

Getting to Galway

Galway is situated on the West Coast of the Republic of Ireland and may be reached by air, ferry, train, bus or car. The following air links may be of assistance www.aerlingus.ie, www.ryanair.com, and www.aerarann.ie. For international delegates we recommended the following arrangements, in order of decreasing preference:

1. Fly direct into Galway Airport. International flights directly into Galway Airport are available on www.galwayairport.com, with flights mainly from other parts of Ireland, the UK and France.

2. Fly into Dublin Airport (www.dublinairport.com) and either fly from there to **Galway Airport** or take a coach from Dublin Airport to Galway city. Connecting flights from Dublin Airport to Galway Airport are available through Aer Arann (www.aerarann.ie). Galway Airport is approximately 5km from

Galway city centre, and both the University and hotels (names to be advised at a later date) are close to the city centre. There are taxi services from Galway Airport to Galway city: there is no bus shuttle. Car hire is also available.

Dublin Airport has many international connections but is about 220km from Galway (3 hr drive). Good car hire facilities are available from Dublin Airport.

Rather than flying from Dublin Airport to Galway Airport you could take a coach (or train– see below). Independent operators run dependable hourly coach services from Dublin Airport to Galway city (www.citylink.ie or www.gobus.ie), departing outside the Arrivals terminal. These coach trips take about 3 hrs.



3. Fly into Shannon Airport (www.shannonairport.com) and take a coach to Galway city. Shannon Airport has direct international connections with the USA and elsewhere. It is about 100km from Galway (1.5 to 2 hr drive). Coaches run hourly from Shannon Airport to Galway city (www.citylink.ie, or www.buseireann.ie). A taxi/hackney service is available but would be quite expensive. There are good car hire facilities.

There are other ways to get to Galway: some are outlined below.

Ireland West Airport Knock <http://www.knockairport.com> is 1.5 hrs drive from Galway: however there are no coaches to Galway, and you would need to hire a car.

By Rail: There is a regular rail service between Dublin city and Galway city from Heuston Railway Station in Dublin. However you would need to shuttle from Dublin Airport to Heuston Station in Dublin city to catch a train to Galway, and trains are infrequent after 6pm. There are buses that go between the airport and Heuston Railway Station see www.irishbuses.com/AirlinkDublinAirport. Train timetables, ticket prices and all other information regarding rail travel in Ireland can be found on the Irish Rail web site: www.irishrail.ie

By Sea: There are several car/passenger ferries from the UK and France (Cherbourg or Roscoff). The following links may help with further information on sea travel: www.stenaline.ie, and/or www.irishferries.ie



Other Travel / Destination Information

Visas for Non-EU Citizens: Citizens of certain countries require a visa to enter the Republic of Ireland. Please refer to the Irish Department of Foreign Affairs website for further details:

<http://foreignaffairs.gov.ie/home/index.aspx?id=8605> Participants requiring a visa are advised to allow sufficient time to complete the visa application process prior to commencement of the Workshop.

Currency Service: The Legal tender is the Euro (€). Currency exchange facilities are available at the airports, at the University campus banks and at all financial institutions in Galway city centre. ATMs are widely available. Traveller cheques and credit cards are accepted in most hotels restaurants and shops. For up to date currency conversion rates delegates are advised to visit www.xe.com

Voltage: The line voltage is 220 V and most electrical points take three-pinned plugs.

Weather: The month of June is often quite pleasant, with temperatures 15- 22C and averaging around 17C. However, weather can vary quite a bit in Ireland and I advise that there may well be a risk of rain. Updated information on weather conditions is available on www.met.ie.