

AVIVA STADIUM, IRELAND

Aviva Stadium, Lansdowne Road, Dublin 4

Tel: + 353 (0) 1 238 2300 Website: avivastadium.ie

Capacity: 51,700



Irish rugby 'came home' in 2010 when the new Aviva Stadium was opened, allowing a return to the old Lansdowne Road site. After a three year exile at Croke Park, home is now the 51,700 all-seater, €410m Aviva Stadium. The first match was on 31 July, 2010, when Leinster / Ulster Under 20 beat their counterparts from Munster / Connacht 68-0.

Leinster beat Munster 13-9 in front of 50,654 fans in the Magners League on 2 October and then beat ASM Clermont Auvergne 24-8 in the Heineken Cup on 18 December with 44,873 people watching. Declan Kidney's Irish side made their international return against the Springboks on 6 November, 2010. Morné Steyn scored the first Test points at the new venue and his team mate Juan Smith got the first try. Tommy Bowe was the first Irish try scorer.

Demolished in May, 2007, Lansdowne Road was

the oldest sports stadium in Europe having opened as an athletics track in 1872. The first rugby match there was Leinster v Munster in December, 1876.

The first rugby international at Lansdowne Road was Ireland v England on 11 March, 1878. The last was against Pacific Islands on 26 November, 2006. The old stadium had a capacity of just under 51,000 with 14,000 standing, the new Aviva Stadium has a seated capacity of 51,700 – 20,000 in the lower tier, 18,500 in the upper tier, 10,000 at the Premium Level and 1,500 in the Box Level.

The new design consists of a continuous curvilinear shaped stand enclosing all four sides of the ground with the South, East and West stands all having four tiers of seating for spectators. The Aviva Stadium will be the first in Five and Six Nations history to carry a commercial title.

AVIVA STADIUM (Lansdowne Road) CHAMPIONSHIP RECORD

Games 170

Home Nations 32

5 Nations 120

6 Nations 18

International Debut
Ireland lost to England
11 March, 1878

Championship Debut
Ireland 3 Wales 19
12 March, 1910

6 Nations Debut
Ireland 44 Scotland 22
19 February, 2000

Success Rate 52.05%
Best Winning Run 6

HOW TO GET THERE

Arriving on Foot: To reach the stadium by foot from St Stephen's Green, matchgoers walk up Merrion Row, Baggot St Lower, Baggot St Upper and cross the Grand Canal at Baggot St Bridge. They then walk straight on down Pembroke Road and cross the road at the junction of Northumberland and Merrion Roads where the Ballsbridge Inn (Formerly Jury's Hotel) is prominently located.

Arriving by Rail: The easiest way to travel directly to the ground is to take the DART (www.irishrail.ie). The line actually runs under the West stand of the stadium and stops at Lansdowne Road Station itself.

From Dublin city centre, visitors to Aviva Stadium can take the DART southbound from Pearse Station on Westland Row, Tara St Station or Connolly Station. Connolly Station provides a link with the city's tram system, the LUAS.

Arriving by Bus: The main bus routes that serve Ballsbridge from the city centre are the 7 and 8, 45 and 84. For information on timetables please visit www.dublinbus.ie.

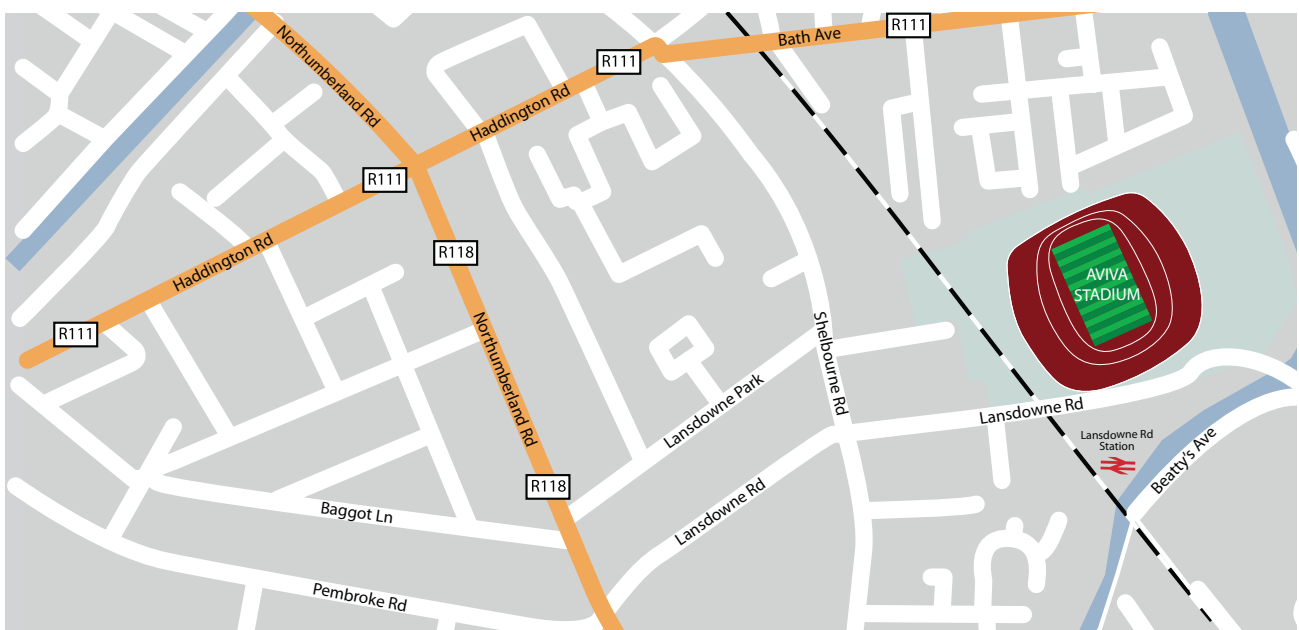
Arriving by Road: From Nassau Street at Trinity College (city centre), travel along Merrion Square and Lower Mount Street. Cross the canal and continue along Northumberland Road to the second set of lights.

Turn left onto Lansdowne Road. Continue through the next junction. Travel straight across, this junction to another T junction. Turn left then immediate right onto Newbridge Avenue. Continue to the mini roundabout and on the right you will see the stadium.

Arriving by Air: The Air Coach (www.aircoach.ie) provides a 24 hour coach service from Dublin Airport to the nearby D4 Inn (formerly Jurys Hotel) on Lansdowne Road only a short walk from the stadium. Taxis are available outside the arrival hall at Dublin Airport.

For those travelling by car from Dublin Airport, follow all directions for Dublin City as you exit Dublin Airport. Cross the motorway and take the slipway down onto the M1. On the motorway stay in right hand lane and take Port Tunnel (charges vary depending on time of day - ensure you have Euros). After the toll, continue past O2 Arena on right and cross East Link Toll Bridge. Soon after passing through the toll booths turn right at the roundabout. Continue to the second set of traffic lights.

Travel straight across, this junction to another T junction. Turn left and then immediately right onto Newbridge Avenue. Continue to the mini roundabout and on the right you will see the stadium.



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