

James Casserly – on twitter - twitter.com/James22034777 Jimbo's accessible Adventures

Dublin Bus Findings

Dublin bus is really accessible however it just allows one wheelchair to travel at any given time.

Dublin bus has features such as a ramp to enter and exit the vehicle, our infrastructure in Dublin allows this to work successfully.

On the bus there is clear indicators for a loop system for those who are deaf or hard of hearing.

There is visual signage to inform you of the next upcoming bus stop - this is really important for those that are visually impaired or need prompting,

there is also a different bell press for wheelchair users who need the ramp lowered to exit.

There is signage on the bus to request passengers to give up their seat for those who may be older - there is high population of older people in our communities this statistically is the highest representational number of those with disability in our community, I understand age can be a big factor in disability as well.

I find this really easy to travel by Dublin bus. I find the drivers aware of the usage of the ramp and identifying me clearly at a bus stop. Drivers have made way with other passengers to allow me entered the bus safely .

My mom will give you her thoughts on the jam card which is a useful tool for those who might need an extra few moments and patience

Dublin bus are really responsive on social media for any queries, and I find them progressive to develop suitable transport for a person with disability

The Luas

The Luas is possibly the most accessible transport Ireland has to offer, there is no preplanning involved, you can enter on access to the Luas without any assistance.

I find this incredible for my independence and I think this is a really good template for Irish rail and also the dart going forward.

The platforms on the Luas are built to complement the Luas no ramps are required to enter and exit the Luas I can simply just board.

I believe this is how easy travel should be

I understand this is city based and area based but it is an excellent demonstration of how things can be done.

Irish rail

I love to travel by train. Irish rail are really helpful through their social media channels.

However to travel by Irish rail there is a bit of preplanning involved.

One quick observation when printing my free travel pass is the ticket machines are slightly too high in the station for a person to easily access if they were a wheelchair user. This could easily be fixed by having a machine at slightly lower levels.

The biggest issue when travelling with Irish rail is having to ring to ensure there is a ramp for access onto the train and exit. I have had no major issues in this regard and I find stations are generally really helpful.

Pre planning is mainly for unmanned stations. For our major stations there's generally somebody there to assist 24/7.

I would suggest as routine lifts are serviced if you need to take a lift to the platforms. This will stop people being stranded in the stations or not being able to use the train at all.

I can answer any questions on my experience that you like.

Bus Eireann

Again bus eireann are very helpful but there is a lot of preplanning involved. From my experience they are a bit behind Irish rail, Luas and Dublin bus. I have travelled into county using Bus Eireann. Vivienne and Brian want to make travel with Bus Eireann easier. I'm pre planning a trip to Letterkenny and one major problem for the bus is the council have not built the footpaths to allow for the ramps to work safely. So councils in rural areas need to ensure they are building foot paths that can allow this to happen that will take away challenges person with disability to travel into county by bus.