

EMBASSY OF IRELAND NEWSLETTER

Beannachtaí na Féile Pádraig oraibh go Přejeme Vám šťastný Den sv. Patrika St. Patrick's Day Celebrations in the Czech Republic 2019

On behalf of the Embassy of Ireland, I am delighted to wish you a very happy St. Patrick's Day. My wife, Alice, and I will be celebrating our fourth St. Patrick's Day in Prague and we have been excited to witness the growing bonds between Ireland and the Czech Republic. We look forward to joining with the Irish community and with the friends of Ireland in the Czech Republic to mark our National Day. This year, we are honoured to have Minister of State, Kevin Boxer Moran T.D., representing the Government of Ireland during our St. Patrick's Day celebrations. He will bring key messages from the Irish government concerning the strong performance of the Irish economy, including our growing trade with the Czech Republic, and about Ireland's commitment to the European Union, especially after Brexit. For more news from the Embassy follow us on Facebook: Embassy of Ireland Prague and Twitter: @IrlEmbPrague.



Minister of State at the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform visits Prague



The Embassy is proud to announce that Minister of State, Kevin Boxer Moran T.D., is coming to visit Prague for St. Patrick's Day celebrations. Minister Moran was appointed Minister of State with special responsibility for the Office of Public Works and Flood Relief in 2016. His programme in the Czech Republic will include meetings with officials from the Ministry of Environment and a tour of flood protection facilities in Prague. Minister Moran will also attend the St. Patrick's Day Festival, the Embassy official reception, the Czech-Irish Business and Cultural Association Gala Dinner and St. Patrick's Day Mass.

World Greening in 2019

The Czech Republic will join the Global Greening again this year with the Dancing House in Prague, Mergon building in Brno and Ostrava City Hall.



Dancing House



Ostrava City Hall © City of Ostrava



© Mergon Building, Brno

See more on the Greening projects at: www.tourismireland.com.

St. Patrick's Day Festival

JAMESON®

IRISH WHISKEY

This Year's St. Patrick's Day Celebration To Last Two Days – Irish Cuisine Will Play a Key Role Alongside Music and Culture

Celebrations for the Irish holiday of St. Patrick, a tradition in many cities around the world, have also found a place in the Czech Republic. And this year, they'll even last two days. Over the weekend of March 16 and 17, in addition to traditional Irish music, cultural performances, and workshops, the stars of this year's event are Irish cuisine and a parade through the streets of Prague. And not only in the capital city – celebrations are planned in more than 600 locations throughout the country.

The St. Patrick's Tour, which will again take place in Prague, is a bit bigger this year, and will therefore also last for two days. On Saturday, music will play first fiddle, along with professional comedians, various workshops and cuisine, and the Irish Parade through Prague will take place on Sunday.



And what can visitors look forward to in particular?

Saturday, March 16 – Culinary specialities, stand-up, and lots of music

At last year's St. Patrick's Day Tour, the most prominent new event was the Irish parade; this year it is the focus on Irish cuisine. Wondering what traditional and lesser-known Irish specialities taste like? Meat, burgers, sauces – those surely come as no surprise, but did you know that oysters are also a typical Irish dish? And have you tasted them, for example, paired with the best-selling Irish whiskey Jameson or selected specialty beers? Be sure to stop by the **Náplavka Street Food Festival** at the Smíchov waterfront from 10:00 to 18:00. On the way there or back, be sure to make a stop at the **Dancing House**, which will be specially lit in green, and enjoy beautiful views of the city.

The main space and meeting point for this year's tour is **Holešovice Hall 17**. The main program, from 4 to 6 p.m., will be the **Velvet Comedy Show**, featuring stand-up performances by professional comedians, the first two of which are travelling here straight from Dublin – Richie Bree and John Colleary. They'll be joined by Katie Anderson (US) and Grant Gallacher (UK). Tickets for seats cost CZK 150 and are available through Goout.net. In Hall 17 you can also see an exhibition of photographs by Jan Řeháček aka Kopernikka or take advantage of the expert tattoo and barber services. Even here, Irish gastronomic specialities won't be relegated to the back burner. Visitors can try pairings of Jameson whiskey and Košíře beers, which mature in old Jameson whiskey casks, as well as Irish coffee and other Irish specialities. From 18:00 the music program will feature an old St. Patrick Tour favourite, Irish bard **Travis O'Neill**, and his guests.





Other locations on the Tour include the **Rock Café on Národní Street**, where the evening will kick off with Underground Comedy and their stand-up programme, while The Wild Roots and Cheers will handle the music side of the event (entrance fee CZK 150). Electronic dance music will be the focus in the second Holešovice space, **36 Underground**. Headlining the show will be Irish DJ Marcus O’Laiore, joined by Czech DJs Melvin Coxx, SNBM, Michael C, Enrico and others (entrance fee CZK 100).



Sunday, March 17 – Irish Parade



The Czech St. Patrick's celebrations will culminate in a **parade through the streets of Prague** on Sunday. The starting point will be **Kampus Hybernská** - at 15:00 the green parade of the Irish living in the Czech Republic will set off with their friends and other supporters out into the streets of Prague. You can also take part, either by joining the parade or just enjoying the wide variety of Irish costumes and masks in the streets of the city. Kampus Hybernská will host other events on Sunday, including a crash course in the Irish language, Irish literature readings, and a concert by Conamara Chaos. You’ll also find Irish drinks and specialty foods.

The organisers will gradually roll out the full program for this year’s St. Patrick’s Day Tour at www.toursvatehopatrika.cz.

More information at www.toursvatehopatrika.cz #BezeStrachu.

Media Contact: Michal Hoblík, michal.hoblik@aspen.pr, 774 225 155

Annual St. Patrick's Day Mass

The traditional St. Patrick's Day Mass will take place on Sunday, 17 March 2019 at 11:00 in St. Thomas Church, Josefská 8, Prague 1, followed by light refreshments. Join Minister of State Moran and Ambassador Sheehan at this annual commemoration of our national saint. The Minister will lay a wreath at the Irish Patron's Altar.

Irish Walk in Prague

This traditional Irish dogs' walk starts on Saturday 16 March at 13:00 on Wenceslas Square and continues through the Old Town Square and across Charles Bridge to Kampa and Malá Strana. Owners of Irish Setters and Greyhounds are welcome. More information at www.facebook.com/irskypochodprahou.



© Irský pochod Prahou

The Centre for Irish Studies at Charles University

17. 3. 2019, 16:00 - 22:00
SVÁTEK SV. PATRIKA
 Kampus Hybernská (Hybernská 4)

16:00 minikurzy keltských jazyků
 17:00 čtení irské literatury
 19:30 koncert CONAMARA CHAOS

Members of the Irish community in the Czech Republic are warmly invited to a St Patrick's Day celebration curated by the Centre. The event is going to include crash courses of the Irish language and Scottish Gaelic, a reading of Irish poetry and fiction in Czech translation, and a concert of the band Conamara Chaos. It is going to take place at Kampus Hybernská on Sunday 17 March, starting at 16:00.

The public lectures hosted by the Centre this year will include Dr Barry Sheils (Durham University) who will speak about W.B. Yeats and the Scale of Poetry (11 April), and Dr Michael D'Arcy (St. Francis Xavier University, Canada) who will discuss the work of Samuel Beckett (24 April). Both lectures will be delivered at the Faculty of Arts, Charles University.

A genuine treat for music lovers will be offered on 22 October, as the acclaimed traditional musicians Zoë Conway and John Mc Intyre – described by the BBC as “simply one of the best folk duos on the planet” – are going to perform at Kampus Hybernská, hosted by the Centre as part of the EFACIS Irish Itinerary.

On the academic front, the Centre will be hosting a meeting of The Gate Theatre Research Network, an international project mapping out the history and present activities of the celebrated Dublin theatre in the context of Europe. The event will feature a plenary presentation by the award-winning Irish stage designer Joe Vanek (14-15 June).

Information and updates on the activities of the Centre are available on its website (http://ualk.ff.cuni.cz/irish_studies), which also contains an extensive searchable bibliography of the

cultural relations between Ireland and the Czech lands from the seventeenth century up till the present day, studies on Czech-Irish relations in the twentieth century by Daniel Samek, and an online library catalogue. Courses of the Irish language are offered on three different levels, taught on the premises of both Charles University and Palacký University, Olomouc.

The Centre gratefully acknowledges the long-term support of the Embassy of Ireland, the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, and of the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, Ireland.

Other Places to celebrate St. Patrick's Day in Prague

St. Patrick's Day will be celebrated in over 600 locations through the Czech Republic.

You will find details of events in Prague here: <https://prague.tv/en/s72/Directory/c200-Nightlife-Music/n17248-St-Patricks-Day-2019-Prague-Celebrations>



If you're a musician and fancy playing some music on St. Patrick's Day, Žižkovšiška is throwing the St. Paddy's Jam to go to. They invite all musicians with Irish instruments such as fiddles, banjo, mandolin, pipes, bodhran, whistles and more to jam Irish style. Make sure you wear something green!

Celebrate St. Patrick's Day with limited edition donuts from OffBeat Donut



Limited edition SPD donuts available from 15-17 March




The Czech-Irish Business & Cultural Association is firing on all cylinders. It has been our pleasure over the past year to host and participate in 25 social and business events that included a skiing weekend for families, the St. Patrick's Day Gala Dinner, a fireplace talk with Brand Embassy's CEO, a riveting HR event with GoodCall's COO, a Real-Estate Investment event with CBRE, a summer drinks get-together on the Vltava, ICC territorial Workshop, the annual Golf Outing, Camping & Rafting weekend and many more.


CIBCA also made a donation on behalf of its Members of 80,000 kc to a variety of good causes and charities in the past year.

We will once again be hosting the annual St. Patrick's Day Gala Dinner on March 16th, with a live band that will keep us dancing till the wee hours of the morning. For tickets, please visit our website www.CIBCA.cz and make sure to look at the blog for articles and photos from past events. Onwards and upwards!

Your CIBCA Committee – Paul Dubsky, Eoin Hanley, Paul Byrne, Brain Keogh and Derek Leonard.



Business Event: Employment - How to Attract Talent &...

Write a comment 



Investing in Real-Estate hosted by CBRE

Write a comment 



Wishing all our friends a Merry Christmas!

Write a comment 



English language theatre for kids

Write a comment 



Public reading of Irish poet Biddy Jenkinson

Write a comment 




Calling all parents with teenagers

Write a comment 




CIBCA donates 80,000Kč to Charity

Write a comment 



Business Event: Fireplace talk with Brand Embassy CEO, V...

Write a comment 

Hibernians GAA



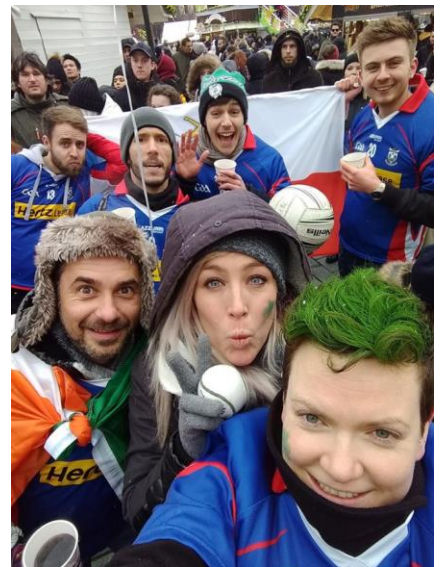
Beannachtaí Lá Fhéile Pádhraig– ó Prague Hibernians GAA!

Dia daoibh a chairde!

Wishing you all a very Happy St. Patrick's day from Prague's own GAA club. The Hibs in 2019 grow from strength to strength in this our 10th year. We now have a strong men's team, a full ladies team and an up and coming youth section – the 'Hibeens'. Our members are from all over the world, including Ireland, Czech Republic, Slovakia, England, Scotland, USA, Canada, South Africa, Australia, Turkey, France, Namibia, Spain, The Netherlands. Oh and the 'Republic of Cork' too!

We are delighted to have the support of the Ambassador and the Embassy throughout the year. As well as the larger Irish community; including sponsors and friends such as CIBCA, Beckett's Irish Pub, OffBeat Donuts and the Castle Pub and Restaurant. We are thankful to all who help us financially throughout the year and assist us in providing training and ability to compete in tournaments across the region.

Our GAA club offers the opportunity to meet new people from Ireland and all over the world, beginners and supporters are always welcome to train, play and join the fun on and off the pitch. If you would like to become a Hib or a Hibs' supporter, drop us a line at praguehibernians@gmail.com or visit us on Facebook www.facebook.com/praguehibsgaelicfootball/ or at www.praguegaa.com



Some 2019 dates for your diaries!

- 30th March The Prague Hero Auction! Using our skills to pay the bills – a great night is in store.
- 4th May 10 year anniversary celebration: including an invitational tournament with teams from Ireland + Europe.
- 1st June Regional Tournament with 'rivals' from the Central/East European Football division.
- 29th July World Games in Waterford, Ireland – keep an eye out for some Hibs!

Go n-éirí an bóthar libh, saol fada chugaibh agus Hibs Abú!



Upcoming Cultural Events

26th Days of European Film Festival



The Days of European Film (DEF) will take place in Prague, Brno + ECHOS from 4 to 21 April. The festival will feature an Irish drama *Black 47*. (In 1847 an Irish mercenary fighting for the British army abandons his post to seek revenge on those responsible for the death of his family) The festival is a joint initiative by the European Commission and Member State Embassies in Prague. For further information visit <http://eurofilmfest.cz/en>.



Culture Ireland
Cultúr Éireann

Open-air Festival on Střelecký ostrov

This traditional open-air public information and cultural event will take place in Prague on Thursday 9 May 2019 to celebrate Europe Day. This year it will be the main event of the "15 years of the Czech Republic in the EU" celebrations. The Irish Embassy will have a stand at the event and you are all welcome. More information is available at www.evropska-unie.cz

Literature Night



John Banville

The Embassy will participate again this year in the Literature Night, an event organised by the Czech Centres in cooperation with EUNIC and Book World Festival in Prague. On 9 May, the eve of the Book World Festival, John Banville will attend a reading of his Irish novel. The aim of this event is to present contemporary European literature. For further information visit www.literaturnight.eu

Under one Roof

Evening of Irish Dance will be held in Theater Celetná on 3 May 2019. www.divadloceletne.cz

Irish OSCAR nominated animated film "Late Afternoon".

This film was made in the famous Irish animation studio Cartoon Saloon and will be screened in the Czech Republic for the first time. The screening will be a part of the event "Echo of ANIMAFILM in Prague", that will take place in cinema Kino Pilotů on 23 March (Saturday) 2019 from 16:00 to 18:00. <http://lateafternoonfilm.com>

Prague Feis



The 11th Prague Feis, an international dancing competition, will be held in Prague on 1-2 June in ZŠ Kunratice, Předškolní 420/5, Prague 4. This event attracts hundreds of dancers from all over the world. It is officially run by the McGahan Lees Academy Prague, under whose name Rinceoirí dancers are competing at feisanna.

Bernard's Summer School

Bernard's Summer School is probably the largest Central European educational and social event focused on traditional Irish culture, specialising in Irish dancing, music, singing and Irish language. It is an annual event and will take place this year on 17-25 August. There will be step dancing lessons at different levels under the guidance of lecturers Jason O'Neill (Riverdance Lead Dancer), Colene Nee (Connaught Champion U20) and Andrej Mikulka (SK). Sean nós dancing lessons will be provided by Markéta Utišilová as well as Irish dance lessons under the leadership of Tereza and Václav Bernard. Participants can learn to play the instruments used in traditional Irish music, including violin (Ultan O'Brien - IRL), Irish flute (Robert Harvey - IRL), flute (Radvan Markus - CZ), tin whistle (Ladislav Veselý - CZ), guitar in dadgad tuning (Martin Jankovec - CZ), Harp (Vaclav van der Meijs - CZ) and after a long time the Irish banjo (Jan Brabec - CZ). Lesson in Irish lilting (Robert Harvey - IRL) and Irish singing (Colene Nee) will also be provided.

During the week of the summer school, we are planning a dance evening in the main hall of the New Town Hall, which will take place on Wednesday 21 August and where live music will be performed. At the end of the summer school, the final evening will again take place at the Ponec Theater, where the participants of the summer school and their lecturers will take part in the program. The weekly program will be complemented by a series of spontaneous and informal music sessions.

A new, but also very important, accompanying event of this year's summer school will be Colin Dunne's master classes, which will take place at the summer school on the weekend of August 24 and 25. Colin Dunne is best known internationally for his performances and choreography in several Irish dance shows. He also has significant experience in contemporary dance.

The complete proposals of this year's BSS 2019 is available on (www.bernards.cz).



Irish Days in Pilsen Region

The Syndicate of journalists of Pilsen region is organising Irish Days in Pilsen Region in 2019. You can enjoy a horse show in Štěnovický Borek on 17 March. There will be a tasting of Irish stout at the Spring Markets in Spálené Poříčí on 6 April and a screening of Irish Short films in the Library of Pilsen on 9 April.

Syndikát novinářů
Okres Sotavice



Enterprise Ireland

Both Ireland and the Czech Republic enjoyed strong economic growth in 2018. According to the latest European Commission's Economic Forecast, Ireland's economy grew at a strong pace in 2018, underpinned by continued momentum in employment and investment in construction. Irish real GDP is estimated to have grown by 6.8% in 2018 and is forecast to moderate to 4.1% in 2019 due to the UK's withdrawal from the EU and challenging outlook for global demand. At the same time, Irish robust employment developments, stronger wage growth and weak inflation are set to further support private consumption and GDP growth.

The Czech Republic continues to be a key market for Irish goods and services in Central Europe. Contracts worth over €7.5 million for Irish companies were signed during the Enterprise Ireland Trade Mission to the Czech Republic and Poland led by Pat Breen T.D., Minister of State for Trade, Employment, Business, EU Digital Single Market and Data Protection, that took place in June 2018. It included 28 Irish companies that participated in 80 one-to-one meetings with their counterparts targeting export and opportunities across the Engineering, Electronics, Software, IT for Travel and Medical Devices.



PHOTO: Signing contracts during the trade mission in Prague were Jaromír Pažout, Bookassist and Patricie Rosenbergová, CPI Hotels, with Minister Breen (left) and Dr. Tom Kelly, Enterprise Ireland (right).

According to the Czech Statistical Office, exports of goods from Ireland to the Czech Republic reached €1.24bn in 2018, while imports from the Czech Republic to Ireland exceeded €1bn for the first time.

Enterprise Ireland's office in Prague assists client companies in several markets in Central and Southeast Europe by providing tailor-made market research, business lead generation and introductions to buyers.

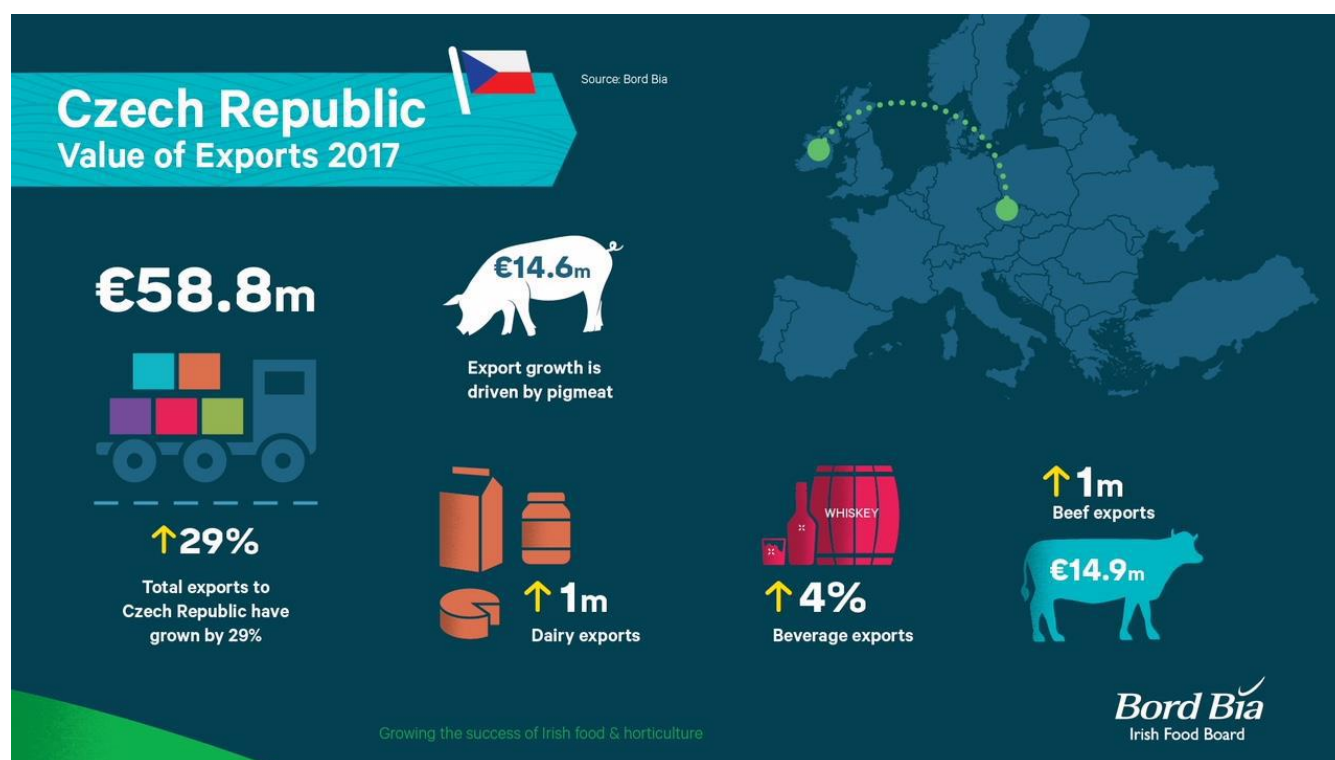
www.enterprise-ireland.com

Bord Bia

Bord Bia (The Irish Food Board) is the Irish government agency charged with the promotion, trade development and marketing of the Irish food, drink and horticulture industry. Bord Bia's mission is to drive through market insight and, in partnership with industry, the commercial success of a world class Irish food, drink and horticulture industry.

Bord Bia works in partnership with industry to increase the sales and exports of Irish food, drink and horticulture by developing long-term relationships between Irish companies and trade buyers. Bord Bia operates programmes to develop and foster contact between buyers and Irish companies, including participation at international trade exhibitions, and co-coordinating inward buying visits.

Bord Bia has its Head Office in Dublin and thirteen strategically located offices in key export markets. The offices are located in Amsterdam, Dubai, Frankfurt, London, Madrid, Milan, Moscow, New York, Paris, Singapore, Stockholm, Shanghai, and Warsaw (which covers the Czech Republic).



News from the passport system

Irish citizens (who have previously held an Irish passport which has not expired by more than five years) can now renew their passport book, renew their passport card, or apply for their first passport card using the Online Passport Renewal Service.

This fast, secure and convenient service can be used by Irish citizens living anywhere in the world and is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year.



Please see the www.passport.ie for all the news and changes.

Visit Ireland in 2019

With daily direct flights from Prague to Dublin, Ireland is an increasingly popular destination for Czech tourists. There were 573,000 visitors from



Central Europe to Ireland in 2018, and increase of 16.5% compared to 2017. The Wild Atlantic Way, along Ireland's Atlantic coast, is a great route to explore and Tourism Ireland has great websites to plan your trip.



<http://www.ireland.com/>

<https://www.discoverireland.ie/>

 **daily
flights**



Embassy of Ireland contact details

Tržiště 13

118 00 Prague 1

Tel: 257 011 280

Email: pragueembassy@dfa.ie

www.dfa.ie/czech-republic

FB: Embassy of Ireland Prague

Twitter: @IrlEmbPrague

Enterprise Ireland contact details

Tržiště 13

118 00 Prague 1

Tel: 257 199 621

www.enterprise-ireland.com