



WELCOME LETTER TO UKRAINIAN GUESTS

Welcome to Ireland. Our team at Helping Irish Hosts is here to help and we all stand with you at this dark time. We hope we can help offer you refuge with an Irish host so you can begin to integrate and until you can find your own accommodation in Ireland.

Helping Irish Hosts is an organisation which arose in response to the Ukrainian crisis, to support individuals and communities in Ireland who want to offer refuge in their homes. We have been working in partnership with the Irish Red Cross in emergency accommodation settings since August 2022. This letter aims to provide you with honest information, based on personal experience, to help you consider your next steps in living in Ireland.

Challenges around housing & accommodation in Ireland

There is a housing crisis in Ireland (it was here before you arrived, so it's not new and it's not your fault). Property prices are high and rents are also at an all-time high. It's very difficult to find rental accommodation, regardless of who you are and where you come from. As a result, the number of homeless people and families continues to rise. In Ireland, it's very normal to travel long distances for work and college as it may be cheaper to live at home in one county and work or go to college in another.

Thousands of Ukrainians live in temporary accommodation, provided by the State. The quality of accommodation is very varied and where you'll be placed depends on what is available at the time. You may be placed in a hotel, community centre or in tented accommodation for a period. The arrival of more than 100,000 Ukrainians is a difficult challenge for the State.

As of March 14th 2024, Ukrainians who arrive in Ireland and register for temporary protection and State-provided accommodation will be accommodated for 90 days in Designated Accommodation Centres. Following the 90 days, it is up to you to find alternative accommodation.

Currently, the following housing options are available in Ireland if you are unable to make your own private arrangements:

Ukraine Crisis Temporary Protection Team

Every asylum seeker, including Beneficiaries of Temporary Protection (BOTP), in Ireland is offered short-term accommodation by the state organisation UCTAT. The type and quality of accommodation offered depends on availability. Contact UCTAT Helpdesk for support at UkraineTempAccom@equality.gov.ie / support@ukrainetempaccom.cloud.gov.ie

Please Note: From 28 November 2022, government policy anticipates all Beneficiaries of Temporary Protection (BOTP) will receive only one offer of suitable accommodation. If you refuse, you will not get another offer from the government. It will be your own

responsibility to find accommodation.

Living in an Irish (HOST) family home

Thousands of Ukrainians live with Irish host families, in Host homes. These people want to show solidarity by making room for you in their own houses. Most of us are doing very well together. Actually, it's even better than we expected. Both the Hosts and Ukrainian guests consider this a positive experience, an opportunity to exchange traditions and feel some light and kindness in times of darkness.

If you want to be hosted with our help:

If you are ready to live in a Host home, our team at Helping Irish Hosts is here to help you. Please take time to read through some important information before registering with us:

[Guest Toolkit](#)

Next Steps:

- If you are ready to give it a try and would like to register to live with a Host or Host family, please fill out the form in English [here](#). Please note! We do not accept location requests. We offer accommodation in property locations available to us from Hosts all over Ireland, many of which are in the countryside.
- If you need help filling out the form in English, please email hostme@helpingirishhosts.com with "Help with form" in the subject line.
- If you submit an accommodation request form to Helping Irish Hosts, you will receive a maximum of one offer before we move on to another guest.

We can't find the perfect match for everyone, but we'll do our best to find the right match for you! We wish you peace, love and all the best on your journey, wherever it may take you.

Glory to Ukraine  
Helping Irish Hosts

More information and really useful links can be found here:
<https://www.helpingirishhosts.com/information-for-ukrainian-guests>