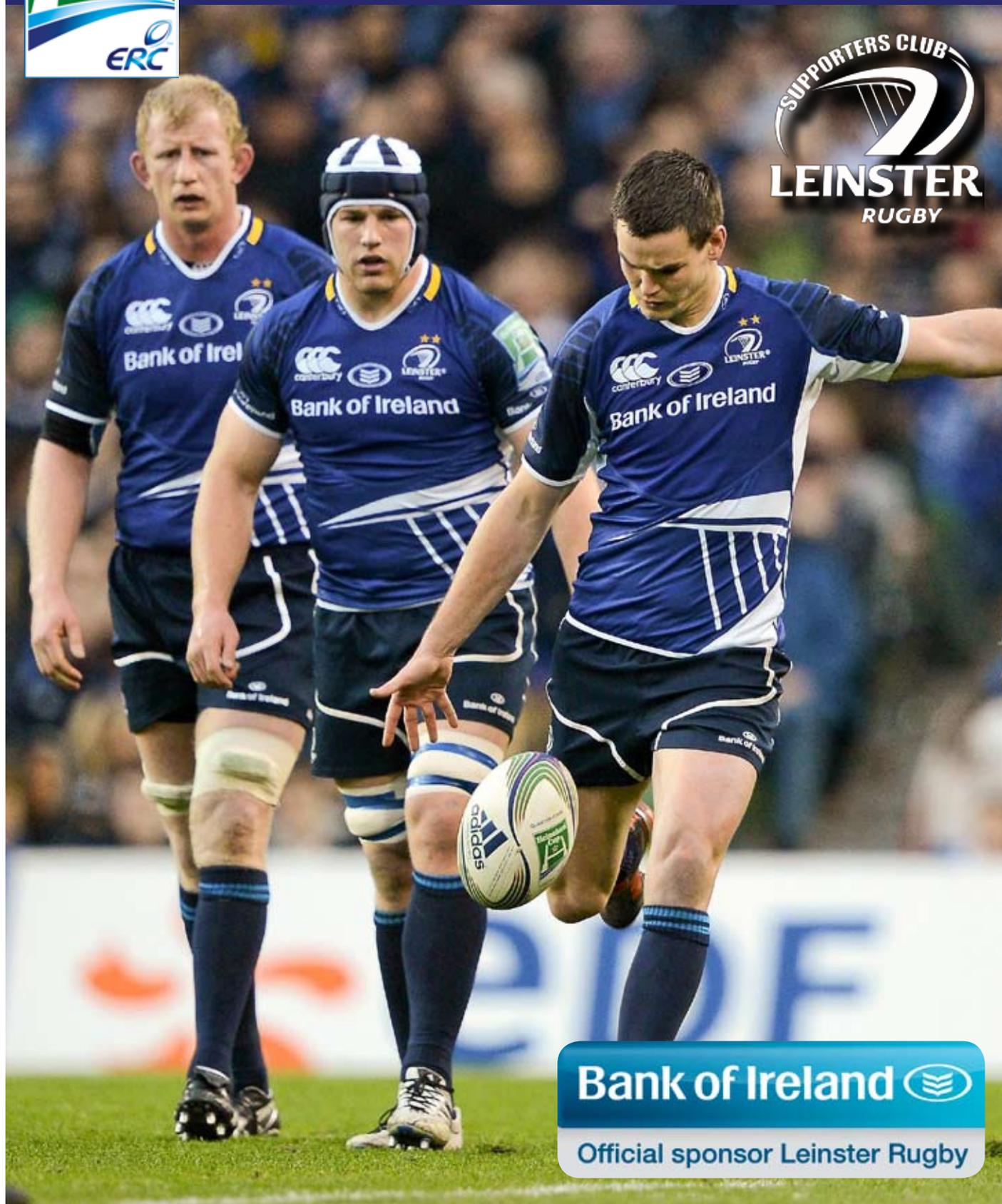


OFFICIAL LEINSTER SUPPORTERS CLUB

Guide to Bordeaux

ASM Clermont v Leinster April 29, 2012



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Introduction

BORDEAUX is located in the southwest of France. Home to just over one million people, the city hosts this weekend's semi final. While known the world over for its fine wines, it is perhaps lesser known that the historical part of the city makes part of the UNESCO World Heritage list and is noted as "an outstanding urban and architectural ensemble".

ASM Clermont Auvergne normally play their games in Clermont (as many supporters will fondly remember from our visit for a pool game in December 2010). This fixture has been moved to the Stade Chaban Delmas with a capacity 34,000. Even though this game is in Bordeaux we still expect a huge number of their supporters to be in the stadium come kick off. To maximise our impact we have arranged a supporters' march to the ground (details can be found on a later page).



Arriving in Bordeaux

By air you will land at Bordeaux-Merignac airport, from outside arrivals you can take the Jet Bus that operates to the train station via the city centre every 45 minutes. The cost is €7 one way and €12 return. Tickets can be bought on the bus. Taxis are also available, expect to pay circa €20 between the airport and city centre. The airport is located 10kms from the centre of Bordeaux.

Supporter HQ

The OLSC has appointed the Connemara Pub at 14-18 Cours d'Albret in the centre of Bordeaux as the official supporters' base across the weekend. Frank and the team will be looking after supporters with multiple screens to watch the other semi final and other sports as well as a range of food and beverage specials for supporters.

Open until 2am on Saturday and from 11am on match day the bar also has free wifi enabling smartphone users to access the internet.

Leinster supporters can enjoy the following specials over the weekend:

- 4 pints Kronenbourg lager €15
- 4 pints Guinness/ Magners €20
- 4 pints Coke, Sprite, Zero, etc €15

There will also be take away trays of curry & chips, chili & chips, calamari, wings, nuggets and pizza portions, as well as sandwiches and paninis available.

Eating and Drinking

The Connemara has a range of food options including a breakfast fry.

Many supporters from previous away trips to France will testify to Entrocote, a steak restaurant in certain cities of France. Here it is located at 4 Cours 30 Juillet in the city centre. Look for the bright yellow signage and sometimes even a queue but it is worth it – very good value with a very simple menu – steak!

www.entrecote.fr



Things to see and do during your stay

- ASM Clermont Auvergne v Leinster Rugby – KO Sunday at 4pm
- Head to Rue Sainte Catherine, the longest pedestrian street in Europe
- Old Bordeaux – take a stroll to see both 18th century and some modern architecture
- Cathedrale Saint-Andre, You won't miss this in the city centre, the tower offers spectacular view over the city
- Vineyard Tours – www.bdtours.fr

This weekend it's all about being blue and white

Clermont's colours are similar to ours (blue and yellow), for this weekend we are encouraging supporters to dress as much as possible in blue and white. The OLSC will have commemorative blue caps to giveaway as well as temporary tattoos and of course flags. Look out for us distributing these on match day.

Stadium March

The stadium that features the longest player tunnel in Europe (at 120 metres) is located at Place Johnston, 33000, which is a short 2km (20-minute) stroll from our supporter base in the city centre. So that all supporters are together we are arranging a march to Chaban Delmas that will leave the Connemara Pub at 1.45pm. Once at the ground you'll be able to mingle with other Leinster and Clermont supporters.

The stadium can also be reached by train: from Bordeaux St-Jean station, take line C in the direction of Quinconces. Alight at Porte de Bourgogne and take line A in the direction of Saint-Augustin, alight at Stade Chaban-Delmas.

Flags

The flags issued in the RDS (with a white plastic pole) have been cleared by the Dublin Airport Authority for hand luggage and should also be acceptable to pass through UK/French airports. The OLSC team will have a limited number of flags to hand out in Bordeaux however please bring what you can from home.

OLSC tips

When checking in to your accommodation be sure to take a business card and/or map from your hotel reception as these should have the street address details of your accommodation that you can show a taxi driver. If you become disorientated after dark it can be used as a reference to find your way back. It also can help when staying at a chain hotel if you forget which location you are actually staying in!

Data roaming: The Supporters HQ will have free wifi across the weekend allowing you to save money on expensive roaming costs. To avoid 'bill shock' on your return Ireland we suggest you keep roaming switched off for the entire weekend.



Keep in touch
with the OLSC

Did you know that
the OLSC is on the
world wide web?

Facebook:
Official Leinster
Supporters Club



Twitter:
OLSCRugby



Website:
www.olsc.ie

Message from the coach

Dear Leinster Supporter,

The semi final of the Heineken Cup is upon us and tests don't come much bigger than ASM Clermont Auvergne away. Clermont have the ability to play a power based game with their big ball carriers - backs and forwards, while at the same time they have some real speed and innovation among their group. Then, in their away victory at Saracens last time out, their defence proved impenetrable. Not that we in Leinster need any reminder about their strength in depth after our two entertaining tussles last season!



I thoroughly enjoyed my three years coaching there and Vern Cotter has added further quality to what was already a formidable squad. Adding the likes of Lee Byrne, Gerard Vosloo, Regan King, Sitiveni Sivivatu and David Skrela to the squad and their outspoken European ambitions in the club's centenary year will ensure that they are tougher to get the better of than ever.

The Stade Chaban-Delmas is a fantastic arena and we're expecting a fiery reception, on the field and from the stands where Clermont's support, like our own, is especially vocal. The city of Bordeaux is rich in history and culture and I have no doubt that many of you will enjoy the vineyards from around the region!

Your support at home in the Aviva Stadium in the quarter final was a hugely motivating factor and thank you in advance for the part you will play once more this weekend. The players have spoken about the difference your backing can make and I would ask you to sing and shout for the team like you always do, because it does make a positive impact. The squad are really excited about the game and there has been a high tempo in training in the build-up to Sunday.

We're conscious of that it is a costly exercise to follow us, especially on the road, and we'll be doing our best to reward your support - as well as the backing of all those who cannot make the trip this time - hopefully with a win.

Travel safely and best wishes.

JOE SCHMIDT
Leinster Coach





Message from the OLSC committee

A visit to Bordeaux beckons for the semi-final stages of our season as defending champions of the Heineken European Cup. It doesn't get much tougher than this, coming to France for cup rugby is never easy; coming for a semi final is extremely difficult (as supporters will know for our last semi-final visit to Toulouse in May of 2010).

Make no mistake that Clermont's supporters will be here in their droves, making a lot of noise and hungry for a win as it is their club's centennial year. Given the Sunday afternoon kick off and the time of year and that our numbers are not as great as in the past, those lucky enough to be making the trek have a job to do on Sunday. We hope you will join the supporters' march we have arranged and inside the stadium we need you to raise your voices until you are literally blue in the face to cheer on the boys for what is probably one of our toughest European assignment in a number of years. If everybody plays their part we know we can make a difference, the team needs us more than ever for this huge fixture.

Be sure to take in some of the sights of this beautiful city and mingle with the ASM supporters who are very friendly and rugby mad. Whether you are travelling alone or in a group be sure to visit The Connemara Pub, our supporter base for the weekend. The march to the ground on Sunday will also leave from there at 1.45pm.

C'MON LEINSTER!

OLSC committee

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Welcome to The Connemara Pub Bordeaux - the French city with Irish historical links.



Rue Sullivan, Rue David Johnstone, Place Mitchell, Rue O'Reilly, Rue MacCarthy ...



Special Events Bar :

Trays of Beer & Cider

4 Pints Lager : 15€

4 x

**Guinness/Magners :
20€**

Curry, Chili, Wings, Chips...



**Historical Wine Tasting Visit
in the bar's vaulted cellars.
Bottles : ex-château prices.
Wine Geese Châteaux Poster
Presentation Gift Box Cases.
Souvenirs. Rock and Sweets.
Leinster & Clermont Mugs.**

