

Population:

279.240

Currency:

1 pound £ = 100 pence

Opening hours:

City Centre Shops generally open Mon- Sat 0930-1730 and Thurs until 2100. Some larger stores open Sun 1300-1700. Neighbourhood and convenience shops often open much longer - 24 hours in many cases.

Internet:

www.gotobelfast.com
www.discovernorthernireland.com
www.belfastcity.gov.uk

Newspapers:

Belfast Telegraph
Belfast Morning News
Irish news
Newsletter
Whatabout? (monthly events guide, available from the Belfast Welcome Centre)

Emergency numbers:

For police, fire and ambulance call 999

Tourist information:

Belfast Welcome Centre
Opening hours are as follows:
1st June-30th Sept: Mon-Sat 9am-7pm / Sun 12noon-5pm
1st October-31st May: Mon-Sat 9am-5.30pm
47 Donegall Place
Tel: +44 28 90246609
www.gotobelfast.com
www.discovernorthernireland.com

BELFAST

PUBLISHING DATE: **2010-03-04** | COUNTRY CODE: **GB**

Contents: The City, Do & See, Eating, Cafés, Bars & Nightlife, Shopping, Essential Information, Maps

Copyright © 2010 Fastcheck AB. All rights reserved. For more information visit: www.arrivalguides.com



BELFAST

Having survived almost three decades of conflict and division, Belfast is now emerging from its chrysalis with a newfound freshness and vibrancy. Carrying a deep sense of its history, and yet boldly striding into the future, Belfast is an exciting juxtaposition of old and new. Stroll by the River Lagan and see the birthplace of the infamous Titanic, or visit the famous political murals in a black taxi. Or kick back with a traditional music session in one of this lively city's beautifully preserved old pubs.

THE CITY



Belfast is the capital of Northern Ireland. The name Belfast originates from the Irish Béal Feirste, or the mouth of the Farset, the river on which the city was built and which has now been superseded by the River Lagan. Belfast saw the worst of the Troubles in Northern Ireland, and since their start in 1969, news of violence and disruption marred the city's image as a tourist destination.

Since the 1997 cease-fire and the Good Friday agreement, however, Belfast is making up for lost time. With the help of massive investment, the city has undergone a remarkable transformation, and now has a booming economy and high employment rates. The River Lagan has been cleaned up and inner city areas, such as the Cathedral Quarter, have been regenerated, attracting new restaurants, hotels, shopping areas and cafes.

The city's largely Victorian buildings have been juxtaposed with impressive 20th century architecture, creating a sense of progress and change. With its sights set on the future, Belfast has become a vibrant, friendly and exciting city, waiting to be discovered in new ways.

DO & SEE



Grand Opera House

This beautiful and opulent Victorian building was designed in 1894 and restored in the 1970s. With its programme of plays, operas and concerts, the best way to see the building is to attend a show. There are also Saturday tours which cost £3.

*Address: Great Victoria Street
Phone: +44 28 9024 1919
Internet: www.goh.co.uk*

Belfast City Hall

The City Hall is an extravagant building built in the early 1900s in classical Renaissance style, symbolizing the sudden wealth of Industrial Revolution Belfast. Free guided tours are available (call for details). Be sure to check out the portraits of past Lord Mayors, each by an artist of their own choice.

*Address: City Hall, Donegall Sq
Phone: +44 28 9027 0456*

Black Taxi Political Tour

A great way to see Belfast's political hotspots is in a black taxi. For very moderate prices, a cab will show you the famous political murals, Falls and Shankill Roads and the Peace Walls. Often highly entertaining depending on the driver's point of view!

*Phone: +44 28 9064 2264
Internet: www.belfasttours.com*

Ulster Museum

Museum of art, archaeology, local history and natural sciences. A fine permanent collection as well as rotating exhibitions and events.

*Address: Botanic Gardens, Belfast
Phone: +44 28 9044 0000
Internet: www.ulstermuseum.org.uk*

Old Museum Arts Centre

Friendly, active and innovative, the OMAC offers a high quality programme of contemporary theatre and dance, music, comedy and visual art. Check the website for details of current events.

*Address: 7 College Square North
Phone: +44 28 9023 3332
Internet: www.oldmuseumartscentre.org*

Queen's Film Theatre

World and art house cinema with two screens and an attractive fully licensed bar serving light snacks.

*Address: 20 University Square
Phone: +44 28 9097 1097
Internet: www.queensfilmtheatre.com*

Botanic Gardens

Just a short walk from the university lies this green haven sloping down to the River Lagan. Its centrepiece, the Palm House is a beautiful conservatory of cast iron and glass designed in 1939 by Charles Lanyon. Admission is free and the gardens are open daily from dawn to dusk.

*Address: College Park Botanic Avenue
Phone: +44 28 9032 0202*

St Anne's Cathedral

This neo-Romanesque building is what gave the Cathedral Quarter its name. Inside there is lots of marble and huge coloured mosaics. The church has been at the forefront in recent years of cross-community initiatives, hosting weekly "heal our land" services for people of any denomination. Open Mon-Fri 1000-1600.

*Address: Donegall St
Phone: +44 28 9032 8332
Internet: www.belfastcathedral.org*

Lagan Boat Tour

For a unique perspective of Belfast, make your way through the city by boat and visit the birth place of the infamous Titanic with an 8km tour of the River Lagan.

*Address: 48 St John's Close
Phone: +44 28 9033 0844
Internet: www.laganboatcompany.com*

EATING



Belfast boasts a wide variety of eateries to suit all budgets and tastes, including a couple of the best in Ireland. The huge investment in restaurants and hotel is attracting talented young chefs who are lending a new energy to the Belfast eating scene, and high quality venues are popping up all over the place.

Suwanna

This small, family-run Thai restaurant serves delicious, fresh, beautifully presented food in an intimate atmosphere. Booking recommended.

*Address: 117 Great Victoria Street
Phone: +44 28 9043 9007
Internet: www.suwannabelfast.com*

Café Conor

This modern bistro is one of the most attractive eateries in Belfast. Once the studio of painter William Conor, the space has kept its artistic legacy with hanging artworks, gourmet food and a warm

atmosphere.

*Address: 11a Stranmillis Road
Phone: +44 28 9066 3266
Internet: www.cafeconor.com*

Other Place

A favourite with students for its all-day fry and comfort food, this spot is frequently very busy. Bring your own bottle.

*Address: 79 Botanic Ave
Phone: +44 28 9020 7200*

Beatrice Kennedy

One of Belfast's more stylish restaurants, Beatrice Kennedy's attracts a regular clientele. A ten minute stroll from the Lyric Theatre and Grand Opera House, it is ideal for pre-theatre dining. Closed on Mondays.

*Address: 44 University Road
Phone: +44 28 9020 2290
Internet: www.beatricekennedy.co.uk*

Cayenne

With an innovative affordable Asian-influenced menu served in stylish surroundings, this award-winning restaurant makes for a most pleasurable dining experience.

*Address: 7 Ascot House, Shaftesbury Square
Phone: +44 28 9033 1532
Internet: www.rankingroup.co.uk*

Molly's Yard

Highly recommended restaurant with reasonable prices. They also brew their own beer.

*Address: 1 College Green Mews
Phone: +44 28 90322600*

Morning Star

This old coaching stop houses a bar and a cosy wood-panelled restaurant upstairs. Expect experimental takes on fresh local ingredients and a full steak menu. Closed on Sundays.

*Address: 17-19 Pottingers Entry
Phone: +44 28 90235986
Internet: www.themorningstarbar.com*

Metro Brasserie

Located in the Crescent Townhouse Hotel, The Metro is modern, elegant and serves excellent food and wine. Local specialties are combined with Oriental and Mediterranean influences.

*Address: 13 Lower Crescent
Phone: +44 28 9032 3349
Internet: www.crescenttownhouse.com*

Sun Kee

Small and family-run, the Sun Kee has earned widespread recognition as one of Ireland's most authentic Chinese restaurants. Bring your own bottle, as they don't serve alcohol, and book ahead – this is a very popular spot!

*Address: 43-47 Donegall Pass
Phone: +44 28 9031 2016*

CAFÉS



Deane's Deli

New York style deli with great coffee and delicious food. Full of media types from the BBC next door.

*Address: 44 Bedford Street
Phone: +44 28 9024 8800
Internet: www.michaeldeane.co.uk*

Café Renoir

High quality food and coffee with home made organic produce served in a cosy, friendly atmosphere.

*Address: 5-7 Queen Street
Phone: +44 28 9032 5592
Internet: www.cafe-renoir.net*

Café Africa

Coffee with a conscience, this café puts some of its profits back into African building projects.

*Address: 22-24 Lombard st.
Phone: +44 28 9027 8738*

BARS & NIGHTLIFE



Belfast is awash with slick new bars, as well as plenty of old-style pubs, many with traditional music sessions several nights of the week, as well as DJ nights at weekends. Pubs usually close around 2330.

Belfast's nightlife is booming! The club scene is vibrant and top-quality live music can be found in several venues throughout the city. Late night action really kicks off South of the centre around the Golden Mile, Queen's Quarter and Lisburn Road.

Crown Liquor Saloon

Sit in a cosy snug with a pint of Guinness and admire the mirrors, coloured tiles and gas lighting.

*Address: 46 Great Victoria St
Phone: +44 28 9024 3187
Internet: www.crownbar.com*

White's Tavern

Founded in 1630, this ancient establishment is a cosy hideaway from the hustle and bustle of outside. Big open fire and traditional music nights downstairs.

*Address: 2-4 Winecellar Entry, High Street
Phone: +44 28 9024 3080
Internet: www.whitestavern.co.uk*

The John Hewitt

Named after a socialist poet, the John Hewitt runs traditional music sessions three nights a week and live jazz on Fridays, as well as regular exhibitions and great food.

*Address: 51 Donegall Street
Phone: +44 28 9023 3768
Internet: www.thejohnhewitt.com*

Kellys Cellars

Among Belfast's oldest pubs. Full of character and a great place for a hearty Ulster fry. Traditional music sessions are held here – call for details.

*Address: 30-32 Bank Street
Phone: +44 28 9024 6058*

The Errigle

Great pub food, Guinness and in the summer some impromptu outdoor seating. Also home to the Real Music Club, a haven of folk, country rock and blues.

*Address: 312 Ormeau Road
Phone: +44 28 9064 1410
Internet: www.errigle.com*

The Duke Of York

A great cosy friendly bar with live traditional music on Thursday nights and DJs at the weekend. Sinn Fein leader Gerry Adams used to be a barman here!

*Address: 7-11 Commercial Street
Phone: +44 28 9024 1062*

Shine

DJs grind out the beats to an ecstatic crowd on Saturday nights in this basement club. A very popular spot with an underground (literally) feel to it. Admission is £10 (£8 students). Open till 3am.

*Address: Students Union Building, University Road
Phone: +44 28 9097 3106
Internet: www.shine.net*

Empire

This is the home of Belfast's longest running comedy club (runs through term

time Sept-Jun). It also hosts various music events.

*Address: 42 Botanic Avenue
Phone: +44 28 9032 8110
Internet: www.thebelfastempire.com*

New Moon Showcase

The Crescent Arts Centre hosts the New Moon on the first Saturday of the month. An eclectic selection of musicians and performers.

*Address: Crescent Arts Centre, 2 University Rd.
Phone: +44 28 9024 2338
Internet: www.crescentarts.org*

Salsa Nights

Belfast, perhaps surprisingly, has lots of salsa! If this is your thing, check out La Tasca, a tapas bar located in the Odyssey Pavilion, and Madisson's, 59-63 Botanic Avenue. Both of these run regular classes and nights. Also the Empire runs a salsa night downstairs on Fridays.

*Phone: +44 28 9073 8241
Internet: www.latasca.co.uk www.thebelfastempire.com*

SHOPPING



All the usual department stores and high street chains are located on High Street and Royal Avenue, and the smaller streets connecting them. This area is mostly for pedestrians. The Castlecourt Shopping Centre is located on Royal Avenue and is Northern Ireland's largest shopping mall, with more than 70 different shops. The Lisburn Road shopping centre houses trendy designer boutiques. For more individual, arty shops, explore the

Cathedral Quarter, as well as Bedford Street, Dublin Road and Donegall Pass (the latter an interesting mix of biker shops and antique markets) where you will find interesting design stores, antiques, gift shops and many other small Belfast outlets.

For arts and crafts, visit the Wicker Man in the Donegall Arcade. At the Workshops Collective at 1a Lawrence Street you can pick up paintings, sculpture, furniture and crafts directly from the artist.

Saint George's Market (access via Oxford Street) is the last surviving covered Victorian market in Belfast and has been newly restored, giving it a new lease of life. On Fridays the food market runs from 0700-1500 and sells fresh fruit, vegetables, flowers and fish, as well as some miscellaneous items.

ESSENTIAL INFORMATION



Airport

Belfast International Airport is located approximately 20 minutes from the city centre. Buses run between the airport and the city centre roughly every 20 minutes between 0530 and 2330 and deposit passengers at the Glengall Street Bus Station and Central Railway Station in the city centre. Fares are £7 single and £10 return. Taxis are available outside the terminal building and cost approximately £25 to the city centre. Car hire agents are located in the terminal building.

Internet: www.belfastairport.com

Belfast City Airport is to the east of the city centre. It is about a 5 minute drive from the centre. Car hire is available from the airport. Trains run every half an hour during the day between Sydenham Station near the airport and the central train station in Belfast. The Citybus number 21 runs every 20 minutes from Sydenham Station to City Hall Monday-Saturday, on Sunday Citybus numbers 101 and 102 run to the airport from the city centre.

Internet: www.belfastcityairport.com

Public Transport

Destinations are named and numbered on the front of all Metro vehicles. Services usually start and end around the City Hall. Fares can be paid in coins to the bus driver/operator on boarding at the front. Smartlink Multi-journey tickets and travel cards are available in shops displaying the Metro sign, or from the Metro Kiosk in Donegall Square West. Fares are £1-£1.60 and day cards are £3.50/£2.50. Metro also provides a 'nightlink' service at 0100 and 0200, which costs £3.50.

Internet: www.translink.co.uk

Taxi

Value Cabs collect at airports and will also collect and drop to order, operating 24 hours.

Phone: +44 28 9080 9080

FonaCAB

Phone: +44 28 333 333

Internet: www.fonacab.com

Post

Post Offices and red post boxes are all over the city Main Post Office is at Castle Junction. Small books of UK stamps are available in most convenience stores and petrol stations.

Pharmacy

Advice on medical and dental emergencies- Health Information Service.

Phone: 0800 66 55 44

Dentist

Advice on medical and dental emergencies- Health Information Service.

Phone: 0800 66 55 44

Telephone

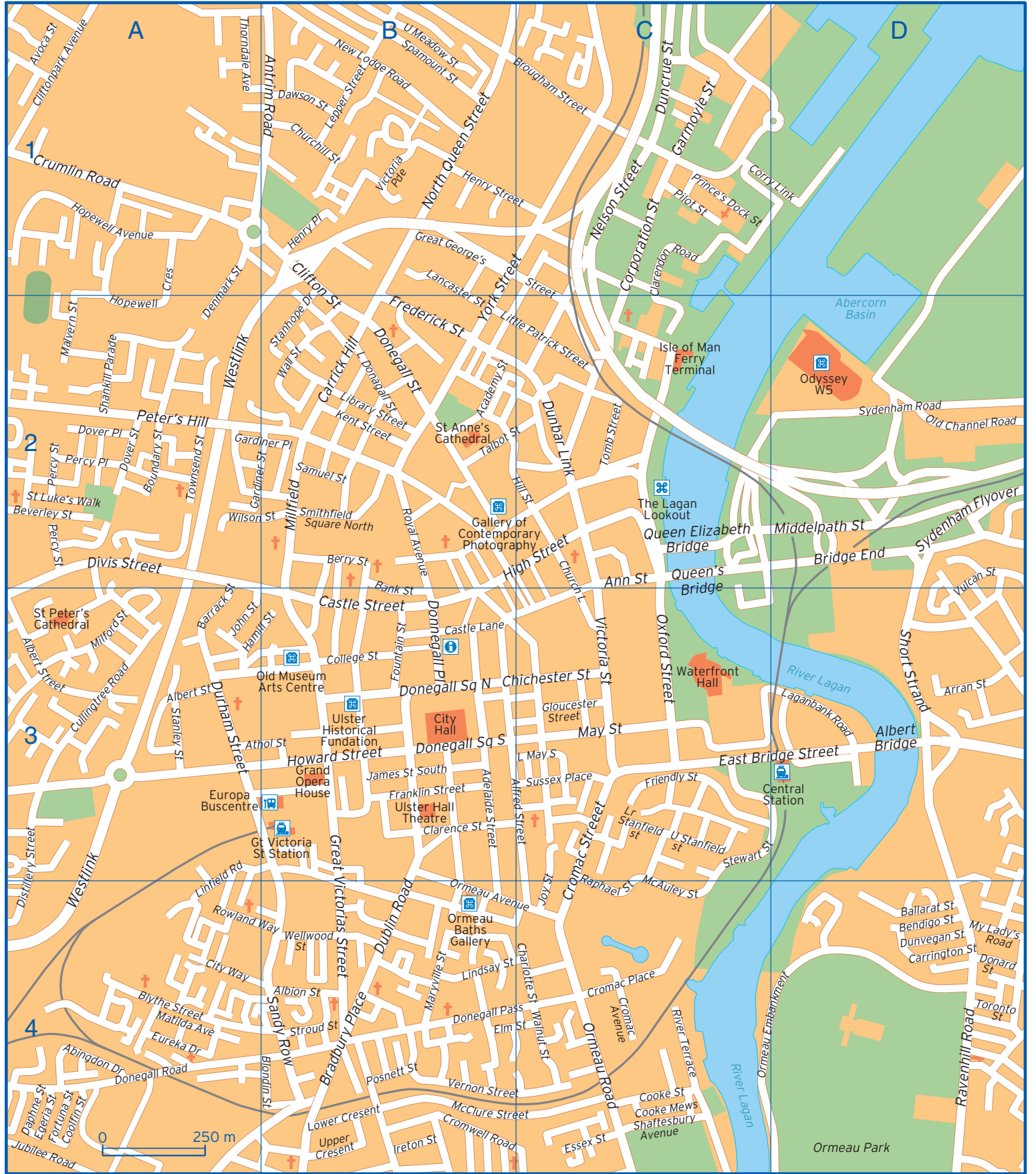
Country code: +44

Area code: 028

Electricity

230V 50 HzHz, Flat three pin plug





Abingdon Drive	A4	Dover Place	A2	Old Channel Road	D2
Academy Street	B2	Dover Street	A2	Ormeau Avenue	B4 C4
Adelaide Street	B3	Dublin Road	B4	Ormeau Embankment	C4 D4
Albert Bridge	D3	Dunbar Link	C2	Ormeau Road	C4
Albert Street	A3	Duncrue Street	C1	Oxford Street	C3
Albion Street	B4	Dunvegan Street	D4	Percy Place	A2
Alfred Street	B3 C3	Durham Street	A3	Percy Street	A2
Ann Street	C2	East Bridge Street	C3 D3	Peter's Hill	A2
Antrim Road	B1	Egeria Street	A4	Pilot Street	C1
Arran Street	D3	Elm Street	B4 C4	Posnett Street	B4
Athol Street	A3 B3	Essex Street	C4	Prince's Dock Stre.	C1
Avoca Street	A1	Eureka Drive	A4	Queen Elizabeth Br.	C2
Ballarat Street	D4	Fortuna Street	A4	Queen's Bridge	C3
Bank Street	B2 B3	Fountain Street	B3	Raphael Street	C3 C4
Barrack Street	A2 A3	Franklin Street	B3	Ravenhill Road	D4
Bendigo Street	D4	Frederick Street	B2	River Terrace	C4
Berry Street	B2	Friendly Street	C3	Rowland Way	A4 B4
Beverley Street	A2	Gardiner Place	A2 B2	Royal Avenue	B2
Blondin Street	B4	Gardiner Street	A2 B2	Samuel Street	B2
Blythe Street	A4	Garmoyle Street	C1	Sandy Row	B4
Boundary Street	A2	Gloucester Street	C3	Shaftesbury Avenue	C4
Bradbury Place	B4	Great George's Str.	B1	Shankill Parade	A2
Bridge End	D2	Great Victorias St.	B3 B4	Short Strand	D3
Brougham Street	B1 C1	Hamill Street	A3 B3	Smithfield Square .	B2
Carrick Hill	B2	Henry Place	B1	Spamount Street	B1
Carrington Street	D4	Henry Street	B1 C1	St Luke's Walk	A2
Castle Lane	B3	High Street	B2 C2	Stanhope Drive	B2
Castle Street	B3	Hill Street	B2 C2	Stanley Street	A3
Charlotte Street	C4	Hopewell Avenue	A1	Stewart Street	C3 D3
Chichester Street	B3 C3	Hopewell Cres	A2	Stroud Street	B4
Church Lane	C2 C3	Howard Street	B3	Sussex Place	C3
Churchill Street	B1	Ireton Street	B4	Sydenham Flyover	D2
City Way	A4	James Street South	B3	Sydenham Road	D2
Clarence Street	B3	John Street	A3	Talbot Street	B2 C2
Clarendon Road	C1 C2	Joy Street	C3 C4	Thorndale Avenue	A1
Clifton Street	B1 B2	Jubilee Road	A4	Tomb Street	C2
Cliftonpark Avenue	A1	Kent Street	B2	Toronto Street	D4
College Street	B3	Laganbank Road	D3	Townsend Street	A2
Cooke Mews	C4	Lancaster Street	B1 B2	Upper Crescent	B4
Cooke Street	C4	Lepper Street	B1	Upper Meadow Stree.	B1
Coolfin Street	A4	Library Street	B2	Upper Stanfield St.	C3
Corporation Street	C1	Lindsay Street	B4	Wall Street	B2
Corry Link	C1 D1	Linfield Road	A3 A4	Walnut Street	C4
Cromac Avenue	C4	Little Donagall St.	B2	Wellwood Street	B4
Cromac Place	C4	Little May Street	C3	Vernon Street	B4 C4
Cromac Street	C3 C4	Little Patrick Str.	B2 C2	Westlink	A2 A3 A4
Cromwell Road	B4	Lower Crescent	B4	Victoria Parade	B1
Crumlin Road	A1	Lower Stanfield St.	C3	Victoria Street	C3
Cullingtree Road	A3	Malvern Street	A2	Wilson Street	A2 B2
Daphne Street	A4	Maryville Street	B4	Vulcan Street	D2 D3
Dawson Street	B1	Matilda Avenue	A4	York Street	B2 C1
Denmark Street	A1 A2	May Street	C3		
Distillery Street	A3 A4	McAuley Street	C4		
Divis Street	A2	McClure Street	B4 C4		
Donard Street	D4	Middelpath Street	D2		
Donegall Pass	B4 C4	Milford Street	A3		
Donegall Road	A4	Millfield	B2		
Donegall Square No.	B3	My Lady's Road	D4		
Donegall Square So.	B3	Nelson Street	C1		
Donegall Street	B2	New Lodge Road	B1		
Donnegall Place	B3	North Queen Street	B1		