

Ireland & London

with Mr. Jeremy Kuhn
June 13 - 26, 2015

Packing and preparing to travel Fáilte!

This is a variation of information we send all of our travelers. For those traveling with Mr. Kuhn, we share the same travel tips, with particular focus on traveling with technology!

If you travel with a MacBook [Air/Pro], Laptop, iPad, Netbook, iPhone, etc., internet access is available in our hotels. Mostly it is throughout, however, in some instances, only the lobby, but WiFi will be there for you.

Smartphone users: Unless you have an International Mobile and Data Plan, PLEASE remember to turn off your data plan, and disable international roaming. Depending on your service provider, you could otherwise face significant phone bills upon return. It's great to use the device for wifi, but IF YOU HAVE AN UNLOCKED Smartphone, you could purchase a SIM card in Ireland. [This is what we do when traveling. Some overseas phone companies - such as Vodafone - offer no-commit top-off plans that include free incoming calls from the US.]

Additionally: Skype. The best information can be found on their website: <http://www.skype.com/intl/en-us/home>

If you participate in American Airlines or other One World frequent flyer program, please bring your FF card and present this at check in. When you arrive at the airport, go to INSIDE for check in. [your luggage will be checked through to Dublin. You are now an international traveler.] **You cannot curbside check-in for international flights.** At the airline counter, they will ask to see your passport. You hold an electronic ticket – no airline paper ticket to worry about. Double check that your luggage claim reflects Dublin. As this is a transatlantic flight, no baggage fees.

Before you leave home for the airport, recheck that your passport is with you. Without the passport, you cannot enter Europe, and cannot board the airplane. PLEASE remember your passport; without it, you will not be allowed to board any international flight. Few items are as important as your proof of citizenship.

VERY IMPORTANT INFORMATION CREDIT CARD with CHIP&PIN technology for use overseas

http://travel.nytimes.com/2011/06/12/travel/how-to-avoid-credit-card-problems-abroad-practical-traveler.html?_r=0

Advise your credit card company of your travel plans. By informing them in advance, you remove the risk of having your credit card account placed on hold for purchases that may appear suspicious. You will need the PIN number for your credit card to use your credit card in an ATM.]

Electrical: The electrical supply in Ireland is 230v 50hz. The plugs and sockets are the same as those used in the United Kingdom. A plug adapter does not change the electricity supplied to the appliance, only allows it to be plugged into a different type of wall socket. If the appliance you are using supports dual voltage and dual frequency then a plate/tag will be located on the item stating "120/240v, 50/60Hz". At the very least, you will need an adapter. [insure it is UK/IRE] We have a travel adapter kit from Apple, specific to Apple gear: Be sure your adapter is correct for your version in the event you have a Lightning Adapter [newer iPhones.]

Weather-wise: What is not to like about a forecast that has highs in the mid-60s! By the time we depart, here in Charlotte, we expect the summer temperatures @home will be bearing down. In Ireland, we should enjoy the break from the heat. Downside is a daily chance of rain. Don't forget your umbrella [or a water repellent jacket - though a small umbrella for your daypack is smart.]

Tips and gratuities are not included in the tour package. It is customary to tip service personnel. And in our experience, it is preferable to distribute tips as a group rather than individuals having to remember who and when.

With group travel, it works well for us to collect the tips, and for this journey, We would collect **75 dollars from** each person. If you can have that for us before we begin our travels abroad, it is just easier.

These gratuities are distributed to individuals providing services, including tour guides, hotel mai-tre d's, bus drivers, restaurant personnel, and other service individuals. Thanks!

We look forward to traveling with you all, and introducing you to the beauty of Ireland & London, along with some exciting side trips, and if you have any questions, please email or give us a call! jskeane@keanetravel.com, or 704.287.1763

