



Virgil Grissom High School Marching Band
Theo Vernon, Band Director
Brent Harris, Band Director
Performance Tour of Ireland
Including Participation in the Dublin St. Patrick's Day Parade
March 12 – 19, 2020

The following itinerary provides an overview of your tour events and timings.
**** It is important to understand that times and activities are subject to change before or during the tour. ****

Working Itinerary

January 29, 2020

Thursday, March 12, 2020

Depart U.S.A.

Departure Depart from Atlanta today for your performance tour of Ireland. Please arrive three hours prior to departure. A Gateway Representative will help with the check in process. Signed passports are required of all passengers, valid for at least six months after your scheduled date of return. A meal will be served on your transatlantic flight.

Flight Group 5 – 34 seats

Date	Day	From	To	Airline	Flight	Depart	Arrive
3/12	THU	Atlanta (ATL)	Boston (BOS)	Delta	1274	3:00 pm	5:37 pm
3/12	THU	Boston (BOS)	Dublin (DUB)	Delta	154	8:27 pm	6:40 am (3/13)

Flight Group 4 – 17 seats

Date	Day	From	To	Airline	Flight	Depart	Arrive
3/12	THU	Atlanta (ATL)	New York (JFK)	Delta	1869	3:05 pm	5:23 pm
3/12	THU	New York (JFK)	Dublin (DUB)	Delta	44	8:12 pm	7:10 am (3/13)

Flight Groups 1 & 3 – 55 seats

Date	Day	From	To	Airline	Flight	Depart	Arrive
3/12	THU	Atlanta (ATL)	Amsterdam (AMS)	KLM	624	4:55 pm	6:00 am (3/13)
3/13	FRI	Amsterdam (AMS)	Dublin (DUB)	KLM	933	7:30 am	8:10 am

Flight Group 2 – 47 seats

Date	Day	From	To	Airline	Flight	Depart	Arrive
3/12	THU	Atlanta (ATL)	Paris (CDG)	Air France	681	6:35 pm	7:55 am (3/13)
3/13	FRI	Paris (CDG)	Dublin (DUB)	Air France	1716	9:50 am	10:50 am

Flight numbers and schedules are subject to change.



Friday, March 13, 2020

Arrive Dublin – Limerick

Arrival Arrive in Dublin, Ireland, clear customs and claim your luggage. Meet your Gateway Tour Managers, Shelli and Mia, and Irish driver-guides who will be with you for your entire tour to handle travel and performance arrangements.

	Flight Group 4 & 5	Flight Group 1 & 3	Flight Group 2
8:30 am	Depart the airport.		
9:30 am		Depart the airport.	
11:30 am	Visit the Rock of Cashel.		
12:15 pm			Depart the airport.
1:00 pm		Visit the Rock of Cashel.	
3:15 pm			Visit the Rock of Cashel.

Lunch A stop will be made for lunch on your own en route.

Rock of Cashel Combining spiritual grace, mysterious beauty, and scenic elegance, the Rock of Cashel is one of Ireland’s most spectacular archeological sites. “Cashel” comes from the Irish “caiseal” meaning “fortress.” The Rock of Cashel rises as a giant, circular mound 200 feet above the surrounding plains and meadows. A cluster of ruins is nestled on its crown, including a cathedral, chapel and tower.

Limerick Arrive in Limerick, which was founded by Vikings in 922 AD. This spot was chosen for its strategic location between the Shannon and Abbey Rivers. Over hundreds of years, Limerick was a witness to the endless battles of the Vikings and the Irish, and it was not until the 11th century that Ireland finally took over the island.

Hotel Check in to your hotel. Shelli and Mia will assist with hotel check in.

South Court Hotel
Raheen Roundabout
Raheen, Limerick V94 E77X
Co. Cork, Ireland
+353 61487487
<https://www.southcourthotel.com/>

7:00 pm Dinner is included at your hotel.

Saturday, March 14, 2020

Limerick

- 7:30 am** A full Irish breakfast is included at your hotel.
- 8:30 am** **Group 1 (48 people):** Load coach and depart for the Cliffs of Moher.
- 9:00 am** **Group 2 (104 people):** Load coaches and depart for the Cliffs of Moher.
- Cliffs of Moher** Visit the Cliffs of Moher on Ireland's rugged western coast. Six miles of rough-hewn cliffs plunge into the Atlantic from heights of up to 668 feet. The ocean has hammered these walls into one of Ireland's most majestic natural features.
- Lunch** Grab lunch on your own at the Cliffs of Moher or Bunratty.
- 1:30 pm (Group 1)
& 2:00 pm (Group 2)** Bunratty Castle is one of the finest medieval castles in Ireland. Its strategic position on the River Shannon attracted centuries of battles. It was authentically restored in 1954 to its former medieval splendor, with lavish furnishings and tapestries. The adjacent Bunratty Folk Park recreates 19th century rural Irish life, with reconstructed farm houses, cottages and shops.
- 5:30 pm** **Group 1 (48 people):** Dinner is included at Bunratty Castle.
- 8:30 pm** **Group 2 (104 people):** Dinner is included at Bunratty Castle.



Sunday, March 15, 2020

Limerick – Dublin

- 8:00 am** A full Irish breakfast is included at your hotel.
- 9:00 am** Check out of your hotel. Shelli and Mia will assist with the check-out process.
- 9:30 am** Load coaches and depart for the Limerick International Band Championship.
- 🎵 12:00 pm** The Limerick International Band Championship is one of the highlights of the Limerick St Patrick's Festival. Marching bands from the US, Europe and across Ireland travel to Limerick to perform in the competition which takes place on Limerick's main thoroughfare of O'Connell Street every year. The competition is judged by an international panel of adjudicators. 2020 will mark the parade's 50th year; making it Ireland's longest running international band parade and competition. This is Ireland's largest St. Patrick's Festival outside of Dublin and attracts thousands of spectators each year.
- Lunch** A boxed lunch is included for parade participants.
- 3:00 pm** Depart Limerick and head back to Dublin.
- 6:00 pm** Arrive in the capital city of the Republic of Ireland. The city was founded by Vikings on the banks of the River Liffey more than 1,000 years ago. Today, the thriving metropolis is full of history and culture. During your free time, you may wish to wander around Temple Bar, an area that still maintains its winding medieval streets. You can also visit one of the many large city parks in the area or take a walk down Grafton Street, Ireland's largest pedestrian mall.
- Hotel** Check into your hotel. Shelli and Mia will assist with check in.
- Maldron Hotel Newlands Cross**
Naas Road
Newlands Cross, Dublin 22
Co. Dublin, Ireland D22 V6Y6
+353 14640140
<https://www.maldronhotelnewlandscross.com/>
- 7:30 pm** Dinner is included at your hotel.

Monday, March 16, 2020**Dublin**

- 7:30 am** A full Irish breakfast is included at your hotel.
- 8:00 am** Load coaches and begin your city tour of Dublin.
- 8:30 am** A guided tour of Dublin includes the Georgian squares with their colorful “Doors of Dublin” and a visit to St. Patrick’s Cathedral. Visit Trinity College to see the Book of Kells, one of the most famous books in the history of the world. Completed around 800 AD, the vellum (calfskin) manuscript contains transcriptions of the four biblical Gospels, lavishly illustrated and ornamented.
- Lunch** Grab lunch on your own in Dublin city center.
- 1:30 pm** Load coaches and depart for you rehearsal this afternoon.
- 2:30 pm** Rehearse for the Dublin’s St. Patrick’s Day Parade. Rehearsal will take place at the hotel parking lot, pending the weather, or the GAA Hall.
- 7:00 pm** Dinner is included at your hotel.

Tuesday, March 17, 2020**Dublin**

- 7:30 am** A full Irish breakfast is included at your hotel.
- 9:00 am** Load coaches and depart for parade staging (exact timings to be confirmed at a closer date).
- ♪ 12:00 pm** Today is one that you will long remember, St. Patrick’s Day in Dublin. Virgil Grissom High School Marching Band will perform in the Dublin St. Patrick’s Day Parade, with over 500,000 people lining the parade route. Today everyone is Irish and the color green is everywhere!
- Lunch** A boxed lunch is included for parade participants.
- Free time** The rest of the afternoon is at your leisure to sightsee, shop and explore around Dublin. During your free time, you may wish to wander around Temple Bar, an area that still maintains its winding medieval streets. You can also visit one of the many large city parks in the area or take a walk down Grafton Street, Ireland’s largest pedestrian mall.
- 7:30 pm** Dinner is included at your hotel.

Wednesday, March 18, 2020

Dublin

- 8:00 am** A full Irish breakfast is included at your hotel.
- 9:00 am** Load coaches and depart for Causey Farms.
- 10:00 am** Today is a day filled with Irish tradition! Participate in a sheep demonstration and try your hand at milking a cow. Everyone loves to beat the ancient drum rhythms in the Bodhran workshop and nothing like getting the energy flowing and the fun going with Ceili music. Finally, try the ancient sport of Hurling, one of the oldest and fastest field games in the world.
- Lunch** A light lunch will be served at Causey Farm.
- 4:00 pm** Load coaches and depart for your hotel.
- 6:00 pm** A dinner is included at your hotel.
- 7:30 pm** Load coaches and depart for a traditional Irish Ceili.
- 8:00 pm** Gather for an energetic evening of entertainment with Irish dancers and live, traditional Irish music. The word “ceili” originally referred to a gathering of neighbors for an enjoyable time dancing, singing, and storytelling.
- 10:30 pm** Load coaches and depart for your hotel.



Thursday, March 19, 2020

Depart Dublin – Arrive U.S.A.

- 2:30 am** **Flight groups 1, 2, 3, & 4:** Shelli and Mia will assist with the check-out process. Grab a boxed breakfast on the way to the airport.
- 3:00 am** Load coaches and transfer to the airport for your return flight.
- 5:30 am** **Flight group 5:** Shelli and Mia will assist with the check-out process. A continental breakfast is included at your hotel.
- 6:15 am** Load coach and transfer to the airport for your return flight.

Flight Group 1 – 35 seats

Date	Day	From	To	Airline	Flight	Depart	Arrive
3/19	THU	Dublin (DUB)	Amsterdam (AMS)	KLM	932	5:55 am	8:35 am
3/19	THU	Amsterdam (AMS)	Atlanta (ATL)	KLM	623	9:35 am	2:15 pm

Flight Groups 2, 3 & 4 – 84 seats

Date	Day	From	To	Airline	Flight	Depart	Arrive
3/19	THU	Dublin (DUB)	Paris (CDG)	Air France	1017	6:00 am	8:45 am
3/19	THU	Paris (CDG)	Atlanta (ATL)	Air France	682	10:40 am	3:35 pm

Flight Group 5 – 34 seats

Date	Day	From	To	Airline	Flight	Depart	Arrive
3/19	THU	Dublin (DUB)	Boston (BOS)	Delta	155	9:25 am	12:53 pm
3/19	THU	Boston (BOS)	Atlanta (ATL)	Delta	1077	1:49 pm	4:57 pm
3/19	THU	Atlanta (ATL)	Huntsville (HSV)	Delta	2521	6:09 pm	6:05 pm

Flight numbers and schedules are subject to change.