



LEICESTER v LEINSTER

HEINEKEN CHAMPIONS CUP 2021/22'
SATURDAY 7th MAY, 5.30 PM KICK-OFF



Bank of
Ireland

Introduction

Leicester is a city, unitary authority and the county town of Leicestershire on the East Midlands of England. The city lies on the River Soar and close to the eastern end of the National Forest. It is to the north-east of Birmingham and Coventry, south of Nottingham and west of Peterborough. The name of Leicester comes from Old English and is first recorded in Latinised form in the early ninth century as Legorensis civitatis. The first element of the name is the name of a people (roughly Ligure) whose name came from the river Ligure (now the Soar), whilst the second element of the name is the Old English word Ceastar (Roman fort/ fortification town).

Leicester is a unique city and a wonderful place to visit, with a superb range of visitor attractions and shopping that is second to none. It's a city that combines the finest English traditions with multicultural activities and the cosmopolitan buzz of city life. The city is bursting with state-of-the-art, award-winning venues including Curve, Highcross Leicester and the National Space Centre which all feeds into a fantastic calendar of events and festivals, renowned museums and galleries, live music venues, areas of natural and much (much) more.

With so much to see and do though you might just lose sight of the reason you're visiting – Heineken Champions Cup Rugby!! Saturday 7th May 5.30pm KO.

Leicester Tourist Information

Getting to DUBLIN Airport

If you're driving to Dublin Airport, a reminder that Season Ticket Holders can avail of the parking discount code by logging into their account [here](#); True Blue Benefits -> OLSC Season Ticket Holder Discounts.

Alternatively you can look to travel via Aircoach (Leinster Rugby's Official Coach Supplier). Routes, Fares and Timetables are available [here](#).

Getting to Leicester

For Birmingham Airport, if travelling by train, you can get a train from Leicester Railway Station to Birmingham International and the journey time is around 105mins. Tickets for the train can be purchased from www.thetrainline.com, and there is also the option of booking a coach transfer through the same website. National Express also provide coach service and the service takes around 65mins with up to 10 departures a day prices and tickets are available through [here](#).

For East Midlands, if travelling by bus, Skylink provide a direct service from the airport to Leicester, every 20mins 24hrs a day. Tickets and timetables can be found through [here](#) and the route is Skylink Derby & Leicester.

For London Luton, if travelling by bus, National Express also provide a service with a journey time of around 115mins. Timetables and ticket information is available through [here](#).

SUPPORTERS BASES

O' Neill's - We're delighted that Ian and all the team in [O'Neill's Leicester](#) will be looking after us for the weekend during our visit. Guaranteed to find a warm welcome and it's a spot to enjoy the craic whether it's to unwind with a few drinks, grab a spot of lunch or enjoy a cosy meal. Plenty of live music, live sport – not that we'll need that as we need you at the stadium, but certainly a welcome retreat during your time in the city.

Located at 16 – 20 Loseby Lane, the stadium is no more than a 15min walk (14 to be exact) from our supporters base. You pass King Richard III Visitor Centre, heading in the direction of Leicester Magistrates Court, before heading for Welford Rd and passing Nelson Mandela Park.



Final Whistle - Situated on the ground floor of The North Stand at the stadium is the Final Whistle. Its 900 sq. m of exhibition space means that on match days it becomes a very popular pre-match hangout for supporters of both Leicester Tigers and visitors alike. The Final Whistle has bar facilities and is open 3hrs before kick-off and can be accessed by all regardless of where your ticket in the ground is for. As we want to give the team a rapturous welcome when they do arrive, this is the perfect spot to begin to soak up the Match-Day atmosphere in all its glory.

FLAGS / #SeaOfBlue #OLSCONTour

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 airports. The OLSC team will have flags to distribute outside the stadium however please bring flags from home if you can.

We'll also be organising a Sea of Blue to welcome Leinster Rugby to the stadium on Saturday and we ask that you keep an eye on all our of Social Media Channels for up-to-date information.

We know the sheer number of Leinster fans travelling to this game and more importantly what it means to all in Leinster Rugby to once have the support as we go back on the road in search of an illustrious 5th star and so we're asking as many of you as possible to be at the stadium when the team arrive to roar them in. With our support, we can do this!!

Getting to The Ground

This weekend's fixture will be played at the home of Leicester Tigers, [Mattioli Woods Welford Road](#). The home of Leicester Tigers since 1892, the ground has been the backdrop to the club's rise from its founding years to becoming English rugby's most successful team. The original ground was opened on 10 September 1892 and is still located in the same spot today between Aylestone Road and Welford Road on the southern edge of Leicester's city centre. The stadium is no more than a 15min walk (14 to be exact) from Leicester Town Hall (Horsefair Street) and you walk down Bowling Green St -> Belvoir St/ Welford Place -> heading for Welford Rd, passing Nelson Mandela Park.

Stadium Map



Leicester Tigers

Stadium Information

Leicester Supporters

STATISTICS



Heineken Cup Standings

(To date)

6
6
0
0
158
91
67
22
10

Played
Won
Drawn
Lost
Points For
Points Against
Difference
Tries For
Tries Against

(To date)

6
5
0
1
280
102
178
40
13

How They Qualified

LEICESTER

Leicester

27 - 17

Clermont

Clermont

10 - 29

Leicester

Leicester

28 - 0

Bordeaux

Connacht

28 - 29

Leicester

Leicester

29 - 23

Connacht

Bordeaux

13 - 16

Leicester

LEINSTER

Leinster

56 - 20

Connacht

Connacht

21 - 26

Leinster

Bath

7 - 64

Leinster

Leinster

89 - 7

Montpellier

Montpellier

28 - 0

Leinster

Leinster

45 - 20

Bath

MESSAGE FROM THE COACH

A warm welcome back to Heineken Champions Cup action and a trip to Welford Road.

Welford Road is a special place for me and I have a huge affinity with the club, supporters and place.

I spent two very happy years there, and, together with Shane Jennings, learned a huge amount in my time playing for Leicester Tigers about what it takes to perform at a high level and most importantly, on a consistent basis.

The links between Leinster and Leicester are manifold. From players like Geordan Murphy and Jonne Murphy, who grew up here and then had brilliant careers in Leicester, to former Head Coach Matt O'Connor, who won titles with both clubs, there are a lot of connections.

Welford Road is also a special ground. The noise generated is something that as a home player, I used to love. The stomping of the feet on the stand floor. It was brilliant. Of course, this time I'll be in the away dressing room and the experience for the away team is totally different.

But those are the grounds and the atmospheres that you want to play in and I know this weekend will be no different for our players. They will relish that challenge.

And you, as the traveling support, will be made feel most welcome in and around Welford Road and there will be an intriguing battle in the stands as well as on the field! I am hearing great reports of over 1,500 Leinster Rugby supporters taking up tickets to the game. We look forward to seeing that Sea of Blue when we turn up to the stadium on the bus.

Thank you as ever to Bank of Ireland for their unstinting support of the club and of the OLSC and the away guides.

And finally, to you the supporters. It hasn't been an easy campaign by any means and while there is no point going over old ground now, we would dearly have loved to have rewarded you all with a home quarter-final. It was not to be and it was out of our hands.

With your support though we enjoyed two brilliant occasions in Galway and in Dublin and that brings us to this weekend.

Get there early. Wear your blue. Wave those flags and let's drive each other over the line.

Have a safe trip and thank you for the support.

Leo

Leo Cullen
Head Coach



MESSAGE FROM THE COMMITTEE

Following our victories over our provincial rivals Connacht in the Last 16 stages of the 2022 Heineken Champions Cup, the outcome for the Quarter Final is this, a trip to Mattioli Woods Welford Road to face three-time runners-up and two-time Champions – Leicester Tigers. Given that our two recent fixtures were much (much) closer to home, we're delighted to once again be able to feel the excitement, the nerves and the tension that comes with travelling abroad for a knock-out fixture. We as a committee would like to thank all of you who are making/ have made the journey over to Leicester and we hope you enjoy time in this wonderful city. Whether you're just over and back same day or plan to spend a little longer, there's plenty to see, do and experience during your time and all we ask is it's not during 5:30 – 7:30pm on Sat 7th May as we kinda need your voices and flags in another part of the city!

If you do get the chance make sure to drop into Ian and the team in O'Neill's on Loseby Lane who're looking forward to having us meet there over the weekend. It's always great to meet up with faces old and new when we're away and given the impact COVID has had on fixtures and travelling, we're sure looking forward to seeing so many of you again. A reminder also that closer to the stadium (in the stadium), is the Final Whistle Bar which opens 3hrs prior to KO on Match-Day and as we plan a massive Walk To/ #SeaOfBlue at the stadium, this is another good spot to meet with both fellow Leinster as well as Leicester supporters for the chat and banter we all love so well.

It seems unusual that in the history of the competition (in all its various formats) we have only faced our opponents four times in total, and you have to go all the way back to 2011 to the last time we met. The head-2-head reads as Leinster 3 – Leicester 1 with the most famous of these victories taking place on a certain Saturday May 23rd 2009 in BT Murrayfield where we secured our first star on a score-line of 19 – 16. We all know the history since then with us going on to win another 3, however Leicester themselves have 2 stars and since '09 have secured the Premiership Title twice. Coming through the Pool Stages of this year's competition they played four and won four and finished top of Pool B. In the Gallagher Premiership too, they're currently sitting top – 4pts ahead of their nearest rivals Saracens.

Quite frankly this is a game that many would call as too tight to declare a winner before a whistle has even been blown however what we can guarantee is that this is sure to be edge-of-your-seats, end to end and non-stop for 80+ minutes and well once again, we need you and the team need the blue! We've seen time and time again that with the support behind them, Leinster can turn a disadvantage into an advantage and suddenly backs against the wall lead to an attacking blitz. We as a committee travelling over will be inundated with blue – especially flags, and we've seen from social media that a famous #SeaOfBlue is planned on the stadium by supporters from all corners of the globe! This is a big big test and we need to stand firm and stand behind the team.

As always we're thankful of the support we as a committee get from Leinster Rugby and Bank of Ireland for these away guides, and for those of you not travelling we encourage you to show your support through our social media channels.

Be loud, be true, be blue

Yours in rugby,

The OISC Committee



NEVER STOP COMPETING

#NEVERSTOPCOMPETING


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Ireland**


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RUGBY

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olsc@leinsterrugby.ie

#SeaOfBlue

