

Information for women from Ireland

Marie Stopes International is the UK's leading provider of abortion services outside the NHS. Our nationwide network of centres, see over 100,000 women each year, who come to us for information, advice and professional care. We are committed to providing all the help you need to make informed choices about your health. We ensure that there is no wait for appointments and that our centres are safe, friendly, and comfortable places to visit.

Abortion is not legal in Ireland. If you live in Ireland you can still visit one of our UK centres for abortion advice and help. We understand the additional difficulties you may have travelling to England but be assured we are here to advise and support you to make things as easy as possible. Our service is completely confidential.

Nearly 7,000 women from Ireland make the journey to England every year to access safe abortion services, and at Marie Stopes International (MSI) we see around 3,000 of them - so we understand how difficult it can be.

In this short guide, you should find all of the information that you need to make your journey to England and to access safe treatment in a supportive environment.

Please do not hesitate to give us a call if you have any further queries, no matter how small you think these may be on **+ 00 44 (0) 845 300 8090**.

Arranging your appointment

Firstly, be sure you are definitely pregnant! If you have only done one test you may want to double check, perhaps with a doctor, pharmacist or family planning clinic, before booking your appointment.

Act quickly, as early treatment will make the experience easier for you, but don't panic and make rush decisions about your appointment. Take some time to weigh up your travel options carefully and don't forget about getting to and from the airport - can you get transport? How long will it take? Marie Stopes International also has centres in Bristol, Manchester and Leeds as well as London and now fares to these cities can be cheaper.

We are able to offer one-day visits, but you will need to think about your travel arrangements and if you can get to the airport, get to us and get home in one day. When you call us our assistants will be able to advise you about how long you will be at the centre so you can estimate your travelling times. You might want to think about our telephone counselling and telephone consultation service where you can have a consultation and get all the information you need by talking to one of our specialist nurses over the phone before you come. This will save you time on the day of your visit.

It really is important to face the situation as soon as you can - and to be honest with yourself about how far into the pregnancy you really are. If you want an abortion then your choices depend on this. The UK legal limit for abortion is 24 weeks of pregnancy and the simplest procedures (best if you're travelling) can be done up to 14 weeks. Between 14 and 19 weeks you can still have treatment in one day but you will need to stay a little longer at the centre. For 19 to 24 weeks gestation you would probably need to stay at least one night, local to the centre.

Contacting us

You can call our 24 hour booking and information service on **+ 00 44 (0) 845 300 8090** to speak to us. When you call us be sure to let us know that you will be travelling from Ireland, so that we can help find the most convenient appointment times. We will also be able to offer advice on travel and accommodation.

Travelling to England

There are a number of airlines that fly from Ireland to England and we can give you all flight and travel information, including how much time to allow, when you call to make your appointment. It is very important that you book your appointment with us before you book your flight. In depth travel information, maps and directions are available so please request these when booking.

Aftercare

You will be given full aftercare information at the centre after your treatment. If you are worried about anything at all, please call us day or night for advice on our 24 hour aftercare line **+ 00 44 (0) 845 122 1441**.

Marie Stopes Reproductive Choices in Dublin

If you live in Ireland, you can also get help and advice from Marie Stopes Reproductive Choices in Dublin on **+ 353 (0) 1 830 0630**. They provide medical consultations for women considering an abortion. The team are completely pro-choice and will support you in your decision. They are able to provide counselling services and scanning and all the information you may need.

If you are not sure of your dates or have a medical condition it is wise to visit them for a consultation before you travel.

Airlines that fly from Ireland to the UK

It is best not to book your flight before you have arranged your appointment with Marie Stopes International. You can always change your booking with us if you need to; it's harder to change your flight.

Airline	Contact number	Web address
Aer Arann	Ireland: 0818 210 210 UK: 0800 5872324 Worldwide: +353 6170 4428	www.aerarann.ie
Aer Lingus	Ireland: 0818 365 000 Worldwide: +3538 1836 5000	www.aerlingus.com
BMI (British Midland)	UK: 0870 6070555 Worldwide: +44 (0)1332854854	www.flybmi.com
Easy Jet	UK: 0905 821 0905- 65p/min! Ireland: 1890 923 922 or +4487 0600 0000	www.easyjet.com
Ryan Air	UK: 0818 303030 / 0871 2460000 Worldwide: 1570 224499	www.ryanair.com

Who flies where?

Airports (Ireland)	Airline	Fly to-UK Airports
Dublin	Aer Lingus	Bristol Heathrow Manchester
Dublin	Ryan Air	Bristol Gatwick Manchester Leeds Stansted
Dublin	BMI	Leeds Bradford Heathrow
Cork	Aer Arann	Bristol Leeds
Cork	Air Lingus	Heathrow
Cork	BMI	Leeds Bradford Heathrow
Cork	Easy Jet	Gatwick
Cork	Ryan Air	Stansted
Kerry	Aer Arann	Manchester
Kerry	Ryan Air	Stansted
Galway	Aer Arann	Manchester Leeds
Knock	Easy Jet	Gatwick
Knock	Ryan Air	Stansted Gatwick
Shannon	Aer Lingus	Heathrow
Shannon	Ryan Air	Stansted Gatwick Manchester