

St Patrick's Day events in Belfast, Armagh, Limerick

March 9, 2015

By Ciarán Hanna

With St Patrick's Day coming soon, there are a number of other places to celebrate the weekend outside Dublin, including Belfast, Armagh, and Limerick.

St Patrick's Day Carnival and Concert, Belfast

Come along and enjoy a colourful St Patrick's Day Carnival leaving Belfast City Hall at 12noon followed by an outdoor concert from 1pm to 3pm.



Image courtesy of
Wikimediacommons

Carnival Parade

Leaving Belfast City Hall at 12 noon, the spectacular high-energy carnival parade will make its way through the city and feature an array of fantastic floats, professional and amateur performers, musicians and dancers as people of all ages visit from far and wide to celebrate St Patrick in Belfast.

Free concert at Custom House Square

Enjoy a variety of acts including Irish dance group and 2014 Britain's Got Talent semi-finalists Innova, Highland dancers Sollus, as well as music from local girl band Saffyre and traditional music from Beyond the Pale, who will be sure to get the toes tapping.

Louis Walsh's newest six-piece Irish Boyband, HomeTown, will also be on the bill, alongside headline act Simon Webbe, member of boyband sensation Blue and Strictly Come Dancing's 2014 runner-up.

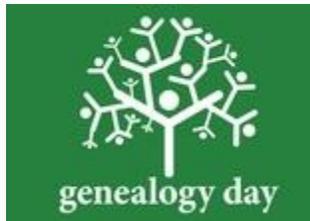
The event is free to attend but access will be on a first-come, first-served basis. Gates open at 12noon and under 16s must be accompanied by an adult.

Stormont

Parliament Buildings in Stormont will go green on St Patrick's Day.

LIMERICK

Limerick's 2015 St. Patrick's Festival will embrace the theme of Spring, celebrating the carnival spirit associated with the season!



[Genealogy Day 2015](#)

Saturday 14th March

Christ Church, 51A O'Connell Street, Limerick

Categories: [St. Patrick's Festival](#), [Genealogy](#)



[St. Patricks Festival of Racing](#)

Saturday 14th & Sunday 15th March @ 12:30 [Limerick Racecourse](#), [Greenmount Park](#), [Patrickswell](#) **Categories:** [Day out in Limerick](#), [St. Patrick's Festival](#), [Horse Racing](#)



[Limerick International Band Championship](#)

Sunday 15th March @ 12pm

O'Connell Street, Limerick

Categories: [Day out in Limerick](#), [Family Fun](#), [Free](#), [St. Patrick's Festival](#)



[Cry Monster Cry](#)

Monday 16th March @ 8pm

[Dolans Pub & Warehouse, Dock Road, Limerick](#)

Categories: [Music](#), [St. Patrick's Festival](#)

Band Championship

Twenty two marching bands featuring musicians from across Ireland, Europe and the USA will perform in Limerick for the 45th International Band Championship which takes place in Limerick on **Sunday, 15th March 2015** at 12 noon.

The International Band Championship brings almost **50,000 spectators** on to the city streets every year as part of Limerick's St Patrick's Festival, to see more than 1,000 musicians.

German band Musikappel Garmisch, along with three North American bands and a number of UK bands have confirmed they will participate in the 2015 International Band Championship.

These include:

- University of Southern Mississippi, USA, who will bring 160 musicians to compete in what promises to be a thrilling event
- Charlotte High School, USA
- Chicago Police Band, USA
- Friendship Band , Northern Ireland
- Romford Drum & Trumpet Corp, England
- Mayobridge Band, Northern Ireland

Other Bands from across Ireland include Dublin, Cork and Kerry will join six of Limerick's finest marching bands taking part in the championship.

The Parade will be led by the Irish Army Band, the Band of the First Southern Brigade and will start at the Crescent on O'Connell Avenue at 12 noon on Sunday, 15th March and end in Arthur's Quay with a free concert for the public in Arthur's Quay Park.

The winners will also be announced in Arthur's Quay after the display.

More details on the 2015 Limerick St. Patrick's Festival including the International Band Championship can be found on www.limerick.ie/stpatricksfestival.

ARMAGH

More than 20,000 visitors are expected in Armagh for a six-day festival of events to celebrate Ireland's Patron Saint, St Patrick, and which features a jam-packed programme of more than 25

music, song, dance, comedy, art, literature, theatre and family events across a variety of venues from Thursday 12th to Tuesday 17th March.



Supported by Armagh City and District Council, Ireland's oldest city and world famous as the 'City of St Patrick', this year's festival promises to be the biggest yet, with first-time performers Mary Coughlan, *Stockton's Wing* topping the bill as part of a series of musical events at the Market Place Theatre in the run-up to the big day and the famous St Patrick's Day Carnival Procession, concert and family fun day on Tuesday 17th March.

As one of the largest St Patrick's events to take place anywhere on the island of Ireland, this year's lively weekend of celebrations takes in 20 of the city's best venues, as well as a busking festival on Saturday 14th March where musicians from across Northern Ireland will gather for the annual outdoor jamboree.

Session Trail

A four-day musical 'Session Trail' which features unrivalled live entertainment including traditional music and family-friendly sessions sets a lively tone when it kicks off on Friday, with performances taking place in many of Armagh's welcoming bars, cafes and restaurants.

For little festival-goers, Ireland's foremost storytelling and song duo, Billy Teare and Kathleen O'Sullivan bring the magic of 'The Story Tellin' Man and the Songstress', with their treasure trove of tall tales, myths and songs, to Armagh Public Library for a Friday event that children of all ages will enjoy.

The Market Place Theatre, Armagh City's flagship performance centre, will be transformed into an official festival venue complete with three unique staging areas to accommodate the finest music, comedy and dance entertainment which includes performances from renowned acts including Ireland's Mary Coughlan, *Stockton's Wing*, PJ Gallagher and Kila, as well as Scotland's Clanadonia, Celtic Storm and The Whistlin' Donkeys.

Other highlights of Armagh's legendary celebrations will also include performances by Belfast's Arco String Quartet and one of Northern Ireland's largest ensembles of traditional Irish music sessions by the 300 musicians that make up the world famous Armagh Pipers Club.

For a full list of everything that's on and what events will require pre booked tickets, visit www.armagh.co.uk/saintpatrick.

Spend this St. Patrick's Day rediscovering the rugged beauty of the West of Ireland, on foot or by bicycle, with IrelandWays.com.

An Irish travel company has encouraged families to get out of the house and see the west of Ireland by bicycle or walking.

IrelandWays.com, part of CaminoWays.com, has a selection of walking or cycling holidays on the Wild Atlantic Way, all the way from Kinsale to Derry.



In particular, they have two routes that are just ideal for a spectacular St Patrick's Day in the wild West of Ireland. Whether you're a walker or a cyclist, one of these routes is perfect for you.

The Dingle Way in Kerry

The Great Western Greenway and Achill Island in Mayo

Prices include: Accommodation on a half-board basis, luggage transfer from hotel to hotel and holiday pack with practical information.

Discounts apply for children.

Prices do not include: Flights, insurance, transport and bike rental. Offers are subject to availability.

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