



By Miguel Mendez from Malahide, Ireland

ST. PATRICK'S

Dublin

FESTIVAL PARADE

MARCH 17

Parade Information For Marching Bands
Tour Arrangements By Music Celebrations International

ABOUT THE PARADE



In the past, in Ireland, Saint Patrick's Day was celebrated as a religious holiday. It became a public holiday in 1903 when Irish MP James O'Mara introduced the law. It required pubs be closed on the holiday, a provision which was repealed only in the 1970's.

The first St. Patrick's Day Parade held in Ireland was in Dublin in 1931. Although secular celebrations now exist, the holiday remains a religious observance in Ireland, for both the Church of Ireland and Roman Catholic Church.

In the mid-1990's, the Irish government began a campaign to showcase Ireland and its culture on Saint Patrick's Day. The first Saint Patrick's festival was held as a one day event in 1996. Since then it has grown to a five-day event involving multiple events and activities with over a million people attending the festival and 675,000 people in attendance at the 2009 parade alone!

The annual St. Patrick's Festival is a thrilling and diverse series of events to celebrate Ireland's proud heritage. Street performances, pageantry, music and dance performances, literature, comedy, film, and family events are presented as part of this exciting festival.

The biggest and best St. Patrick's Day Parade in the world takes place on March 17, and is the festival's culminating event. It is a breathtaking display of creative talent. The spectacular procession meanders through the heart of Dublin City, mesmerising the audience along its 2.6km route.

For two hours you will participate in an awesome display of creative talent as the parade snakes its way through the city center. Irish marching bands join performers, dancers, street theatre companies, ceremonial groups, and marching bands from around the world, to create an exciting carnival atmosphere and a wonderfully entertaining parade. The parade is a piece of moving theatre, Colorful costumes, flamboyant performances and outstanding musical talent - that's the St. Patrick's Day Parade in Dublin.

Dublin

SAMPLE TOUR

March 15

Depart via scheduled air service. The destination is Dublin, Ireland

March 16

Arrive in Dublin

Meet your coach driver, who will assist the group to awaiting motorcoach

Take a panoramic tour of Dublin

Enjoy a tour of Trinity College, which is Ireland's oldest university

The highlight of the tour will be a view of the Book of Kells

Visit the National Museum of Ireland

Evening Welcome Dinner and overnight

March 17

Breakfast at the hotel

March in the world-famous St. Patrick's Day Festival Parade

Afternoon at leisure to enjoy the atmosphere of St. Patrick's Day

Evening Farewell Dinner and overnight

March 18

Breakfast at the hotel

Travel north to the picturesque village of Malahide for a visit to the castle

Visit Howth, a suburban resort with views of the countryside and Dublin Bay

Return to Dublin for an optional performance as part of the American Celebration of Music in Ireland

Enjoy the rest of the afternoon at leisure

Evening dinner and overnight

March 19

Breakfast at the hotel

Morning travel to Avoca to visit the Hand Weavers

See the three different kinds of weaving

Continue to Glendalough and the Wicklow Mountains

See the Round Tower, Cathedral, St. Kevin's Cross & Kitchen, and Gatehouse

Optional Performance in Bray as part of the American Celebration of Music in Ireland

Evening dinner and overnight

March 20

Breakfast and hotel check-out

Transfer to Dublin's airport for return flight

This and all St. Patrick's Day Parade tour options are available for viewing at www.musiccelebrations.com/parades





St. Patrick's ★ ★ festival ★ ★

Music Celebrations International has enormous experience taking marching bands to perform in the St. Patrick's Day Parade in Dublin, Ireland.

Contact us for application, participation, and travel information.

We would like to kindly thank the St. Patrick's Festival for use of its logo in our promotion of this world-class event.



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