A journey through Shannon Airport

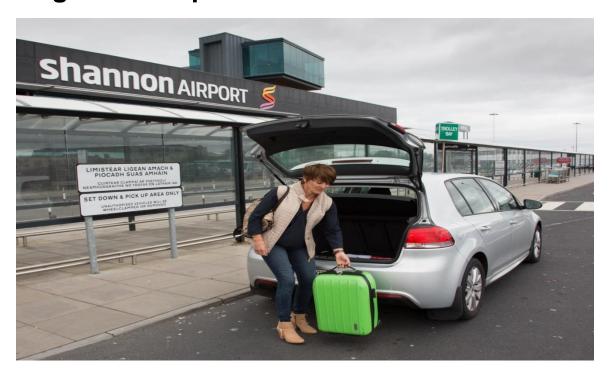




Sometimes when I am going somewhere far away I will go on a plane. Before I go to the airport, it is helpful to know what happens in there. This is a story about getting on a plane in Shannon airport. This is what happens.

- 1. Arriving at the Airport
- 2. Going through security
- 3. The Departure Lounge
- 4. On the Plane
- 5. Landing

Arriving at the Airport



We will put our suitcases in the car. Then we will drive to Shannon airport. The airport is where we will get in our plane.



Departures

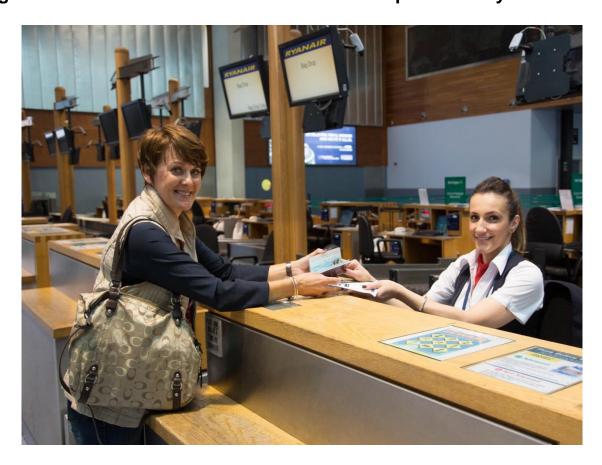




It is important to stay close to the people I am travelling with. When I get inside I will look at the flight information screens which will tell me which desk to check in at.



I will go to the check-in counter. I will wait in the queue for my turn.



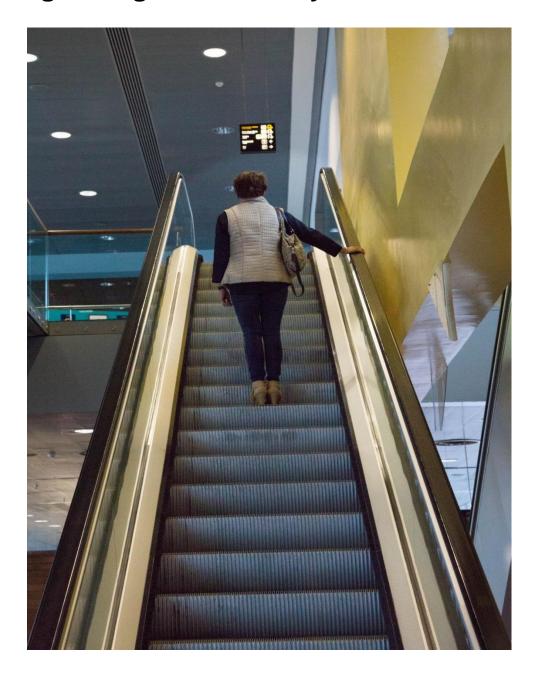
When I get to the top of the queue I will meet the check-in staff and hand over my passport and ticket.

I will be given back my passport, ticket and Boarding Card which I will need to enter the security area.



The suitcases will go on the conveyor belts. They are tagged and weighed. They will be sent away onto the plane. This is okay because my suitcase will be on the same plane ready to meet me again when I land.

Going through the Security Area



To get to the security area upstairs, I can use one of the following:

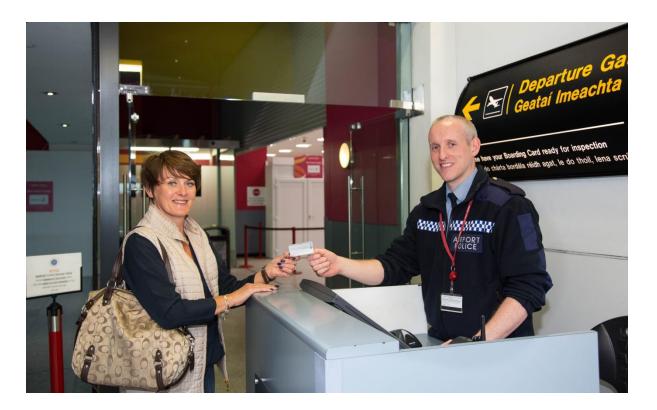
- a) Lift
- b) Escalator
- c) Stairs

At the security area I will see lots of other people in the queue,



but I will use the 'FastTrack' queue.





At the security gate I will show my boarding card to the Security Officer who will look it and then give it back to me.

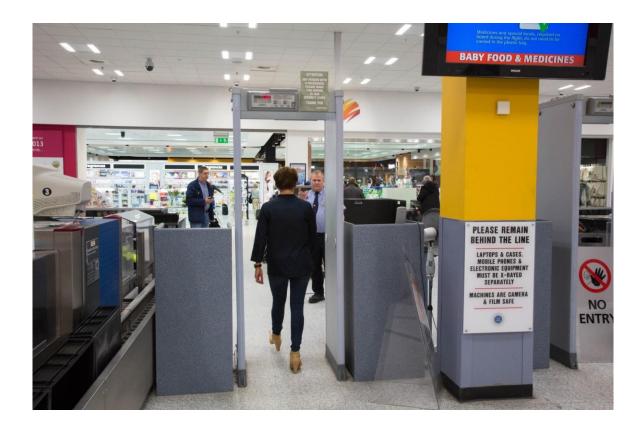


Next I will see the scanners and x-ray machines. I will wait in the queue until it is my turn. I will stand in line until it is my turn to go through the scanner. I will watch my Mum/Dad to see what they are doing. I will listen to Mum/Dad.

I will be asked to put my coat, sometimes my shoes, and my bag into a black box on the conveyor belt. This is okay because I will get everything that I put in the tray back again at the other side of the machine.



I will need to stand in the queue to go through the big x-ray. When it is my turn I will walk through the x-ray door by myself. Sometimes the buzzer might go off. This means I have to be searched. It is okay, this happens to lots of people and does not take long.

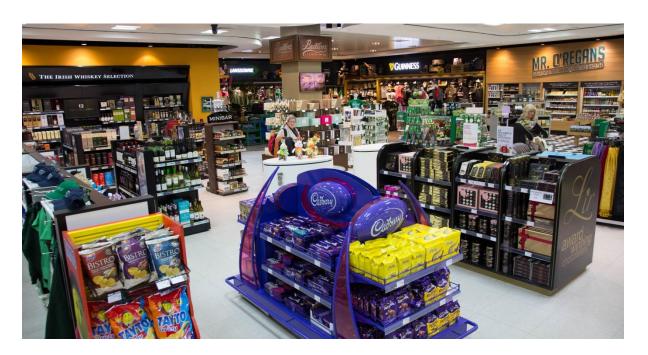


I will stand still when the security officer asks me to put my hands out. The security officer will check my body by patting my body with his/her hands.

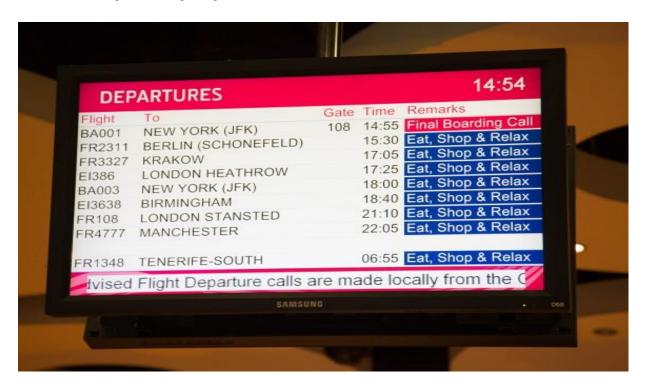


When I am finished at security I will get everything back I put in the black tray. After I put my shoes back on, I will walk to the departure lounge.

The Departure Lounge



There are shops and people in this area.

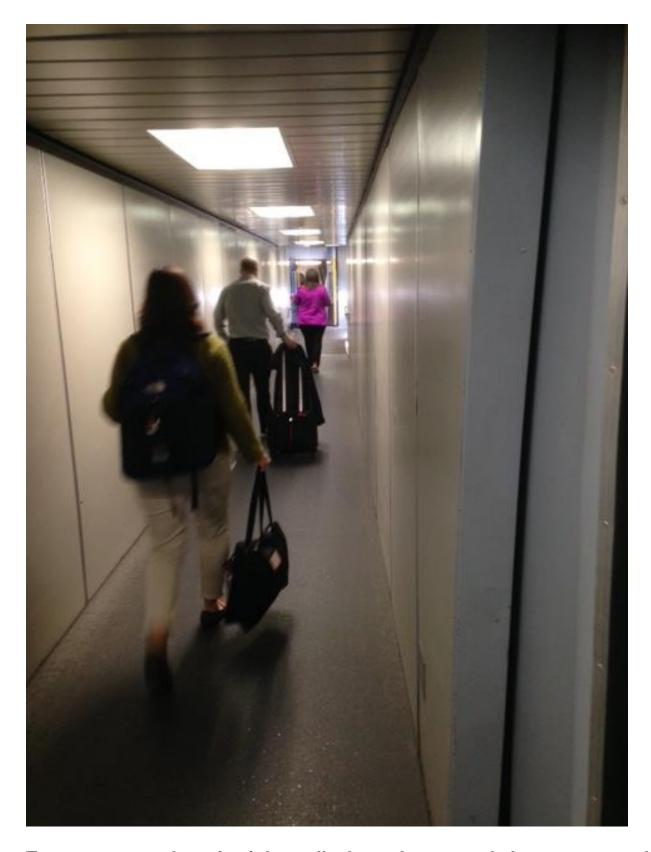


When I enter the departure lounge I will see flight times on the information screens. The information screens will tell me what our gate number is and signs overhead will tell me if I need to walk left or right.

I will walk to our gate and wait at the gate until it is my turn to get on the plane.



The airline staff and flight information screen will tell me when to walk to the door to board the plane. When I get to the door the airport staff will look at my boarding card and passport and then I will walk to the plane.



To get to our plane I might walk through a tunnel that connects the plane doors to the airport doors or I might go outside and walk up steps to the plane.

On the plane



When I get on the plane the cabin crew will say 'Hi' to me. I will say 'Hi' back to them. They will tell me what seat to sit on. I must go to my seat and sit down. I will put on my seatbelt. I will turn off my (electric equipment). I will keep it turned off until the cabin crew tell me to turn it back on after my flight.

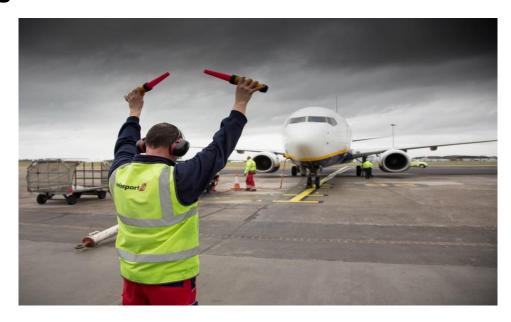
The Pilot and cabin crew will use a loud speaker and tell everyone on the plane the plane rules.

When it is time for "take-off" the plane will get louder and I might get a funny feeling in my tummy when the plane begins to fly high into the sky.

When the seat belt sign goes off I can take the belt off and use the toilet if I want to. The toilet on the plane is very small and the flush is very noisy.

If I need anything while I am on the plane I can push the button which will be on the panel over my head and ask the flight attendant for help.

Landing



When the plane is beginning to land the seat belt sign will go on and I have to put all my belongings away and put my seat belt on. Landing can be very noisy and there might be a little bump.



When the plane has fully stopped the flight attendant will tell me that I can unfasten my seat belt and go into the Airport.

To get to the Airport I might have to walk through a tunnel that connects the plane doors to the Airport Building or I might have to walk down steps and walk a small way outside.

Immigration Hall



Before I collect my suitcase in the Baggage Hall I will need to go through Passport Control. This area can be quite busy and I will wait in the queue for my turn.



When I get to the top of the queue I will meet the Immigration Officer and I will hand him/her my passport to look at. I will take my passport back and then go to collect our suitcases in the Baggage Hall.

Baggage Hall



There might be lots of people in the Baggage Hall waiting for their suitcases and it might be noisy. The suitcases come out on a carousel and it is very important that I stand well back from the carousel, even if it is not moving, as it can start very suddenly.

I will keep a look out for my suitcase and when I collect it I will go to the Arrivals area of the building.



I will then go to the Car Park and put my suitcase in the boot and drive home again.