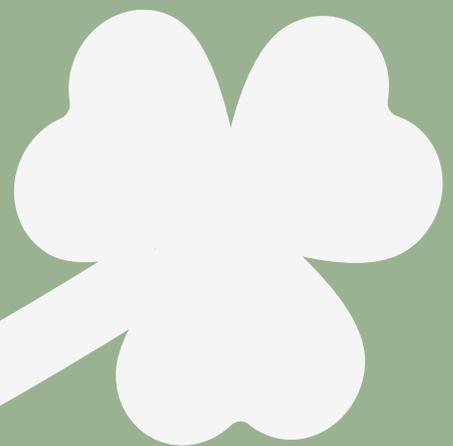




**Irish  
Women  
Abroad**

# **Returning to Ireland Checklist**

**Irish Women Abroad**



# RETURNING TO IRELAND CHECKLIST

This **Returning to Ireland Checklist** is to help you keep track of the little things (and some of the big things) that need to be done before your move home.

Use this checklist as a **guide only** - it's based on my own experiences of returning to Ireland.

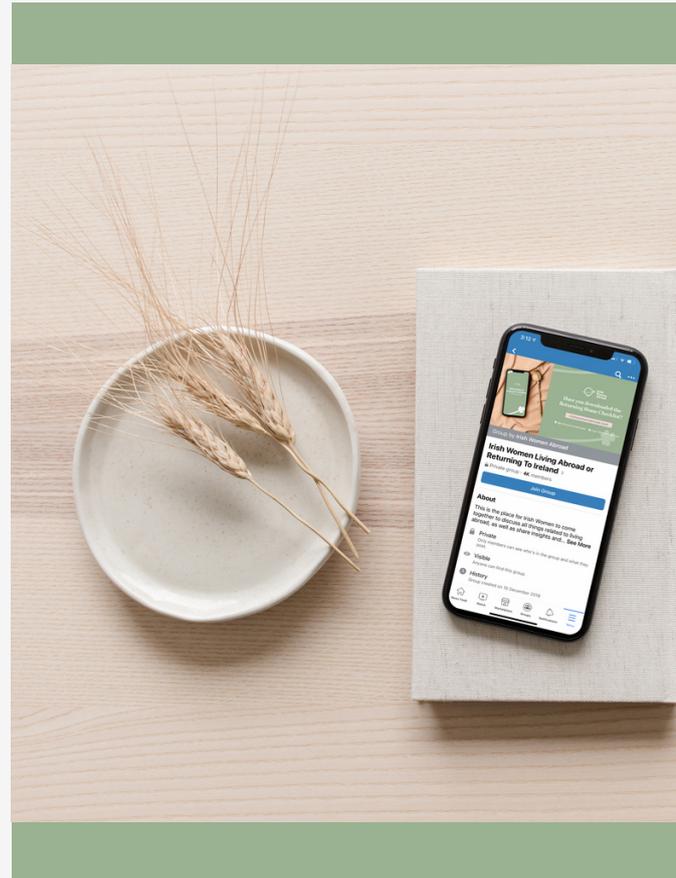
The trick to a hassle-free move is to **prepare your moving plan** well ahead of schedule and give yourself as much time as possible to plan your move.

Go n-éirí an bóthar leat!  
(May the road rise to meet you).

Sarah Whelan  
Irish Women Abroad.

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Any links marked with an \* are affiliate links. If you take action after clicking one of these links, I'll earn some tea kitty money which I promise to drink while creating content like this.



Join our growing online village on  
Facebook and connect with  
fellow Irish women in all corners  
of the world experiencing life  
away from home.

Join the Community Today



## 1 YEAR BEFORE DEPARTURE

- Set up a moving calendar, google doc or notebook to start planning tasks and timeframes** in advance. You could also create a folder with all of your moving related paperwork in one place.
- Make a list of businesses you will need to contact to change your address.** Don't forget to list your online accounts too.
- Start a budget** to work out the costs involved as soon as possible. It can be extremely costly and it's best to be well-prepared for what's ahead.
- Plan where you are going to live** by researching the Irish property market. [Daft.ie](#), [Property.ie](#), and [MyHome.ie](#) are the leading websites.
- Plan when you are going to leave your job and **research job opportunities in Ireland.** [jobsireland.ie](#), [indeed.ie](#), [irishjobs.ie](#), and [cpl.com](#) are a good place to start.
- Renew your passport** if required.
- Research schools/childcare/banks/doctors** in the areas you would like to live in.
- Research pet relocation companies** if required.
- If your partner is not Irish, research eligibility to live in Ireland.** You can find information here: [CitizensInformation.ie](#)
- Research removalist companies that deal with international moves.**  
Get three quotes in writing by reputable moving companies. Before agreeing to a quotation, ensure that you are fully aware of exactly what is covered in the price, and that the service to be provided meets all of your requirements.

## 6-12 MONTHS BEFORE DEPARTURE

- Start preparing for job seeking:**  
Update your resume; get your references ready; reach out to your contacts and networks; meet with recruitment agencies; check your qualification in Ireland if you qualified overseas; and sign up for LinkedIn job notifications.
- Start looking into flights and accommodation** you require upon arrival into Ireland.
- Book pet relocation services** and start preparing the requirements.
- Book your removalist company** and start to read the paperwork.  
Take the time to accurately complete or check an inventory of your possessions to be moved. This will form the basis for any insurance claim for losses or damages.
- Arrange to collect all medical information** such as dental records, scans, birth history, prescriptions, vaccination records.
- Begin decluttering items** - sell, give away and donate items to charity to start with.
- Start packing items** that are not needed prior to departure.
- If you are renting out your home,** start the process of meeting with prospective property managers and get your property valued also.
- Research the property market in Ireland.**  
Will you need short-term housing on arrival? Explore rental options/ purchase options.

## 3 - 6 MONTHS BEFORE DEPARTURE

- Arrange removalist company** to transport items to Ireland.
- Consider extra insurance coverage** you may need for the move.
- Scan any documents you have** and save them as well as taking a hard copy with you.
- Start the process of selling furniture** and start packing any non-essential items that will go in your suitcase.
- Arrange to pay outstanding bills.**



## 2- 3 MONTHS BEFORE DEPARTURE

- Give notice to any contracts** you have.
- Make a plan for what you will pack** to bring with you on the plane.
- Consider air-freight or parcel services** for things you will need immediately upon arrival. **I highly recommend [Send My bag.\\*](#)** You can get a 5% discount with [this link](#).
- Plan your farewell party** if you're having one!
- Continue selling items** that you won't need right up until you leave.
- Arrange Travel Insurance.**
- Open a Bank account in Ireland** or confirm that your old account is still valid.
- Fill any medical scripts** you will need.
- Book a bassinet seat on the plane** in advance. More tips on flying with children
- Cancel any subscriptions** or deliveries.
- Claim any unused points on club cards** and cancel them if no longer needed.
- If you have school children start working with the current and future school to transfer school records** and make plans for a smooth transition. **More information about schools can be found on the [Department of Education's website](#).**
- If you are considering Private Health Insurance, you can compare plans at [hia.ie](#).**

## 2 - 3 MONTHS BEFORE DEPARTURE CONT.

### **Organise International Money Transfers.**

**My recommendations for Money Transfers:**

#### **OFX\* (#1 RECOMMENDATION)**

- **Book through this link for FREE transfers for life.**

#### **Wise\***

- **Book through this link.**

#### **CurrencyFair\***

- **Book 3 FREE transfers through this link**

Other options include: (Bank, PayPal, Stripe, Revolut)

As a general rule, transferring larger sums less frequently usually works out cheaper than transferring smaller amounts more often.

However, if you need to transfer regular amounts of at least a few hundred pounds/dollars or need to make a larger one-off payment (e.g. for a house purchase) you should consider the services of a **currency broker** such as the service offered by **OFX\***. **Email me at [hello@irishwomenabroad.com](mailto:hello@irishwomenabroad.com) for more information.**

## 1 - 2 MONTHS BEFORE DEPARTURE

**Request a letter from your car insurer** outlining your current level of insurance and that you have 'No Claims Bonus'.

**Book in a cleaner** if you are not planning to do it yourself.

**Book a few nights accommodation for your final days abroad**, so that you have time to organise the last items to be finalised before your flight.

**Give notice to current employers and plan days off** before you leave.

#### **Cancel the following bills:**

Mobile Phone Bill

Tolls

Oil

Electricity

Internet

Gas

Gym

Health Insurance



## LESS THAN 1 MONTH BEFORE DEPARTURE

- Start packing** for what you will take in your suitcase.
- Begin the process of changing your address.**
- Set aside the important documents you will need for the journey, such as passports and air tickets.**
- Tie up any loose ends and ensure you have paid** any outstanding taxes or bills or organise payment plans if you can.
- Keep items like jewellery, sentimental items, valuable paperwork separate** from other items. Don't ship important documents.
- Consider the clothing** you will need on arrival in Ireland based on the seasons.
- Get rid of any unsold items** by donating them to charity or giving them away on the free pages on Facebook or on Facebook Marketplace.
- Use up food** in the fridge, freezer and pantry. You can also give away food in local Facebook groups.
- Close bank accounts and credit cards** if you don't need them in the future. Make sure to update your address with your bank.
- Give back keys to your rental** if you are renting.
- Check on the [HSE Website](#) for Covid-19 restrictions and updated information.**
- Organise your [Personal Public Service Number \(PPS\) number](#) for Ireland** if you need one.
- Say **goodbye to friends** & celebrate memories you have made.
- Confirm your moving day with a cleaner, if you need one.**
- You can read more information on [Sending Money Abroad Cheaply here.](#)**
- [Download Returning to Ireland Checklist here](#)**

Have a safe journey! ✨🍀





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Abroad**

## Irish Women Abroad 2021



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