

+33 (0) 1 40 71 10 20 From Belgium : 0 800 77 163 From Switzerland : 0 800 56 33 79 Monday to Friday from 9am to 7.30pm Email : contact@campingcar-online.com Site : www.campingcar-online.com

The public holidays

Visiting Ireland?

Exploring the Emerald Isle by motorhome is a dream for many international travellers — winding coastal roads, lively towns, and endless green landscapes. But public holidays can bring both charm and challenges: parades, festivals, and cultural traditions on one hand, and busy roads or closed shops on the other. Our guide to Ireland's public holidays in 2026, 2027, and 2028 helps you plan ahead — showing when to join the celebrations, and when to travel just before or after for quieter routes and easier overnight stops.

Ireland Public Holidays 2026-2028

Holiday	2026	2027	2028
New Year's Day	Thu 1 Jan 2026	Fri 1 Jan 2027	Sat 1 Jan 2028
St. Brigid's Day	Mon 2 Feb 2026	Mon 1 Feb 2027	Mon 7 Feb 2028
St. Patrick's Day	Tue 17 Mar 2026	Wed 17 Mar 2027	Fri 17 Mar 2028
Easter Monday	Mon 6 Apr 2026	Mon 29 Mar 2027	Mon 17 Apr 2028
May Day (May Bank Holiday)	Mon 4 May 2026	Mon 3 May 2027	Mon 1 May 2028
June Bank Holiday	Mon 1 Jun 2026	Mon 7 Jun 2027	Mon 5 Jun 2028
August Bank Holiday	Mon 3 Aug 2026	Mon 2 Aug 2027	Mon 7 Aug 2028
October Bank Holiday	Mon 26 Oct 2026	Mon 25 Oct 2027	Mon 30 Oct 2028
Christmas Day	Fri 25 Dec 2026	Sat 25 Dec 2027	Mon 25 Dec 2028
St. Stephen's Day	Sat 26 Dec 2026	Sun 26 Dec 2027	Tue 26 Dec 2028

Notes for International Motorhome Travellers

- Bank holidays in Ireland mean widespread closures of shops, banks, and many services. Always stock up on food and fuel the day before.
- St. Patrick's Day (17 March) is the busiest holiday for visitors Dublin, Cork, and Galway host huge parades.
 Parking a motorhome in city centres is nearly impossible; best to stay at a campsite outside and use public transport.
- Easter & May Bank Holidays ? popular for locals heading west to the Wild Atlantic Way. Aires and campsites fill quickly
- August Bank Holiday? peak summer, especially along the Ring of Kerry and Connemara. Book early.
- Quieter options: June Bank Holiday and October Bank Holiday weekends are lively but manageable, with cultural festivals and autumn colours.

5 Ireland Motorhome Itineraries Around Public Holidays

1. St. Brigid's Day (early February) - Celtic Heritage & East Coast

- Visit Kildare (St. Brigid's Cathedral, heritage sites).
- Combine with Wicklow Mountains for winter landscapes.
- Roads are quiet, campsites less crowded.

2. St. Patrick's Day (17 March) - Dublin & Beyond

- Base your motorhome outside Dublin (e.g. Camac Valley campsite).
- Take public transport into the city for the parade.
- Continue west to Kilkenny or Galway once crowds thin.

3. Easter Monday - Wild Atlantic Way

- Start in Galway, drive Connemara and Clifden Sky Road.
- Aires and campsites busy with locals, so arrive early.
- Spring weather brings dramatic coastal scenery.

4. August Bank Holiday - Ring of Kerry & Dingle

- Peak season, but worth it for festivals and music.
- Book campsites in advance; use smaller villages for easier parking.
- Combine with Killarney National Park hikes.

5. October Bank Holiday - Autumn in the North

- Explore Causeway Coast and Giant's Causeway.
- Fewer crowds, golden autumn landscapes.
- Belfast and Derry host cultural festivals.

Key Takeaway for International Motorhome Travellers

- Join the holidays if you want to experience Irish culture at its most vibrant (St. Patrick's Day, August festivals).
- Travel just before or after if you prefer quieter roads, easier parking, and less competition with locals.