



IRISH FEST Sept 17-18

Happy Half-way to St. Paddy's Day.

Irish Fest is finally here. We are very excited to bring a new Irish Fest to Appleton and the Fox Cities.

To help guide you through our festival weekend and to get the best experience, here are the top 10 things you should try not to miss:

1. First, we will start by offering you **Free admission** – that's right! If you arrive before 5pm on Friday you can get in for free!!!
2. We know you've heard of **Gaelic Storm**. They have wowed audiences for more than 20 years! We are super excited to have them launch our new festival and play for TWO NIGHTS. YES!!!
3. Hey if you have not seen these lads from Scotland, **Skerryvore** is simply amazing. We almost gave up hope they would make it due to the US travel ban.... But they successfully received a National Interest Exception, allowing them to travel into the USA. We are proud to start their US Tour. And it's their first time back to the States in 18 months. They are ready to party, trust us. Let's give them an incredible welcome back.
4. Not to mention, the **many other bands** we feature all weekend will not disappoint – please try to see as many of our groups as you can in the two days.
5. Are you a History buff? Professor Kevin Whelan of Notre Dame's Dublin Global Gateway will introduce us to The Irish in America via **Livestreaming from Dublin**. The lecture will be lively, fast paced, illustrated and designed for a general audience. He will focus on the period from the great famine of the 1840s to Ireland's independence, when the most Irish emigrated to the US. The lecture explores how the Irish made their way in America and what their current legacy is. Whelan will also take questions on genealogical sources after the lecture. Professor Whelan has authored many books on Irish history and has been the historical advisor to the Irish government on the Famine and the 1798 Rebellion. This will take place at St. Mary's Church, 312 S. State St from 3:30 to 4:30 in their Community Room
6. And do you know where your family is from? We have second Livestream to Ireland and this time the topic is on researching your Irish roots. We will be connecting to Belfast. This ancestry session will include **Genealogy experts** Fintan Mullan and Andrew Kane of the Ulster Historical Foundation. Program will be moderated by David Miller "The Ancestor Guy"
7. Now that you heard from Ireland, how about hearing about **travelling to Ireland**? Our raffle sponsor Celtic Tours will give you all the latest info on planning your next trip back to the Emerald Isle.
8. Even though it can't be served at the city park, Jameson is still an incredible partner of this fest. As such, they are hosting two Post Parties (Fri and Sat) with more live music as well as a **Whiskey Sampling School**, all at McGuinness Irish Pub. If you join the school, you will sample 5 different whiskeys and learn about the distilling process and taste differences. Oh, you'll also get a cool Jameson t-shirt while supplies last. Must be of legal drinking age. \$20 admission fee and maximum 50 participants. McGuinness will feature Jameson specials all weekend.
9. Now this is cool --- Jimmy Callahan, Brand Ambassador for Guinness will give us a true **"Guinness Experience"**. Jimmy will cover the Guinness history, heritage, stories, and myth-busting while you sample 5 of the Guinness products. Over 21 only and a \$20 admission fee.
10. While we are on the topic of Irish beverages --- you have to try the **Bunratty Meade** and you can sample it free at McGuinness on Saturday between 5:30 and 7pm. But there is

also the **Five Farms Irish Cream** on hand --- wow, you must try them both!! They are incredible sponsors of our Irish Fest and we are very grateful.

11. Ummm --- before you start sampling all those nice Irish beverages -- you are more than welcome to join us at St. Mary's for a **Celtic Mass** Saturday at 4:30. Lots of music by some of our festival entertainers you just might recognize.
12. Ok – we said the top 10 things, but there is still so much more...like the Food. You cannot attend an Irish Fest without sampling the food. McGuinness Irish Pub is known for their amazing Corned Beef and Reuben sandwiches, but also their Shepherd's Pie and their Bangers & Mash. DO NOT MISS OUT ON the **"Full Irish" breakfast** served Saturday morning!
13. Hey – we must also mention the **Irish Fest Raffle**. Incredible prizes – including a Tour of Ireland, a very rare bottle of Middleton Barry Crockett Irish Whiskey, a giant Guinness pub mirror and a night at St. Brendan's Inn in Green Bay. Wait, you can WIN a tour of Ireland or a bottle of Middleton for only \$5? – yep, sign me up

Well, did we give you enough of what you should definitely not miss at this weekend's Irish Fest? We can go on, but we think you got the picture. You can find out all the start times and view the full schedule on our website www.IrishFestFoxCities.com. There is a lot to do and we are so excited to bring it to you. Please try to join us. You don't have to be Irish to enjoy the craic. Oh... craic is an Irish word for fun. **Mighty Craic on Tap at Irish Fest!** See you there. Slainte! Cheers!