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Park the shopping bags

If you're thinking of getting the train into town to do your shopping this Christmas, parking at train stations is great value. It costs €2 per day at most stations, while parking at Heuston or Connolly stations in Dublin and Kent station in Cork costs just €7 for 24 hours.

On the other hand, if you're driving into Dublin you can pay half price for on-street parking until January 8. Get a cashless parking tag, either online at www.dublincity.ie or at a Payzone outlet, fix it to your windscreen, make the transaction by call or text when you park and hey presto, you pay €1.45 per hour instead of €2.90.

And if you're in Dublin and fancy making an evening of it but are weighed down with shopping bags, there is a service for you. The Dublin City Business Improvement District (BID) has teamed up with An Post and Dublin Bus, to store your shopping bags for free. You drop your bags at the GPO Arcade in Henry Street or on the 3rd floor of the St Stephen's Green shopping centre and your bags will be minded. You can collect them the next day or opt to have them delivered to your door by An Post.

