

# Navan

## Location, Parking and Access



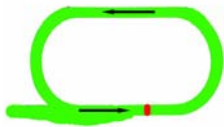
Situated 48km (27 miles) from Dublin via the N3.

The nearest station is Drogheda, from where a bus service operates to Navan.

An hourly bus service operates from Dublin to Navan and stops 3km from the course.

Parking is free and on grass.

## Course Layout



The course is left-handed, a mile and a half round and undulating with a stiff uphill climb to the winning post.

There is a straight sprint course for races up to five and a half furlongs.

## Admission

Admission is €15. Discounts are available for seniors and families and accompanied under 14's are admitted free. Day membership admission is available at €30, including racecard.

## Overview

Navan is one of those courses that could best be described as the bread and butter of Irish racing.



A great day out with no major frills and the main grandstand typifies this. A large stand consisting of tiered viewing, the majority of which is under cover. The steepings are a little steep but the height of the stand provides excellent viewing of the entire course, although with an absence of a big screen bringing a decent pair of binoculars is recommended.

Inside the stand is a self service café and a bar (closed for refurbishment on the day of inspection).

The weighing room complex is a new building and the upper floor houses the Arkle Bar. This is reserved for Owners and Trainers and Annual Members, although day membership can be purchased. This facility has a viewing balcony, however this provides a "head on" view of the home straight.

There is a large tote building located slightly behind the stands.

There is also a golf course at Navan and the first floor of the club house houses the restaurant.

The area in front of the stands is a combination of hard standing and lawns.

I have to say the day I visited the "crowds" were light, despite the day being billed as Ladies Day. This gave an almost depressing feel to the place. I'm sure with a larger crowd the course is much more vibrant.

There is also very limited seating at the course.

### **Catering**

The restaurant, located on the first floor of the golf club clubhouse offers a package for €75 including Members admission and a four course silver service lunch.

The Kilberry Food hall has a self service restaurant offering main courses for between €7 and €12.80. It also offers a range of sandwiches and soft drinks, although at €2.80 for a small bottle of water some prices are expensive. (Better value water can be purchased from the confectionary kiosk)

The main bar in the grandstand was closed on the day of the inspection and, as mentioned previously, the Arkle Bar for Owners, Trainers and members is located above the weigh room.

The only mobile unit at the course was the confectionery kiosk.

### **Ancillaries**

#### ***Bookmakers***

Typically a busy ring, even on a quiet day there were plenty of layers standing.

However despite the large number of layers they were operating to a disgraceful over round of 1.93% a runner.

As is usually the case at major Irish courses there is a huge Tote presence with many manned counters.

**Racecard**

Costing €3 there was, pleasingly, not a great deal of advertising in the cards.

Details of the races are clear although with some races having up to 23 runners the details of each race are spread over a number of pages.

**Toilets**

Plenty for a quiet day, not sure if they would cope well on a busy day.

It was pleasing to note that the toilets were being cleaned throughout the afternoon so they were always clean and well stocked.

**Parade Ring**

A narrow oval with the winners enclosure at one end and situated in front of the main stand.

There is no seating or tiered viewing immediately around the ring although the runners can clearly be seen from the stands.

With the relatively small crowd there was plenty of space around the parade ring.

**Contact Details**

	<a href="http://www.navanracecourse.ie">www.navanracecourse.ie</a>
	(046) 902 1350
	Navan Racecourse, Proudstown, Co. Meath, Ireland.

**Fixtures 2012**

January 15th  
February 19th  
March 3rd, 18th & 31st  
April 29th  
May 20th  
June 9th & 15th  
September 29th  
October 10th & 24th  
November 11th & 25th  
December 8th , 16th & 22nd

**Inspection Dates**

<i>Date</i>	<i>Weather</i>	<i>Type</i>
08/10/08	Warm and sunny	8 flat midweek

