

**For Immediate Release:**

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## **CELEBRATE ST. PATRICK'S DAY IN MASSACHUSETTS**

*Statewide Activities Will Honor the Luck of the Irish*

**March 3, 2009 (Massachusetts)** –Whether you are of Irish heritage or just enjoy a good celebration, put on some green and count your lucky charms, because organizations across Massachusetts are celebrating St. Patrick's Day in a big way!

From parades to feasts of corn beef and cabbage and Celtic music and dancing, residents and visitors alike will be able to celebrate the Irish heritage and culture that is so pervasive in this state.

Check out [www.irishmassachusetts.com](http://www.irishmassachusetts.com) for a list of additional St. Patrick's Day activities. Also, learn more about the Mass Value Pass at [www.massvacation.com](http://www.massvacation.com), which offers discounts of up to 25% at over 400 hotels, restaurants and attractions.

### **St. Patrick's Day Parades**

\*Check out [www.saintpatricksdaysparade.com/ma/index.htm](http://www.saintpatricksdaysparade.com/ma/index.htm) for information on all St. Patrick's Day parades happening throughout Massachusetts.

#### **4th Annual Cape Cod St. Patrick's Parade – March 7, 11:00 a.m.**

Celebrate St. Patrick's Day Cape Cod Style with seven marching bands, more than a dozen floats and plenty of people! The parade route runs along Route 28 from School Street in Dennis crossing over Bass River into Yarmouth and ending at Forest Road.

Dennis and Yarmouth

508-362-7239

[www.capecodstpatparade.com](http://www.capecodstpatparade.com)

#### **26th Annual Worcester St. Patrick's Day Parade – March 15, 12:00 p.m.**

The Worcester St. Patrick's Day Parade celebrates the Irish of Central Massachusetts who began settling in the area as early as 1718. This year's parade line-up includes an appearance by Lt. Governor Tim Murray. The annual Irish Breakfast Buffet will be held just prior to the parade.

Worcester

508 755-1855

[www.stpatparade.com](http://www.stpatparade.com)

**Boston's St. Patrick's Day Parade – March 15, 1:00 p.m.**

Spend St Patrick's Day in the most Irish neighborhood in America for the South Boston St. Patrick's Day Parade! Since 1804, South Boston residents have celebrated their heritage with a monstrous, cultural parade that features marching bands, pipe bands and other spectacular parade features. The parade begins at the Broadway 'T' Station and ends at Andrew Square. South Boston.

Boston

[www.saintpatricksdaysparade.com/boston/boston.htm](http://www.saintpatricksdaysparade.com/boston/boston.htm)

**Scituate St. Patrick's Day Parade – March 15, 1:00 p.m.**

Be a part of Scituate's St. Patrick's Day Parade, which is organized to pay tribute to Scituate's long-held status as The Irish Riviera.

Scituate

781-545-6671

[www.scituatechamber.org](http://www.scituatechamber.org)

**58th Annual Holyoke St. Patrick's Day Parade – March 22, 12:00 p.m.**

The Holyoke St. Patrick's Day Parade is the second largest St. Patrick's Day Parade in the country, just after New York City. The Parade boasts nearly 40,000 marchers, 30 floats and 40 bands traveling the 2.6-mile route throughout the City of Holyoke and attracts over one million viewers. With the Irish, French, Polish, Italian, African-American, Russian, Puerto Rican, and other nationalities coming together, the Parade not only celebrates St. Patrick but celebrates the diversity of Holyoke and Western New England.

Holyoke

413-533-1700

[www.holyokestpatricksparade.com](http://www.holyokestpatricksparade.com)

**Celebrations and Revelries**

**5th Annual Gaelic Gourmet – March 11-18**

Boston is celebrating St. Patrick's Day with a tasteful display of contemporary and traditional cuisine from Ireland. This year's culinary program features two master chefs from Ireland who will be cooking alongside chefs from Aura Restaurant, Stanhope Grille, the Black Rose Pub and Tamo Lounge. The Boston Convention & Exhibition Center and Massachusetts State House are also participating venues.

Boston

617-696-9880

[www.irishmassachusetts.com/march.php](http://www.irishmassachusetts.com/march.php)

**40th Annual St. Patrick's Day Luncheon – March 13, 12:00 p.m.**

**The Claddagh Pub & Restaurant**

Join the Claddagh Pub & Restaurant for the 40th Annual St. Patrick's Day Luncheon. In addition to traditional Irish fare, guests will enjoy music by the Silver Spears Band.

Lawrence

978-688-8337

[www.thecladdaghpublish.com](http://www.thecladdaghpublish.com)

**South Boston's St. Patrick's Day Breakfast – March 15, 10:00 a.m.  
Boston Convention & Exhibition Hall**

State Senator Jack Hart of South Boston hosts this enjoyable breakfast roast of local politicians to kick off a day of Irish celebrations throughout the city. A traditional Irish breakfast is served prior to the start of the Boston St. Patrick's Day Parade.

Boston  
617 269-HART  
[www.jackhart.org](http://www.jackhart.org)

**Luck of the Irish Dinner Party – March 17, 6:00 p.m.  
Vienna Restaurant & Historic Inn**

Find your "Luck of the Irish" at the Vienna Restaurant & Historic Inn to experience Irish Cuisine beyond corned beef and cabbage. In addition to savory dishes from the different regions of Ireland, the evening will also feature authentic Celtic melodies on the guitar, mandolin and fiddle, and sing-a-long songs to boot!

Southbridge  
508-764-0700  
[www.thevienna.com/LuckoftheIrishDinnerParty.htm](http://www.thevienna.com/LuckoftheIrishDinnerParty.htm)

**Irish Culture and History**

**5th Annual Irish Tea Party – March 8, 2:00 p.m.  
Irish Cultural Center at Elms College**

Enjoy this afternoon show featuring local musicians and dancers, as well as refreshments, raffles and selection of essay contest winners from local children.

Chicopee  
413-265-2537  
[www.irish-cairde.org](http://www.irish-cairde.org)

**From Erin to the Acre: Walking Irish History Tour – March 14, 10:00 a.m.  
Lowell National Historical Park**

Step back in time with local Irish historian, David McKean, and retrace the steps walked by Irish immigrants as they arrived and settled in Lowell, often known as the Mill City. Participants will learn how the Irish contributed to the Industrial Revolution and the textile industry that boomed in New England in the nineteenth century, and will visit the one-acre parcel of land that was provided to Irish immigrant families, on which they built the "paddy camps."

Lowell  
978-970-5000  
[www.nps.gov/lowe](http://www.nps.gov/lowe)

**The Matt and Shannon Heaton Band with Kieran Jordan Dancers – March 14, 10:30 a.m.  
John F. Kennedy Library & Museum**

Celebrate St. Patrick's Day with lively Irish music and dance. Kieran Jordan Dancers perform jigs, reels, and step dancing accompanied by traditional music and original compositions by the Matt and Shannon Heaton Band.

Boston  
866-JFK-1960  
[www.jfklibrary.org](http://www.jfklibrary.org)

**St. Patrick's Day Open House – March 14, 12:00 p.m.**

**Irish Cultural Centre of New England**

The Irish Cultural Centre of New England hosts its annual St. Patrick's Day Open House with a complete schedule of family entertainment, including, music, storytelling, magic and lessons in step dancing and set dancing. The Centre is also hosting a Day of Irish Culture at the Massachusetts State House on March 18, which is free and open to the public.

Canton

781-821-8291

[www.irishculture.org](http://www.irishculture.org)

**Crafts in the Afternoon: St. Patrick's Day – March 14, 2:00 p.m.**

**Nantucket Athenaeum**

Bring the children to the Nantucket Athenaeum for an afternoon of St. Patrick's Day-themed stories and crafts.

Nantucket

508-228-1110

[www.nantucketatheneum.org](http://www.nantucketatheneum.org)

**St. Patrick's Day at Edgartown Library – March 14, 3:00 p.m.**

The Edgartown Library will host a day of St. Patrick's Day fun, including craft projects, stories and treats. Try your hand at making Donegal tweeds on a real double heddle loom, and construct a model Irish cottage, complete with a thatched roof.

Edgartown

508-627-4221

[www.edgartownlibrary.com](http://www.edgartownlibrary.com)

**4th Annual A St. Patrick's Day Celtic Sojourn – March 15, 5:00 p.m.**

**Hanover Theatre**

Celebrate St. Patrick's Day with a special concert of traditional and contemporary Irish music, song and dance with WGBH's *A Celtic Sojourn*. For the past four years, this event has introduced a wide range of musicians, dancers and artists to enchant audiences eager to celebrate the holiday in true Irish style.

Worcester

877-571-7469

[www.wgbh.org/celtic](http://www.wgbh.org/celtic)

**St. Patrick's Day Music – March 16, 9:00 a.m.**

**Beverly Public Library**

Join performers John Archer and Dan Murphy for the Beverly Public Library's annual concert of lively and sentimental Irish tunes. Coffee, tea and light refreshments will be served.

Beverly

978-921-6062

[www.beverlypubliclibrary.org/calendar](http://www.beverlypubliclibrary.org/calendar)

**Celtic Crossroads – March 20, 8:00 p.m.**

**Colonial Theater**

Immerse yourself in Irish merriment with Celtic Crossroads, a group of seven multi-instrumentalists performing a fusion of musical genres, including eastern European gypsy, North American bluegrass, world classical and jazz and various forms of Celtic music from around the world. True high-kicking from some of Ireland's most-respected Irish dancers add to the enjoyment of the show.

Pittsfield

413-997-4444

[www.thecolonialtheatre.org](http://www.thecolonialtheatre.org)

*The Massachusetts Office of Travel & Tourism (MOTT) is the state agency dedicated to promoting Massachusetts as a leisure-travel destination in order to stimulate the Massachusetts economy by generating state and local tax revenues, creating jobs, and supporting the growth of travel-related businesses. MOTT serves as a leader in the tourism industry, bringing together the public and private sectors to promote Massachusetts as a leisure travel destination. Tourism is an integral part of the state's economy, generating more than \$887.2 million in state and local taxes and \$14.2 billion in travel related expenditures. The industry supports 125,800 in-state jobs.*

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