



RailLink



Lookout Awards 26

5TH NOVEMBER 2026
www.lookoutawards.com



FOTA ISLAND
RESORT



WALKING MAP



 Fuschia Walk
1.2km

 Main Entrance
2.4km

 Forest Path
0.5km

 Path to Fota House
1.4 km



DIRECTIONS

Situated on your own Private Island, Fota Island Resort is ideally located near Cork City and easily accessible by car and train.

Loc8 Code:

W8Q-76-2QK (for use with GPS digital navigation systems)

GPS co-ordinates:

+51° 53' 59.66", -8° 17' 27.56"

If you are arriving by train to Cork Kent Railway Station, there is a taxi rank available just outside the station.

We can arrange a transfer from Cork Airport to Fota Island Resort by taxi service. There are a variety of vehicles available depending on the number of guests and quantity of luggage.

CAR RENTAL

Europcar

Europcar offers a high quality car and van rental service from 15 locations throughout Ireland. At each, Europcar offers a wide range of rental cars with either automatic or manual transmissions. Whether you need a hire car to drive the Wild Atlantic Way, or simply want the flexibility that only a rent a car can offer, Europcar have the car and service to meet your needs.

AWARD SCHEDULE

5:00 PM – 5:30 PM – Pre-function Room Reception & Networking

- Welcome drinks and appetizers served
- Networking and guest arrival
- Background music sets the evening tone

5:30 PM – 7:15 PM – Smith Barry Suite Awards Presentation — Part 1

- Opening remarks
- Presentation of 8 Personnel Awards
- Presentation of 3 Project Success Awards
- Interlude (5 minutes)

7:15 PM – 8:15 PM

Gala Dinner

- Three-course dinner service
- Background music and relaxed conversation

8:15 PM – 9:45 PM

Awards Presentation — Part 2

- Presentation of 6 Personnel Awards
- Presentation of 5 Project Success Awards

• Closing remarks

9:45 PM – 11:00 PM

Entertainment & Celebration

- Live music or DJ performance
- Dancing, celebration, and networking





PERSONNEL AWARDS

1. **Outstanding Rail Leadership**
 Celebrating visionary leadership that propels the rail industry forward, demonstrating the ability to inspire teams, implement change, and create lasting impact across the network.
 Relevant Job Titles: Senior Managers, Executives, Heads of Rail Operations, Chief Executive Officers, Directors of Rail Companies
2. **Apprenticeship and Graduate Excellence in Rail**
 Honouring the fresh talent driving the future of the rail industry, this award recognizes the exceptional contributions of apprentices and graduates who have shown outstanding promise and passion in their early careers.
 Relevant Job Titles: Apprentices, Graduates, Trainee Engineers, Junior Rail Professionals, Graduate Trainees
3. **Excellence in Customer Service**
 A nod to those who put passengers first, ensuring every interaction is a memorable one. This award honors the commitment to creating exceptional experiences for all who use the rail service.
 Relevant Job Titles: Customer Service Managers, Station Staff, Ticketing and Reservations Personnel, Helpdesk Staff, Passenger Relations Officers
4. **Rail Safety Champion**
 Recognizing individuals who go above and beyond to ensure safety is not just a priority but a culture. This award is for those whose dedication keeps railways running without compromising on safety standards.
 Relevant Job Titles: Safety Managers, Safety Officers, Risk Managers, Health & Safety Coordinators, Safety Advocates
5. **Rail Workforce Development Leader**
 Celebrating those who mentor, coach, and inspire the next generation of rail professionals. This award acknowledges the power of training, upskilling, and the transformation of talent into railway excellence.
 Relevant Job Titles: HR Managers, Training and Development Managers, Workforce Development Leaders, Learning and Development Coordinators, Talent Development Professionals
6. **Best Rail Innovator of the Year**
 Recognizing the trailblazers pushing the boundaries of rail industry standards. This award honors bold thinkers whose creativity and ingenuity have redefined what's possible within rail.
 Relevant Job Titles: R&D Managers, Innovation Managers, Rail Engineers, Technology Officers, Product Designers
7. **Excellence in Rail Maintenance**
 A tribute to the unsung heroes keeping the trains running smoothly. This award celebrates those who ensure the heartbeat of the rail network is reliable, efficient, and operational around the clock.
 Relevant Job Titles: Rail Maintenance Managers, Maintenance Engineers, Track Maintenance Supervisors, Technicians, Infrastructure Maintenance Personnel
8. **Exceptional Contribution to Rail Diversity, Inclusion, and HR Development**
 Acknowledging the champions of diversity and HR, this award honors efforts to create an inclusive environment where all voices are heard, fostering a diverse and supportive workplace culture across the industry.
 Relevant Job Titles: Diversity and Inclusion Officers, HR Managers, HR Business Partners, Diversity Advocates, Equal Opportunities Coordinators
9. **Excellence in Rail Operations**
 Awarded to those who drive operational excellence every day, ensuring the trains run on time, efficiently, and without fail. This award recognizes extraordinary operational expertise that keeps everything running like clockwork.
 Relevant Job Titles: Operations Managers, Operational Leaders, Station Managers, Transport Planners, Operations Coordinators

10. **Rail Industry Sustainability Advocate**
 Honouring those who make sustainability a reality in the rail sector. This award celebrates individuals pioneering green initiatives, reducing environmental impact, and making the railways more eco-friendly for future generations.
 Relevant Job Titles: Sustainability Managers, Environmental Engineers, Carbon Reduction Specialists, Green Energy Advisors, Sustainability Coordinators
11. **Lifetime Achievement in Rail**
 A special recognition for a rail professional whose career has left an indelible mark on the industry. This award celebrates a lifetime of commitment, innovation, and leadership that has shaped the rail sector for years to come.
 Relevant Job Titles: Industry Veterans, Retired Senior Leaders, Long-serving Professionals, Senior Engineers, Senior Executives
12. **Outstanding Station Personnel of the Year**
 Celebrating the people who provide exceptional service behind the scenes at stations. This award honors those who create seamless, friendly, and efficient station environments, leaving a lasting impression on passengers.
 Relevant Job Titles: Station Managers, Customer Service Representatives, Station Assistants, Ticket Inspectors, Platform Staff
13. **Driver of the Year**
 A salute to the driving force behind the rail network—literally! This award celebrates exceptional driving skills, professionalism, and the dedication to ensuring smooth and safe journeys for passengers.
 Relevant Job Titles: Train Drivers, Locomotive Engineers, Train Operators, Train Drivers in Heavy Rail, Freight Train Operators
14. **Best Rail Team of the Year**
 This award recognizes the power of teamwork, where collective effort and collaboration achieve exceptional outcomes. It's about a team's shared vision, commitment, and success in tackling challenges and delivering results.
 Relevant Job Titles: Project Teams, Cross-Departmental Teams, Safety Teams, Operations Teams, Technical Support Teams, Rail Improvement Teams

PROJECT SUCCESS AWARDS

1. **Best Station Revamp or Redevelopment Project**
 Honoring projects that transform and modernize train stations, providing improved passenger facilities, accessibility, and aesthetic appeal.
 Example Projects: Major station renovations, Enhancing station accessibility for people with disabilities, Expansion of passenger services and amenities at stations
2. **Digital Transformation in Rail**
 Celebrating projects that incorporate cutting-edge technology, digital platforms, or automation to enhance operations, customer experience, and efficiency in the rail sector.
 Example Projects: Smart ticketing and payment systems, Real-time train tracking apps, Implementation of digital signalling and network control systems
3. **Excellence in Rail Freight Development**
 Recognizing projects that enhance the capacity, efficiency, and sustainability of rail freight services.
 Example Projects: Expansion of freight terminals, Development of intermodal freight hubs, Upgrades to rail freight infrastructure
4. **Outstanding Rail Project**
 Honouring the design, construction, or refurbishment of significant rail infrastructure that enhance safety, connectivity, and the aesthetics of the rail network.
 Example Projects: Major rail construction projects, Refurbishments, Strengthening and safety upgrades
5. **Track Innovation or Expansion Project of the Year**
 Honoring projects that expand, upgrade, or innovate track systems, enhancing capacity, safety, and speed across the network.
 Example Projects: Construction of new rail tracks, Replacement of old tracks with more efficient materials, Installation of innovative track technology to improve speed and safety
6. **Best Rolling Stock Innovation**
 Recognizing projects focused on the design, manufacture, or upgrade of rolling stock, improving performance, passenger experience, and energy efficiency.
 Example Projects: Development of hybrid or fully electric trains, Upgrading of rolling stock to meet sustainability goals, Innovation in passenger comfort and train design
7. **Excellence in Light Rail Development**
 Celebrating projects that advance light rail systems, offering an efficient, sustainable, and reliable alternative to other forms of urban transport.
 Example Projects: Development of new tram and light rail systems, Expansion of urban light rail services, Integration of light rail into existing urban transport networks
8. **Outstanding Metro System Development**
 Recognizing metro system projects that improve urban mobility, with a focus on capacity, frequency, and state-of-the-art infrastructure.
 Example Projects: Construction of new metro lines, Extension of existing metro networks, Modernisation of metro stations and facilities



FLOORPLAN
LAYOUT
WITH LOCATION
IMAGES



