



CITY OF DUBLIN

100 Civic Plaza, Dublin, California 94568

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Shari Jackman
City of Dublin
(925) 833-6650
shari.jackman@dublin.ca.gov

CITY OF DUBLIN TO COMMEMORATE THE 40th ST. PATRICK'S DAY CELEBRATION MARCH 15 - 17, 2024

DUBLIN, Calif., February 22, 2024 – The City of Dublin will commemorate 40 years of everything Irish at the annual St. Patrick's Day Celebration. The event, which includes a two-day festival, 5K Shamrock Fun Run and Walk, Shamrock Gala, Firefighters Pancake Breakfast, and St. Patrick's Day parade, will feature a special 200-drone light show on Saturday evening.

The festivities begin with the Dublin Historical Society's **Shamrock Gala on Friday, March 15, at 6:00 p.m.** at the Shannon Community Center (11600 Shannon Avenue). The event is for adults, 21 and older, and will feature dinner, music and dancing, and a raffle and door prizes. Tickets are \$75 and can be purchased at www.dublinhistoricalsociety.org.

On Saturday, **March 16, 7:00 to 10:00 a.m.**, revelers can start their morning with a big stack of hot, green pancakes served fresh off the griddle at the **Annual Firefighter's Pancake Breakfast** at Fire Station #16 (7494 Donohue Drive). Breakfast also includes sausages, juice, and coffee. Tickets may be purchased at the door for \$5 per person. All proceeds benefit the Alameda County Firefighters Association-Local 55 Charity Fund, which supports local non-profit and community-based organizations.

Following the pancake breakfast, the Dublin Lions Club will present the **40th St. Patrick's Day Parade**, beginning at 9:30 a.m. at Dublin Boulevard and Amador Plaza Road. From there, the parade continues east on Dublin Boulevard, north on Village Parkway, and west on Amador Valley Boulevard, ending near the Dublin Senior Center. Guests are encouraged to bring their own chairs and blankets to watch from along the parade route. The parade features more than 80 entries including festive marching bands and floats, Irish bagpipes, classic cars, dance troupes, equestrians, local dignitaries, and more.

The **40th St. Patrick's Day Festival** takes place on **Saturday and Sunday, March 16 and 17, beginning at 10:00 a.m.**, at the Dublin Civic Center (100 Civic Plaza). Highlights include three stages of authentic Irish music and dance; an Irish Marketplace; an Irish Tea Cottage; plenty of delicious Irish food and beverages; arts and crafts vendors; and a carnival. Beginning at 7:30 p.m., visitors can look to the skies for a special St. Patrick's Day-themed drone show.

- **Entertainment** at the festival includes two stages featuring a wide variety of music, from high-energy Celtic rock to traditional Irish Pub music to iconic bagpipes. Performing on the Main Stage both days, *Tempest* will infuse Folk Rock and Irish Reels for a high-energy performance. *Black-eyed Dempseys* blend traditional Celtic music with rock 'n' roll hooks. Also appearing on the Main Stage during the Festival will be *Fast & Vengefully*, performing high-energy traditional and modern Irish tunes, and *CaliCeltic*, infusing mandolin and electric guitar into Irish and Celtic tunes, with a hint of California influences. On the Pub Stage are *Avalon Rising*, blending psychedelic rock with Celtic and Medieval music; *Melanie O'Reilly*, mixing Irish and jazz; *Golden Bough*, performing Celtic folks songs; and *Peter Daldry*, a Celtic folk singer-songwriter. In the Irish Tea Cottage, visitors can enjoy the sounds of *Margaret & Kristoph*, performing Celtic folk music with harp, flute, and mandolin; *Chris Waltz*, singing bluegrass and folk tunes; *Extended Roots*, featuring Irish bluegrass; and *Sixpenny*, featuring lively Irish reels and jigs. The Irish Dance Stage showcases the McGrath Irish Dancers on Saturday and the McBride School of Irish Dance on Sunday. Bagpipers will perform throughout the festival grounds.
- The **Irish Marketplace** features vendors specializing in unique Celtic artwork; authentic Irish kilts and textiles; beautiful Celtic jewelry; delectable Irish candies, scones, and preserves; and more.
- Visitors craving a wee bit of Ireland can step inside the cozy **Irish Tea Cottage** to enjoy lively music along with tasty tea cookies, shortbread, scones, and a steaming cup of authentic Irish tea served in genuine china cups.
- The **Celtic/International Food Court** features traditional Irish favorites, such as fish and chips; bangers and mash; and boxty (Irish potato pancakes), along with an Irish-American St. Patrick's Day favorite, corned beef and cabbage. Unique Irish-inspired specialties include corned beef sliders and Guinness-marinated tri-tip on Irish soda bread. Authentic Guinness, Harp, and Smithwick's beer is served on tap, and featured desserts include green shamrock-shaped funnel cakes and crepes. Traditional festival foods and international choices will also be available.
- The **Carnival** will offer exciting rides and attractions for guests of all ages. On Saturday, the carnival will be open until 8:00 p.m., until the drone show ends.

On **Sunday, March 17**, the City of Dublin will host the **Annual Shamrock 5K Fun Run and Walk**. The race begins at 8:30 a.m. along Dublin Boulevard near the Civic Center, and winds its way through town, finishing at the festival with live music, awards, and giveaways for participants. The top three finishers in each division will win a medallion and gift certificate from race sponsor Dick's Sporting Goods. Register online at <https://runsignup.com/Race/CA/Dublin/DublinShamrockRun>. For race information, please call (925) 556-4500.

Festival admission is free, and free parking will be available along Sierra Court and Clark Avenue and in designated lots. A free festival shuttle will be provided to transport guests from the Carl Zeiss Meditec, Inc., parking lot (5160 Hacienda Dr.) directly to the festival entry. Visitors can also ride BART to either the East or West Dublin BART Stations and connect for free directly to the festival by taking a Wheels Rapid 30R bus. To ride for free, guests must tell the driver they are headed to the festival. There will be a designated passenger drop-off and pick-up area for those taking Uber/Lyft or other transportation. Free and secure bike parking will also be available onsite at the bike valet.

All festivities will be held rain or shine. Please call (925) 556-4500 or visit www.DublinStPats.com for more information.