

# NORTHERN IRELAND FAQ'S

## **What mission partner will our team be working with?**

On this experience Engage will partner with SALT Factory Sports right outside of Belfast to help facilitate a VBS-type sports camp with kids. SALT uses games, sports activities, competitions and events as an effective means of bringing people together, to build relationships and create opportunities for evangelism and discipleship.

## **What is the population of Northern Ireland?**

Northern Ireland is a part of the United Kingdom and located on the northeastern part of the island of Ireland. It has a population of over 1.8 million people, which makes up 30% of the island's inhabitants. Though Northern Ireland is believed to have a strong Christian influence, only a small percentage of the population has an active walk with Christ. Few teens claim to be Christians. The lives of youth are characterized by boredom and apathy and this results with the experimentation of drugs and alcohol as an outlet at such an early age. Youth in Northern Ireland can be very straightforward, blunt, and honest about where they are at in life. Some might consider them to be sharp or a little rough around the edges. Many of them hang around outside with no direction, discipline, or anywhere to go.

## **What documents do I need to get into Northern Ireland?**

Each person needs a US passport, and it must be valid at least six months beyond stay in Northern Ireland.

## **Do I need to get any vaccinations or immunizations to travel to Northern Ireland?**

Make sure you are up to date on routine vaccinations.

## **What is the weather like in Northern Ireland?**

Weather in Northern Ireland can be very unpredictable, but the variances in temperature are not that extreme. Northern Ireland has a temperate climate and is more damp than the western side of the island. Clouds cover the skies most days. It's best to bring clothes that are good for layering. A rain jacket is also a good investment.

## **Where will I be staying?**

While in Northern Ireland, the group will stay in dorm-style housing on a university campus.

## **What is the food like?**

The team will eat mostly home cooked meals at Salt, but will also have a few chances to eat out at local restaurants. The food is Western, so while it might be a little bit different than what you're used to, you will recognize most of the dishes!

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## **How can my parents keep up with me while I'm in Northern Ireland?**

Family members and friends may track the journey through the Engage website.

## **What kind of things will I do in Northern Ireland?**

While there will be opportunities to play games with kids, we do not require that you be a sports superstar to go on this trip, but rather have a general like of and ability in leading activities, competitions, games. The camp will also be intentional with Team Times (Bible stories and teaching) for kids and youth. Being able to mix with, build relationships with and engage with the kids is key - relationships enable effective outreach! There will also be times of worship / songs with the kids, so some people gifted in this area would also be an asset to the team, as well as talented photographers! Join us in Northern Ireland to partner in the work God is doing as we play, build relationships, and point others to Jesus.

## **How will the team get around in Northern Ireland?**

The team will fly into Dublin and be picked up at the airport in vans or busses which they will use for transportation the remainder of the trip. You will be driven by local, trusted drivers.

## **What happens if I experience a medical emergency while I'm in Northern Ireland?**

In the event of a serious illness or medical emergency, there are medical clinics and hospitals nearby. Included in your trip cost is travel medical insurance that will cover expenses if medical attention is needed.

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