

STEP OUT IN GREEN AND GET INTO THE SPIRIT OF SYDNEY WITH ST PATRICK'S DAY IN THE ROCKS!
FEAST ON DELICIOUS IRISH TREATS, ENJOY THE MUSIC AND GREAT ATMOSPHERE TO
CELEBRATE ST PATRICK, THE PATRON SAINT OF IRELAND

On Sunday 17 March, The Rocks will transform into an Irish Village in celebration of St Patrick's Day! With live music and entertainment, traditional Irish dancing and scrumptious Irish treats on offer all-weekend long, it really doesn't get much better!

One of Australia's longest running Irish pubs, **The Mercantile Hotel**, is hosting the best St. Patrick's Day celebrations in Sydney. Celebrations will kick off on Saturday 16 March, with an Irish dance competition and live music. Kick start your Sunday with St Patrick's Day Breakfast between 7.00am - 9.30am, which includes a full Irish breakfast, Irish coffee and two-hour beverage package starting from \$80 per person. There will also be Irish dance performances and live music throughout the morning.

From 9:30am till late, "**The Merc**" will be taking over their end of George Street for the biggest St Patrick's Day in history, with food stalls, pop-up bars, Irish dancing by Currie-Henderson Dance school and live Irish music from Blackwater, Shindig, Shaylee and Achtung Baby U2 Tribute. Step out in green with your friends and celebrate a day you won't forget!

At 11am, the official **Sydney St Patrick's Day Parade** will commence, starting at First Fleet Park, making its way through The Rocks, then finishing up at Dawes Point Park. This year's theme is '**Back to Our Roots**', with the parade going back to where it all began in Sydney 40 years ago in The Rocks.

"It's a day for everyone, you don't have to be Irish to attend or enjoy the festival; we want everyone to join in the fun and help us turn The Rocks green in 2019," said **Karen Murphy, President of the Sydney St Patricks Day organisation**.

The parade will finish at Dawes Point Park, which will be the centre of the Sydney St Patrick's Day Festival celebrations. There will be live music on the main stage from 12:30pm with acts including Blackwater, Strawberries and Cabbage, the Bottlers and many more. Family fun in the children's Tir Na Nog performance area will begin at 12:15pm with an Irish dancing display and continue throughout the day with other entertainment, including Irish language sessions, Irish dancing lessons, face painting and crafts. The festival will also include a bar and food stalls so you can be guaranteed to get a cold pint of the 'Black Stuff'.

Across the water, **the sails of the Opera House** will be lit up green, thanks to Tourism Ireland in partnership with Sydney St Patrick's Day. It will make the perfect Instagram moment!

But the festivities don't end there, with plenty of other fun ways to celebrate throughout The Rocks.

Irish-owned speciality whiskey and cocktail bar, **The Doss House**, will transform its courtyard to reflect an Irish sandstone 1919 vibe, with an outdoor bar, traditional live Irish music, singers and Irish dancers. It will make you feel like you have entered the land of green for the day!

Just up the road, **The Glenmore Hotel** will be offering \$10 Guinness pints, an offer not to miss! **The Orient Hotel** is bringing back their legendary St Patrick's festivities weekend, offering Guinness on tap, Irish food specials and Irish bands playing live all weekend long.

The Fortune of War, Sydney's oldest pub, will keep the Guinness flowing all weekend long and will be serving green beer and Irish food specials to get in the spirit of the day. There will be live entertainment from 1pm and free Guinness giveaways.

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If you are looking to treat your taste buds to something other than Guinness, head to **The Push**, where they are serving up Irish-inspired cocktails that will take your senses straight to the homeland. They will also have Guinness on tap for those sticking to tradition and green beer for those in need of a bit of Irish luck.

The Australian Heritage Hotel is going Irish for the day, serving Guinness on tap, Irish food specials and live entertainment. They are also running a giveaway for the best Guinness moustache, the number one attire for St Patrick's Day.

For those after something sweet, **Tea Cosy** will be offering Irish tea and scones all week, with a special Guinness scone. There is also a special "Nana's Choice" package which includes sultana scones, rhubarb jam and cream with an imported Irish Barry's tea for \$14 per person.

For more details and further information on all Sydney St Patrick's Day activities and offers, visit therocks.com and sydneystpatrikssday.com

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