















Elliott Group | Relocation Guide for Moving to Ireland

## Introduction



#### Who We Are

Almost one hundred years ago, Patrick Elliott, a gifted stone mason, along with his wife Alice, a capable and strong administrator, established the first Elliott Group construction company in the midlands of Ireland. A formidable team, they established the business while raising 12 children.

In an industry that is ever-evolving, the company continues to remain a traditional, family-run, hands-on business, with five office locations across Ireland and the UK.

Since our company was founded, much has changed, however one thing remains the same: a commitment to quality, reliability, and master craftsmanship.









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# **Relocation Support Team**



Welcome to the Relocation Guide for individuals Buddy System considering a move to Ireland or the UK to join Elliott Group. At Elliott Group, we understand that relocating to a new country for work can be both exciting and challenging. That's why we've developed a support system to ensure a smooth transition and successful integration into both the country and our company.

# **Our Dedicated Support System**

Internal Support Team: From the moment a position is offered, our dedicated Internal Support Team is here to assist you every step of the way. They Why Choose Elliott Group? will provide guidance and support throughout the relocation process, ensuring that all your logistical and administrative needs are seamlessly met.



We have established a Buddy System where you will be paired with a member of our team who has already made the move from South Africa to Ireland or the Professional Growth: Joining Elliott Group means not logistics, cultural adjustments, or settling into your growth and development. new role. They will share their first-hand experience and offer invaluable advice to help you navigate the transition effectively.

with the relocation. We are committed to your longterm success and well-being within our company.

Cultural Integration: We understand the importance



If you are interested in working with Elliott Group in Ireland or the UK, please send your CV to sa.recruitment@elliottgroup.com



of feeling at home in a new environment. Our team is dedicated to helping you integrate into the local culture and community.

UK. Your buddy will be your go-to contact for any only joining a leading company in the construction questions you may have, whether it's about moving industry but also gaining opportunities for professional

#### **Next Steps**

Whether you're considering a move to Ireland or the UK, Elliott Group is here to make your relocation as smooth and rewarding as possible. Explore the Comprehensive Support: Our support doesn't end resources in this guide and feel free to reach out to our support team for any assistance you may need. We look forward to welcoming you to our team and helping you build your future with Elliott Group.



# **Relocation Support Team**



Darragh Elliott Managing Director ROI



Gary O'Sullivan Construction Director ROI



Matthew O'Dowd Group QHSE Director



Stefan Alrich Quantity Surveyor SA Liaison



Ilyaas Lagerdien Quantity Surveyor SA Liaison



Delano Carolus Quantity Surveyor SA Liaison



Lauren Eite HR Manager



Tracey Mackie Accounts Manager



Derek McConnon IT Manager



Martina Leavey Head Office Reception

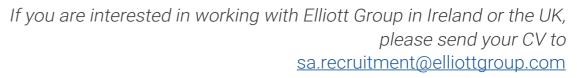


# **CONNECT WITH US**











#### Introduction

The number of foreign residents moving to Ireland has steadily increased in recent years.

The charm of the island, coupled with growing employment opportunities in the Construction Industry, are among the reasons Ireland is in high demand and considered one of the best places to move to.

# **Exceed with Elliott Group**

Thanks to Elliott Group's sustained growth, we are recruiting for a number of roles.

With a track record of successfully placing candidates from South Africa within the company, and the complementary skills shared between our nations, we welcome applications.

If you are interested in working with Elliott Group in Ireland, you will find some useful information in this guide, to help make your move possible.

# **Ireland - Quick Facts**



Currency: Euro (EUR)



Population: 5 million



Capital City: Dublin



Language: English



Weather: The climate is generally mild and wet.
Typically no extreme temperatures with 4 distinct seasons



Timezone: GMT

# JOIN OUR TEAM

**APPLY TODAY** 

Please click on, or scan the QR code to submit your application now.

HAVE A QUESTION?

If you have a specific question, or would like to speak to us directly, please email us at sa.recruitment@elliottgroup.com

## **Relocation Process**



#### **WORK VISA**

If you are a successful applicant, Elliott Group will work with you to secure your Visa and Work Permit.



# IRISH RESIDENCE PERMIT (IRP)

You need to apply as soon as you can after getting your employment permit and arriving in Ireland.



## PERSONAL PUBLIC SERVICE NUMBER (PPSN)

You need to register on the Mywelfware. ie website and obtain your Personal Public Service Number (PPSN).



# REGISTER WITH REVENUE

You must register and create an account with Revenue.ie to apply for tax credits and for salary.



#### **BANK ACCOUNT**

To get your salary in Ireland and pay for your rental home, you need to have a bank account in the country. Many other payments may also require an Irish bank account.



#### **FIND OUT MORE**

For more information on the above, please see the following page which contains useful links

# **Employment Permits**

# **Critical Skills Employment Permit**

If you or your spouse, civil partner has either an EU or Irish passport, then a work permit is not required.

If you receive an offer of work from Elliott Group, you will be able to apply for a Critical Skills Work Permit. Our Relocation Support Team will work with you and complete the application for you.

Note that these permits can only be applied for BEFORE you arrive in Ireland.

The Critical Skills Employment Permit is issued for 2 years and is valid for the occupation and location. Critical Skills Employment Permits do not need to be renewed after the initial 2 year period but instead an application for a Stamp4 can be made after the 2 year period.

Spouses and civil partners can join a person on a Critical Skills Employment Permit immediately and can apply for a Stamp3 on arriving in the state. After receiving their Stamp3, the spouse can apply for a

Dependent/Partner/Spouse Employment Permit which will entitle them to work in the state.

Due to the fact that South Africans are nonvisa required nationals, you will be able to bring your family with you to live in Ireland immediately but you will be required to show that you will be in a position to support them. In practice, you need to be earning more than the limits for Family Income Supplement.

CRITICAL SKILLS EMPLOYMENT PERMIT

EMPLOYMENT PERMITS AND FAMILY MEMBERS





# **Before you Leave**

Before you Leave, here are some things to consider to make your move as smooth as possible.

Once you are in Ireland, getting things done in South Africa can be very difficult, time consuming, and frustrating. Making sure any loose ends are tied up before you leave makes the journey and living in Ireland a lot easier. The following is a basic list of some of the things you can consider looking after before you move.

#### **Drivers Licence**

Make sure your South African driver's licence is still valid for at least 12 months. This might sound like common sense but if your licence has expired and you want to exchange it for your Irish driver's licence, you will need a letter of entitlement from South Africa to have it exchanged.

#### **Passports**

Check the validity of your South African passports. Aim for at least 5 years of validity on adult passports but 7 to 8 years validity is probably better. While it is not difficult to renew from Ireland, it is a long process.

#### **Banking**

Don't forget to inform your bank that you will be overseas if you will still be using your accounts. A good idea may be to give power of attorney to a family member or trusted friend so they can sort out any issues directly with your South African bank.

#### House or Car Sales

If selling cars and houses make 100% sure the paperwork is sorted out. Also remember to sort out all your municipal affairs when selling your house or giving up your lease.

Telkom lines and cellphone accounts are notoriously difficult to cancel – even from South Africa. Sort them out before you leave!

#### **Subscriptions**

Cancelling a TV licence in South Africa is also extremely difficult and in most cases even sending off letters and affidavits months in advance don't seem to do any good. The cancellation process involves getting an affidavit and sending it off to the SABC which seems

simple enough. The problem comes in trying to get the SABC to acknowledge that you have indeed cancelled your licence. Once completing the affidavit (which can be found on one of the links HERE) it needs to be sent to the SABC at the email address tvlic.info@sabc.co.za as a cancellation request. Together with this you need to provide details of the date from which you no longer own a TV and why you no longer require a TV licence.

Removing or changing authentication/login methods for any services that use your South African cell phone number for verification is a great idea.

Check if your mobile phone is unlocked for all networks – if you do that you can be sure that your mobile phone will work in Ireland.

#### Healthcare

Dentistry can be more expensive in Ireland. Have a final dental checkup and get all issues fixed before you leave.

If possible, and especially if you or your children have any pre-existing conditions, get medical



# **Relocation Tips**

#### What to Bring

Personal Items and Keepsakes: While most rentals in Ireland come fully furnished, you'll want to bring personal items such as ornaments, pictures, and keepsakes to make your new place feel like home. However, be mindful that shipping can take several months.

Bedding: Consider bringing some of your own bedding, but remember that bed sizes in Ireland differ from those in South Africa.

Clothing: The climate in Ireland is quite different from South Africa. South African winter jackets and thin jeans may not suffice in Ireland's cooler weather. Invest in high-quality winter wear, including warm jackets, thick jeans, and robust sweaters or jumpers.

Footwear: Comfortable walking shoes (takkies, runners) are essential, as Ireland is typically safe and suitable for walking in all types of weather.

Voltage and Plugs: Ireland uses a different voltage (230V) and plug type (Type G) compared to South Africa. Ensure your electronics are compatible or consider buying new appliances locally.

Adaptors and Converters: Bring a few plug adaptors and voltage converters if necessary to accommodate your existing devices.

#### **Transportation**

Motor Vehicles: Importing a motor vehicle from South Africa to Ireland is generally not recommended unless it's a classic car or a fully imported model with easily available spare parts in Ireland. The process can be complicated and expensive due to strict regulations and duties.

#### **Health and Safety**

Healthcare: Familiarise yourself with the Irish healthcare system. If you take prescription medication, ensure you have enough supply to last until you can arrange a new prescription in Ireland.

Insurance: Consider health insurance options and ensure your travel insurance covers the initial period of your stay.

#### **Financial Considerations**

Banking: Set up an Irish bank account as soon as possible. Research different banks to find one that suits your needs.

Currency: Ireland uses the Euro (€) and the UK uses Sterling (£). It's a good idea to have some local currency on hand for initial expenses.

#### **Documentation**

Important Documents: Keep all essential

documents, such as passports, visas, birth certificates, and medical records, in a safe and easily accessible place. Make copies in case of loss or theft.

#### **Cultural Adjustments**

Adapt to Local Customs: Be open to learning and adapting to local customs and traditions. This will help you integrate more easily into your new community.

#### **Prohibited Goods**

Customs Regulations: Check the list of prohibited goods before shipping your belongings. Your chosen shipping company can provide detailed information on what can and cannot be shipped, as well as any applicable duties.

#### **Local Resources**

Expat Communities: Join expat groups and online forums to connect with other South Africans and expats in Ireland. They can offer valuable advice and support.

Government Services: Visit the official government websites for information on visas, residency, and other legal requirements.

By planning ahead and considering these tips, your transition to life in Ireland or the UK can be smoother and more enjoyable.

# **Opening Bank Accounts**

#### **Opening an Account Before you Leave**

If you're moving from South Africa to Ireland, it can be helpful to open an account with a provider like Money Jar before you arrive. This will allow you to supply details for payment of salary once you begin.

#### **Opening a Bank Account Upon Arrival**

If you choose to open a bank account after arriving in Ireland, here's what you need to do:

You must be aged at least 18

- · You must provide photo identification
- Proof of your PPS number (in some cases they may not ask you for this especially if you are an EU passport holder)
- You must have proof of residence in Ireland which can be one of:
  - A recent utility bill not older than 6 months (telephone, electricity, gas, refuse)
  - · Bank Statement or credit card statement
  - Valid full Irish or UK driver's licence (but not if you've used it as your photo id)
  - Current household/motor insurance

certificates and/or renewal notices

- Official documents and cards issued by Revenue Commissioners or Department of Social
- Protection/Welfare or any other recognised government department (which includes letters from INIS)

#### **Additional Tips**

Check Bank Websites: For the most detailed and up-to-date information, visit the respective bank's websites.

Plan Your Finances: Make sure you have enough funds to cover initial expenses and any potential delays in accessing your Irish bank account

#### **Accommodation**

Moving from South Africa to Ireland or the UK involves planning your accommodation, a crucial step in settling into your new environment. Here's a guide to help you navigate the process and find suitable housing.

# Temporary Accommodation Provided by Elliott Group

Elliott Group understands the challenges of relocating and offers temporary accommodation for one month upon your arrival in Ireland or the UK. This accommodation is strategically located near your workplace and accessible to local transport, especially considering that transport options can be limited in rural areas.

# Searching for Permanent Accommodation

Finding permanent accommodation should be a priority upon arrival. Here are some tips and resources to assist you:

Research Early: Start researching accommodation options as soon as possible. Ireland currently faces a housing crisis, particularly in larger urban areas, where demand often exceeds supply.

Location Considerations: While there are South African communities across major towns and cities, many prefer larger urban centres due to proximity to work opportunities.

Utilise Online Resources: Websites like the following can help you find accommodation:

Daft.ie

MyHome.ie

<u>Airbnb</u>

Rent.ie

#### Property.ie

You can also find some more advice on renting a home in Ireland on the Citizens Information website: <u>Citizens Information</u>

Short-term Accommodation Options: Consider staying in a B&B, Airbnb, or short-term holiday accommodation initially while you explore different areas to live.

Local Insights: If you know someone in the area you plan to settle, ask them to assist in scouting for accommodation. Personal connections can provide valuable local insights and help navigate the rental market.

#### **Housing Crisis Awareness**

It's important to be aware of the housing situation in Ireland, particularly in larger urban areas. High demand for housing can lead to limited availability and competitive rental markets. Researching and preparing in advance will increase your chances of finding suitable accommodation.

Some agents will require proof of employment, letters of recommendation from previous landlords and letters of recommendation from employers.

Due to the shortage you will also find that up to 20 people or more can be a one viewing for a house/apartment to rent. A good rule of thumb is to approach a viewing like an interview

# **Education in Ireland**

In Ireland, every child is entitled to free, state-run primary and secondary education, often referred to as "national schools". Here's everything you need to know about the education system in Ireland:

#### **Compulsory Education**

Attendance at full-time education is mandatory for all children from the ages of 6 to 16, or until they have completed three years of second-level education, including sitting the Junior Certificate Examination. Most children begin school in September following their fourth birthday.

#### **Costs and Options**

While primary and secondary education in statefunded schools is free, there are associated costs such as uniforms, books, and extracurricular activities like swimming lessons and school outings. Alternatively, fee-paying secondary schools and private primary and secondary schools are available options.

## Irish Language Requirement

Irish (Gaeilge) is typically compulsory in primary and post-primary schools. However, exemptions may apply to students who have received primary education up to age 11 in Northern Ireland or outside Ireland, or who have specific learning difficulties.

#### School Year Structure

Primary School: The school year runs from September to June, comprising 8 years starting with 2 years of infant classes followed by 1st to 6th class.

Secondary School: The school year generally runs from early September to early June, spanning 5 or 6 years depending on the school.

#### State-Funded Schools

State-funded schools in Ireland include religious, non-denominational, multi-denominational, and Gaelscoileanna (Irish language schools). Private schools also exist, varying significantly in fees.

#### Preschool and Early Childhood Education

Preschools in Ireland are mostly private, including crèches, play-schools, and Montessori schools. Since 2009, children may receive two years of free preschool under the Early Childcare and Education Scheme.

#### **Enrolling Your Child**

Enrolment Process: Contact local schools to obtain their enrolment policy and form. Apply early due to potential waiting lists.

Required Documents: You'll need your child's Birth Certificate (long form/unabridged) and PPS

number (Personal Public Service Number). If your child doesn't have a PPS number yet, the school can provide a letter for application at the local Intreo office.

Denominational Schools: The majority of Irish primary schools are Roman Catholic, with options for Protestant, Jewish, and Muslim denominations as well.

Navigating the education system in Ireland requires early planning and understanding of local practices. Whether opting for state-run, denominational, or private education, ensure to gather necessary documents and contact schools well in advance to secure a place for your child.

INFORMATION ON THE IRISH EDUCATION SYSTEM

#### **Relocation Process**

# **Irish Residence Permit (IRP)**

First-time registration. If you are a resident in Dublin City or county and wish to register for the first time, please call Freephone 1800 800 630.

This Freephone number is for first-time registration appointments only. Information on Renewals, including current processing times, can be found on the Registration Renewal page.

Important Notice: You do not have to pay a fee to book an appointment. A Registration Fee of €300 must be paid when you attend the Registration Office, and your registration is successfully completed.

**IRISH RESIDENCE PERMIT** 

## Healthcare

Familiarising yourself with the Irish healthcare system, which includes both public and private options, is essential. We recommend registering with a General Practitioner (GP) as quickly as possible on arrival.



# Personal Public Service Number(PPSN)

To access public services in Ireland, you need a Personal Public Service Number (PPSN). Your Personal Public Service (PPS) Number is a unique reference number that helps you access social welfare benefits, public services and information in Ireland.

Without it, you won't be able to register at the tax authority, or open a bank account.

CREATE A MYGOVID ACCOUNT

APPLY FOR A PPSN

# **Register with Revenue**

You must register with Revenue online. As a successful applicant, you will be provided with the employer details and registration number you need for the application.

elliottgroup.com

Once you are set up then you can apply for tax credits. If you do not register, you will have a high level of emergency tax applied to your salary. You will need your PPSN to complete the registration.

REGISTER WITH REVENUE.IE



#### **Other Items**

#### **Mobile Phone SIM**

You may also need a local SIM card. You can buy it in one of the major retailers (such as Tesco), convenience stores, in airport kiosks or from one of the retail stores of mobile phone service providers.

# **Support Services**

Elliott Group will support you with your move and help you to settle into your new position.

You will also find a wide range of support services in Ireland to help with any difficulties.

SUPPORT SERVICES

# **Lighthouse Club**

Elliott Group are an official Company Supporter for the construction industry charity - Lighthouse Club.

The charity provides a confidential 24/7 Construction Industry Helpline and supporting app which provides information, advice and guidance on a huge variety of wellbeing issues.

FIND OUT MORE



# **Public Transport in Ireland**

Public transport in Ireland offers convenient options for getting around cities and exploring the countryside:

Buses: Buses are the most common form of public transport, serving cities, towns, and rural areas. Dublin Bus operates within the capital, while Bus Éireann connects major towns and cities nationwide.

Trains: Irish Rail operates intercity and commuter services connecting Dublin with major cities such as Cork, Galway, Limerick, and Belfast (Northern Ireland). DART (Dublin Area Rapid Transit) serves coastal areas around Dublin.

Luas: Dublin's light rail system, Luas, consists of two lines: the Green Line serving south Dublin and the Red Line connecting west and north Dublin.

Taxi: Taxis are widely available in urban areas and can be hailed on the street or booked through apps.

Leap Card: A prepaid card for discounted fares on buses, trains, and Luas in Dublin and some other cities.

Regional Transport: Regional bus services and private coach companies offer connections to smaller towns and tourist destinations.



#### **General Information about Ireland**

#### Seasons and Daylight

One of the biggest changes you'll experience in Ireland compared to South Africa is the reversal of seasons. While you won't be swimming over Christmas, you might experience a magical white Christmas and will definitely enjoy a cosy fire on Christmas day. The sunrise and sunset times vary significantly between seasons due to Ireland's higher latitude, with summer days having long daylight hours and winter days being shorter.

Ireland observes daylight savings time, moving the clocks forward in March and back in October, which significantly impacts daily schedules and daylight duration.

#### Climate and Weather

The climate in Ireland is described as mild, moist, and changeable, with abundant rainfall and relatively moderate temperatures. Thanks to the Atlantic Ocean's influence, extreme temperatures are rare. January and February are typically the coldest months, while July and August are the warmest, occasionally reaching temperatures considered a heatwave.

Yes, it does rain frequently in Ireland, with the west coast receiving significantly more rainfall than the east. This is an important factor to consider when choosing where to settle.

#### Having a Barbecue (or Braai)

In Ireland, the term "barbecue" is used instead of "braai". Barbecuing is popular, especially during the summer months, although it differs from South African braais which are enjoyed year-round. If you arrive in winter, you may find it challenging to purchase barbecue equipment until spring when seasonal specials become available.

Finding good, hard braai wood can be difficult and expensive in Ireland, but charcoal briquettes are more commonly available in retail and hardware stores.

#### **Broadband and Internet Services**

Ireland offers a variety of Internet Service
Providers (ISPs), each offering different packages
depending on your location and needs. Providers
like SKY, Virgin Media, Eir, and Vodafone offer
combined broadband deals that include phone,
TV, and internet services, often with special offers
available.

## Being a Tourist in Ireland

Ireland is not just visually stunning but also steeped in history. From numerous castles and old manor houses to churches and cathedrals, the country boasts rich historical and cultural heritage. Exploring these sites will deepen your understanding and integration into Irish life.

Understanding Ireland's climate, cultural nuances, and practicalities like internet services and seasonal activities will help you settle in smoothly. Enjoy exploring this beautiful country and embracing its unique charm and history



Elliott Group | A Tradition in Construction

# **Company Culture**

Our success is a result of our people. We place great value on their mental and physical well-being, as they enable us to achieve our high standards.

We place our trust in our experienced and dedicated team, as they support and deliver our projects with consistent quality and distinction.















Elliott Group | A Tradition in Construction

















# A Tradition in Construction

Construction is in our DNA



"The Elliott Group is a hands-on, third generation construction company, dedicated to improving the built environment.

We achieve this through our experienced, dedicated, tried and trusted team; using innovative technologies; adopting strong and supportive bonds; ensuring the sustainability of our business for our people, our partners and our clients"

#### **Relocation Guide Disclaimer**

Terms and Conditions

#### 1. Introduction

This Relocation Guide ("Guide") is provided by Elliott Building and Civil Engineering Limited ("Elliott Group") to assist potential and new employees in understanding the complexities and challenges of relocating to Ireland for work. By using this Guide, you agree to the following terms and conditions.

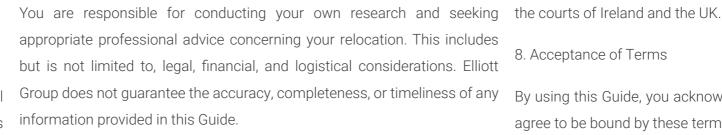
#### 2. No Legal Advice

The information contained in this Guide, and any additional support offered by Elliott Group, is intended for general informational purposes only and should not be construed as legal advice. For legal matters, you should consult a qualified attorney.

#### 3. No Liability

Elliott Group does not assume any responsibility or liability for any errors, omissions, or misinterpretations of the information provided in this Guide. The use of this Guide is at your own risk. Elliott Group shall not be liable for any direct, indirect, incidental, consequential, or punitive damages arising out of your use of, or reliance on, the information contained in this Guide.

4. Personal Responsibility



#### 5. Immigration and Work Permits

Elliott Group does not guarantee the approval of any immigration or work --permit applications. The responsibility for obtaining and maintaining valid immigration status and work permits rests solely with you. Elliott Group shall not be responsible for any refusals, delays, or issues related to immigration.

#### 6. Changes and Updates

Elliott Group reserves the right to update or change the content of this Guide at any time without prior notice. It is your responsibility to ensure that you have the most current information.

#### 7. Governing Law

These terms and conditions shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of Ireland. Any disputes arising out of or in connection with these terms shall be subject to the exclusive jurisdiction of

#### 8. Acceptance of Terms

By using this Guide, you acknowledge that you have read, understood, and agree to be bound by these terms and conditions.

For any questions or further assistance, please contact Elliott Group directly.

Elliott Building and Civil Engineering Limited

