

Everyday Tips - Living in Galway

Getting familiar with University of Galway

- We recommend that students download the very useful University of Galway [Campus App](#).
 - It gives you access to campus maps, a room location finder, e-mail, Canvas and other services, information about accommodation, the health unit, printing services, and a host of other features that will simplify your life and improve your experience as a student at University of Galway.
- We also recommend that students familiarise themselves with the [Interactive Campus Map](#).
 - This is a searchable map of the entire Galway Campus, complete with indoor maps (for the most popular buildings for undergraduate students), services, facilities, and points of interest.
 - It is extremely useful for students trying to get their bearings on campus.

Local and National Travel

If you will be using local buses, a [Young Adult Leap Card](#) is a good investment.

- This LeapCard gives students 50% off all public transport under the TFI network, making commuting around Ireland much more affordable.
- You can apply for one online.

Post Offices

- There are several post offices in Galway, including one adjacent to the university campus on Newcastle Road.
- A standard 100g letter to Britain or mainland Europe costs €1.35.
- The General Post Office, on Eglinton Street, is normally open from 09:00 – 17:30.
- Smaller post offices may close for lunch.

Climate and Clothing

- Western Ireland's proximity to the Gulf Stream ensures that the temperature in winter rarely falls below 0°C.
- However, the climate is damp, so be prepared for frequent rain and wind.
- Waterproof clothing, a warm jacket or raincoat, an umbrella, and woollen sweaters are essential items for winter wear. These can all be purchased cheaply in the larger chain stores in Galway.

Telephone Services

- The main mobile phone providers in Ireland are [Vodafone](#), [Tesco Mobile](#) and [Three](#).

- There will be an option of “bill-pay”, where you have an account and monthly charges, or “pay as you go”, where you buy call credit as you need it.
- There are plenty of mobile phone shops around Galway where you can investigate the various packages. You should shop around to find the one that best suits your own requirements and the duration of your stay here.

Police and Emergencies

A police officer in Ireland is called a Garda Síochána (Irish for "guardian of the peace"). Full details of national and local Garda stations can be found on the [Garda website](#). In Galway, the main Garda station is located in Mill Street, telephone (091) 538000.

If you have an emergency dial 999 or 112 and ask for the service you require. The telephone number for University College Hospital is (091) 580580.

Shopping

- City-centre shops and department stores are open six days a week, most closing at 6pm; some larger shops also open until 9pm on Thursdays and Fridays, and many shops also open on Sunday afternoons.
- Supermarkets are usually open till 9 or 10pm, including on Sundays.
- If you are cooking for yourself, you will find all the basic foodstuffs are cheapest in the main supermarkets (Tesco, Dunnes Stores, Supervalu, Lidl and Aldi), and some of these also have suburban branches.
- Most supermarkets will have own-brand foodstuffs, which will be cheaper than regular brands.

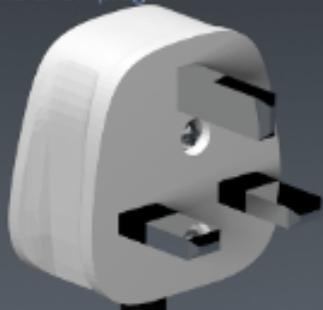
Driving in Ireland

- A full driver's licence from other EU countries is valid in Ireland.
- Traffic in Ireland travels on the left-hand side of the road.
- Cars can easily be rented provided you have a full driver's licence.

Electricity

- The standard mains voltage is 220v. Three-pin plugs are standard on most electrical equipment.

Ireland & UK plug



Do not forget to buy a
plug adapter!