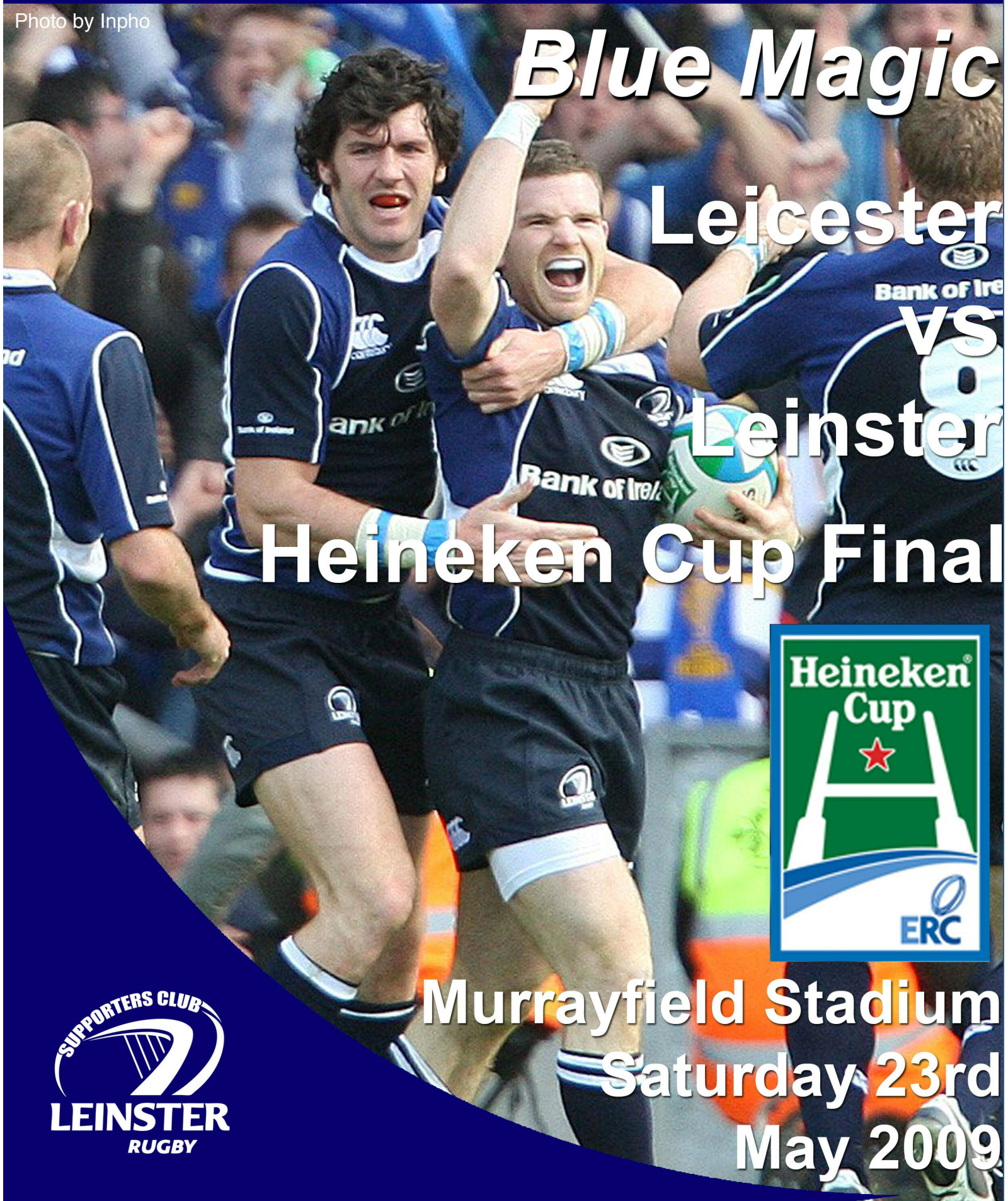


OFFICIAL LEINSTER SUPPORTERS CLUB

Guide to Edinburgh

Photo by Inpho



Blue Magic

Leicester

VS

Leinster

Heineken Cup Final



Murrayfield Stadium

Saturday 23rd

May 2009



Introduction

Edinburgh (Scottish Gaelic: Dùn Èideann) is the capital city of Scotland, a position it has held since 1437. It is the seventh largest city in the United Kingdom and the second largest Scottish city, after Glasgow. Located in the south-east of Scotland, Edinburgh lies on the east coast of the Central Belt, along the Firth of Forth, near the North Sea.

Edinburgh is a major cultural centre, earning it the nickname Athens of the North because of the Greco-Roman style of the New Town's architecture. Owing to its rugged setting and vast collection of Medieval and Georgian architecture, including numerous stone tenements, it is often considered one of the most picturesque cities in Europe.

Tourist Information

If you are planning to stay longer in Edinburgh or the surrounding area visit the local Tourist Information Centre at 3 Princes Street, Edinburgh EH2 2QP or visit www.edinburgh.org

Mobile phones

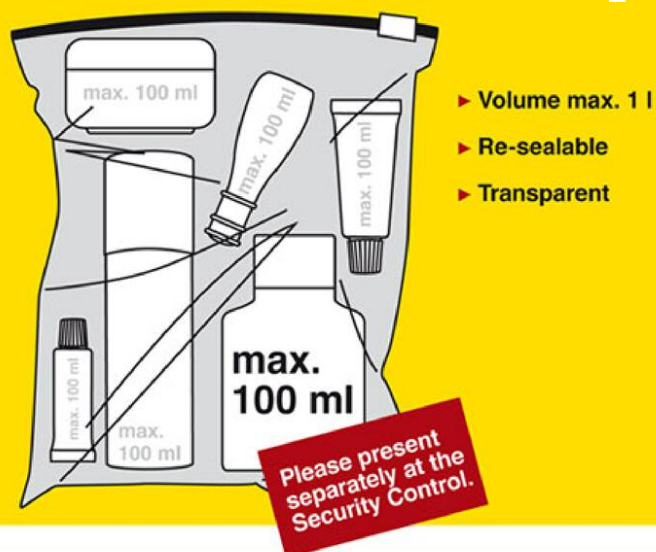
While in the UK you can roam on any mobile network, you will never pay more than 27c p/m to receive a call and 56c p/m to make a call back home. Texts are typically 25c to send and free to receive.

Like at home, the emergency number in the UK is 999 from both a payphone and your mobile.

EU Hand luggage regulations

New regulations for hand luggage

There are restrictions on liquids which can be taken into the cabin on flights originating within the EU



Getting there

By Air

If travelling to Edinburgh by air and there are three airports in the region.

Edinburgh International (EDI) is served by both Aer Lingus and Ryanair, the airport is located 11km from the city centre. The cheapest and handiest way to get there is by Airlink (www.flybybus.com) at just £5 return, buses are frequent and also pass by Murrayfield on the way to the city centre.

Other options for getting to Edinburgh are:

Glasgow International (Aer Lingus) which is 35 minutes from Glasgow city centre or Glasgow Prestwick (Ryanair) which is 50 minutes from the city centre.

For **Glasgow International** take a taxi or bus to Paisley Gilmour Street where you will get the train to Glasgow Central, often there are trains from this station to Edinburgh otherwise you will need to walk to Glasgow Queen Street and board a train from there.

From **Glasgow Prestwick** take the train from the airport direct to Glasgow Queen Street and connect to Edinburgh trains either there or at the nearby Glasgow Queen Street station.

Allow 2 hours for the entire journey each way, full details of timetables, route information and ticket sales (remember 2 singles is quite often cheaper than a return ticket) can be found at www.thetrainline.co.uk

Further details of all these airports can be found at www.edinburghairport.com, www.glasgowairport.com and www.gpia.co.uk

By Train

Edinburgh has two train stations, Waverley and Haymarket, both offer links to other parts of the United Kingdom including Glasgow, Birmingham, Manchester, Liverpool and Aberdeen.

If you are travelling and have yet to purchase a ticket it is often cheaper to purchase in advance and collect at the station, full details can be found at www.thetrainline.co.uk

Both are located in the city centre however Haymarket is a little closer to Murrayfield itself.

By Car

If you are driving to Edinburgh (from within the UK or from the ferry) there are a number of public car parks in the city centre. You should check with your accommodation house first in case they offer something, if not the main buildings (and maps) can be located at www.ncp.co.uk

Where to stay

Like any event weekend in Edinburgh accommodation in the city and its surrounds is now at a premium, if you don't yet have anything booked we suggest you consider Glasgow or Stirling or maybe one of the following last minute availability websites.

www.laterooms.com

www.lastminute.com

www.wotif.com

Flags

Wherever possible please bring your own flag however a number will be given out by the OLSC and its volunteers throughout the city centre and on the approaches to Murrayfield.



OLSC Headquarters

The OLSC has arranged for the Walkabout to be our base for those travelling to Edinburgh, it is not far from Princes Street and boasts a large number of TV screens for other live sport, lots of rooms for supporters and a nightclub all in one spot.



We have negotiated the following specials for anyone wearing a Leinster jersey over the weekend.

£2 pints of Fosters, Guinness and Magners

£1.80 bottles of Heineken

25% off all other food and drink

Directions to HQ:

From Waverly train station (6/7 minute walk) head towards Princes Street (this should take you up the Waverley Steps). At the top of the steps, turn right and head past the Balmoral Hotel on your right.

At the junction, cross over to your left (towards the statue of the house) and then turn right. Keep walking down Leith Street, past St James shopping centre and Thistle Hotel on your left until you reach John Lewis on the corner. Turn right and the pub is situated in the pedestrian area ahead.

Walkabout – Edinburgh
Units 6 & 7
Omni Leisure Development
Greenside Place
Edinburgh EH1 3AA

There is normally a cover charge of £2 for the Friday night however this will be waived to supporters wearing a Leinster jersey provided you enter before 10pm

****Friday 5pm special****

All drinks are priced at no more than £2 from 5pm each Friday evening, so if you are going to be in town the night before the game why not meet other Leinster supporters there?

The Walkabout will be open from 11am on Friday morning and 10am the day of the match.

www.walkabout.eu.com/home/venues/scotland/edinburgh



Photo by Inpho

Eating and Drinking

The OLSC has also teamed up with another establishment in the city, located on Cowgate in the busy Grassmarket part of Edinburgh, **The Three Sisters** pub is a large venue with seating both inside and out.

For every breakfast ordered you will receive another breakfast free of charge
OR

For every full price breakfast ordered you will receive a free pint of Guinness

From 12 noon the pub will be operating a lunch menu including BBQ.



For every burger bought from the BBQ you will receive another free of charge

There is also free entry on the Saturday night to 'Faith' nightclub which is a two minute walk from The Three Sisters

You must wear a Leinster jersey to avail of these offers and to avail of the food specials you must mention this at the time of ordering.

Terms and Conditions apply to all of the above offers.

2-4-1 deal applies to breakfasts ordered before midday only

2-4-1 deal applies to burgers from the outdoor BBQ only

2-4-1 deal is subject to availability.

Other places to eat and drink

There is no shortage of restaurants, pubs and bars in Edinburgh. Take a stroll along Rose Street or in fact anywhere through the city centre.

There are two pubs close to Murrayfield that are worth a visit. The Murrayfield Hotel and the Murrayfield Bar. Get there early though as they will be very busy. Food is normally available on match days.

Murrayfield Hotel

www.festival-inns.co.uk/murrayfieldhotel

Murrayfield Bar

www.murrayfieldbar.com

Murrayfield Stadium

Murrayfield holds 62,500 people and is located 1.5kms from the city centre, when coming from the airport you will pass the stadium on your right hand side. The ground is walkable from the city centre (allow 30-35 mins) or take the Airlink bus (www.flybybus.com) for £3 single or £5 return.

Taxis are available but be aware that traffic around the stadium on match day can be heavy. There are a lot of road works ongoing in Edinburgh's centre at the moment and travel times are affected. Public transport or walking are best but leave plenty of time.



Full address for the ground is:
 Murrayfield Stadium
 Scottish Rugby
 Murrayfield
 Edinburgh
 Midlothian
 EH12 5PJ
 Phone: + 44 131 346 5000
 Fax: + 44 131 346 5001

INFORMATION FROM THE SCOTTISH RUGBY UNION

Heineken Cup Final 2009 - Specific Ticket & Access Details

Saturday 23 May 2009

Ticket office open: 9am to 5.40pm for ticket collections ONLY

Turnstiles / bars open: 3pm

Leinster v Leicester kick-off: 5pm

Turnstiles / bars close: 8pm

Admission: There will be NO tickets on sale on match day. The Scottish Rugby Ticket Centre will be open for ticket collection, from Monday 18 May to Thursday 21 May from 9am to 5pm; and on Friday 22 May from 9am to 8pm.

Turnstiles: Access to the stadium is via turnstiles situated at the North Stand, Roseburn Crescent, Roseburn Street and at the South Stand. Please note, there is no pedestrian access to the stadium via the West Stand turnstiles or back pitch areas.

Pass in / out: There will be no facility to re-enter the stadium after initial admission.



Message from the OLSC



This is it. The culmination of a long season of rugby, throughout which the team has given us some amazing days – none better than the semi-final in Croke Park. We are always proud to be Blues and that tremendous performance made us prouder than ever. The supporters too, stood up that day and together with the team we let the world know we are written off at your peril.

That was then though and this is now. One more match awaits. The Heineken

Cup Final – The Big One. The most important match in Leinster's existence to date. The team is going to have to up their semi-final performance and so are the supporters. Leicester is an experienced and organised outfit and their supporters are no different. Make no mistake; we have to come out with all guns blazing.

Leinster supporters have really come of age this year but we need to raise the bar higher still for the last 80 minutes of the season. Those of us lucky enough to be in the stadium have a responsibility to do everything we can to back the boys. Unrelenting, passionate support is required. Sing, shout, chant and drum like you have never done before. Leave nothing behind. Go home knowing that you did everything you could for your team.

Be Seen
Be Heard
Be Blue!

C'MON LEINSTER – MAKE IT YOUR DAY!

Photos from this weekend

Over the course of the final weekend if you have any interesting photos which you think can be used for the website gallery please forward with a caption (if possible) to the Club at olsc@leinsterrugby.ie

Message from Michael Cheika



On behalf of the Leinster team and management I would like to thank you for your outstanding support over the course of the season.

We are conscious of the sacrifices that each of you makes to follow us, both at home and on the road, and we are thankful for the faith that you have in the team. We also know the great lengths that many of the Leinster support will take to get to Edinburgh and my one hope is that you enjoy the occasion.

Our supporters have played a key role in helping us achieve our goals so far this season. I can assure each of you that that level of support is hugely appreciated by the team.

Leicester are an outstanding club with a strong pedigree in this competition. They have displayed great character and resilience this year and they are a side we have great respect for.

Training has been intense and sharp in the build up to the final and the mood in the camp is upbeat. The team are understandably nervous, but there's also a real air of excitement. It is Leinster's first Heineken Cup final and we are focused and ready.

The journey for this season is almost complete, but the desire still burns brightly.

The semi final victory over Munster was a special day for everybody connected with Leinster Rugby. Your support inspired us that day and I know how excited each of you is about this weekend's final.

Enjoy the game,

Michael Cheika
Leinster Coach