

DISCOVER IRELAND



CALENDAR OF FESTIVALS & EVENTS 2011



The Fun Starts Here



IF YOU LIKE ...



TRADITIONAL IRISH CULTURE

The Temple Bar Trad Fest warms up winter days along with the Winter Music Weekend in Sixmilebridge and The Shindig in Tralee. In Summer head to Cavan for Fleadh Cheoil na hEireann – the biggest trad celebration of the year. Keep your toes tapping at the Ballyshannon Folk & Traditional Music Festival or Feile Oriel while in autumn the North West is the place to be for the Sligo Live Sessions.



THEATRE OR FILM

For theatre fans the Ulster Bank Dublin Theatre Festival, Cork Midsummer Festival and the Absolut Fringe in Dublin are the highlights. The Jameson Dublin International Film Festival, Galway Film Fleadh and the Corona Cork Film Festival feature the very best in Irish and International cinema with premieres, screenings, master classes and discussions all bringing you closer to the magic of silver screen.



MUSIC

Springtime delights include the Cork International Choral Festival and the Dublin City Soul Festival. The best of roots music comes to Kilkenny for the Smithwicks Rhythm and Roots Festival. As the nights get longer the stars of the jazz world arrive in Cork for the Guinness Jazz Festival while opera buffs head to Wexford for a truly boutique festival experience at the world renowned Wexford Festival Opera. The New Ross Piano Festival in the South East is dedicated to the beauty of piano music.





SUPER COOL SUMMER FESTIVALS

Head to Sea Sessions festival where surf and music meet on the Atlantic coast of Donegal. The Flatlake Literary and Arts Festival is an eclectic blend of music, theatre, film, discussion and plenty of tea and scones! In Tullamore the enchanting surrounds of Charleville Castle host Castepalooza while Ballinlough Castle in Westmeath hosts Body & Soul Festival, and both bring music and the arts to intimate crowds.



BIG SOUNDS

Oxygen, the biggest music festival of the summer brings music by the world's biggest acts to massive crowds over three days – don't forget the wellies! Electric Picnic brings music, arts and imagination to little Stradbally. Big sounds come to Mitchelstown for Indiependence, and Arthur's Day returns in September to entertain thousands around the country at headline concerts and tonnes of smaller gigs.



TO TAKE PART

Many of Ireland's festivals and events offer opportunities to participate, to learn something new, or discover a hidden talent! Sign up for courses and workshops at Listowel Writer's Week or the Cape Clear International Storytelling Festival. Or choose from the wide variety of winter and summer schools that offer the very best in poetry, music, painting and cookery.



Galway Arts Festival, 11-24 July

IF YOU LIKE ...



CULTURE AND HERITAGE

Heritage Week celebrates Ireland's natural, built and cultural heritage with thousands of activities across the country including walks, talks, historical tours, storytelling and wildlife. Culture Night in Dublin lets you discover the best of the capital's culture while Open House reveals old and new architectural gems. Cork Craft Month is an ideal way to see best of the South West's creative arts and crafts. And all year round there are exhibitions and talks in Ireland's galleries, museums and cultural hotspots.



THE FINER THINGS IN LIFE

The Dublin Horse Show celebrates Ireland's affinity with the horse – a highlight of the summer. Each year the Galway International Oyster Festival celebrates the native Oyster with an oyster trail through the city, an opulent Gala Ball and of course the World Oyster Opening Championships. In Dublin Taste of Christmas gets the festive season off to a stylish start while the Temple Bar Chocolate Festival is a calorific celebration of the joys of chocolate.



FAMILY FUN

St. Patricks Day in March brings the thrills and spills of parades and spectacle all around the country. The return of the Tall Ships to Waterford brings colour, excitement and crowds to the South East. See madcap antics and high jinks at the Street Performance World Championships while younger arts aficionados can immerse themselves in music, theatre and dance at Baboro and Roola Boola.



Street Performance
World Championships,
Dublin & Cork during June



THE ARTS

You'll be spoilt for choice! There are arts festivals that bring you anything but the ordinary in music, dance, theatre, visual arts and street performance! Galway Arts Festival and Kilkenny Arts Festival are among our best known arts festivals. See the edgy and the unusual at the Absolut Fringe, or head to the South West for the Cork Midsummer Festival and Kinsale Arts Week.



TO MEET THE LOCALS

Festivals are the best way to meet the locals. The Galway Races summer meeting is packed with seven days and nights of great racing, socialising and breathtaking fashion. The Tullamore Show and the National Ploughing Championships showcase the best of everything associated with country living including the people. In Kerry the Puck Fair, one of Ireland's oldest fairs offer's three days of fun and entertainment as a wild mountain goat is crowned King.



FOOD

From baked bread to superb seafood and gourmet cheeses Ireland has an abundance of flavours and tastes to stir the senses. Right around the country cookery demonstrations, food trails and artisan produce are in abundance at many food festivals including the Dingle Peninsula Food and Wine Festival and the Waterford Festival of Food. Sample a blend of food and culture at Só Sligo or enjoy oyster season in Galway. You'll also find farmer's markets and food stalls at festivals and fairs all over Ireland.



Taste of Dublin, 9-12 June

January 2011

Toe Tapping Trad in January

During the cold days of winter there is no better way to lift the spirits than to be tucked up inside enjoying the warmth and passion of traditional Irish music. There is a feast of trad festivals around the country to warm you up in the New Year.

Listen to trad music come alive at concerts and sessions, shake off the cobwebs and learn the jigs, reels and set dancing steps at dance classes and workshops or just snuggle into a session and enjoy the unique atmosphere that trad music creates.

Temple Bar Trad Fest

TEMPLE BAR, DUBLIN CITY CENTRE

26-30 January

As you walk through Temple Bar, the sounds of traditional music drift across the cobbled streets of this historic area. Trad Fest brings the cream of Irish and International musicians to the heart of Dublin for superb concerts, ceilis, sessions and pub trails.

www.templebartrad.com



Temple Bar TradFest
26-30 January

Strange Attractor

AT THE CRAWFORD ART GALLERY, CORK

Until 30 April

A dynamic series of collaborative ventures between five artists, Anthony Kelly, Danny McCarthy, Irene Murphy, Mick O'Shea and David Stalling. Throughout this project the artists work both as a group and as individuals using improvisational sound performance, experimentation with technology and combined media, resulting in a multi-dimensional experience for the audience.

www.crawfordartgallery.ie

Winter Music Weekend

SIXMILEBRIDGE, CO. CLARE

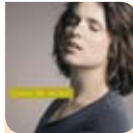
13-16 January

Acoustic acts of all hues including Irish, bluegrass, blues, country, gypsy, and classical. The variety of music, the close link between musicians and the audiences, and the welcome from the locals all make this festival unique. Almost 40 scheduled gigs, sessions, and concerts—most of them free. Top that off with a gospel choir and set dancing and you have a weekend for every music lover!

www.wmw.ie



Temple Bar
TradFest
26-30 January



Masterworks Series

CHRIST CHURCH
CATHEDRAL, DUBLIN

18-23 January

The Irish Baroque Orchestra performs in the sublime setting of Christ Church Cathedral under the inspirational artistic direction of Monica Huggett. This season's Masterworks series features baroque blockbusters Bach, Rameau and Vivaldi.

www.irishbaroqueorchestra.com

The Shindig Festival

TRALEE, CO. KERRY

21-23 January

A packed weekend of great Irish music, set dancing, Sean-Nós dancing, singing, storytelling and the occasional pint! Workshops on all aspects of traditional Irish Set Dancing will teach visitors everything from the basic steps, movements and styles to more advanced levels.

www.shindigfestival.com



Ardara Country & Western Festival

ARDARA, CO. DONEGAL

28-30 January

A dancing weekend for those who fancy a spot of jiving or line dancing to the melodies of Ireland's top country bands in this friendly and scenic Donegal town.

www.ardarafestivals.com

Glen of Aherlow Winter Walking Festival

GLEN OF AHERLOW, CO. TIPPERARY

28-30 January

Join walking groups, clubs and individuals to experience corrie lakes, open mountain, woodland trails and forest tracks in a winter setting. The festival caters for all levels and features walks on the Galtee Mountains and the Slievenamuck Hills. Music and singing in the evenings round off a day of fresh air and exhilaration.

www.aherlow.com



Glen of Aherlow Winter Walking Festival
28-30 January

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30	31					01 * New Year's Day
02	03	04	05	06	07	08
09	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29

More festivals and events at www.discoverireland.ie/festivals

February 2011

Jameson Dublin International Film Festival

DUBLIN CITY

17-27 February

Eleven days of movie magic. Engage in the art of cinema through a world class programme of over 100 films, gala screenings, premieres, big name public interviews, panel discussions and the chance to meet filmmakers.

www.jdifff.com



Jameson Dublin International Film Festival
17-27 February

Jack B. Yeats: The Outsider

THE MODEL GALLERY, SLIGO

5 February – 5 June

This major exhibition of Jack B. Yeats promises to bring many of his great masterpieces together for the first time in almost 40 years. Guest curated by Brian O'Doherty, works from Yeats late expressionist phase will be included alongside his more local, political works of the 1920's.

www.themodel.ie



Hennessy Gold Cup at Leopardstown

LEOPARDSTOWN

RACECOURSE, DUBLIN

6 February

Spring sees the running of the three mile Hennessy Cognac Gold Cup which is widely regarded as Irelands premier steeplechase.

www.leopardstown.com

Four Nations International Football - Carling Nations Cup

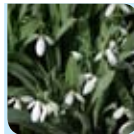
AVIVA STADIUM, DUBLIN

8 & 9 February and continues in May

The Carling Nations Cup will be the first senior international tournament hosted in Ireland. Get behind the Irish team as they take on Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales at the new state of the art Aviva Stadium in Dublin.

www.fai.ie

Four Nations International Football - Carling Nations Cup
8 & 9 February and continues in May



Snowdrop Week at Altamont Gardens

TULLOW, CO. CARLOW

During February

What better way to witness the end of Winter and the arrival of Spring than to celebrate the eagerly awaited return of the snowdrops at Altamont Gardens, an enchanting blend of formal and informal gardens covering 40 acres.

www.altamontgarden.com



Scoil Cheoil an Earraigh

DINGLE PENINSULA, CO. KERRY

23-27 February

A five day traditional music school in West Kerry style. Classes in all instruments, Sean Nós singing along with dancing, concerts, sessions, walks and lectures.

www.scoilcheoil.com

Tedfest

THE ARAN ISLANDS, GALWAY & GALWAY CITY

24-27 February

Father Ted fanatics gather on Inis Mor to recreate Craggy Island. Father Dougals, Jacks and Mrs Doyles spend the weekend enjoying Dreamland and day trips to Chinatown. Feature events include The Lovely Girls Contest, Ted's Got Talent and The Craggy Cup. Galway City also hosts the midweek Trip to the Mainland where events include The Toilet Duck Award for new Stand-Up comics.
www.tedfest.org



Tedfest
24-27 February

Cork French Film Festival

CORK CITY & COUNTY

27 February – 6 March (provisional)

The red carpet will be rolled out for a host of French stars and a rich and innovative programme of films to inspire the imagination through screenings, master-classes, workshops, documentaries and installations.

www.corkfrenchfilmfestival.com

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		01	02	03	04	05
06	07	08	09	10	11	12
13	14 * St. Valentines Day	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28					

March 2011

St. Patrick's Festival

DUBLIN CITY

17-20 March

Celebrate Ireland's national holiday – the day when everybody is a little bit Irish! In addition to the legendary festival parade which immerses the city centre in a carnival atmosphere, the festival is bursting at the seams with music, dance, culture, family fun and more!

www.stpatricksfestival.ie



St. Patrick's Festival
Dublin
17-20 March



St. Patrick's Festival
Dublin
17-20 March

The Gathering

KILLARNEY, CO. KERRY

2-6 March

A finely tuned mix of concerts, céilís, sessions, workshops & masterclasses. This year's line-up of concerts include De Danann, Shaskeen, Fídal and the Glacken Brothers while the tunes for the Céilís will be by Jerry McCarthy, The Copperplate Céilí Band, The Abbey Céilí Band & Johnny Reidy & Swallows Tail. Set-dancing workshops, showcase gigs, impromptu sessions and tonnes of craic!

www.thegathering.ie



NYAH Traditional Music Festival

VARIOUS LOCATIONS, CO. CAVAN

6-17 March

"Nyah" refers to the very lift that music can give to the hardest heart. Trad & Folk musicians descend on the Breffni territory to take part in a packed programme of events ranging from major concerts to intimate pub sessions and a host of extras including music and song workshops, the 'Jig of Life' awards, book and CD launches.

www.cavanmusic.com



St. Patrick's Day in Northern Ireland

VARIOUS LOCATIONS IN
NORTHERN IRELAND

17 March Festivities in various towns and cities celebrate Ireland's patron saint including Armagh where Patrick founded his first stone church, Downpatrick where he is buried, and a pilgrimage walk up Slemish Mountain where legend has it he tended sheep as a slave.

www.discovernorthernireland.com/stpatrick

Só Sligo - Food & Culture Festival

SLIGO TOWN & COUNTY

17-20 March

Food trails and cookery demonstrations with world class chefs, local specialities and artisan markets. See professional chefs from around the world compete in the World Irish Stew Championship or enter yourself in the amateur category! When you've eaten your fill, dip into the culture on offer, which includes parades, photography, children's theatre and street entertainment. www.sosligo.com

Dingle Film Festival

DINGLE, CO. KERRY

17-20 March

A boutique film festival in a beautiful setting, home to many filmmakers, one of Ireland's only independent cinemas, and a well known film location. The festival is home to The Gregory Peck Award for Excellence in the Art of Film. Recipients have included Stephen Frears, Jim Sheridan and cultural ambassador to Ireland, Gabriel Byrne.

www.dinglefilmfestival.com



Ennis Book Club Festival

ENNIS, CO. CLARE

4-6 March Share reading passions and meet favourite writers. A social and literary gathering bringing book club members and readers together. Sessions on running book clubs, advice on reading lists, readings by international authors, workshops, walking tours and a great opportunity to compare notes and meet with other Book Club members.
www.ennisbookclubfestival.com



Dublin Book Festival

DUBLIN CITY

4-6 March The best of contemporary Irish publishing and writing in a warm and welcome environment in Dublin's City Hall. Showcasing Irish writers and publishers in an entertaining, and accessible environment that reflects the creativity and personality of the Irish book scene.
www.dublinbookfestival.com

Carlingford National Leprechaun Hunt

CARLINGFORD, CO. LOUTH

27 March
The first Leprechaun Hunt began in 1989 after a set of leprechaun clothes were found on the Slieve Foy mountain by a local businessman! Since then a national hunt for leprechauns takes place annually in this special area. Track down the elusive little people for yourself, if you can find them...
www.carlingfordleprechaun.ie

Sunday

Monday

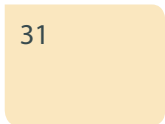
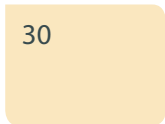
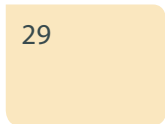
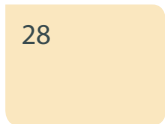
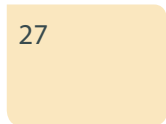
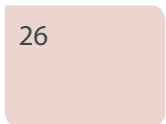
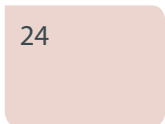
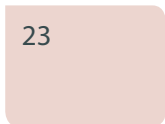
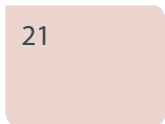
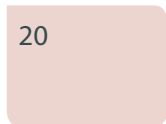
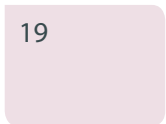
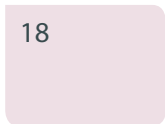
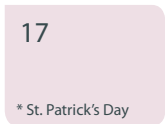
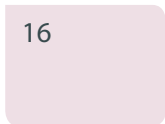
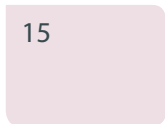
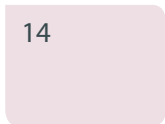
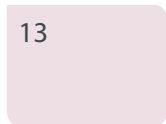
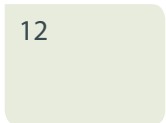
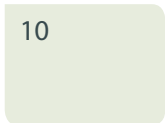
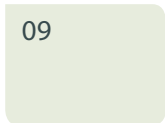
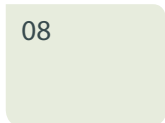
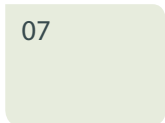
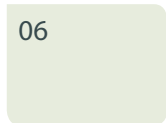
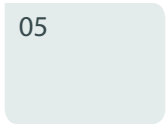
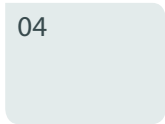
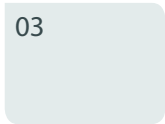
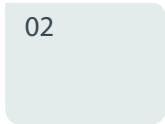
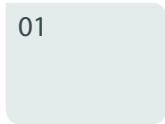
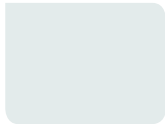
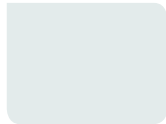
Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday



April 2011

Cork International Choral Festival

CORK CITY AND COUNTY

27 April – 1 May

Cork comes alive with choral music. Up to 5,000 singers from all over the world participate in almost 100 festival events, including spectacular gala concerts, lunchtime concerts and informal public performances which see choirs popping up in a wide range of unusual locations during festival week.

www.corkchoral.ie



Cork International Choral Festival
Cork City and County
27 April – 1 May



Cúirt International Festival of Literature

GALWAY CITY

12-17 April

Galway's long running festival of literature brings writers and readers together to celebrate the power of the written word. Keeping true to its original roots the festival celebrates the perfection of poetry, accompanied by prose readings, discussion and debate, music, theatre, and more.

www.galwayartscentre.ie/cuirt



Waterford Festival of Food

DUNGARVAN, Co. WATERFORD

15-17 April

Celebrating great flavours and food producers in Co. Waterford. Featuring cookery demonstrations by internationally renowned chefs, talks and walks, slow food events, food trails, local producers, a farmers market extravaganza and family entertainment.

www.waterfordfestivaloffood.com



Wicklow Outdoors Festival

THROUGHOUT COUNTY WICKLOW

15-27 April (Provisional)

Activities to suit all ages and most are free. A huge variety of things to try including rock climbing, walking, cycling, archery, windsurfing and horseriding. Activities take place the length and breadth of the county. Go on – try something!

www.wicklowoutdoors.ie



Fairyhouse Easter Festival

RATOATH, Co. MEATH

24-26 April

A cracking festival of racing. Sunday features the Powers Gold Cup, Easter Monday features the much loved Ladbrokes Irish Grand National and on Tuesday the festival continues with top class national hunt racing and the Novice Hurdle.

www.fairyhouseracecourse.ie



Féile na Bealtaine

DINGLE AND ALL AROUND THE DINGLE PENINSULA

28 April – 2 May

The culturally rich Dingle Peninsula commemorates the old Celtic festival which divided the year into two – Samhain and Bealtaine. A fiery mix of arts, culture and politics!

www.feilena-bealtaine.ie



Bray Jazz Festival

BRAY, Co. WICKLOW

29 April – 1 May

A richly diverse and varied programme featuring some of the very finest players in contemporary jazz and improvised music. More than 40 concerts, recitals, jazz trails and shows bring this seaside town to life.

www.brayjazz.com

Strokestown International Poetry Weekend

STROKESTOWN, CO. ROSCOMMON

29 April – 1 May

A free poetry festival making poetry accessible to all. Readings from new and well-known voices run from early morning to late evening in gracious settings including the romantic surroundings of Strokestown House. Accompanied by workshops, music and The Percy French Prize for humorous verse.

www.strokestownpoetry.org

Smithwick's Kilkenny Rhythm and Roots Festival

KILKENNY CITY

29 April – 2 May

Attracting some of the finest names in American Roots music including country, folk, blues, bluegrass, rockabilly and Cajun. From midday to midnight audiences wind their way through the medieval streets sampling the huge range of music with over 80 shows in 30 venues. This festival has played host to both international and up and coming acts including Ray LaMontagne, Ryan Adams and Josh Ritter.

www.kilkennyroots.com

Feile Oriel

MONAGHAN TOWN

29 April – 2 May

Hundreds of musicians and artists descend on Monaghan for four days of music culminating in the Fiddler of Oriel Competitions, where the cream of Irish musicians compete for the prestigious title. Session trails, music workshops, early evening concerts, and late night gigs for those with stamina!

www.feileoriel.com

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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03	04	05	06	07	08	09
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22 * Good Friday	23
24 * Easter Sunday	25 * Easter Monday	26	27	28	29	30

May 2011

Get Active – Get Out There!

VARIOUS WALKING FESTIVALS

It's time for walkers to dust off their boots! From mountain to valley, coast to countryside, there are walking festivals galore in May. With options for serious enthusiasts, first-timers, and everyone else in between its time to get out there. Find your perfect walking festival at www.discoverireland.ie/walking



Get Active –
Get Out There!

Drogheda Arts Festival

DROGHEDA, CO. LOUTH

29 April – 2 May

A celebration of music, theatre, poetry and dance taking place on the banks of the Boyne – an area steeped in history, archaeology and culture. A wonderful opportunity to dip your toe into the world of creativity!

www.droghedaartsfestival.ie

RTÉ All Ireland Drama Festival

ATHLONE, CO. WESTMEATH

29 April – 7 May

Nine nights of compelling drama is guaranteed culminating in the final gala ceremony where awards for best acting and technical skills are presented including the premier award for All Ireland champions. Accompanied by a lively fringe programme of theatrical performances, street events, art exhibitions and workshops.

www.dramafestival.ie



Punchestown National Racing Festival

NAAS, CO. KILDARE

3-7 May

A fusion of top class sport, fashion, hospitality, entertainment and family activity – a highlight of the social and sporting calendar in Ireland. The Festival is the grande finale of the jump racing season with 11 Grade 1 races – racing doesn't get any tougher than this.

www.punchestown.com



Baltimore Fiddle Fair

BALTIMORE, CO. CORK

5-8 May

A small festival with a big reputation! A world-class line-up of national and international acts performing in intimate settings in and around this beautiful seaside village. Concerts feature the very best of musical talent from Ireland, UK, USA, Europe and even Africa along with a series of workshops and sessions all weekend.

www.fiddlefair.com

Inishbofin Community Arts Festival

INISHBOFIN ISLAND, CO. GALWAY

6-8 May

A colourful kaleidoscope of cultural events, fun activities and workshops. As always there will be a high level of performers attending, with top musicians both local and national, talented actors, art and lots more! An exciting and eclectic weekend of culture not to be missed.

www.inishbofin.com



Dublin Dance Festival

DUBLIN CITY

7-22 May

Ireland's only festival dedicated to presenting the best of contemporary dance. A diverse programme of performances, films, artist talks, master classes, workshops, outdoor events and a children's season.

www.dublindancefestival.ie



Galway Early Music Festival

GALWAY CITY & COUNTY

20-22 May

Medieval, Renaissance and

Baroque Music with concerts by major international and national musicians and dancers; workshops and master classes. Known for its exciting programming, outstanding international guest performers and appeal to a broad audience, the Festival explores a different theme every year. www.galwayearlymusic.com



Tattersalls Festival and International Horse Trials

RATOATH, CO. MEATH

26-29 May A world class equestrian event. Ireland's top riders go up against the very best from Europe, the UK and further afield. Accompanied by a festival village with crafts, shopping, tasty local produce and loads of family activities. www.tattersalls.ie/events



Dublin City Soul Festival

DUBLIN CITY

26-29 May

A celebration of peace,

unity and love! Immerse yourself in hours of amazing free music in the bars & cafes of Dublin. Meet the superstars of soul and special guests from around the globe at the Soul Picnic or head to the Soul Jam featuring world renowned artists in intimate settings. www.soul.ie

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June 2011

The Tall Ships Race

WATERFORD CITY

30 June – 3 July

The Tall Ships make their return to Ireland! Over 70 ships and 250,000 maritime, music and festival fans will converge on Waterford for a festival jam-packed with Irish music, food and street theatre. Highlights include spectacular fireworks, massive crew parade, and Parade of Sail as the ships set off for the official starting line on the coast.

www.waterfordtallshipsrace.ie

The Tall Ships Race
30 June – 3 July



Writer's Week

LISTOWEL, CO. KERRY

1-5 June

A lively and inclusive literary festival. Writer's Week aims to guide, direct and enthuse the emerging writer, to befriend the established writer and provide a practical platform for their artistic output. This ideal is achieved through workshops, readings, lectures, literary competitions, book launches, seminars and debate.

www.writersweek.ie



Bloom

PHOENIX PARK, DUBLIN

2-6 June

Ireland's premier gardening event, featuring stunning show gardens, magnificent flower and plant displays, live music, artisan food, Irish crafts, fun and entertainment for all ages.

www.bloominthepark.com



The Cat Laughs Comedy Festival

KILKENNY CITY

2-6 June

An internationally acclaimed festival showcasing the very best in Irish and International comedy acts, attracting visitors for world-class entertainment and no shortage of side splitting humour in the atmospheric setting of this charming medieval city.

www.thecatlaughs.com



Castlebar Blues Festival

CASTLEBAR, CO. MAYO

3-6 June

Ireland's longest running blues festival. Free live music in all the main pubs in the town while headline acts perform in The Royal Theatre. A lively weekend of music with artists from all over the world. CD and record fair, vocal workshops for children and a fun day on the mall for the whole family.

www.castlebarblues.com



Loughcrew Garden Opera

OLDCASTLE, CO. MEATH

4-5 June

The ideal way to enjoy Opera. Bring a picnic or dine alfresco and savour the wonderful Loughcrew gardens. Experience the glories of opera at its finest as cast and crew perform in period costume against the charming backdrop of Loughcrew Gardens.

www.loughcrew.com

Street Performance World Championships

DUBLIN CITY & CORK CITY

11-12 June (Cork) and 16-19 June (Dublin)

The best contortionists, magicians, breakdancers, comedians and all-round jesters in the world come to Ireland to battle it out for the most coveted title in street performance, the "Street Performance World Champion".

www.spwc.ie





Cork Midsummer Festival

CORK CITY

11-26 June

A combustible blend of contemporary arts and culture combining local, national and international events. Experience unusual things in unusual places with theatre, off-site performances, music, free events, and much more.

www.corkmidsummer.com



Super Cool Summer Festivals

COUNTRYWIDE

Hot days of summer cool down as boutique festivals open their doors. Get to Sea Sessions Surf & Music Festival, the Flat Lake Literary & Arts Festival, Castlepalooza or the Body & Soul Festival for a super cool festival experience.

www.discoverireland.ie/festivals



West Cork Chamber Music Festival

BANTRY, CO. CORK

24 June – 2 July

One of the leading chamber music festivals in Europe, this year honouring the string quartet. Morning talks, coffee concerts, afternoon recitals, town concerts, main evening concerts and late night performances staged in spectacular settings including stunning Bantry House.

www.westcorkmusic.ie

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More festivals and events at www.discoverireland.ie/festivals

July 2011

Go Wild Out West – It's Festival Season in Galway!

In July, the ever-vibrant city of Galway becomes a hive of thrills and excitement for locals and visitors alike. With great places to stay and stunning countryside on the doorstep, it's a great time to come and stay in the city of Tribes.

www.discoverireland.ie/west

Galway Film Fleadh

5-10 July The best of Irish, International and World Cinema. Filmmakers debate and interact with audiences in addition to screenings, masterclasses, interviews and retrospectives.

www.galwayfilmfleadh.com

Galway Arts Festival

11-24 July Ireland's biggest and brightest arts festival. A feast of superb quality dance, spectacle, visual art, music and theatre overlooked by the festivals iconic Big Top.

www.galwayartsfestival.com

Galway Summer Races

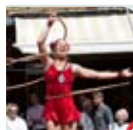
25-31 July

For good craic and great horseracing follow the crowds for seven days of racing and super socialising!

www.galwayraces.com



Galway Arts Festival
11 - 24 July



Clonmel Junction

CLONMEL, CO. TIPPERARY

Exact dates tbc

Circus, theatre, eclectic music, breathtaking dance spectacle, workshops and more! Now in its 11th year Clonmel Junction promises to be the biggest and best yet – a guaranteed assault on the senses!

www.junctionfestival.com

West Cork Literary Festival

BANTRY, CO. CORK

3-9 July

Leading poets, novelists, playwrights and journalists come to Bantry for an extensive programme of literary events and readings. The core of the festival are the writing workshops including novel, short story, poetry and writing for the stage complimented by bookshop readings, afternoon seminars and late night story sessions.

www.westcorkliteraryfestival.ie



Oxegen

PUNCESTOWN
RACECOURSE, NAAS, CO.
KILDARE

8-10 July Grab your

wellies - it's Ireland's biggest music festival! Combining a stellar line up and an unbeatable atmosphere, Oxegen has hosted the world's biggest acts including Eminem. The Killers, Kings of Leon, and 2011 is sure to be better than ever.

www.oxegen.ie



Kinsale Arts Week

KINSALE, CO. CORK

9-17 July This beautiful

seaside town becomes a living gallery with visual art, music, dance, theatre and family events in extraordinary settings. The 17th century Charles Fort is transformed into an outdoor music arena, and 80 studios open their doors for an artist's trail across Kinsale and the surrounding countryside.

www.kinsaleartsweek.com



Earagail Arts Festival

THROUGHOUT DONEGAL

9-24 July

A bilingual, multi-disciplinary festival offering a national and international programme of music, theatre, children's events, literature and outdoor events in various locations throughout the stunning county of Donegal.

www.eaf.ie

Ballyshannon Folk & Traditional Music Festival

BALLYSHANNON, CO. DONEGAL

29-31 July

The 34th annual folk festival will provide the best of Irish traditional & folk music, song and dance over the August Bank Holiday Weekend.

www.ballyshannonfolkfestival.com



Spraoui

WATERFORD CITY

29-31 July

A family weekend

full of imagination and colour. Spraoui transforms the streets, squares and quays of Waterford City into a series of outdoor venues for music and performances. Street-theatre, spectacle and a dizzying array of music acts bring the city to life.

www.spraoui.com

Castlepalooza Music & Arts Festival

CHARLEVILLE CASTLE,
TULLAMORE, CO. OFFALY

30-31 July

A special boutique festival limited to 3,000 people, taking place inside and outside of historic Charleville Castle. Established acts and new performances bring the castle to life along with plenty of other funky activities.

www.castlepalooza.com

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August 2011



Kilkenny Arts Festival

KILKENNY CITY

5-14 August A ten day feast of literature, jazz,

indie, classical music, visual art, theatre and dance, traditional Irish music, craft and lots of good craic. Many events take place inside St. Canice's Cathedral, Kilkenny Castle and other historic attractions, turning the medieval town of Kilkenny into the destination of choice each August.

www.kilkennyarts.ie



Dublin Horse Show

RDS, DUBLIN

3-7 August

A celebration of Ireland's affinity with the horse. The festival includes the best of international show jumping including the Meydan FEI Nations Cup, the Landrover Puissance and the Longines International Grand Prix, live music and the glamour and fashion of Ladies' Day.

www.dublinhorseshow.com



Birr Vintage Week & Arts Festival

BIRR, CO. OFFALY

5-12 August The Georgian heritage town of Birr lays on a range of dynamic vintage and modern events. Exhibitions take place in venues throughout the town. Other highlights include children's events, antique and fine art fair, live music, nightly pub entertainment, Olde Time traditional fair, parade and fireworks.

www.birrvintageweek.com



Kilkenny Arts Festival
5-14 August



Puck Fair

KILLLORGLIN, CO. KERRY

10-12 August

One of Ireland's oldest festivals dating back to pre-Christian times, King Puck is a wild mountain goat crowned for three days and nights of music, fun and entertainment.

www.puckfair.ie



Tullamore Show & AIB National Livestock Show

TULLAMORE, CO. OFFALY

14 August This country living showcase combines livestock, entertainment, home and garden. Ramble among hundreds of trade stands, see the top cattle, sheep and horses. Take a ride in a tractor and trailer, view vintage agricultural machine, or just enjoy good food, music and people watching.

www.tullamoreshow.com



Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann

CAVAN

14-21 August

The largest festival of traditional Irish music, song and dance welcoming people from all the world. Competitions, céilithe, parades, pageants, street sessions and over 10,000 musicians coming together to preserve the great tradition of playing and enjoying Irish music.

www.fleadh2011.ie



Rose of Tralee International Festival

TRALEE, CO. KERRY

19-23 August (provisional)

This much loved and internationally known festival welcomes Roses from all over the world. Family fun, music, parades and fireworks culminate in the crowning of the 2011 Rose of Tralee.

www.roseoftralee.ie

Cork Craft Month

THROUGHOUT CORK

All of August

From ceramicists, jewellers and textile-workers to furniture-makers, woodturners and carvers, paper and felt makers, sculptors and many more, Cork Craft Month brings together the very best of Cork's unique creative arts and crafts.

www.corkartdesign.com



National Heritage Week

NATIONWIDE

20-28 August

Celebrating Ireland's natural, built and cultural heritage with thousands of activities across the country. Includes walks, tours of historical buildings, music, dance, storytelling, wildlife excursions and much more. Most events free!

www.heritageweek.ie

Dunmore East Bluegrass Festival

DUNMORE EAST, CO. WATERFORD

25-28 August

Music pilgrims come from all over the world to Dunmore East to listen to authentic bluegrass music. Bands play to ecstatic crowds, spread out comfortably at six venues, both indoors and outdoors. There also fine dining, dancing and jamming all day and night - a Bluegrass picker's paradise.

www.discoverdunmore.com/festivals

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More festivals and events at www.discoverireland.ie/festivals

September 2011

Dublin Festival Season

For thought-provoking theatre, incredible arts and all that the city has to offer, round up your pals and get to Dublin for a city break with a difference this festival season.

Dublin Contemporary 2011

6 Sept – 31 Oct The city becomes a gallery for large scale art installations in landmark buildings, established museums and galleries and offbeat spaces.

www.dublincontemporary.com

Absolut Fringe

10-25 September A full to the brim festival which takes over more than 40 venues and celebrates the new, the next and the extreme!

www.fringefest.com

Arthur's Day

22 September Headline concerts and intimate gigs all over the city, along with a couple of pints of the black stuff!

www.guinness.com

Dublin Culture Night

23 September A night of discovery as galleries, museums, cathedrals and tonnes more venues open their doors for citizens to explore the capitals culture, for free.

www.culturenight.ie

Ulster Bank Dublin Theatre Festival

29 September – 16 October

Dublin loves Drama - and lots of it! An amazing array of incredible Irish and international theatre, readings, rehearsals and panel discussions.

www.dublintheatrefestival.com

Open House

6-9 October Dublin buildings of all types and periods open their doors to allow citizens to explore the architecture of the city with special tours by professionals and enthusiasts. All free!

www.architecturefoundation.ie/openhouse



Ulster Bank Dublin Theatre Festival
29 September – 16 October



Cape Clear Island Storytelling Festival

CAPE CLEAR ISLAND, CO. CORK

2-4 September (provisional)

A unique storytelling festival. Set against the stunning scenery of Cape Clear Island Storytelling is celebrated with performances, workshops, tales in island homes and hostels and story-swaps late into the night.

www.capeclearstorytelling.com



Electric Picnic

STRADBALLY, CO. LAOIS

2-4 September

A unique music and arts festival set amid the rolling lawns of Stradbally Hall. World class music, comedy, theatre and an amazing body and soul area make this an unbelievable boutique festival experience.

www.electricpicnic.ie



Oyster Season in Galway

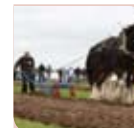
GALWAY

During September

The native oyster is celebrated in Galway at both the Galway International Oyster Festival (21-25 Sept) and the Clarenbridge Oyster Festival (9-11 Sept). Oyster tastings and trails, a few drinks along the way and of course the World Oyster Opening Championships at the Galway Festival.

www.galwayoysterfest.com

www.clarenbridge.com



The National Ploughing Championships

LOCATION TBC

20-22 September

A cross-section of everything associated with rural Ireland. With over 300 competitors and 900 exhibitors showcasing every aspect of rural life in Ireland there is something for everyone at this major autumn event.

www.npa.ie



Johnny Keenan Banjo Festival

LONGFORD TOWN

21-25 September

Longford comes to life with Irish traditional, American bluegrass and folk music. A stellar line-up from award-winning international musicians of all three music traditions. Nightly concerts, outdoor music, workshops, sessions and jams in various locations and a late night festival club to keep the party going!

www.johnnykeenan.com



New Ross Piano Festival

NEW ROSS, CO. WEXFORD

22-25 September

An intimate festival dedicated to the beauty of piano music. International pianists perform in unique shared concerts as well as at solo recitals, with many events taking place in the historic St. Mary's Church.

www.newrosspianofestival.com



The 2011 Solheim Cup

KILEEN CASTLE,
DUNSANY, CO. MEATH

23-25 September

The Solheim Cup is a biennial, trans-Atlantic team match-play competition pitting the best U.S. professional golfers against the best of Europe. The U.S. team leads the competition, 8-3. Can the Europeans take it this year?

www.solheimcup.com

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October 2011

Guinness Cork Jazz Festival

CORK CITY & COUNTY

28-31 October

Stars and fans of the jazz world flock to Cork for this long running and much loved festival.

Over the years the festival has featured many jazz greats including Ella Fitzgerald, George Shearing, Sonny Rollins, B.B. King, Chick Corea and a host of other top jazz names.



A superb spread of world-class stars perform in the city's major theatres as well as non-stop music, day and night in clubs, pubs and hotels citywide, plus master classes, workshops and many other fringe events. Over 90% of the music is free – don't miss it this year!

www.corkjazzfestival.com



Children's Festivals

October sees festivals turning their attentions to younger audiences, the arts connoisseurs of the future! Baboró International Arts Festival for Children in Galway (17-23 Oct) and Roola Boola in Mayo (28-31 Oct provisional) explore the arts in the quest to inspire children and their families through music, theatre, puppetry dance and participation.

www.thelinenhall.com and www.baboro.ie

Ballinasloe Horse Fair & Festival

BALLINASLOE, CO. GALWAY

1-9 October

One of Europe's oldest horse fairs held in the east Galway town of Ballinasloe. A nine day festival including street entertainment, music, tug o'war, lunging competitions, a queen of the fair, and of course horses!

www.ballinasloeoctoberfair.com



The Dingle Peninsula Food & Wine Festival

DINGLE, CO. KERRY

30 September – 2 October

Local food producers, chefs, restaurants and pubs serve up the finest in local produce. Cookery demonstrations in St. James church, taste trail in over 50 outlets, workshops on beekeeping, cheesemaking, organic growing, chocolate, coffee, hen keeping as well as tasting menus, foraging walks and a huge food market. www.dinglefood.com



Savour Kilkenny Food Festival

KILKENNY CITY & COUNTY

Dates tbc

Celebrating Kilkenny's food heritage against the dramatic backdrop of Kilkenny Castle. Open-air markets on the Parade plaza, with the best of local and regional produce, workshops and demonstrations from artisan producers, street performers, musicians and face-painters.

www.savourkilkenny.com

Guinness Cork Jazz Festival
28-31 October



Spirits of Meath Halloween Festival

MEATH

21-31 October

Samhain, the ancient festival marking the end of the old Celtic year, now known as Halloween, originated in Meath more than 2000 years ago! Fun by day and frights by night with eerie graveyards, night markets, celtic spirit pageants, witches, spooks and spells!

www.meathtourism.ie



Wexford Festival Opera

WEXFORD TOWN

21 October – 5 November

One of the world's most important Opera Festivals promising a special experience of rarely programmed and neglected Opera in Wexford's stunning Opera House. Daytime concerts, recitals, lectures and a lively fringe festival, as well as the chance to dress up in style for the main performances.

www.wexfordopera.com



Sligo Live Sessions

SLIGO

27-31 October

Over 100 events with more than 300 artists. Intimate concerts, pub sessions, café culture, club sessions and the famous Fiddler of Dooney competition. Much of the music is free - a great way to hear the best of traditional, roots and acoustic music while enjoying a few pints or a pot of tea!

www.sligoalive.ie



Virginia Pumpkin Festival

VIRGINIA, CO. CAVAN

28-31 October

The heaviest pumpkin is the centrepiece of this unique Halloween weekend combining street carnivals, artisan craft markets, international entertainment acts, music and a monster fancy dress party.

www.pumpkinfestival.ie

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More festivals and events at www.discoverireland.ie/festivals

November 2011

Corona Cork Film Festival

CORK CITY

6-12 November

The finest of cinema comes to Cork - an eclectic programme with features, documentaries, exhibitions, retrospectives and new Irish cinema. And, of course, the short film programmes for which the festival has an international reputation.

www.corkfilmfest.org



Bulmers Comedy Festival

CLONMEL, CO. TIPPERARY

16-20 November

Five days of world class stand-up, sketch and comedy shows from Ireland and abroad bringing wit and skit to Clonmel.

www.clonmelcomedy.com

Waterford International Music Festival

WATERFORD CITY

1-13 November (provisional)

Twelve days celebrating what's best about music, from popular musicals to soulful gospel and alternative sounds. 2011 promises a return of some old favourites and a new twist for the more adventurous.

www.waterfordintlmusicfestival.com

Tralee Circus Festival

TRALEE, CO. KERRY

11-13 November

Showcasing the unique excitement and creativity of circus performance. At the heart of the festival is Circus Siamsa, a contemporary circus variety show featuring top national and international performers who will take your breath away!

www.traleecircusfestival.com

Georgian Christmas Market

PERY SQUARE, LIMERICK

19-20 November

Pery Square, the lovely Georgian area of Limerick hosts market stalls, local artisan food producers, arts & crafts, seasonal gifts with a difference, festival atmosphere and much more.

www.limerickgeorgianmarket.com

WexWorlds Sci-Fi & Fantasy Fiction Festival
25-27 November



WexWorlds Sci-Fi & Fantasy Fiction Festival

WEXFORD TOWN

25-27 November

Wexford town is invaded by science fiction and fantasy fiction authors and artists for this fiction festival showcasing readings, signings, panel talks and workshops and loads of activities for fans of this genre.

www.wexworlds.net



Green Santa in Narnia, Belvedere House Gardens & Park, Each weekend 27 Nov – 23 Dec

Green Santa in Narnia

BELVEDERE HOUSE GARDENS & PARK,
MULLINGAR, CO. WESTMEATH

Each weekend 27 Nov – 23 Dec

Travel back in time to when Santa wore Green robes and not red ones. Walk through the enchanted Wardrobe into Narnia to meet Green Santa and help him plant a native fir or holly tree for you to take home along with a magical wildflower seed to attract Fairies and Butterflies into your Garden.

www.belvedere-house.ie

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More festivals and events at www.discoverireland.ie/festivals

December 2011

National Crafts & Design Fair

RDS, DUBLIN

Early December

A one stop shopping experience with thousands of unique and handmade arts and crafts, festive fare and special gift ideas.

www.nationalcraftsfair.ie

Walk Killarney 26-27 December



Christmas in Waterford

WATERFORD CITY

1-31 December

An ideal way to soak up the festive atmosphere with a month long celebration of all things Christmas – choirs, carol singing, outdoor markets, free children's activities, funfairs and great Christmas shopping.

www.christmasinwaterford.ie



Taste of Christmas

CONVENTION CENTRE,
DUBLIN CITY

2-4 December

Start the festive season with a WOW in the Convention Centre Dublin. The best of seasonal food and drink, gourmet gifts, master classes, specialist wines, food sampling and fine dining – the perfect way to get the festive season off to a cracking and stylish start!

www.tasteofchristmas.ie



Other Voices

DINGLE, CO. KERRY

Mid December

Other Voices has become legendary in the music world. The beautiful town of Dingle provides the perfect backdrop for a diverse gathering of musical minds. Intimate concerts take place in St. James Church over consecutive winter nights at this incredibly special music festival.

www.othervoices.ie

Winter Solstice

NEWGRANGE, CO. MEATH

21 December

Newgrange is located at the World Heritage Site of Bru na Boinne, predating the ancient pyramids by 400 years. At dawn on the winter solstice, the shortest day of the year, a shaft of sunlight enters the inner chamber where a handful of lucky souls bear witness to the passage of time at this world famous event. Look out for the lottery next September to be in with a chance to participate.

www.newgrange.com



Temple Bar Chocolate Festival

TEMPLE BAR, DUBLIN CITY

During December

Celebrate and explore the delicacy of handmade chocolate through talks, workshops and classes. Sample chocolate made by Irish artisan producers and see how chocolate is represented through film, music, performance art, visual arts and fashion.

www.templebar.ie



Walk Killarney

KILLARNEY, CO. KERRY

26-27 December

Fully guided walks through Irelands oldest oakwoods, highest mountains, heritage and wildlife rich landscapes and dramatic Atlantic coastline. Experience the history hidden within the landscapes of Kerry in the company of knowledgeable and entertaining guides.

www.killarney.ie/walkkillarney



Leopardstown Races
26-29 December

Leopardstown Races

LEOPARDSOWN RACECOURSE, DUBLIN

26-29 December

A firm fixture in the Christmas social calendar - head to Leopardstown for wonderful racing, food and entertainment and a festive atmosphere.

www.leopardstown.com

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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18	19	20	21	22	23	24 * Christmas Eve
25 * Christmas Day	26 * St. Stephen's Day	27	28	29	30	31 * New Years Eve

More festivals and events at www.discoverireland.ie/festivals



Ierland is een magische plaatse met een prachtige geschiedenis en een levendige hedendaagse cultuur. Dompel jezelf onder in de verscheidenheid en de overvloed van de vele festivals en evenementen. Proef van heerlijk eten, magische muziek en talloze culturele evenementen in de steden en gemeenten in het hele land. Neem in 2011 herinneringen mee van passie, zang, theater en dans die je voor eeuwig zullen bijblijven. Deze handige gids geeft je een overzicht van het beste wat Ierland aanbiedt. Je kunt ook inloggen op www.discoverireland.ie voor een volledige lijst van festivals en evenementen die overal in het land plaats vinden gedurende het ganse jaar. Ontdek je eigen Ierland!



L'Irlande est un endroit magique qui possède une histoire extrêmement riche mais aussi une culture contemporaine vibrante. Laissez-vous immerger par cette diversité et cette richesse de chaque instant grâce aux festivals et événements proposés sur l'île. Vous pourrez ainsi savourer une nourriture fabuleuse, apprécier une musique magique et prendre part aux innombrables événements culturels qui se déroulent dans les villes et les villages à travers tout le pays. En 2011, ramenez avec vous des souvenirs passionnants qui resteront à jamais gravés en vous grâce à la musique, le théâtre, la danse. Facile à consulter, ce guide met en valeur les festivals et événements incontournables de l'Irlande. Vous pouvez également consulter www.discoverireland.ie afin de vous tenir au courant de l'actualité culturelle à travers le pays et ce tout au long de l'année. A chacun son Irlande !



Irland ist ein zauberhaftes Land mit einer packenden Geschichte und einer lebendigen Alltagskultur. Erleben Sie die fantastische Vielfalt und Fülle irischer Festivals und Events. Genießen Sie das reiche kulinarische Angebot, die mitreisende Musik und die zahllosen kulturellen Veranstaltungen, die in den Städten und Dörfern im ganzen Land stattfinden. In diesem Jahr werden Sie unvergessliche Erinnerungen mit nach Hause nehmen – an Erlebnisse voller Leidenschaft, gefüllt mit Liedern, Theater und Tanz. Dieser übersichtliche Führer gibt Ihnen einen Überblick über die besten Festivals, die Irland zu bieten hat. Sie können sich außerdem auf www.discoverireland.ie online einen aktuellen Überblick über alle stattfindenden Veranstaltungen auf der ganzen Insel verschaffen. Entdecke Dein ganz persönliches Irland!



L'Irlanda è un luogo magico con una storia sorprendente e una vivace cultura contemporanea. Lasciatevi travolgere dalla varietà e dalla ricchezza dei suoi eventi e dei suoi festival. Degusta piatti prelibati, assapora la magia della musica e scopri l'energia degli eventi culturali che anima le città e i villaggi di tutto il paese. Nel 2011 regalati ricordi indimenticabili fatti di passione, musica e danze. In questa guida, di facile consultazione, troverai il meglio dell'Irlanda. Per una lista completa e aggiornata di tutti gli eventi in programma, visita il sito www.irlanda-travel.com. Tua per davvero. Irlanda!



Irlanda es un lugar mágico con una interesante historia y una cultura contemporánea. Sumérjase en todos sus festivales con mucho sabor, tradición y diversidad. Una gastronomía excelente, música que le deleitará e innumerables eventos culturales en todas las ciudades y pueblos de Irlanda. En el año 2011 quédese con los recuerdos de canciones, obras de teatro y danzas y manténgalos por siempre en su memoria. Es útil remarcar lo mejor que Irlanda le ofrece. Puede también verlo en www.discoverireland.ie donde obtendrá un listado completo de todos los festivales y eventos que tendrán lugar por toda Irlanda y durante todo el año. ¡ Descubre tu propia Irlanda ¡



Galway Arts
Festival, 11-24 July

Ireland is a magical place with a wonderful history and a vibrant contemporary culture. Immerse yourself in the diversity and richness of all that it's festivals and events have to offer. Savour fabulous food, magical music and countless cultural events taking place in cities, towns and villages all around the country.

In 2011 take away memories of passion, song, drama and dance that you will remember forever. This easy to use guide highlights the best that Ireland has to offer. You can also log on to www.discoverireland.ie for a full and up to date list of festivals and events taking place around the country throughout the year.

Discover your very own Ireland!

Map of Ireland



Every care has been taken to ensure accuracy in the completion of this brochure. Fáilte Ireland cannot however, accept responsibility for errors or omissions but where such are brought to our attention, future publications will be amended accordingly. Some sporting activities may by their nature be hazardous and involve risk. It is recommended in such cases to take out personal accident insurance. While most operators would have public liability insurance it is desirable to check with the establishment or with the operator concerned as to the level of cover carried. It is recommended that you pre-check the details of listed events before travelling.

2011 At a Glance

JANUARY	
Until 30 April	Strange Attractor
13-16	Winter Music Weekend
18-23	Masterworks Series
21-23	The Shindig Festival
26-30	Temple Bar Trad Fest
28-30	Ardara Country & Western Weekend
28-30	Glen of Aherlow Winter Walking Weekend

FEBRUARY	
During February	Snowdrop Week at Altamont Gardens
5 February – 5 June	Jack B. Yeats The Outsider
6	Hennessy Gold Cup
8-9	Four Nations International Football
17-27	Jameson Dublin International Film Festival
23-27	Scoll Cheoil an Earraigh
24-27	Tedfest
27 February – 6 March	Cork French Film Festival

MARCH	
2-6	The Gathering
4-6	Dublin Book Festival
4-6	Ennis Book Club Festival
6-17	NVAH
17-20	St. Patricks Festival Dublin
17	St. Patricks Day in Northern Ireland
17-20	So Sligo
17-20	Dingle Film Festival
27	Carlingford National Leprechaun Hunt

APRIL	
27 April – 1 May	Cork International Choral Festival
12-17	Cuirt International Festival of Literature
15-17	Waterford Festival of Food
15-27	Wicklow Outdoors Festival
24-26	Fairyhouse Easter Festival
28 April – 1 May	Bray Jazz Festival
28 April – 2 May	Feile na Bealtaine
29 April – 1 May	Strokestown International Poetry Weekend
29 April – 2 May	Smithwicks Kilkenny Rhythm and Roots Festival
29 April – 2 May	Feile Oriel

MAY	
29 April – 2 May	Drogheda Arts Festival
29 April – 7 May	RTE All Ireland Drama Festival
3-7	Punchestown National Racing Festival
5-8	Baltimore Fiddle Fair
6-8	Inishbofin Community Arts Festival
7-22	Dublin Dance Festival
20-22	Galway Early Music Festival
26-29	Dublin City Soul Festival
26-29	Tattersalls Festival & International Horse Trials

JUNE	
1-5	Writers Week
2-6	Bloom
2-6	Cat Laughs Comedy Festival
3-6	Castlebar Blues Festival
4-5	Loughcrew Garden Opera
11-12 June (Cork) and 16-19 June (Dublin)	Street Performance World Championships
11-26	Cork Midsummer Festival
24 June – 2 July	West Cork Chamber Music Festival
30 June – 3 July	Waterford Tall Ships Race

JULY	
Exact dates tbc	Clonmel Junction
3-9	West Cork Literary Festival
5-10	Galway Film Fleadh
8-10	Oxegen
9-17	Kinsale Arts Week
9-24	Earagail Arts Festival
11-24	Galway Arts Festival
25-31	Galway Summer Races
29-31	Ballyshannon Folk & Traditional Music Festival
29-31	Spraio
30-31 July	Castlepalooza Music & Arts Festival

AUGUST	
3-7	Dublin Horse Show
5-12	Birr Vintage & Arts Week
5-14	Kilkenny Arts Festival
10-12	Puck Fair
14	Tullamore Show
14-21	Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann
19-23	Rose of Tralee International Festival
20-28	National Heritage Week
25-28	Dunmore East Bluegrass Festival
All month	Cork Craft Month

SEPTEMBER	
2-4	Cape Clear Island International Storytelling Festival
2-4	Electric Picnic
6 September – 31 October	Dublin Contemporary
9-11	Clarenbridge Oyster Festival
10-25	Absolut Fringe
20-22	National Ploughing Championships
21-25	Galway International Oyster Festival
21-25	Johnny Keenan Banjo Festival
22	Arthur's Day
22-25	New Ross Piano Festival
23	Dublin Culture Night
23-25	The 2011 Solheim Cup
29 September – 16 October	Ulster Bank Dublin Theatre Festival

OCTOBER	
30 September – 2 October	Dingle Peninsula Food & Wine Festival
Exact dates tbc	Savour Kilkenny
1-9	Ballinasloe Horse Fair & Festival
6-9	Open House
17-23	Baboro International Arts Festival for Children
21-31	Spirits of Meath
21 October – 5 November	Wexford Festival Opera
27-31	Sligo Live Sessions
28-31	Guinness Cork Jazz Festival
28-31	Roola Boola Childrens Arts Festival
28-31	Virginia Pumpkin Festival

NOVEMBER	
1-13	Waterford International Music Festival
6-12	Corona Cork Film Festival
11-13	Tralee Circus Festival
16-20	Bulmers Comedy Festival
19-20	Georgian Christmas Market
25-27	WexWorlds Sci-Fi & Fantasy Fiction Festival
Various dates	Green Santa in Narnia

DECEMBER	
Early December	National Crafts & Design Fair
Mid month	Other Voices
During December	Temple Bar Chocolate Festival
2-4	Taste of Christmas
1-31	Christmas in Waterford
21	Winter Solstice
26-27	Walk Killarney
26-29	Leopardstown Races