

# Travel Newsletter

## Ireland Summer 2008



May 15, 2008

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### Last-Minute Reminders

Before you get on a plane, make sure you have your **student validation document** and **passport**. If you don't have them with you, immigration will turn you away at the airport when you land. **Your student validation document is included in this mailing.**

Make sure you have paid your program fee and/or taken care of your financial aid. We can't place you in housing if you haven't paid your fee.

E-mail your travel plans to [dpraul@ifsa-butler.org](mailto:dpraul@ifsa-butler.org) by June 1. We need to know when to expect you so that we have a way to track you down if you don't turn up on time. If you miss a flight or change your plans, call IFSA-Butler at 800-858-0229 and **let us know**.

### Checking In for Your Flight

You should plan to arrive at the airport three hours before your international flight. That allows you enough time to get checked in, get a boarding pass and make it to your gate.

You must check in for your flight. Otherwise, the airline can give your seat to someone else.

Ask if your domestic carrier has an agreement with your international carrier. If so, the domestic airline may be able to check your bags all the way through to your final destination. This way it may be possible to get your international flight boarding pass at the gate instead of having to leave the gate area to retrieve your luggage and check it back in at the international airline desk in the check-in area.

If your bags can't be checked to your final destination, you'll have to leave the gate area and claim your luggage, then recheck your luggage at the check-in desk of your international airline carrier. They will issue you a boarding pass for this leg of your journey. Once you have rechecked your luggage and received your new boarding pass, you will have to proceed through security in order to re-enter the gate area.

Get to the gate in plenty of time so you don't miss your flight.

### Baggage and Backpacks

Most airlines allow two pieces of checked luggage and one carry-on bag. Contact both your domestic and international carriers for more information on baggage limits.

If you exceed baggage limits, the airline can require you to buy new luggage and repack right there in the airport. Do not over-pack. You may be required to pay a fee for extra or oversized luggage.

If you lock your luggage, make sure the lock is Transportation Security Administration-approved in order to lessen damages to your luggage. If your bag is searched, officers may cut the lock off, damaging your bag in the process.

Please do not bring sporting equipment such as skis and bikes. If you feel you must bring your own, call your domestic and international carriers for information about packing and excess baggage fees.

### Packing Your Carry-on Bag

Remember to pack:

- Your passport
- Your student validation document
- Your tickets
- *Preparing to Study Abroad* (sent with your welcome packet)
- Your newsletters
- Your telephone calling card and instructions for calling home from Ireland
- List of contact names, addresses, phone numbers, fax numbers and e-mail for:
  - Academic advisor at your home college
  - Study abroad advisor at your home college
  - Parents and relatives
- Course descriptions from your home college (only if you must take an equivalent course overseas)
- Rules of transfer credit from your home college

You might also want to bring:

- Travel-size toiletries that meet airline specifications/restrictions (i.e., liquids in containers no larger than three ounces, all sealed in a clear, quart-size plastic bag).
- Something to read
- Something to listen to
- Spare clothes in case your luggage is lost or delayed
- Any medications and prescriptions
- Your spare glasses
- Camera

According to FAA regulations, you are not allowed to bring in your carry-on the following items:

- Knives (including pocket knives)
- Cutting instruments of any kind
- Metal knitting needles (plastic needles are acceptable)
- Lighters
- Metal scissors (plastic scissors are acceptable)
- Baseball or softball bats
- Golf clubs
- Pool cues
- Ski poles
- Hockey sticks

You can get the most up-to-date list of prohibited items from the Transportation Security Administration Web site at [www.tsa.gov](http://www.tsa.gov) (click on "Travelers and Consumers" and then on "Air Travel").

Airlines have implemented stringent security measures and any items described above will be confiscated and not returned. Remember that metal objects, even pocket change and pen caps, can set off the airport's security alarms.

Carry-ons are subject to inspections. You may bring an umbrella on board, but only if it has been inspected at the airport. If you need to take a syringe on the airplane, you must have documented proof of medical need.

If you intend to bring a laptop computer, portable CD player or a hand-held electronic game, follow your airline's instructions. Cell phones must never be used while an airplane is in flight.

## Security Check

Security is tight, so you may have to unload batteries from your electronic equipment or undergo security procedures. Do not joke about having weapons or explosives. Security can arrest you on the spot and send you to jail. Be patient and cooperative with the security personnel.

You may be required to turn on all electronic equipment. Be sure that your equipment is fully charged and include the power cord or battery in your carry-on.

## Running Late?

If you are delayed and it looks like you may not make your flight, you'll need to make alternate arrangements with the airline (not your travel agent!) to get on the next available flight. **You must call us at 800-858-0229 to let us know about your change in plans.** We will then inform our Ireland office of any delays on your behalf.

Be sure to leave your name, location, airline, old flight numbers, new flight numbers, and departure and arrival times. Also

include the name, number and room of the hotel if you have to stay overnight. You should also call your parents to let them know about your flight change.

We monitor messages on flight days, so if no one answers the phone, be sure to leave a message with the above information.

## In-flight Comfort

For comfort during the flight, wear loose-fitting clothes and comfortable shoes. Your feet might swell during the flight. You'll probably find that the cabin feels cold, so don't give away your blanket.

## Beating Jet Lag

During the flight drink plenty of water and sleep as much as you can. Try to eat something, but avoid drinking alcohol.

If you don't adjust your internal clock right away, jet lag will hit you harder and last longer. Set your watch to local time, and eat and go to bed at normal Irish times.

## Landing Card

As your plane descends into Ireland, your flight attendants will hand out a few forms with customs and agricultural declarations. These forms include a landing card that you must present when you clear immigration. You'll be required to enter an Ireland address on the card. Your Ireland addresses are listed in the "Lost Luggage" section below.

Customs limits the amount of alcohol and cigarettes that you can bring into the country (duty-free goods valued up to €175 or £145, one liter of spirits or two liters of wine and 200 cigarettes are allowed). Do not bring explosives or flammable fluids. Remove the price tags and wrappings from any new purchases; you don't want to pay customs charges on any new belongings.

If you have nothing to declare, go through the green channel.

If you have a question about declaring goods, declare them. It's not a problem to declare something you don't have to. However, if you neglect to declare something customs considers dangerous to their agriculture or against their laws, they may fine, deport or imprison you.

## Lost Luggage

If your luggage doesn't come out of the carousel, see the airline officials to file a lost luggage claim **before you leave the baggage claim area.** Please give them your forwarding address:

### University College Cork students:

Brookfield Holiday Village  
College Road  
Cork  
Telephone: 021-434-4032

### NUI Galway students:

Gort na Coiribe  
Headford Road  
Galway  
Telephone: 091-746-400

**University of Limerick students:**

Dromroe Student Village  
University of Limerick  
Telephone: 061-202-977

**Queen's University, Belfast students:**

Elms Student Village  
78 Malone Road  
Belfast BT9 5BW  
Northern Ireland  
Telephone: 028-9097-4525

If you lose your luggage, let our IFSA-Butler Ireland staff know.

**Phone Home**

**Please call home as soon as you get to Ireland.** Your family will be worrying about you. Check with your long-distance carrier for instructions on calling home from Ireland (and anywhere else you plan to travel) **before** you leave. Sometimes instructions for calling internationally with a calling card can be complex, so be sure to write the information down and bring it with you in your carry-on bag.

**Clearing Immigration**

When you go through immigration, the officials will ask the purpose of your visit. Tell them that you are a student and present your **passport, landing card** (from the airplane) and **student validation document**. The student validation document verifies your status as a full-time student and confirms that your program fees are being paid.

If the official asks for your address, remember to use the address provided above (in the "Lost Luggage" section). Alternatively, you may also use the following addresses:

**Republic of Ireland students:**

Institute for Study Abroad  
9 Glentworth Street  
Limerick  
Ireland  
Telephone: 061-440-740

**Northern Ireland students:**

Institute of Irish Studies  
53-67 University Road  
Belfast, BT7 1NF  
Northern Ireland  
Telephone: 028-9097-3386

**Where Is Orientation?**

During the IFSA-Butler orientation, students studying in Cork, Limerick and Galway will be staying at Jury's Inn in Limerick. IFSA-Butler Ireland staff will meet students at 1:45 p.m. in the hotel lobby for lunch followed by orientation on their program start date.

Jury's Inn  
Lower Mallow Street  
Limerick  
Telephone: 061-207-000

Students studying in Belfast will stay at Jury's Inn in Belfast for orientation. IFSA-Butler Ireland staff will meet students at 5:45 p.m. in the hotel lobby on the program start date.

Jury's Inn  
Great Victoria Street  
Belfast  
Telephone: 028-9053-3500

UCD students will move directly into their program housing upon arrival. Orientation will be in Dublin. IFSA-Butler staff will meet students at their accommodation on the program start date at 3 p.m.

You are responsible for transportation to the hotel. We recommend taking a taxi from the airport. A taxi ride will take about 25 minutes and will cost about €35–€40 (£20 in Belfast). Tipping is not generally required in Ireland, but you might tip 10 percent if your driver has been particularly helpful with your luggage. If you experience any problems or have questions once you arrive in Ireland, our Limerick office telephone number is 1800-441-177 or 061-440-740. If calling from Northern Ireland, dial 00-353-61-440-740.

**Currency**

You can exchange currency at the airport. If you arrive late at night or on a weekend, you should definitely exchange your currency at the airport. Banks give a better rate of exchange, but they are not open on weekends, holidays or at night. Some post offices have currency exchange windows. They generally give good exchange rates and have few fees.

Republic of Ireland students should have some euro currency; Northern Ireland students will need pounds sterling. If you cannot get currency or traveler's checks in euros or pounds sterling, you can exchange American dollars and traveler's checks at banks in Ireland for a small fee. You might also be able to use your U.S. ATM card to withdraw money from your account in euros (in the Republic of Ireland) or pounds sterling (in Northern Ireland). Check with your bank prior to departure.

Banks generally are open Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. See more about currency, banks and ATMs in the "Managing Money" section of *Preparing to Study Abroad*.

**If You Arrive Early****Hostels**

**IFSA-Butler cannot accommodate early arrivals.** If you plan to arrive in Ireland before the orientation, we recommend that you purchase one of the books listed in the recommended reading section of *Preparing to Study Abroad*. These books provide a variety of information about where to stay and what to do in Ireland.

**Luggage Storage**

Neither IFSA-Butler nor your host university have luggage storage facilities. You can store your luggage at the airport or at certain train stations for a small fee.

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### Last-Minute Tips

- Sign up for frequent flyer miles.
- Reread the housing and health insurance sections of *Preparing to Study Abroad*.
- Photocopy your passport and tickets and give a copy to your parents.
- Give your parents the numbers of your credit cards and traveler's checks in case they are lost or stolen.
- Double your budget.
- Buy a travel guide or rent a video of Ireland.

**Questions? Call us at 800-858-0229 or check our Web site: [www.ifsabutler.org](http://www.ifsabutler.org).**

# Program Calendar

## Summer Programs 2008



### Argentina

	<b>Summer Language and Culture Program</b>
Group Flight Departs	May 29
Arrive in Buenos Aires	May 30
Program Starts	May 30
IFSA-Butler Orientation	May 31–June 1
Classes Begin	June 3
Classes End	July 4
Last Day of Paid Housing	July 11
Program Ends	July 11

### Australia

	<b>Murdoch University</b>	<b>University of Melbourne: 1 course</b>	<b>University of Melbourne: 2 courses</b>	<b>University of New South Wales</b>
Group Flight Departs	N/A	N/A	N/A	June 19
Arrive in Australia	June 13 (in Perth)	June 26 (in Melbourne)	June 26 (in Melbourne)	June 21 (in Sydney)
Program Starts	June 13	June 26	June 26	June 21
IFSA-Butler Orientation	June 13	June 26	June 26	June 21
University Orientation	June 16	June 27	June 27	June 23
Classes Begin	June 16	June 28	June 28	June 24
Last Day of Classes	July 18	July 13	July 25	July 29
Final Exams	N/A	N/A	N/A	July 30
Program Ends	July 19	July 14	July 26	August 4
	<b>U. Queensland: Marine Microscopy &amp; Microanalysis</b>	<b>U. Queensland: Marine Neurobiology</b>	<b>U. Queensland: Coastal Resource Management</b>	<b>U. Queensland: Tropical Marine Invertebrates / Coral Reef Ecosystems</b>
Group Flight Departs	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Arrive in Australia	June 19 (in Brisbane)	June 23 (in Brisbane)	July 10 (in Brisbane)	July 21 (in Brisbane)
Program Starts	June 19	June 23	July 10	July 21
IFSA-Butler Orientation	June 19	June 23	July 10	July 21
University Orientation	June 20	June 24	July 11	July 22
Classes Begin	June 20	June 24	July 11	July 22
Last Day of Classes	June 30	July 4	July 21	August 1
Final Exams	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Program Ends	July 1	July 5	July 22	August 2
	<b>University of Sydney</b>			
Group Flight Departs	N/A			
Arrive in Australia	June 26 (in Sydney)			
Program Starts	June 26			
IFSA-Butler Orientation	June 26			
University Orientation	June 27			
Classes Begin	June 30			
Last Day of Classes	July 18			
Final Exams	July 21–24			
Program Ends	July 25			

## England

Group Flight Departs  
Arrive in London  
Program Starts  
IFSA-Butler Orientation  
Move into Housing  
University Orientation  
Classes Begin  
Classes End  
Program Ends

**LSE**  
**Session I**  
July 3  
July 4  
July 4  
July 5–6  
July 6  
July 6  
July 7  
July 24  
July 25

**LSE**  
**Session II**  
N/A  
July 25  
July 25  
July 26–27  
July 27  
July 27  
July 28  
August 14  
August 15

**Middlesex**  
**University**  
June 24  
June 25  
June 25  
June 26–27  
June 27  
June 28–29  
June 30  
August 6  
August 7

**Pembroke and King's**  
**Colleges, Cambridge**  
June 26  
June 27  
June 27  
June 28–29  
June 29  
June 30  
June 30  
August 22  
August 23

Group Flight Departs  
Arrive in London  
Program Starts  
IFSA-Butler Orientation  
Move into Housing  
University Orientation  
Classes Begin  
Classes End  
Program Ends

**St. Peter's College,**  
**Oxford University**  
June 26  
June 27  
June 27  
June 28–29  
June 29 (2 p.m.)  
June 30  
June 30  
August 8  
August 9 (morning)

**University of Sussex**  
**Session I**  
June 19  
June 20  
June 20  
June 20–22  
June 22  
June 23  
June 23  
July 18  
July 19 (10 a.m.)

**University of Sussex**  
**Session II**  
N/A  
July 18  
July 18  
July 19–20  
July 20  
July 21  
July 21  
August 15  
August 16

**University of the Arts**  
**London**  
June 19  
June 20  
June 20  
June 20–22  
June 22  
June 23–24  
June 25  
August 15  
August 17

Group Flight Departs  
Arrive in London  
Program Starts  
IFSA-Butler Orientation  
Move into Housing  
University Orientation  
Classes Begin  
Classes End  
Program Ends

**U. Westminster Session I:**  
**Media, Arts and Design**  
June 19  
June 20  
June 20  
June 20–22  
June 22 (2 p.m.)  
June 23  
June 23  
July 11  
July 12 (10 a.m.)

**U. Westminster Session**  
**II: Liberal Arts**  
July 10  
July 11  
July 11  
July 12–13  
July 13 (2 p.m.)  
July 14  
July 14  
August 1  
August 2 (10 a.m.)

## Ireland

Arrive in Ireland  
Program Starts  
IFSA-Butler Orientation  
Move into Housing  
Classes Begin  
Program Ends

**National University of**  
**Ireland, Galway**  
June 23 (in Limerick)  
June 23  
June 23  
June 24  
June 25  
July 24

**Queen's University**  
**Belfast**  
July 19 (in Belfast)  
July 19  
July 20  
July 20  
July 21  
August 9

**University College**  
**Cork**  
June 28 (in Limerick)  
June 28  
June 28  
June 29  
June 30  
July 26

**University College**  
**Dublin Internship**  
June 7 (in Dublin)  
June 7  
June 7  
June 7  
June 9  
August 2

Arrive in Ireland  
Program Starts  
IFSA-Butler Orientation  
Move into Housing  
Classes Begin  
Program Ends

**University of**  
**Limerick**  
May 27 (in Limerick)  
May 27  
May 27  
May 28  
May 29  
June 18

## Mexico

Arrive in Mérida  
Program Starts  
Move into Housing  
IFSA-Butler Orientation  
Classes Begin  
Classes End  
Last Day of Paid Housing  
Program Ends

**Mexico Culture and**  
**Language at UADY**  
June 3  
June 3  
June 3  
June 4–8  
June 9–17  
July 18  
July 20  
July 20

## Scotland

Arrive in Edinburgh  
Program Starts  
IFSA-Butler Orientation  
Move into Housing  
Classes Begin  
Classes End  
Program Ends

### University of Stirling Session I

June 12  
June 12  
June 13  
June 13  
June 16  
July 11  
July 12

### University of Stirling Session II

N/A  
N/A  
N/A  
N/A  
July 14  
August 8  
August 9

## Spain

Arrive in Málaga  
Program Starts  
IFSA-Butler Orientation  
Classes Begin  
Excursion to Sevilla  
Excursion to Ronda  
Classes End  
Last Day of Paid Housing  
Program Ends

### Summer Literature and Contemporary Spain

June 13  
June 13  
June 14–15  
June 16  
June 28  
July 12–13  
July 25  
July 26  
July 26

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**These dates are correct as of May 5, 2008, but must be regarded as provisional given the mutability of host university calendars.**

Upon arrival at your host university, check the program ending dates for changes before confirming your return travel plans. Ending dates vary from department to department, and you must complete all course obligations prior to departure. In addition, you should not make plans to travel on the final day of exams, as there may be exams on that day.

Your program housing is available only until the day after your last final exam.