



Clare Festivals & Events 2010





Recurring Events

O'Briens Tower

1835 – 2010 – 175 years

Date: All Year

Cliffs of Moher Visitor Centre

Web: www.cliffsofmoher.ie

Email: info@cliffsofmoher.ie

Panoramic viewing and photo opportunities from the top of the Cliffs of Moher's first visitor centre, 175 years old. The O'Briens Story in Clare, family name history, O'Briens tower gifts. Year round activities see website for details.

Acoustic Concert Series Sixmilebridge

Date: First Saturday Jan – Mar and Oct - Dec

Contact: Brendan Walsh 086 8464509

Web: www.wmw.ie

Email: be@esatclear.ie

6 concerts in the courthouse Sixmilebridge promoting acoustic live performances from several different musical genres

Sunday Sessions Sixmilebridge

Date: Every Sunday 7 – 9.30 p.m. from Sept - March

Contact: Brendan Walsh 086-8464509

Web: www.wmw.ie

Email: bw@esatclear.ie

Traditional session for all ages and all levels. Fondly known as the "Improver's Session"

Celt Weekend in the Woods, Tuamgraney

Date: May, July & October

Contact: Sarah Thompson

Web: www.celtnet.org

Email: info@celtnet.org

Choose from 18 environmental & ecological skills courses held in beautiful woodland setting open to adults all levels, & youngsters 8yrs +

Kilrush Farmers Market

Date: Every Thursday 9 -2pm

Contact: Michael Gleeson 087-2272115

Email: Michael.gleeson@eir.com

Ennis Farmers Market

Date: Every Friday 8am to 2pm

Contact: Steve Smith 087-9577615

E-mail: Ennisfarmers@eir.com.net

Set Dancing Queens Hotel

Date: Every Wednesday night

Contact: Dick O'Connell 065-682 0996

Contact: Queens Hotel 065-682 8963



January

Winter Music Weekend

Date: 15th - 17th January

Contact: Brendan Walsh 086-8464509

Web: www.wmw.ie

Email: Bw@esatclear.ie

Over 35 acoustic music events from traditional Irish to jazz in 12 intimate venues over one weekend.

February

St. Brigids Celebrations

Date: January 30th, 31st & 1st. February

Contact: Cliffs of Moher Visitor Centre
065 7086141

Web: www.cliffsofmoher.ie

Email: info@cliffsofmoher.ie

St Brigid's day is the first day of spring with new beginnings celebrated at the Cliffs of Moher. Activities will include St. Brigid's Cross Weaving Lessons, Children's Set Dancing, Display of St Brigid's Crosses and Brid Og Dolls, Local Art Exhibition, Guided Tours, Traditional Irish Music, The O'Brien Story in Clare, Free Guided tours and lectures on wildlife

Valentines Celebrations

Date: 13th & 14th February

Contact: Cliff of Moher 065 7086141

www: cliffsofmoher.ie

Email: info@cliffsofmoher.ie

Matchmaking at the Cliffs of Moher, Photo opportunities for couples in O'Brien's Tower, get engaged at the Cliffs of Moher.

Russell Memorial Weekend, Doolin

Date: February 26th – 29th

Contact: Bev O'Connor 065-7074595

Web: www.michorussellweekend.ie

Email: info@michorussellweekend.ie

A weekend of traditional music, song and dance with workshops in several instruments, held annually in Doolin on the last full weekend in February.

March

Corofin Trad Festival

Date: 1st – 7th March

Contact: Pdraig O'Reilly 086-6070941

Web: www.corofintradfest.com

Email: info@corofintradfest.com

Traditional Music with various sessions in the local pubs and a Concert nightly in Teach Ceoil

Ennis Book Club Festival

Ennis

Date 5th – 7th March

Contact: Frances O'Gorman 087-9723647

Web: www.ennisbookclubfestival.com

Email: info@ennisbookclubfestival.com

The Ennis Book Club Festival is a literary and social gathering bringing together bookclubs and readers from Ireland and beyond.

Burren Spring Conference

Date: March 5th – 7th

Contact: Brid O'Loughlen 065-7077200

Web: www.burrencollege.ie

Email: brid@burrencollege.ie

Titled: Narratives of People and Place - with the Burren and the people who live and visit here as central characters, this Spring Conference explores the significance of narratives and stories, told and untold of the Burren



Seachtain na Gailge

Date: 5th – 17th March

Contact: Emer ni Fhalaitheartaigh 065-6846512

Web: www: clarecoco.ie

Email: gaeilge@clarecoco.ie

Imeachtaí Gaeilge agus dátheangacha ar siúl ar fud an Chontae. Ealaíon, ceol, filíocht, damhsa, oidhreacht, stair, scéalaíocht, dráma agus eile

St. Patrick's Celebrations

Cliffs of Moher

Date: 13th, 14th & 17th March

Contact: Cliffs of Moher Visitor Centre
065 7086141

Web: www.cliffsofmoher.ie

Email: info@cliffsofmoher.ie

Join in with St Patrick and friends to raise the Irish flag and sing the Irish national anthem, traditional Irish set dancing, story telling, face painting and guided tours

St. Patrick's Celebrations

at Bunratty Castle & Folk Park

Date: March 17th

Contact: Central Reservations – 061 360788

Web: www.shannonheritage.com

Email: reservations@shannonheritage.com

Enjoy traditional Irish music, set dancing classes, kids disco, snakes display an appearance by St. Patrick and much more!

Traditional Horse Fair, Kiltrush

Date: 25th March

Contact: 065-9051047

Clare Drama Festival

Scarrieff

Date: March 18th March – 27th March

Contact: Doreen Hanley 087 2686764

Enjoy a series of excellent plays

April

Seabirds Festival

Date: 1st – 30th April

Contact: Cliffs of Moher 065 7086141

Web: www.cliffsofmoher.ie

E-mail: info@cliffsofmoher.ie

Puffin Viewing, Wildlife Guided Tours, Wildlife lectures, Sea Bird Identification

Easter Fun & Games at Craggaunowen

Near Quin, Co. Clare

Date: Easter Sunday, April 4th

Contact: Central Reservations
061 360788

Web: www.shannonheritage.com

Email: reservations@shannonheritage.com

Superb family day out! Meet Easter Bunny and enjoy puppet shows, magic shows, bouncy castle and delicious Easter eggs.

Cartoon Capers at Bunratty Castle & Folk Park

Bunratty Co. Clare

Easter Monday April 5th.

1pm – 5pm

Contact: 061 360788

www.shannonheritage.com

Email: reservations@shannonheritage.com

Meet Mickey, Minnie and a host of other cartoon characters.

Enjoy a mad hatters tea party, jugglers, stilt walkers and much more.



Easter Egg Treasure Trail @ Aillwee Cave

Date: 4th & 5th April

Contact: Barbara Faulkner
065-7077036

Web: www.aillweecave.ie

Email: Barbara@aillweecave.ie

Mystery treasure trail with eggs for all.

May

Burren Law School

Heritage/Education/Law

Date: 1st – 3rd May

Contact: Brid O'Loghlen 065-7077200

Web: www.burrenlawschool.org

Email: enquiries@burrenlawschool.org

Burren in Bloom

Date: month of May

Contact: Brid O'Loghlen 065 7077200

Web: www.ballyvaughanireland.com

Email: info@ballyvaughantourism.com

A month-long festival of illustrated talks and walks to celebrate the amazing botanical wealth of the Burren.

PJ Hayes Memorial Weekend

Feakle

Date: 1st to 3rd May

Contact: Gary Pepper 061-924885

Traditional music celebrating the memory of PJ Hayes

Fleadh Nua Festival

Date: 23rd – 31st May

Contact: Cois na hAbhna, Ennis +353 (0)65 6824276 +353 (0)86 2672926

Web: www.fleadhnua.com

Email: ceoltrad@eircom.net

Fleadh Nua is an exciting international festival of traditional music, singing and dancing offering a wide range of events

Burren Slow Food Festival

Lisdoonvarna

Date: 21st – 23rd May

Contact: Birgitta Curtin : 065-7074432

Web: www.slowfoodclare.com

Showcasing the unique and excellent variety of local produce in the area. Various events throughout the weekend, including a Banquet, markets, food tastings and many more.

Outdoor Landscape Painting Competition

Lisdoonvarna

Date: May 21st – 23rd May

Contact: Chrisine O'Neill 065-7074208

Web: www.burrenpaintingcentre.com

Email: info@burrenpaintingcentre.com

A weekend of art for amateur painters, based at the Burren Painting Centre in Lisdoonvarna.

County Fleadh, Ennis

Date: 23rd – 31st May

Contact: Cois na hAbhna 065 6824276

Web: www.coisnababhna.ie

Music, Song and Dance. Competitions, informal sessions and open air music



Inisceiltra Festival of Arts

Mountshannon

Date: 29th May - 7 June

Contact: Nicola Henley 061-921411/087 6735111

Web: www.inisceiltra-artsfestival.org

Email: nmhenley@eircom.net

Multi-disciplinary Arts Festival in the lakeshore village of Mountshannon; music, film, dance and visual arts and green fair, with education programme and participatory events

July

Feile Brian Boru Festival

Killaloe

Date: June 29th to 4th July

Contact: Arlene White 086-3586293

Web: www.feilebrianboru.killaloe.ie

Email: brianboru@killaloe.ie

Feile Brian Boru is an annual 5 day festival held in Killaloe & Ballina to commemorate Ireland's Greatest High King in his native place.

Armada International Week of Set Dancing

Spanish Point

Date: 2nd – 11th July

Contact: Burkes Armada Hotel 065-7084110

Web: www.armadahotel.com

Email: info@armadahotel.com

A week long enjoyment of world class Set Dancing



Doonbeg International Jazz Festival

Date: 4th – 7th June

Contact: Philippa Siegrist 065-9055345
or 086-0890479

Web: www.doonbegjazz.com

Email: strandcamping@oceanfree.net

A weekend of Jazz, Dixie & Swing, Latin held in the Village of Doonbeg, West Clare. All Events free.

June

Traditional Horse Fair

Kilrush

Date: 3rd June

Contact: 065-9051047

Spencilhill Fair (Horse Fair)

Ennis

Date: 23rd June

Contact: Eva Considine 065-6835483
e-mail:touristofficeennis@shannondev.ie

An Post Tour de Burren Cycle Challenge

Date: 19th June

Contact: Noel Shannon or Liam Glynn

Email: noelshan@eircom.net
liam.glynn@nuigalway.ie

Web: www.burrencyclingclub.com



Ennis Street Festival

Date: 3rd – 4th July

Contact: Ana Bella Alvarez 086-3096096

Web: ennisstreetfestival.com

Email: ennisstreetfestival@eircom.net

A multi cultural celebration of art, music & dance reclaiming the streets of Ennis in a feel good kaleidoscope of live acts and workshops.



Willie Clancy Summer School

Miltown Malbay

Date: 3th to 11th July

Contact: Harry Hughes 065-7084281/7084148

E-mail: angleann@oceanfree.net

Ireland's largest traditional music summer school, where students from every part of the world attend daily classes taught by experts in Irish music and dance. A full program of lectures, recitals, dances (céilithe) and exhibitions are run by the summer school. Music sessions throughout the day in the local pubs.

South East Clare Agricultural Show

Killaloe

Date: 25th July

Contact: Pat Duggan 061-377778 or 087-1312653

Web: www.bridgetownshow.com

Email: info@bridgetownshow.com

Annual agricultural show held at Bridgetown, Co. Clare, with events for horses, ponies, showjumping, cattle, novelty events and much more

Scariff Harbour Festival

Scariff

Date: 30th July to 1st August

Contact: Christina Crisewood 061-921685

Web: www.scariff.com

Email: cgrisewood@scariff.com

A varied programme of activities, arts, music and entertainment inspired by the "lake" theme

Seafood Festival

Doonbeg

Date: 16th – 18th

Contact: Seamus Dooley 065-9055618

Web: www.doonbeggolfclub.com

Email: seamus_dooley@doonbeggolfclub.com

This two day festival encompasses seafood, cooking demonstrations, marine education, music and family fun.

August

Burren Annual Exhibition

Date: August/September

Contact: Prof. Timothy Emlyn Jones

(353) 65 7077200

Web: www.burrencollege.ie

Email: admin@burrencollege .ie

An annual celebration of the best in new Irish and International contemporary art brought to the Gallery at Burren College of Art.

Lughnasa Festival at Craggaunowen

– The Living Past, near Quin, Co. Clare

Date: August 1st and Bank Holiday Monday 2nd.

Contact: Central Reservations 061 360788

Web: www.shannonheritage.com

Email: reservations@shannonheritage.com

Featuring costumed re-enactors from the Bronze Age to Medieval times. Enjoy combat demonstrations, ancient cooking demonstrations and much more!

Rose of Clare

Cooraclare

Date: 1st to 6 th August

Contact: Mr. Sean Chambers 086-0536615

Web: www.cooraclare.com

Feakle International Traditional Music Festival

Feakle

Date: 4th to 10th August

Contact: Gary Pepper 061924885 or 087-9678020

Web: www.feaklefestival.ie

Email: garytpepper@eircom.net

Besides providing a platform for local musicians to demonstrate their musical heritage, the Festival is noted for bringing together musicians from other traditional backgrounds to share in a unique musical experience.



Fine Art Workshops

Date: Aug 9th – 27th

Contact: Brid O'Loghlen 065 7077200

Web: www.burrencollege.ie

Email: brid@burrencollege.ie

A series of 5day workshops in landscape painting, botanical painting, experimental drawing, abstract painting, photography and portfolio preparation.

Inis Cathaigh CCE

Kilrush

Kilrush Traditional Music and Set Dancing Weekend

Date: 13th to 15th August

Contact: Vincent O'Halloran 086 0854834

A Unique Festival of Concertina Music celebrating the legacy of a remarkable West Clare musician

Kilmurry Harvest Festival

Date: 15th to 21st. August

Contact: Sean O'Reilly 0879671623

Email: Sean O'Reilly@dell.com

Family event Kilmurry Family Festival field in Kilmurry, Sixmilebridge, Great craic and lots of attractions for all ages, proceeds donated to local community projects.

Traditional Market Day

Bunratty Castle & Folk Park

Date: August 15th or 22nd from 12 – 5pm
(date to be confirmed)

Contact: Central Reservations 061-360788

Web: www.shannonheritage.com

Email: reservations@shannonheritage.com

Explore market stalls featuring locally crafted products and garden plants. Enjoy traditional music, sughan chair making demonstrations and much more!

Heritage Week

Date: 21 – 29th August

Contact: Cliffs of Moher Visitor Experience

Web: www.cliffsofmoher.ie

Email: info@cliffsofmoher.ie

September

Cliffs of Moher Marathon

Date: September

Contact: Cliffs of Moher Visitor Experience

Web: www.cliffsofmoher.ie

E-mail: info@cliffsofmoher.ie

Dan Furey Weekend

Labasheeda

Date: 3rd to 5th September

Contact: Liam Woulfe 087-2220289

Web: www.labasheeda.net

Email: liam_woulfe@eircom.net

A full weekend of set dancing to the best of Irish music all weekend in a relaxed rural setting.





Seisiun Na h-Eireann

Quin

Date: 25th to 27th September

Contact: Eileen Hassett 087-6371163

Web: www.besttradsession.com

Email: festival@besttradsession.com

This Festival celebrates the Traditional Irish Music Pub Session. A competition is held to select the best group playing Irish traditional music in session form. The music sessions take place in the pubs of Quin.

Traditional Harvest Day at Bunratty Castle & Folk Park

Date: 26th September

Contact: Reservations 061-360788

Web: www.shannonheritage.com

Email: reservations@shannonheritage.com

See old style threshing demonstrations, vintage machinery display, sheaf throwing competitions, traditional Irish music and dancing and much more!

Ellen Galvin Traditional Music Week-end

Date: 3rd- 5th September

Contact: Mary Haugh 065- 9051597
or 086-3507255

Web: www.nellgalvin.com

E-mail: nellgalvin.ie

Festival of traditional Irish music, song and dance with classes in various instruments given by well known Musicians

Lisdoonvarna Matchmaking Festival

Lisdoonvarna

Date: 3rd September – 4th October

Contact: 065-7074005

Web: www.matchmakeireland.com

Ireland's premier Spa Town is famous for it's craic and is home to one of Europe's largest singles matchmaking festival

Tulla Traditional Music Festival

Date: 10th – 12th September

Contact: Breda McNamara 087-8350996

Web: www.tullatradfestival.com

Email: tullacce@gmail.com

A great weekend of music, song, dancing, workshops, recitals, concert and ceilithe.

Clare Shout Fleadh

Kilkishen

Date: 17th – 19th September

Contact: Mike Hogan 061-367516 or 086-2314685

Email: mhogan07@eircom.net



October

Queen of Burren Festival

Weekend Lisdoonvarna

Date: 1st – 3rd October

Contact: Robert Hurlley 065-7074696

Email: hydrohotel@eircom.net

Traditional Horse Fair

Kilrush

Date: 11th October

Contact: 065-9051047

Willie Keane Memorial

Doonbeg

Date: 22nd – 25th October

Contact: Margaret Dillon 065-9055208

Web: www.williekeanememorialweekend.com

Email: info@williekeanememorialweekend.com

Held in the village of Doonbeg, this festival celebrates the life of Willie Keane, legendary sean nos dancer, with traditional music, song and dance.

Samhain at the Cliffs

Date: 24th – 26th October

Contact: Cliffs of Moher Visitor Centre 065 7086141

Web: www.cliffsofmoher.ie

Email: info@cliffsofmoher.ie

Join in a host of festivities, fancy dress, traditional Irish Halloween games, story telling and face painting

Halloween Fun and Games at Bunratty Castle and Folk Park

Date: 25th October

Contact: Reservations 061-360788

Web: www.shannonheritage.com

Email: reservations@shannonheritage.com

Activities include children's fancy dress, pirate show, magic shows, thriller dance group, halloween games and much more !

Ennis Fashion Week

Date: 17th – 24th October

Contact: County Boutique 065-6821947

Web: www.visitennis.ie

Why not visit this wonderful Town and enjoy shopping in the many family owned and run boutiques. Throughout the week there will be make-up demonstrations, special offers in shops, hotets and restaurants culminating with a Gala Fashion Ball.

Mystery Halloween Party

Date: 31st October

Contact: Cliffs of Moher Visitor Centre

065 7086141

Web: www.cliffsofmoher.ie

Email: info@cliffsofmoher.ie

November

Ennis Trad Festival

Ennis

Date: 11th – 15th November

Contact: John Rynne 0868307050

Web: www.ennistradfestival.com

Email: contact@ennistradfestival.com

Traditional Music Festival, Concerts, over 100 sessions, Free CD launch concerts, masterclasses, dance workshops, Céilí, Talks, Trad themed table quiz



Traditional Horse Fair

Kilrush

Date: 22nd November

Contact: 065-9051047

Santa's Workshop at Aillwee Cave

Ballyvaughan

Date: 21st Nov. to 22nd December

Contact: Barbara Faulkner 065 7077036

Web: www.aillweecave.ie

Email: Barbara@aillweecave.ie

Santa will be in his workshop at Aillwee Cave and will be meeting with children from 20 Nov. – 22 Dec.

Santa Claus at Bunratty Castle & Folk Park

Bunratty, Co. Clare

Date: Dec 4th – 22nd. Reservations Necessary

Contact: Central Reservations 061 360788

Web: www.shannonheritage.com

Email: reservations@shannonheritage.com

See Santa and his elves, Mrs. Claus, puppet show, Christmas characters, themed Christmas shops and much more.

December

Christmas Festivities & Activity

Date: Dec. 1st – 23rd

Contact: Cliffs of Moher Visitor Centre 065 7086141

Web: www.cliffsofmoher.ie

Email: info@cliffsofmoher.ie

Enjoy local choir groups and children from local schools sing Christmas carols and perform traditional Irish Concerts

Ballyvaughan Christmas Event

Date: 11-12th, 18-19th December

Contact: Armin Craikes 065-7077377

Email: info@drumcreehyhouse.com

Each weekend enjoy christmas markets, workshops in Christmas decorations, cookery classes, choral recitals and concerts. A European style Christkindl Market, similar to those seen in Germany and Austria.



Christmas Market

The Courtyard, Doonbeg Golf Resort

Date: December 11th and 12th

Contact: Seamus Dooley 065-9055618

Email: seamuc_dooley@doonbeggolfclub.com

Web: www.doonbeggolfclub.com

This two day market is based on an old world Christmas, with over 50 stalls focused on Christmas gifts, decorations and assorted Christmas food items.