



## Frequently Asked Questions

### **What is the Titanic Foundation Limited?**

Titanic Foundation Ltd (TFL) is a company limited by guarantee with charitable objectives to educate people on Belfast's social, historical, industrial and maritime heritage through the story of the Titanic. The aim is to communicate through extensive outreach programs that the innovation, engineering and craftsmanship that flourished in Belfast a century ago is still present today.

### **What is Titanic Belfast®?**

Titanic Belfast® is a 'must-see' Titanic inspired visitor attraction and a key component of the Titanic Signature Project (see below). The iconic building will be a landmark tourism, leisure and cultural facility, standing at 6 storeys high and located at the head of the Titanic and Olympic slipways in the regenerated Titanic Quarter.

The building will house a world-class visitor exhibition that tells the story of the Titanic, from its conception in Belfast in the early 1900s, through its construction and launch, to its famous maiden voyage and tragic end. The story is brought up to the present with the discovery of the wreck and into the future with live links to contemporary undersea exploration.

The building will also include:

- A large gallery for temporary exhibitions, performances and meetings
- Titanic themed 750 seat banqueting suite
- Café, restaurants and a gift shop
- Community and education space

### **What is the Titanic Signature Project (TSP)?**

The Titanic Signature Project is about bringing the story of the RMS Titanic home to Belfast, whilst celebrating Northern Ireland's shipbuilding, maritime and industrial heritage. The TSP, one of five signature projects in NI, is firmly based on the Titanic and Maritime Belfast heritage theme. DETI and the Titanic Foundation will work together to deliver the project by 2012 to coincide with and commemorate the centenary of the Titanic's maiden voyage and to celebrate its legacy. Titanic Belfast® is a key component of the project.

### **What are the benefits of Titanic Belfast®?**

Titanic Belfast® has a wide range of benefits attached to it. The building is located in a disadvantaged area of the city that had previously relied on shipbuilding to support the local economy and had been the main source of employment for over 30,000 people. The creation of a visitor attraction in this area will enhance the economic and social well-being of the local community. It will also act as a draw for international tourists who will contribute to this regional economy. Titanic Belfast will also attract further investment into the Titanic Quarter to make it a thriving business community.

As well as the economic and regeneration benefits, Titanic Belfast® will educate people on our unique industrial and maritime history, fostering a sense of pride and achievement in both Belfast and Northern Ireland.



## **Why do we need a project based on Titanic?**

Belfast is in a privileged position as the home of the Titanic. The story of the infamous liner still fascinates people all over the world almost 100 years after its sinking and so it is important to realise the opportunity to create a world-class visitor destination that can retell the story from our unique perspective. There is currently no permanent exhibition space dedicated to the Titanic and so Titanic Belfast will fill that void and work with relevant parties to compliment and develop the Titanic Trail.

## **When will the project be completed?**

On-site construction work began in May 2009. The project is currently progressing well and is due to be completed by April 2012.

## **How much will Titanic Belfast cost?**

The cost of the building is £97 million (including VAT and in kind contributions from Belfast Harbour Commission).

## **Who are the funding partners?**

Titanic Belfast is being funded through a public/private partnership, made up of:

- DETI (£36.95m)
- Titanic Quarter Ltd (£16.35m)
- Belfast Harbour Commissioners (£13.6m)
- Belfast City Council (£10m)

## **Who designed Titanic Belfast®?**

The building was designed by international practice CivicArts and UK and Ireland based practice Todd Architects.

## **Who are the developers of Titanic Belfast®?**

Harcourt Construction (NI) Ltd is overseeing the construction of Titanic Belfast®, as well as the Titanic Quarter. Harcourt Construction is a construction division of Dublin based company Harcourt Developments, who specialise in property development, management and investment.

## **Who are the building partners of Titanic Belfast®?**

Harcourt Developments will act as the Operator of Titanic Belfast® and Event Communications has designed the permanent Titanic themed exhibition.

The Operator will be responsible for all aspects of the operation of the TSB, including: exhibitions (temporary and fixed), banqueting, catering, retail, marketing and promotion, maintenance, security and facilities management, for the duration of the Operations Contract. As the master-planners of the Titanic Belfast® exhibition, Event are well placed to deliver an exciting and innovative exhibition space, having successfully completed over 120 major projects around the world.

## **What are the opening hours of the exhibition?**

The exhibition will be open all year (excluding 24– 26 December)

Summer: April – September, 9am – 7pm every day

Winter: October – March, 10am – 5pm (closed Mondays)



**Are guided tours available?**

Yes, guided tours will be available on request and self-guided audio tours will be available in German, Spanish, French and Italian.

**Is parking available?**

The building will have a basement car park and coach parking will be available on-site.