

## Going to the 2005 Reunion?

Some answers to some questions like: What should I pack? What can I take with me? What can I bring back?

### The Lay of the Land:

The island of Ireland is comprised of the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland, with the Atlantic Ocean off its western shores and the Irish Sea to the east.

In Ireland it's easy to become convinced that isolated austerity is beautiful, and nowhere is this more true than Donegal.

Northern Ireland is part of the United Kingdom with England, Scotland & Wales. Reunion activities will take place in Derry (a.k.a. Londonderry). The national currency is the Pound Sterling.

United Kingdom - [CIA Factbook](#)

The Republic of Ireland is an independent nation. Reunion activities will take place in a number of communities on the Inishowen Peninsula, County Donegal. Clann Headquarters is in Buncrana. The national currency is the Euro.

Ireland - CIA Factbook

<http://www.cia.gov/cia/publications/factbook/geos/ei.html>

### Accommodations:

There are a number of booking services accessible from the Tourism Ireland web site, Click on their logo below. Also try a [www.google.com](http://www.google.com) search for "inishowen accommodation" or "londonderry accommodation"

### Visitor Information:



To get your planning underway, contact the following offices of the Irish Tourist Board. They are eager to answer your questions and have bags of genuinely helpful information. Then its time to “surf the web” to gather even more information.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In the United States: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Irish Tourist Board 345 Park Ave. New York, NY 10154 800.223.6470</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><a href="http://www.tourismireland.com">www.tourismireland.com</a></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In Canada: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Irish Tourist Board 2 Bloor St. W Suite 1501 Toronto, ON. M34 3E2 800.223.6470</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><a href="http://www.tourismireland.com">www.tourismireland.com</a></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• IN the United Kingdom <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Irish Tourist Board 150 Bond St. London W1Y 0AQ 020.7493.9065</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><a href="http://www.tourismireland.com">www.tourismireland.com</a></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In Australia <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ All Ireland Tourism 36 Carrington St. 5<sup>th</sup> Level Sydney, NSW 2000 02.9299.6177</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><a href="http://www.tourismireland.com">www.tourismireland.com</a></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In New Zealand <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Irish Tourist Board Dingwell Building 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor 87 Queen St. Auckland 0064.9.379.8720</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><a href="http://www.tourismireland.com">www.tourismireland.com</a></p>	

### Entry Requirements and Customs:

For citizens of the United States, Canada, Australia, New Zealand entering the Republic Of Ireland and Northern Ireland, no visa is necessary, but a valid Passport is required. Citizens of the United Kingdom, when traveling on flights originating in Britain, do not need to show passports to enter Ireland, but some form of identification is required.

Like all the European Union (EU) member states, Ireland customs are mainly concerned with two categories of goods:

1. Items bought duty-paid and value-added tax-paid (VAT-paid) in other EU countries. This case normally applies to Irish citizens, visitors from Britain and travelers from other EU countries. If the goods are for personal use, you won't need to pay additional duty or VAT. The limits are 800 cigarettes, 10 liters of spirits, 45 liters of wine and 55 liters of beer.
2. Goods bought under duty-free and VAT-free allowances in duty-free shops. This case pertains primarily to overseas visitors. The limit on duty-free and VAT-free items that may be brought into EU for personal use: 200 cigarettes, 1 liter of liquor, 2 liters of wine, and other goods not exceeding \$173 per adult.

There are no restrictions on bringing currency into Ireland. Customs in Ireland operate on a Green, Red, and Blue Channel format. If you are coming from the United States or another non-EU country, use the Green channel if you don't exceed the duty-free allowances and the Red Channel if you have extra goods to declare. The Blue channel is used exclusively for use by passengers entering Ireland from other EU countries.

In addition to your luggage, you may bring sports equipment for your own recreational use or electronic equipment your own use, business or professional. Prohibited items include firearms, ammunition and explosives, narcotics meat poultry, plants and their by products and domestic animals from outside the United Kingdom.

On board the flight back to the United States, you'll be given a customs declaration to fill out. Be sure to pack the goods you'll declare separately and have your sales receipts handy. Returning U.S citizens who have been away for 48 hours or more are allowed to bring back, once every 30 days, \$800 worth of merchandise duty-free, as long as you bring them with you as accompanied baggage. You'll be charged a flat rate 5% duty on the next \$1000 worth of purchases. The duty-free limit on gifts is \$100. You cannot bring fresh food stuffs into the US, tinned foods are allowed. Best to check with US Customs Service, 1300 Pennsylvania Ave. Room 54D Washington DC 20229 or [www.customs.gov](http://www.customs.gov)

Citizens of UK have no limit on what you bring from another EU country, as long as the items are for personal use. Check with: HM Customs & Excise, Passenger Enquiry Point, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Wayfarer House, Great South West Road, Feltham, Middlesex TW14 8NP or [www.hmce.gov.uk](http://www.hmce.gov.uk)

For a clear summary of Canadian rules, check with: Revenue Canada, 2265 St. Laurent Blvd, Ottawa K1G 4KE or [www.ccr-aadrc.gc.ca](http://www.ccr-aadrc.gc.ca)  
Australians should contact: Australian Customs Service, GPO Box 8, Sydney NSW 2001 or [www.customs.gov.au](http://www.customs.gov.au)

New Zealand citizens should contact: New Zealand Customs, 50 Anzac Ave. P.O. Box 29, Auckland or [www.customs.govt.nz](http://www.customs.govt.nz)

## **Electricity:**

Most new laptops can run on 110/220, check with your manufacturer.



Electricity is 220V 50 Hz in Ireland and flat three-pin plugs are used. A lot of bathrooms have two-pin 110V to 120V plugs for shavers and if adapters are needed, they can be purchased in Electrical shops. The [Electricity Supply Board](#) is the Republic of Ireland's supplier. The Northern Ireland supplier is [Northern Ireland Electricity](#)

## **Ireland and You:**

Here is a message from Paddy O that he sent out before the 2000 reunion. I made some editorial notes where things have changed. [Ireland and You](#)

**Route Planner: These Routes don't include some of the “local” routes and were only provided to give you an idea of the distances.**

**From: Buncrana,Donegal  
To: Carndonagh,Donegal**

**Total Distance: 29.5 kilometres  
Total Time: 0 hr 31 min**

<b>Acc</b>	<b>Dist</b>	<b>Route</b>	<b>Directions</b>
<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>R238</b>	<b>Start out at Buncrana,Donegal</b> Follow signs Cardonagh R238
<b>17.2</b>	<b>17.2</b>	<b>R238</b>	<b>Clonmany</b> Bear right
<b>19.3</b>	<b>2.1</b>	<b>R238</b>	<b>Ballyliffen</b>
<b>29.5</b>	<b>10.1</b>	<b>R238</b>	<b>Arrive at CARNDONAGH</b>

**From: Buncrana,Donegal  
To: Merville,Donegal**

**Total Distance: 41.8 kilometres  
Total Time: 0 hr 45 min**

<b>Acc</b>	<b>Dist</b>	<b>Route</b>	<b>Directions</b>
<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>R238</b>	<b>Start out at Buncrana,Donegal</b> Follow signs Derry R238
<b>11.6</b>	<b>11.6</b>	<b>R239</b>	<b>Burnfoot</b> Turn left R239 (signposted Muff)
<b>20.8</b>	<b>9.2</b>	<b>R238</b>	<b>Muff</b> Turn left R238 (signposted Merville)
<b>29.0</b>	<b>8.2</b>	<b>R238</b>	<b>Quigleys Point</b>
<b>41.8</b>	<b>12.9</b>	<b>R238</b>	<b>Arrive at Merville</b>

**From: Derry,Lderry**  
**To: Buncrana,Donegal**

**Total Distance: 22.0 kilometres**  
**Total Time: 0 hr 22 min**

Acc	Dist	Route	Directions
<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>A2</b>	<b>Start out at Derry,Lderry</b> Follow signs Buncrana A2
<b>0.8</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>A2</b>	<b>Harbour Quay Roundabout</b> Travelodge (City of Derry) At roundabout take 3rd exit
<b>1.3</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>A2</b>	<b>Queens Quay Roundabout</b> At roundabout take 2nd exit Follow signs Buncrana A2
<b>2.4</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>A2</b>	<b>Pennyburn Roundabout</b> At roundabout take 1st exit
<b>4.3</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>A2</b>	<b>The Branch Roundabout (Junction with A515/B507)</b> At roundabout take 2nd exit
<b>6.9</b>	<b>2.6</b>	<b>N13</b>	<b>Border with Republic of Ireland</b> Forward N13
<b>8.0</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>R238</b>	<b>Bridgend</b> At roundabout take 2nd exit R238
<b>10.5</b>	<b>2.4</b>	<b>R238</b>	<b>Burnfoot</b>
<b>22.0</b>	<b>11.6</b>	<b>R238</b>	<b>Arrive at BUNCRANA</b>

**From: Buncrana,Donegal**  
**To: Donegal,Donegal**

**Total Distance: 85.1 kilometres**  
**Total Time: 1 hr 15 min**

Acc	Dist	Route	Directions
<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>R238</b>	<b>Start out at Buncrana,Donegal</b> Follow signs Derry R238
<b>11.6</b>	<b>11.6</b>	<b>R238</b>	<b>Burnfoot</b>
<b>11.9</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>R239</b>	<b>Junction with R238</b> Turn right R239 (signposted Letterkenny) In 1.2 mile bear left
<b>14.5</b>	<b>2.6</b>	<b>N13</b>	<b>Junction with N13</b> In 6 miles bear right then at T-junction turn right
<b>23.2</b>	<b>8.7</b>	<b>N13</b>	<b>Newtowncunningham</b> In 2 miles bear right
<b>32.0</b>	<b>8.9</b>	<b>N13</b>	<b>Manorcunningham</b>
<b>33.6</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>N13</b>	<b>Junction with N14 (east)</b> At roundabout take 2nd exit (signposted Letterkenny)
<b>38.0</b>	<b>4.3</b>	<b>N13</b>	<b>Dry Arch Roundabout</b> At roundabout take 1st exit (signposted Stranorlar, Ballybofey)
<b>55.7</b>	<b>17.7</b>	<b>N15</b>	<b>Stranorlar</b> Follow signs Donegal N15
<b>57.0</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>N15</b>	<b>Ballybofey</b>
<b>83.5</b>	<b>26.6</b>	<b>R267</b>	<b>Junction with N56 (Donegal bypass)</b> At roundabout take 2nd exit R267 (signposted Donegal)
<b>85.1</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>R267</b>	<b>Arrive at Donegal</b>

**From: Buncrana,Donegal**  
**To: Dublin,Dublin**

**Total Distance: 264.9 kilometres**  
**Total Time: 3 hr 44 min**

Acc	Dist	Route	Directions
0.0	0.0	R238	<b>Start out at Buncrana,Donegal</b> Follow signs Derry R238
11.6	11.6	R238	<b>Burnfoot</b>
14.0	2.4	N13	<b>Bridgend</b> At roundabout take 1st exit N13
15.1	1.1	A2	<b>Border with Northern Ireland</b> Forward A2
17.7	2.6	A2	<b>The Branch Roundabout (Junction with A515/B507)</b> At roundabout take 2nd exit (signposted City Centre)
19.6	1.9	A2	<b>Pennyburn Roundabout</b> At roundabout take 2nd exit
20.8	1.1	A2	<b>Queens Quay Roundabout</b> At roundabout take 2nd exit
21.2	0.5	A2	<b>Harbour Quay Roundabout</b> Travelodge (City of Derry) At roundabout take 1st exit
22.0	0.8	A6	<b>Derry</b> Follow signs Strabane (A5), Belfast A6 to leave by crossing
23.0	1.0	A5	<b>Craigavon Bridge</b> Turn right A5 (signposted Strabane)
27.7	4.7	A5	<b>New Buildings</b>
30.4	2.7	A5	<b>Magheramason</b>
34.3	3.9	A5	<b>Bready (post office)</b>
40.7	6.4	A5	<b>Ballymagorry</b>
43.9	3.2	A5	<b>Junction for Strabane Town Centre</b> Keep forward (signposted Omagh, Lifford)
45.1	1.1	A5	<b>Junction with A38</b> At roundabout take 2nd exit (signposted Dublin, Omagh) In 0.2 mile at roundabout take 2nd exit
46.0	1.0	A5	<b>Junction with B85</b> At traffic signals forward
48.0	1.9	A5	<b>Melmount Road Roundabout</b> At roundabout take 3rd exit
50.5	2.6	A5	<b>Sion Mills</b>
69.0	18.5	A5	<b>(road to) Ulster American Folk Park (on left)</b>
74.7	5.6	A5	<b>Derry Road Roundabout</b> At roundabout take 2nd exit (signposted Dublin)
76.6	1.9	A5	<b>Junction for Omagh (Town Centre to left)</b> Keep forward
77.7	1.1	A5	<b>Junction with A505</b> At traffic signals turn right (signposted Dublin)
103.3	25.6	A4	<b>Ballygawley Roundabout (Junction with A4)</b> At roundabout take 3rd exit A4 (signposted Armagh, Dublin)
103.5	0.2	A5	<b>Junction with A5</b> Turn left A5 (signposted Dublin, Armagh) Shortly turn left A5
110.2	6.8	A5	<b>Aughnacloy</b> Turn right (signposted Monaghan)

<b>111.8</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>N2</b>	<b>Border with Republic of Ireland</b> Forward N2
<b>118.8</b>	<b>6.9</b>	<b>N2</b>	<b>Emyvale</b>
<b>130.0</b>	<b>11.3</b>	<b>N2</b>	<b>Monaghan</b> Follow signs Dublin N2
<b>141.6</b>	<b>11.6</b>	<b>N2</b>	<b>Clontibret</b>
<b>153.7</b>	<b>12.1</b>	<b>N2</b>	<b>Castleblayney</b> At traffic signals turn right (signposted Dublin)
<b>171.4</b>	<b>17.7</b>	<b>N2</b>	<b>CARRICKMACROSS</b> Follow signs Dublin N2
<b>188.8</b>	<b>17.4</b>	<b>N33</b>	<b>Junction with N33 (edge of Ardee)</b> At roundabout take 2nd exit N33 (signposted Belfast, Dublin (M1))
<b>189.1</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>N33</b>	<b>Junction with N52</b> At roundabout take 2nd exit
<b>196.8</b>	<b>7.7</b>	<b>M1</b>	<b>Junction with M1</b> At roundabout take 3rd exit (signposted Dublin) to join Motorway M1
<b>222.7</b>	<b>25.9</b>	<b>M1</b>	<b>Toll Plaza (car 1.60 euros)</b>
<b>256.4</b>	<b>33.6</b>	<b>M1</b>	<b>Junction 3 (M50)</b> Forward (signposted City Centre)
<b>259.1</b>	<b>2.7</b>	<b>N1</b>	<b>End of Motorway</b> Forward N1 leaving motorway
<b>261.2</b>	<b>2.1</b>	<b>N1</b>	<b>Drumcondra ("Millmount Houst" public house)</b>
<b>261.8</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>N1</b>	<b>Quinns Bar (Junction with R131)</b> At traffic signals forward (signposted City Centre)
<b>264.9</b>	<b>3.1</b>	<b>N1</b>	<b>Arrive at DUBLIN</b>

*See you at the Reunion.*

*Michael "Doc" Dougherty*