

Northern Ireland: Reasons to Invest

Talented People

- Highly educated and skilled English-speaking workforce.
- Students consistently outperform candidates from other UK regions at GCSE and A-Level (High school leaving).
- According to a major survey, Northern Ireland has the best performing education system for primary maths in Europe, and the sixth best in the world.
- Government departments work closely with industry and academia to ensure the workforce is successfully equipped with the appropriate skills for businesses.



“The supply of talent in Northern Ireland, particularly at graduate level, is impressive and it makes this region highly attractive to a global company like Citi seeking the best location for growth.”

James Bardrick, Citi Country Officer United Kingdom

Competitive Operating Costs

- Operating costs are up to 30% lower than other locations in the UK and Europe.
- According to an international survey, Belfast is the top UK location with the lowest living costs for international employees.
- The corporation tax rate of 25% is the lowest in the G7.



“Our new technology hub will provide us with cutting-edge tech expertise to support future growth. Belfast has a wealth of tech talent and we’re excited to be establishing a permanent base in such a vibrant city.”

Nick Beighton, CEO, ASOS

Location

- Northern Ireland operates in the same time zone and regulatory environment as the rest of the UK.
- Northern Ireland is an easily accessible location. London is only an hour away by air, with Dublin only two hours by rail and road from Belfast.
- The region has three airports and there are regular flights to a variety of European business locations.
- Northern Ireland is the only part of the UK that shares a land border with a Euro participant (Republic of Ireland).



Unique Market Access

- Northern Ireland is now the only place in the world that offers tariff-free access to both GB and EU markets, following the UK’s exit from the EU.
- This means that Northern Ireland is a gateway for the sale of goods to two of the world’s largest markets and the only place where businesses can operate free from customs declarations, rules of origin certificates and non-tariff barriers on the sale of goods to both GB and the EU.



A Supportive Business Environment

- Invest NI is the region’s economic development agency. It helps new and existing businesses to compete internationally and attract new investment to Northern Ireland.
- Invest NI can offer financial, technical and advisory support, including assistance with:
 - Property search
 - Talent sourcing
 - Operating efficiency
 - Business development



**Northern
Ireland**

Advanced Telecommunications Infrastructure

- A resilient, digital network provides high-speed voice and data connections throughout the world.
- A high capacity, low-latency transatlantic cable system provides direct connectivity between Northern Ireland and North America, as well as onward connectivity to Europe and beyond.
- Northern Ireland is the number one location in the UK and Ireland for full-fibre access and a rapidly expanding 5G network.



Track Record

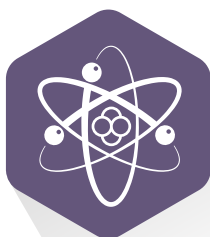
- Northern Ireland is a highly successful region for attracting inward investment projects.
- Investors include multi-national companies such as Allen & Overy, Seagate Technology, Fujitsu, Spirit AeroSystems, Microsoft, Citi, Liberty Mutual, the Allstate Corporation and Baker McKenzie.
- More than 1,200 companies have set up operations in Northern Ireland.
- 70% of new investors have reinvested.



Innovation

Northern Ireland has a rich heritage of innovation:

- Lord Kelvin, the father of modern science and creator of the absolute temperature scale, was born in Belfast in 1824.
- John Boyd Dunlop invented the pneumatic tyre in Belfast in 1888.
- In 1917 Harry Ferguson patented the technology that led to the modern tractor.
- The plane ejector seat was invented in 1944 by James Martin, an engineer from Northern Ireland.
- The portable defibrillator was designed in Northern Ireland in the 1960s by Professor Frank Pantridge.



Did You Know?

- 1 in 4 computer drives has a part made in Northern Ireland.
- 1 in 3 of the world's aircraft seats is made in Northern Ireland.
- 40% of the world's tracked mobile stone crushing and gravel screening equipment is made in the region.
- Northern Ireland is home to one of Europe's most business friendly cities of its size.
- Northern Ireland is the only place in the world that offers tariff-free access to both GB and EU markets.
- Belfast is the world's top city for fintech inward investment projects.
- Northern Ireland is the number one international investment location for US cyber security firms.
- The Centre for Secure Information Technologies (CSIT) is recognised by the UK's National Cyber Security Centre as an academic centre of excellence in cyber security research and in cyber security education.



"We considered a number of location options. Northern Ireland stood out for the great calibre of the available people, combined with cost competitiveness and geographical convenience."

Graeme Johnston, Partner, Herbert Smith Freehills

For more information please visit
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