford to Omeath.
- **Local Town Parks** For a more relaxed walk within Dundalk itself, both Ice House Hill Park and Saint Helena Park offer pleasant green spaces with paths perfect for a short stroll.



Essential Information for Your Stay

Weather and What to Wear

Ireland's weather is famously changeable, so layers are always a good idea!

- **Spring (Mar–May)** Mild, with temperatures from 10–17°C. Expect occasional rain, so pack layers and an umbrella.
- **Summer (Jun–Aug)** Pleasant and warm (20–25°C). Ideal for outdoor activities, but don't forget sun protection and a light jacket for evenings.
- **Autumn (Sep–Nov)** Cooler and often wetter, with temperatures around 15–20°C. Waterproofs are recommended.
- **Winter (Dec–Feb)** Cold and damp, with temperatures between 2–8°C. Be sure to pack warm, waterproof clothing and sturdy footwear.

For your visit in early October, you can expect mild but cool and changeable weather, which is typical for an Irish autumn.

- **Temperatures:** Daytime temperatures will be pleasant, generally ranging from 13°C to 19°C. However, evenings and nights will be cooler, with temperatures dropping to around 8°C to 11°C.
- **Rain and Wind:** While some days may be clear, rain is a common feature of Irish weather in October. It's wise to expect some rainfall during your stay, which could range from light showers to more persistent rain. It can also be breezy, which may make the temperature feel cooler than it is.

Tips on Irish Culture

- Greetings Irish people are known for their friendliness. A simple "Hi" is always welcome. You'll likely hear "What's the craic?", which is a friendly way of asking "How are you?" or "What's happening?".
- Pub Culture Pubs are central to social life and are a great place to experience traditional music and a welcoming atmosphere.

Emergency Contacts

- For any emergency (Police, Fire, or Ambulance), **dial 112 or 999**.
- An onsite emergency contact number for Creative Spark will be provided to you upon arrival.

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