



Alliance Française

*Limerick*

PRESENTS:



LIMERICK  
BASTILLE  
DAY

WILD  
GEESE  
FESTIVAL

# Limerick Bastille Day Wild Geese Festival

Saturday 15 and Sunday 16 July

WITH THE SUPPORT OF



Comhairle Cathrach  
& Contae **Luimnigh**

Limerick City  
& County Council



AMBASSADE  
DE FRANCE  
EN IRLANDE

*Liberté  
Égalité  
Fraternité*

AND OF OUR OFFICIAL SPONSORS

ARUP





## About the festival

The Limerick Bastille Day Wild Geese Festival is a community-led non-profit annual event which commemorates the Flight of the Wild Geese and celebrates the long-standing friendship between Ireland and France. It is organised every year on the weekend closest to Bastille Day (July 14th), the French National Day. It was founded in 2019 by the Honorary Consul of France in Limerick with the support of the Limerick City & County Council and is now organised by Alliance Française Limerick, one of the city's longest running non-profit organisation providing French language classes and holding cultural events since 1944. The festival promotes intercultural understanding, education on local and international history, and artistic creation. It is sponsored or supported by a wide range of businesses and organisations. The Flight of the Wild Geese saw over 12,000 Irish soldiers and their families leave Ireland for France following the signing of the Treaty of Limerick in 1691. Many of these soldiers, who became known as the Wild Geese, ended up joining the French army and settling in France, thus creating long-lasting bounds between Ireland and France. For example, many of the Bordeaux region world-renowned vineyards were created by descendants of the Wild Geese (Château Kirwan, Château McCarthy, Château Lynch-Bages, etc.). One of France's presidents, Patrice de McMahon (1808-1893), was a descendant of the McMahons of Limerick and General Charles de Gaulle was himself related to the McCartans of County Down. These are just a few examples of the many links between Ireland and France (now Ireland's closest EU neighbour) which we celebrate during our annual festival and which you can explore by visiting the Wild Geese Museum, in the old Saint Munchin's Church of Ireland on King's Island (a museum jointly created by the Honorary Consulate of France in Limerick, the Limerick Civic Trust and the Limerick Museum). This year, for instance, we commemorate the 225th anniversary of the rebellion of the year 1798 (aka "The Year of the French") which saw General Humbert land in County Mayo and, along with the United Irishmen, proclaim the Republic of Connaught. On behalf of Alliance Française Limerick, we wish you all a wonderful weekend of fun and culture!

The organising committee of the 2023 edition of the festival:

***Fionán Coughlan***

***Michelle Daly-Hayes***

***Dr Loïc Guyon (founder)***

***Dr Paul O'Brien***

Contact us at [limerickwild@gmail.com](mailto:limerickwild@gmail.com)

Follow us on Twitter, Facebook, Instagram and LinkedIn @limerickwild / Limerick Bastille Day Wild Geese Festival

# Ahead of our Bastille Day weekend

**Sunday 2 July**

3.00pm, John's Square (*free for all*)

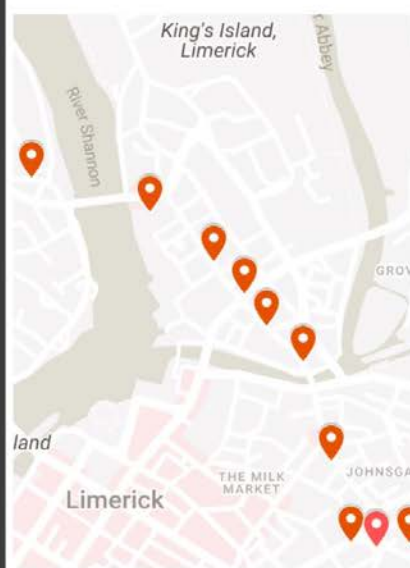
## **RELICS OF BATTLE SIEGE OF LIMERICK WALKING TOUR**

THE DISCOVERY OF SWORDS,  
CANON BALLS, AND SKULLS  
AS REPORTED IN  
NEWSPAPERS  
– FACT OR FICTION?

**SUNDAY 2 JULY 2023  
MEET AT JOHN'S SQUARE**

**DONATIONS ACCEPTED ON  
BEHALF OF LIMERICK BASTILLE  
DAY WILD GEESE FESTIVAL**

**TOUR LED BY DR PAUL O'BRIEN**





# Ahead of our Bastille Day weekend

## Wednesday 12 July

Dinner time, Sash Restaurant, No 1 Pery Square  
(see booking details below)

LIMERICK BASTILLE DAY

*Wild Geese Festival*



12TH JULY

# Sash

WE ARE PREPARING A SPECIAL FRENCH NIGHT

Local sourced food and French wine experience to  
celebrate the Limerick Wild Geese Festival 2023

> BOOK NOW

[info@oneperysquare.com](mailto:info@oneperysquare.com)  
(061) 402 402



# Ahead of our Bastille Day weekend

## Thursday 13 July

7.30pm, Mother Macs, 9 High Street  
(see below instructions for prices and booking)

The poster features a background of various cheeses and a French flag. In the top left corner, there is a logo for 'LIMERICK BASTILLE DAY' and 'WILD GEESSE FESTIVAL'. The main title 'Whiskey & Cheese' is prominently displayed in the center, with the French and Irish flags integrated into the ampersand. Below the title, the text describes the event as a celebration of the Limerick Bastille Day Wild Geese Festival 2023, highlighting a curated tasting of 4 Irish Whiskies and 4 distinct cheeses. It provides the date and time (7:30pm on the 13th July) and the location (Mother Macs). The website 'www.whiskeyexperience.ie' is listed for details and pricing. At the bottom, there are three logos: 'TASTE & TEXTURE SERIES 2023', 'LIMERICK WHISKEY EXPERIENCE', and 'MOTHER MACS PUBLIC HOUSE LIMERICK | IRELAND'.

**TASTE  
&  
TEXTURE**  
SERIES 2023



# On the Bastille Day weekend!

## Saturday 15 July

10.00am to 4pm

### **Wild Geese Museum, Old Saint Munchin Church, King's Island (€3)**

Take a tour of the Wild Geese Museum which will exceptionally be open at the weekend! Inaugurated in 2021, the Wild Geese Museum is the fruit of a partnership between the Limerick Civic Trust, the Honorary Consulate of France in Limerick and the Limerick Museum. It tells the story of the Wild Geese, these Irish soldiers who, since the 17th century, went abroad to serve in the armies of various countries. The museum focusses in particular on the history of the sieges of Limerick of 1690 and 1691, the Flight of the Wild Geese following the signing of the Treaty of Limerick, and the strong historical links between Ireland and France over the centuries.



10.30am

### **Tom Clifford Park, Greenfields, Rossbrien (free for all)**

Join the Sarsfields Rugby team and special guests from the Rugby Club of Quimper (Limerick's French sister city) at the Young Munster home grounds for an initiation to the game of Touch Rugby, a safe, fun and inclusive way of playing rugby and celebrate our shared love for the game ahead of the 2023 Rugby World Cup! Free and open to people of all ages and genders.





# On the Bastille Day weekend!



## *Saturday 15 July*

11.00am to 5.00pm

Hunt Museum Garden (free, but pre-booking compulsory, see below)



**LIMERICK  
BASTILLE  
DAY**

**WILD  
GEESE  
FESTIVAL**

**THE 2023  
ANNUAL  
HUNT MUSEUM  
PÉTANQUE  
TOURNAMENT**

Get a team of 3 players and register  
by e-mailing [info@huntmuseum.com](mailto:info@huntmuseum.com)

4 teams maximum

3 bottles of Thomond Gate Limerick  
Whiskey for the winning team

Great consolation prizes for the 2<sup>nd</sup> team

Saturday 15 July

**THE  
HUNT**



**MUSEUM**

11am to 5pm

# On the Bastille Day weekend!

## Saturday 15 July

1.00pm to 5.00pm

Hunt Museum Garden (free for all)

**LIMERICK BASTILLE DAY**

**WILD GEESE FESTIVAL**

**THE 1798 EN GARDE LIVING HISTORY CAMP AND ANIMATIONS**

**Saturday 15 July**

**THE HUNT MUSEUM**

**1pm to 5pm**

**Historical reenactments by:**  
En Garde – The Society for Franco-Irish History

**Live Music by:**  
The Limerick School of Music  
The Saint Mary's Prize Band

**Dance by:**  
Scoil Uí Ruairc

**Stick fighting demo by:**  
Brian Moloney (Saint Mary's Men's Shed)



# On the Bastille Day weekend!

## *Saturday 15 July*

7.30pm to 10.30pm

**Milk Market (€70 per person, booking compulsory)**



# On the Bastille Day weekend!

## Saturday 15 July

7.30pm to 10.30pm

**Milk Market** continued

Join us for an evening of fantastic food and art! Enjoy an eight-course banquet of locally-sourced products designed by the crème de la crème of the Limerick food scene, plus get to admire a Wild Geese art exhibition and to attend a gig by award-winning artist Emma Langford, all this for only €70 per person including (French) wine!!!

Book your tickets [HERE](#) now on Eventbrite before it's too late!

LIMERICK  
BASTILLE  
DAY

WILD  
GEESE  
FESTIVAL

**BANQUET MENU**

**Welcome glass of bubbly** *sponsored by Mickey Martin's and Country Choice*

**Starter (by The French Table)**  
Selection of homemade charcuterie, butter/cornichons, baguette slice  
**or**  
Pre-ordered vegetarian option

**First main (by Green Acres/George Casey Catering)**  
Charred rainbow trout, shaved fennel & pickled cucumber

Salad with lime & pomegranate crème fraîche

Glass of white or red French wine sponsored by O'Briens Wine

LIMERICK  
BASTILLE  
DAY

WILD  
GEESE  
FESTIVAL

**BANQUET MENU**

**Second main (by The French Table)**  
*Choice of*  
Pork neck "à la moutarde"  
Chipolatas et merguez  
Beef brochettes provençales  
Tender chicken  
**or**  
Grilled salmon niçoise  
**or**  
Summer vegetables brochettes

*With a choice of*  
Heirloom tomato salad  
Coleslaw  
Cucumber tzatziki  
Potato & scallion salad  
Green salad  
*Selection of cold sauces*

Glass of white or red French wine sponsored by O'Briens Wine

LIMERICK  
BASTILLE  
DAY

WILD  
GEESE  
FESTIVAL

**BANQUET MENU**

**Cheese selection (by Country Choice)**

**First dessert (by Bon Appétit Crêperie)**  
Sweet crepe

**Second dessert (by Angel Dust)**  
Miniature trio (chocolate éclair, macaron & berry tart)

**Choice of hot beverages (by Harpers Coffee)**  
served with a ballotin of chocolates  
**(by Wilde Irish Chocolates)**

*Extra wine selected by Country Choice may be purchased on request for €22 per bottle. Simply ask.*

Because we care for our environment, most plates & cutlery are compostable

# On the Bastille Day weekend!



## Sunday 16 July

10.00am to 4pm,

### **Wild Geese Museum, Old Saint Munchin Church, King's Island (€3)**

Take a tour of the Wild Geese Museum which will exceptionally be open at the weekend! Inaugurated in 2021, the Wild Geese Museum is the fruit of a partnership between the Limerick Civic Trust, the Honorary Consulate of France in Limerick and the Limerick Museum. It tells the story of the Wild Geese, these Irish soldiers who, since the 17th century, went abroad to serve in the armies of various countries. The museum focusses in particular on the history of the sieges of Limerick of 1690 and 1691, the Flight of the Wild Geese following the signing of the Treaty of Limerick, and the strong historical links between Ireland and France over the centuries.



10.30am

### **International Rugby Experience (€15/€10)**

Take a tour of the International Rugby Experience and meet some surprise guests along the way, including Tady Walsh (2023 Rugby World Cup Official) who will give a talk about inclusion and diversity in sport. Keep an eye on our social media accounts in the days leading up to the Bastille Day weekend to get a chance to win a free family entrance ticket (for up to four people) to the International Rugby Experience.



INTERNATIONAL  
**RUGBY**  
EXPERIENCE  
HOME OF LEGENDS





# On the Bastille Day weekend!

## Sunday 16 July

2.00pm

### From the Wild Geese Museum to Saint Mary's Cathedral (free for all)

Join a joyful and colourful procession, led by the musicians of the Saint Mary's Men's Shed and featuring the reenactors from En Garde – The Society for Franco-Irish History, departing from the Wild Geese Museum and going to the United Nations Peace Garden in front of Saint Mary's Cathedral, via Nicholas Street, just on time for the ceremony which will be held there.



2.30pm

### United Nations Peace Garden, in front of Saint Mary's Cathedral (free for all)

Like in previous years, a ceremony supported by the Defence Forces will be held to commemorate the Flight of the Wild Geese and the long-standing friendship between Ireland and France. It will begin by a parade of veteran associations including: the French Foreign Legion Association of Ireland, the Limerick branches of the O.N.E., the Irish Naval Association, the Royal British Legion of Ireland and the I.U.N.V.A. Reenactors from En Garde – The Society for Franco-Irish History will close the march dressed as soldiers from Napoléon's Légion irlandaise and will later on conclude the ceremony with a reading of General Humbert's 1798 proclamation. For the first time this year, the parade march and the national anthems will be performed by Band 1 of the Defence Forces.



# On the Bastille Day weekend!



## Sunday 16 July

3.00pm

### **Saint Mary's Cathedral (free but pre-booking compulsory due to limited capacity)**

Book your free ticket [HERE](#) for this amazing show, in the magnificent surroundings of Saint Mary's Cathedral, which will include a music and dance performance and the screening of a film!

The music and dance performance is that of *Cuimhnigh ar Sarsfield: The Wild Geese Suite*, a poetic-musical tribute to Patrick Sarsfield and the Wild Geese. This composition, commissioned by our festival and already performed at King John's Castle in 2021, combines music, dance, history, and language in order to illuminate a key story in the history of the Treaty City, and has been created collaboratively by composer Dr. Francis Ward and lyricists Dr. Mairéad Ní Bhriain and Dr. Orfhlaith Ní Bhriain. It includes a choreography by Limerick's Scoil Uí Ruairc dance troupe (including solo Irish dance by Zoe Griffin). Performers: Tara Breen (fiddle), Paul Harrigan (uilleann pipes), Damian McKee (button accordion), Dermot Sheedy (percussion), Arco String Quartet. Recitation by Orfhlaith Ní Bhriain.

The film which will then be screened is entitled *The Flight of the Wild Geese*. Inspired by a play by the late Declan Bromell entitled *The Walls of Limerick* (1990), it tells the story of the sieges of Limerick and of all the events that ensued. It was entirely filmed on location, written and directed by Corpus Christi Moyross Primary School teacher Fionnuala Bromell, filmed and produced by her colleague Diarmuid Hickey with the assistance of their fellow teachers Kate Walshe and Louise Clancy (production team). It stars Corpus Christi's fifth-class pupils in the roles of the Jacobites, the French and the Williamites. Be prepared, this is no ordinary school production, this film, which includes an original score and songs by the school choir and community choirs and parents and past pupils, will blow your mind! This incredible project was commissioned for the festival and was made possible thanks to the support of Alliance Française Limerick, El Electronics and Humanli.





# On the Bastille Day weekend!

## Sunday 16 July

5.00pm

**Curraghbour Boat Club, Merchant's Quay  
(free for all)**

Follow the music (played by bagpiper Michael Egan) and the reenactors for a farewell to the Wild Geese organised in partnership with the Curraghbour Boat Club.



7.00pm

**Mickey Martin's, 1 Augustinian Lane (free for all, except for the drinks!)**

Come to "L'After Party", at the 200 year-old Mickey Martin's Pub, to find out what happened to the Wild Geese after they left Limerick (and also how the city evolved since their departure) with a talk by local historian Sharon Slater. Totally uncorroborated Wild Geese stories will also be shared afterwards and special Hennessy Wild Geese cocktails will exceptionally be on the drink menu!

A poster for the Limerick Wild Geese Festival 2023. The background is a historical painting of a battle scene with soldiers on horseback and on foot. Overlaid on the painting is the text "Limerick Wild Geese Festival 2023" at the top, "L'After Party" in large white letters in the center, and "MICKEY martin's pub" in a stylized font below it. At the bottom left is a logo for "LIMERICK BASTILLE DAY" and "WILD GEESSE FESTIVAL". At the bottom right, it says "Discussion... What happened after" and "Sunday 7pm 16th July".

Limerick Wild Geese Festival 2023

L'After Party

MICKEY martin's pub

LIMERICK BASTILLE DAY WILD GEESSE FESTIVAL

Discussion... What happened after

Sunday 7pm 16th July







## *Limerick*

Visit the Alliance Française Limerick website to find out more about our cultural events and French language classes offering for all levels and all ages: <https://aflimerick.org/>

Help us bring national hero Patrick Sarsfield back to Ireland, find out more about and support the Sarsfield Homecoming Project here:



<https://www.gofundme.com/f/the-sarsfield-homcoming-project>

We wish to express our utmost gratitude to our institutional sponsors, the Limerick City & County Council and the Embassy of France in Ireland, as well as our official sponsors, Arup, Cargon Global Solutions Ireland, Heavey Technology, Saint Gobain and the University of Limerick, and all the Friends of our Festival whose logos appear below:



## France, your closest EU neighbour

An Fhrainc, an chomharsa  
is gaire daoibh san AE

