



Fáilte Feirste Thiar
PROMOTING WEST BELFAST TOURISM
www.visitwestbelfast.com



SPRING GUIDE 2026

EOLAÍ AN EARRAIGH



www.visitwestbelfast.com

Fáilte go dtí larthar Bhéal Feirste | Welcome to West Belfast

Spring in West Belfast is a time of fresh energy, colour, and community. As the days grow longer, the streets, parks, and cultural spaces come alive with music, creativity, and local events that showcase the spirit of this vibrant part of the city.

Across West Belfast you'll find traditional music sessions, live performances, art exhibitions, and community gatherings taking place in welcoming venues and shared spaces. It's a season when locals and visitors alike can explore the area's rich history, thriving arts scene, and strong sense of place.

From walking the historic streets to discovering great local cafés, culture, and conversation, spring offers the perfect time to experience the warmth and character that make West Belfast so special.

Getting Here

West Belfast is accessible by foot, car, bus, train and cycling.

We are 100 miles from Dublin & 70 miles from Derry.

CAR

West Belfast has multiple access points from Westlink and M1 motorways.

TAXI

All seven Belfast Taxi CIC routes through West Belfast depart from the King Street depot in the city centre.

BUS

The Translink Glider service departing City Centre travels along West Belfast's main arterial routes Falls Road, Andersonstown Road and Stewartstown Road until it reaches the Colin Transport Hub.

BY FOOT

West Belfast is only a few minutes walk from Belfast City Centre. Exit from Castle Street, or Grosvenor Road to reach The Falls Road.



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FÁILTE GO DTÍ AN CHEATHRÚ GAELTACHTA

WELCOME TO BELFAST'S GAELTACHT QUARTER

IARTHAR BHÉAL FEIRSTE WEST BELFAST

- 1 Black Taxi Depot *Iosta na dTacsaithe Dubha*
- 2 Raidió Fáilte *Raidió Fáilte*
- 3 St Peter's Cathedral *Ardeaglais Pheadair*
- 4 International Wall *An Balla Idirnáisiúnta*
- 5 The Conway Mill *Mulleann Mhic Con Midhe*
- 6 Bobby Sands Mural *Múrthaisiú Bobby Sands*
- 7 Clonard Monastery *Mainistir Chluain Ard*
- 8 St Mary's College *Coláiste Ollscoile Naomh Muire*
- 9 An Chulturlann *An Chulturlann*
- 10 Farset International *Bru Óige Idirnáisiúnta na Feirste*
- 11 Youth Hostel
- 12 The Bog Meadows *Anaclann Dúira Chluain an Bhogaidh*
- 13 Nature Reserve
- 14 Belfast City Cemetery *Reilig Chathair Bhéal Feirste*
- 15 Milltown Cemetery *Reilig Bhallo an Mhuilinn*
- 16 Kennedy Centre *Ionad Uí Chinnéide*
- 17 Felons Club *Cumann na Meirleach*
- 18 Colin Glen Forest Park *Páirc Foraoise Ghleann Chollann*
- 19 Gruffalo Trail *Conair an Ghrufalo*
- 20 Roddy McCorley *Cumann Sóisialta Rodaí Mhic Corlaí*
- 21 Social Club
- 22 Falls Park *Páirc na bhFál*
- 23 Peace Walls *Na Ballaí Síochána*

- 24 Balmoral Hotel *Ostán Balmoral*
- 25 Black Mountain *An Sliabh Dubh*
- 26 Divis *Duibhis*
- 27 Colin Glen Allotments *Garraltas Scóir Ghleann Chollann*
- 28 James Connolly Statue *Dealbh Shéamuis Uí Chonghaile*
- 29 Johnny Caldwell Statue *Dealbh Johnny Caldwell*
- 30 James Connolly Visitor Centre *Áras Uí Chonghaile*



- Place Names of West Belfast**
- Black - Dubha** (The Black Mt)
- Mount - An Mhúinn** (The Old Church)
- Falls - Tuath na bhFál** (The waters of the waterfall)
- Ballymurphy - Balle Mhúinn** (Murphy's townland)
- Whitewash - An Chomhar Bhán** (The White Wash)
- Turf Lodge - Lóiste na Míosa** (The Turf Lodge)
- Andersonstown - Balle Anderson** (Anderson's Town)
- Ladbrook - Srúthán na Bantáine** (The Lady's Brook)
- Fountain - Faoise** (The Fountainhead)
- Dunmurry - Dún Múirí** (The Old Murrish's Fort)
- Taxibank - Cill Uaighe** (The name of an ancient church which formerly stood in the neighbouring townland)

- Symbol Information**
- Church
- Pub
- Hotel
- Peace Wall
- Historic Building/Place
- Historic Person
- Cultural/Heritage Site
- Green Space/Park
- Hospital
- Leisure Centre
- Accommodation
- Black Taxi Stand



FÉILE AN EARRAIGH

SPRING FESTIVAL

1ST - 17TH MARCH 2026



**Féile an Earraigh
1-17ú Márta 2026**

Beidh meascán iontach de cheol traidisiúnta, cainteanna, turais, taispeántais, amharclannaíocht agus imeachtaí teachlaigh i bhFéile an Earraigh na bliana seo.

Tá súil agam go mbainfidh sibh sult as an chéad fhéile s'againne in 2024, agus tá muid ag súil le bliain iontach eile le bhur dtacaíocht.

**Féile an Earraigh
1st - 17th March 2026**

This year's Féile delivers a wonderful mix of traditional music, talks, tours, exhibitions, theatre and family activity, and a St Patrick's 'festival experience' of world class Irish cultural events.



**FÉILE AN
EARRAIGH**

**1st-
17th
MARCH**

TRAD TRAIL

Belfast is a city with a rich and vibrant Irish traditional music scene and it's been said that traditional music embodies the spirit of the people of Ireland. Come along to Féile an Earraigh and you'll find out why!

Take your pick of over 140 free Irish traditional music sessions taking place city wide in more than 30 venues and enjoy the talents of over 100 of the best Irish traditional musicians from Belfast and beyond.

ALL SESSIONS ON THE TRAD TRAIL ARE FREE
NO BOOKING IS REQUIRED.

FULL LISTING AVAILABLE AT
www.feilebelfast.com

**Féile trad Trail
1st - 17th March**

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SEACHTAIN NA GAEILGE

**Seachtain na Gaeilge
1-17ú Márta 2026**

Ceiliúránn Seachtain na Gaeilge i mBéal Feirste 2026 teanga agus cultúr na hÉireann le ceol, damhsa, ceardlanna agus imeachtaí pobail, ag tabhairt daoine le chéile le bród agus spraoi.

Seachtain na Gaeilge in Belfast 2026 celebrates Irish language and culture with music, dance, workshops and community events, bringing people together in pride, creativity and shared enjoyment.

Spraoi Cois Lao Dé Sathairn 7ú Márta 2026

Beidh an lá mór teaghlaiigh, Spraoi Cois Lao, ar ais arís ar an Satharn, 7ú Márta i gCearnóg Theach an Chustaim mar chuid de Sheachtain na Gaeilge. Bí linn do lá iontach de cheol, craic, spórt agus spraoi i lár chathair Bhéal Feirste, le ceardlanna, gníomhaíochtaí, cluichí agus go leor leor eile, leis an Ghaeilge i lár an aonaigh. Beidh rud éigin ann do chách.

**Saturday 7 March 2026, 1pm – 4pm
Custom House Square**

The huge family fun day, Spraoi Cois Lao, is back on Saturday 7 March in Custom House Square as part of Seachtain na Gaeilge. Join us for a jam-packed day of music, craic, sport and fun in Belfast City Centre, with workshops, activities, games and much more as we celebrate the Irish language in the city. There will be something for everyone.





GAA Fixtures in West Belfast

Visitors to West Belfast during spring and summer 2026 can experience the unique atmosphere of Gaelic Games, one of Ireland's most vibrant sporting traditions. Local GAA club fixtures take place regularly across neighbourhood pitches and community grounds, offering an authentic look at Irish culture, sport, and community life.

Matches typically feature Gaelic football and hurling and camogie, fast-paced amateur sports played passionately by local clubs.

Games are usually scheduled on weekend afternoons or weekday evenings from April through August, when the club league and championship seasons are underway.

Spectators are welcome, and attending a club match offers a close-up experience rarely found in larger professional sports. Expect a lively crowd of families and supporters, traditional club colours, and the sound of encouragement from the sidelines.

Many fixtures are free or low-cost to attend, and club facilities often include community clubhouses serving food and refreshments. It's common for visitors to mingle with locals, making it a great way to learn about the role Gaelic games play in community identity across West Belfast.

Whether you're a sports fan or simply curious about Irish culture, a GAA club match is one of the most authentic local experiences Belfast has to offer.

Find latest fixtures here:
<https://antrim.gaa.ie/fixtures>





Mother's Day in West Belfast Sunday 15th March

Mother's Day in West Belfast is the perfect mix of heartfelt moments and local charm. From picking up the perfect bouquet at neighbourhood florists to finding thoughtful gifts in our local shopping centres, there's a real buzz in the air. Cafés fill up fast with families treating Mum to coffee, cake and a catch-up, while the streets are alive with laughter and last-minute surprises.

If you're visiting, you'll find a warm welcome, plenty of places to shop, dine and relax, and a community that truly knows how to celebrate the women who mean the most.



St Patricks Days in West Belfast Tuesday 17th March

Get ready for the ultimate St. Patrick's Day buzz in West Belfast!

Kick off with the high-energy SPAR Craic 10k, then dive into massive community fun days packed with bouncy castles, face painting, and carnival magic. With the Féile Trad Trail filling every corner with music, it's an unmissable, family-filled celebration!

Follow us on socials for the latest information on St Patrick's Day events in West Belfast.



Discover the life, legacy and living history of one of Ireland's great revolutionary thinkers. Located in the heart of West Belfast, the James Connolly Visitor Centre is a vibrant cultural and educational space dedicated to preserving and sharing the story of James Connolly. Labour leader, socialist thinker, and leader of the 1916 Easter Rising.

Through immersive exhibitions, seasonal programme of events, and a welcoming café space, the centre brings Connolly's ideas to life for a new generation. Whether you are a student, researcher, local resident, or visitor to Belfast, you are invited to explore, learn and reflect.



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An Cheathrú Gaeltachta, Béal Feirste
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- www.arasuichonghaile.com





Easter Sunday Commemorations Sunday 5th April

Easter Sunday in West Belfast is marked by deeply meaningful commemoration parades that reflect local history, community and respect.

People from across the area come together in a quiet yet powerful display of remembrance and reflection, walking from Falls Road to Milltown Cemetery with bands, banners and wreaths.

Thousands of spectators, both locals and visitors, line the pavements to observe with dignity and support, appreciating the importance of the day to families and community groups.





St James Community Farm

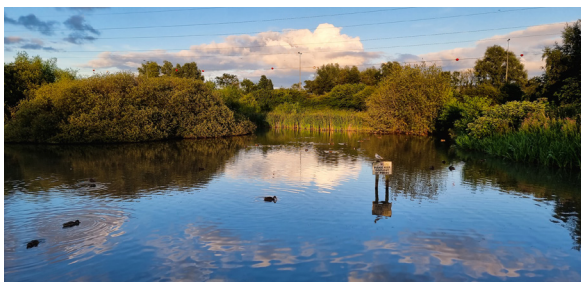
St James' Community Farm is a fantastic initiative led by volunteers and residents. The community farm has been in operation for over 8 years and has recently launched a new community hub.

Located in the heart of St James' community in West Belfast, the farm attracts families across Belfast and beyond. There are over 50 animals at the farm, with everything from peacocks and rabbits to goats and sheep.

Adjacent to the Bog Meadows Nature reserve, the farm was previously piece of waste ground - today it is a safe place for animals and family-friendly spot for all. It is free to visit and there are opportunities to contribute and donate to the fantastic community initiative.

Bog Meadows Nature Reserve

An award-winning urban nature reserve, in the heart of west Belfast, for people and wildlife. Situated in West Belfast, beside the M1 motorway, this green oasis - a mosaic of species-rich



meadows, reedbeds, ponds and hedgerows - is a huge asset for local people and wildlife, and provides great opportunities to enjoy nature in the city.

In spring and summer, look out for species such as orange-tip, speckled wood, meadow brown and small tortoiseshell fluttering over the wildflower meadows. Stand at the edge of the reedbed to be astounded by the scratchy symphony of sedge and reed warbler song. Other summer visitors include sand martin, swallow and swift which can be seen swooping low over the pond as they Hoover up insects.

Crane your neck skywards to watch for peregrine falcon and buzzard hunting overhead. You might even spot a kingfisher whizzing across the M1 from the Blackstaff River to collect sticklebacks. Mute swan, mallard, tufted duck, coot moorhen and little grebe can be seen at the pond all year round.



Belfast City Marathon Sunday 3rd May 2026

Held every spring in Belfast, the marathon brings together thousands of runners from around the world, alongside cheering locals who line the streets to create an incredible atmosphere. Whether you're a seasoned marathoner chasing a personal best or taking part as a first-timer, the event is designed to be welcoming, inclusive, and full of community spirit.

The course winds through some of Belfast's most iconic neighbourhoods including our very own Gaeltacht Quarter, offering a unique way to experience the city. From historic streets to lively residential areas buzzing with music and support. Bands, charity groups, and families turn out in force, making it feel like a city-wide celebration rather than just a sporting event.



Féile na gCloigíní Gorma 15th - 23rd May 2026

With Spring in full bloom, West Belfast welcomes the return of Féile na gCloigíní Gorma, The Bluebell Festival. An annual celebration of community, culture and language aimed at improving the health and wellbeing of local people through an wonderful programme of events.

The festival uses the symbol of blooming Bluebells, indigenous to Black Mountain which overlooks Belfast, to remind local people of the joys of life and of the natural environment.

Full programme of events will be launched by the festival this May.

THE FALLS

WHERE THE TROUBLES BEGAN



The Falls - Where The Troubles Began St Comgalls, Ionad Eileen Howell, Divis Street

This exhibition tells the story of the outbreak of conflict on the streets that surrounded this old school from August 1969 to July 1970. The exhibition does not tell the story of the Troubles or the wider conflict from 1969-1998.

It is however an extraordinary and painful story of a small historic, largely Catholic community who lived in the streets around St Comgall's, the area known as The Falls. The exhibition features two post-conflict community archives, namely the Dúchas Oral History Archive and the Belfast [Photographic] Archive Project.

Some of the content presented herein is naturally difficult and challenging.

However, out of this conflict is born a story of community cohesion, of community renewal and regeneration, of community health and wealth-building.

wherethetroublesbegan.com





Colin Glen Forest Park



Tucked away at the foot of the Belfast Hills is Colin Glen Forest Park, where your urban adventure awaits. Spread over two sites is a land of storytelling and a state-of-the-art sports park.

Enjoy beautiful scenery in what is affectionately known as Belfast's Green Lung. Walk with wildlife or zipline through the trees, follow Ireland's official Gruffalo Trail or take a heritage trail through an oasis of tranquillity.



Belfast Hills – Divis & Black Mountain

Surrounding the city lie the majestic Belfast Hills, where urban city life meets rural tranquility. Resting in the heart of the Belfast Hills, Divis Mountain and Black Mountain provide a beautiful backdrop to the city's skyline.

Explore this rich, varied archaeological landscape and discover how it is home to a host of wildlife. The walking trails through heath, on stone tracks, along boardwalks and road surface offer a diverse array of terrains to interest all walking levels. On a clear day, there are views of Strangford Lough, the Mourne and Sperrin mountain ranges and as far as Donegal and Scotland.



Coiste na nlarchimi

Award winning Coiste Tours are provided by former activists and political ex-prisoners from within the Republican community host this 3 hour walking tour and provide the visitor with an in depth insight into the most recent phase of the Anglo/Irish conflict.

The tour starts at Coiste's mural at Divis Tower at the bottom of the Falls Road and travels through West Belfast, visiting The International Wall with its many famous murals, and the Republican Memorial gardens. Included in the tour there is also a visit to the local Irish History Museum.

Coiste Irish Political Tours has recently been recognised again with a Trip-Advisor Travellers' Choice Best of the Best award, placing it in the top 10 % of attractions worldwide

**For tour times and Tickets go to:
www.coiste.ie**





TaxiTrax - The Original Belfast Taxi Tours

Taxitrax offers one of Belfast's most authentic and memorable sightseeing experiences. Hop into a classic Belfast black taxi and let a passionate local guide, many of whom grew up in the city and lived through its modern history bring Belfast's story to life in a way that bus tours never can.

On a Black Taxi Mural Tour, you'll explore the famous political murals of West Belfast, including both Republican and Loyalist neighbourhoods. Your guide will explain the meaning behind the artwork and share personal insights into our past and the peace process.

Whether you're a history buff or just curious about Belfast's culture and community, Taxitrax gives you a warm, enlightening, and very local way to see the city beyond the guidebook.

www.taxitrax.com



RODAÍ MHIC CORLAÍ
RODDY MCCORLEY

POBLACHACH

IONAD
OIDHREACHTA



Located in the heart of West Belfast at the foot of the Belfast Hills, the Roddy McCorley Republican Heritage Centre comprises a world class museum, functions and events space, contemporary modern restaurant and stunning rooftop terrace bar commanding views across the entire city.

Discover the story of 200 years of Irish Republicanism told through the prism of a unique collection of locally gathered and curated historical artefacts from The Society of United Irishmen of 1798 through to the present day. The state-of-the-art museum tells the story of 200 years of Republicanism while showcasing a spectacular collection of artefacts and memorabilia as curated by The Roddy McCorley Society for over 40 years.

Sample the very best of west Belfast's world-renowned Irish hospitality and indulge in a new culinary experience at the Roddy McCorley Republican Heritage Centre restaurant which provides spectacular 360° views over Belfast.



Complete your experience by grabbing a cocktail at the rooftop terrace bar or relax in the Corrib Bar and Lounge, you will have an unforgettable experience at the new Roddy McCorley Heritage Centre.



EATING & DRINKING

West Belfast's food and drink scene reflects its cultural heart and community spirit, combining local produce, global flavours, and welcoming pubs.

The Gaeltacht Quarter and along Falls Road, you'll find places like Hatch, Bia Loch Lao, LENA'S Cafe, The Rock Bar, Beehive Bar and Hawthorn Bar all offering unique experiences for visitors and local alike.

Further on up the Falls Road including Andersonstown Road and Glen Road, you will be spoiled for choice with an incredible array of restaurants and eateries including Goodfellas, The Temple, 26 West Bar & Grill, The Felons, Glenowen, Andersonstown Social Club PD, The Roddies, Yum, the Devenish, The Balmoral Lady Anne Brasserie, Urban Fire.

You will also find wonderful cafe spots including Seven, Arizona, Stacked and Banbha.



West Belfast's pub scene offers an authentic taste of Belfast's hospitality—rich in character, full of warmth, and rooted in strong community spirit.

From historic pubs to buzzing modern bars, West Belfast has it all. One must-visit is The Felons Club on Falls Road, often named among Belfast's friendliest pubs. Known for its welcoming atmosphere, live music, and community roots, it's a great starting point for experiencing West Belfast's social heart.

Nearby, the newly opened Whitefort Bar on Andersonstown Road is the perfect place for a fun-filled night out with an upstairs sports floor complete with huge tv screens, pool tables and darts.

Very near The Falls Park you will find the historic McEnaneys pub, the perfect place to enjoy a pint or 2 before going to one of the massive park nights at this year's Féile.

For more information on pubs and restaurants go to www.visitwestbelfast.com

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