Giro d’Italia Essential Guide

9-11 May 2014

For residents, businesses, visitors & spectators

The maps, the unmissable, & the need to knows
This is a once in a lifetime opportunity for you to experience the spectacular carnival atmosphere of the Giro d’Italia. So think ahead and plan where you, your friends and family will watch the race.

There are lots of brilliant local authority events near the route, so check out what you’d like to see and plan your day. We’ve included some handy maps overleaf that show each of the stages in detail – plus, tables with helpful timings. So, you can see what time the race is expected, when the Caravan will roll along and where you should be by what time.

Staying Safe

Much of the race route will not have barriers so it is important that you are aware of the risks and protect children and pets from the dangers of getting too close. Keep your distance, obey instructions from police and stewards and be there in good time.

Controlled crossing points will be provided to allow access across the road where possible. Information regarding these are shown on the tables overleaf and also available at discovernorthernireland.com/giro2014.

Public Transport

Translink are organising a host of special and additional train and bus services during the Giro. There will be enhanced Park and Ride facilities and extra shuttle services so check online for details. Also, expect some changes to normal services due to the race and road closures. Allow extra time for your journey. Some timetable changes and diversions to bus services will be in place. Swing by translink.co.uk/giro for details or call the contact centre on (028) 9066 6630.

Get on your bike

Get into the spirit and come to the Giro by bike. There will be plenty of parking spaces for two wheels, so check out locations online at discovernorthernireland.com/giro2014 and get your helmet on.

Getting There

Wherever you are intending to enjoy the Giro you must BE IN POSITION AN HOUR AND FORTY-FIVE MINUTES BEFORE THE CARAVAN IS DUE. Roads will be closed to facilitate the event and you will need to be stationed before they take place.

Camping and Motorhomes

Camping or bringing your motorhome along to Giro? Normal etiquette applies and some local authorities will have additional camping sites. Check out discovernorthernireland.com/giro2014 to plan your trip.

What is it?

The Giro d’Italia is one of the cycling world’s elite and iconic events. It commands a huge worldwide audience of 775 million and is coming to a town near you!

Why is it coming here?

There is a tradition of hosting the opening three stages of the race – the Grande Partenza or ‘Big Start’ – outside its home country of Italy every other year. This year, Northern Ireland has been chosen to host the ‘Big Start’ – a four day celebration of elite professional cycling, with three competition stages, visiting Belfast, the Causeway Coastal Route and Armagh, before moving on to Dublin.

Watch!

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The Giro is a hugely popular European event and much, much more than just a bike race. It is a festival, a pageant and an ultra competitive sporting event rolled into one.

Giro Opening.
Come meet the riders!
Thursday 8 May
On Thursday 8 May, from 6.30pm, the ‘Giro Opening. Come meet the riders!’ event will take place in the grounds of Belfast City Hall. This is a ticketed event. There will be lots of other brilliant happenings around the city—for instance, check out the family fun programme at Writer’s Square and the Cathedral Quarter.

Practice Session & Team Time Trials
Friday 9 May
Want to get up close to the phenomenal Giro heroes? Come along to the Practice Session and the Team Time Trials on Friday 9 May. Check out the Giro Paddock, at Titanic Quarter (where the teams hang out and get set), and visit the Fan Zone with celebrities, competitions, exhibits, food, wine and TV broadcasts. Plus, see the action and excitement of the final warm-up.

Giro Events
To celebrate the arrival of Giro, the Local Authorities involved in hosting the race are staging a diverse range of cycling and Italian themed family-friendly events. A selection of these are highlighted overleaf. Keep up to date at discovernorthernireland.com/giro2014

Enjoy!

Caravan
The Giro Caravan goes hand-in-hand with the race it precedes: with the multi-coloured procession creating a wave of excitement in towns and villages and handing out promotional items along the race route. The Caravan rolls up at specific locations in advance of the race, see the map overleaf for times.

The Race
The main race is a superb spectacle of around 200 cyclists, for the most part tightly grouped in the race “peloton”, waiting for one or two to break away in an attempt to win the stage. They will pass by in a flash but it is a spectacular sight that will remain with you for a very long time!

Belfast
Giro Festival Belfast
Get on yer bike!
3 – 11 May
Including:
Gironimo! Tim Moore, Book Launch
Linenhall Library
8 May
12.30pm
Get on yer bike! Hub
Writer’s Square & Cathedral Gardens
8 – 10 May
Family Fun Day
Stormont Estate
Fri 9 May
Ballymoney
A Taste of Italy
Ballymoney Town Centre
2 – 10 May

Antrim
Garden Show Ireland
Antrim Castle Gardens
9 – 11 May
10am – 6pm
Giro Family Fun Day
Antrim Town Centre
Sat 10 May
12 noon – 3pm
Armagh
Giro Festival
The Mall Armagh
Sat 10 May
12 noon – 7pm
Giro Concert
The Mall Armagh
Sat 10 May
8pm – 11pm
Ballymena
Family Fun Day
Ballymena Town Centre
Sat 10 May
1.30pm – 3.30pm
Ballycastle
Family Fun & Music
Ballycastle Seafront
Sat 10 May
11.30am – 4.30pm

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Antrim Castle Gardens
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A Taste of Italy
Ballymoney Town Centre
2 – 10 May

Carrickfergus
Italian Themed Family Fun & Music Festival
Market Place, High Street & Marine Gardens
Sat 10 May
From 11am

Larne
Carnevale Day
Larne Town Centre
Sat 3 May
2pm – 4pm
Illuminated Bike Ride
Larne Town Centre
Sun 4 May
8pm – 9pm

Ballycastle
Family Fun & Music
Ballycastle Seafront
Sat 10 May
11.30am – 4.30pm

Newry
Family Fun Giro Day
The Commons, Newtownhamilton
Sun 11 May
10.30am – 3pm
South Armagh Giro Charity Cycle
The Forge Bar
Sun 4 May
1pm

For more information on events visit: discovernorthernireland.com/giro2014

Below is a selection of events that are happening during the Giro. Keep up to date at discovernorthernireland.com/giro2014

Antrim
Garden Show Ireland
Antrim Castle Gardens
9 – 11 May
10am – 6pm
Giro Family Fun Day
Antrim Town Centre
Sat 10 May
12 noon – 3pm
Armagh
Giro Festival
The Mall Armagh
Sat 10 May
12 noon – 7pm
Giro Concert
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8pm – 11pm
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Family Fun Day
Ballymena Town Centre
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A Taste of Italy
Ballymoney Town Centre
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Carrickfergus
Italian Themed Family Fun & Music Festival
Market Place, High Street & Marine Gardens
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Larne
Carnevale Day
Larne Town Centre
Sat 3 May
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Illuminated Bike Ride
Larne Town Centre
Sun 4 May
8pm – 9pm

Ballycastle
Family Fun & Music
Ballycastle Seafront
Sat 10 May
11.30am – 4.30pm

Newry
Family Fun Giro Day
The Commons, Newtownhamilton
Sun 11 May
10.30am – 3pm
South Armagh Giro Charity Cycle
The Forge Bar
Sun 4 May
1pm

Neutownabbey
Family Fun & Music by the Lough
Lough Shore Park – Merville Garden Village
Sat 10 May
12 noon – 4pm

Belfast
Giro Festival Belfast
Get on yer bike!
3 – 11 May
Including:
Gironimo! Tim Moore, Book Launch
Linenhall Library
8 May
12.30pm
Get on yer bike! Hub
Writer’s Square & Cathedral Gardens
8 – 10 May
Family Fun Day
Stormont Estate
Fri 9 May

Ballymoney
A Taste of Italy
Ballymoney Town Centre
2 – 10 May

For more information on events visit: discovernorthernireland.com/giro2014
Day 1
Belfast

Friday 9 May
Titanic Quarter – Stormont – Donegall Square North – Belfast

The best way to arrive at the Belfast stage is via the Park and Ride facilities, by public transport or on your bike, as road closures will be in operation.

Road Closures

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Road</th>
<th>Practice Session Only</th>
<th>Team Time Trials Only</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>START Titanic Quarter</td>
<td>Queens Rd</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sydenham Rd</td>
<td>A2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middlepath St</td>
<td>A20</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newtownards Rd</td>
<td>A20</td>
<td>Practice Session Only</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upper Newtownards Rd</td>
<td>A20</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stormont (Gate)</td>
<td>Prince of Wales Ave</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stormont</td>
<td>Lord Carson Statue</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upper Newtownards Rd</td>
<td>A20</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newtownards Rd</td>
<td>A20</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bridge End</td>
<td>A2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Queens Bridge</td>
<td>A2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oxford St</td>
<td>A20</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Bridge St</td>
<td>A24</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cromac St</td>
<td>A24</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ormeau Rd</td>
<td>A24</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stranmillis Embankment</td>
<td>Roundabout</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stranmillis Rd</td>
<td>B23</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University Rd</td>
<td>B23</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bradbury Place</td>
<td>Great Victoria St - A1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wellington Place</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FINISH Donegall Square North</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Times are estimates.

Caravan

Watching the race from the roadside? Here’s when you can expect the Caravan to pass by:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stop No.</th>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Caravan ETA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Stormont</td>
<td>17.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Practice Session Starts: 10.00 from Titanic Quarter
Caravan Exits: 16.30 from Titanic Quarter
Team Time Trial Starts: 17.45 from Titanic Quarter

Remember: Arise in good time. See table below for road closures.
Day 2
Causeway Coastal Route – Belfast

Day 2 covers over 200km of Northern Ireland’s roads so there are a huge number of vantage points from which to view the race. You cannot park on the road along the route so you should plan where you are going to watch the race and identify an appropriate place to park nearby. This map shows the route for day 2 and the approximate times that the Caravan and Peloton will arrive at key locations.

**Start**
Titanic Quarter

**Finish**
Donegall Square North, Belfast

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### Road Closures

**Note:** Times below are estimates.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Start</th>
<th>End</th>
<th>Roads Open</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>08.00</td>
<td>11.30</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>08.30</td>
<td>12.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09.00</td>
<td>12.30</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>09.30</td>
<td>13.00</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>10.00</td>
<td>13.30</td>
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<td>10.30</td>
<td>14.00</td>
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<td>10.30</td>
<td>14.30</td>
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<tr>
<td>11.00</td>
<td>15.30</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.00</td>
<td>16.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13.00</td>
<td>16.30</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Controlled Crossing Points** will be managed to facilitate access across the route but will be closed at specific periods for race purposes.

Controlled Crossing Points are locations where the Giro Caravan will stop for a short period.

### Caravan & Peloton

**Caravan Stops:**
- Titanic Quarter
- Belfast
- Glengormley
- Ballymena
- Ballymoney
- Bushmills
- Portrush
- Cushendall
- Glenariff
- Carnlough
- Ballycastle
- Larne
- Carrickfergus

**Peloton Stops:**
- Glengormley
- Ballymena
- Ballymoney
- Bushmills
- Portrush
- Cushendall
- Glenariff
- Carnlough
- Ballycastle
- Larne
- Carrickfergus

**Race Starts:**
- 10.30 from Titanic Quarter

**Race Finish:**
- Donegall Square North, Belfast

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**Saturday 10 May**
Belfast – Causeway Coastal Route – Belfast

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### Crossing

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- Portrush
- Cushendall
- Glenariff
- Carnlough
- Ballycastle
- Larne
- Carrickfergus

### Peloton Stops
- Glengormley
- Ballymena
- Ballymoney
- Bushmills
- Portrush
- Cushendall
- Glenariff
- Carnlough
- Ballycastle
- Larne
- Carrickfergus
Day 3

Armagh – Dublin

Day 3 covers a route through County Armagh before the race proceeds to Dublin. You cannot park on the road along the route so you should plan where you are going to watch the race and identify an appropriate place to park nearby. This map shows the route for day 3 and the approximate times that the Caravan and Peloton will arrive at key locations.

**Road Closures**

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<th>Peloton ET</th>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Richhill</td>
<td>10.25</td>
<td>12.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Newtownhamilton</td>
<td>11.20</td>
<td>13.05</td>
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Caravan Exits: 09.40 from Shambles Market Area
Race Starts: 11.20 from Shambles Market Area

**Caravan & Peloton**

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Race Starts: 11.20 from Shambles Market Area

Remember: Arrive in good time. See table below for road closures.
Think!

Do you have an important journey or event on 9-11 May?

Whether it is a wedding, a hospital appointment, an important family occasion, or a house move, many people will have plans for the 9-11 May that will be affected by the Giro d’Italia in Northern Ireland. So, check your diary, have a think – do you need to make a new plan to ensure that, whatever it is you are doing, on those days, runs smoothly?

Impact on roads and travel

If you are a business, the Giro might affect deliveries.

Most travel routes will be unaffected but please allow extra time for your journey and if using public transport check if there are timetable changes or diversions to bus services.

If you live or work on the Giro route, make sure you take all the precautions necessary to minimise disruption as access will be limited.

For updates check online at discovernorthernireland.com/giro2014

Facebook /discovernorthernireland

Twitter @DiscoverNI #Girostart2014

For more information, keep up to date at:

- Translink at translink.co.uk/giro
  Tel: (028) 9066 6630
- Visit Belfast Welcome Centre: (028) 9024 6609
- trafficwatchni.com
- Police Service of Northern Ireland is available on non-emergency number 101
  twitter.com/policeserviceni
  twitter.com/psnitraffic

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