

2026 Gathering

Information and Programme Brochure

Bound by Blood: The Clan McGrath and Gaelic Kingship



www.clanmcgrath.org
info@clanmcgrath.org

Welcome to our programme brochure for the Clan McGrath International Gathering 2026. Bringing together McGraths from across the world, we will gather in the beautiful homeland of our northern ancestors.

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The gathering, will be based in the historic town of Enniskillen, Co. Fermanagh and is the work of Cumann Chlann Mhic Craith / The Clan McGrath Society. The society was reconstituted during our 2024 Gathering in Dungarvan, Co. Waterford and is the vehicle driving forward our aim to represent the two main septes of the Clan McGrath in their ancient territories of Thomond and Ulster and to promote our clan at national and international level. We have established close bonds in Ireland and overseas, building a sustainable platform for historical and genealogical research. In this brochure we are excited to provide details of the wonderful venue for our gathering, the Killyhevlin Hotel and details on how to avail of our special hotel rate. Located on the banks of Lough Erne and a short distance from Enniskillen town centre, the hotel offers 4-star accommodation, a health spa, parking, bars and restaurant. The Killyhevlin Hotel will be our base throughout the gathering.

Also included in this brochure is a wide range of alternative local accommodation in the area, including hotels, bed and breakfast and self-catering rental accommodation. Our programme has taken shape around our core theme, *'Bound by Blood: The Clan McGrath and Gaelic Kingship'* and features historic tours of sites associated with the history of the Clan McGrath in Ulster and their role at the centre of Gaelic Kingships. We will also explore our clan's role as hereditary Coarbs and protectors of St. Patrick's Purgatory, the pilgrimage islands of Lough Derg that were under our clan's guardianship for over 300 years.

For updates keep in touch via our website and social media, we update regularly and details are in this brochure. We can only grow and develop with your continued support. I look forward to welcome you to the North.

Scott McGraw, Taiseach, Cumann Chlann Mhic Craith / Clan McGrath Society.

McGrath Social Media Presence

Follow us on social media at the following links:

Facebook: [Clan McGrath Society](#)

Facebook: [McGrath International Gathering Group](#)

Instagram: [Clan McGrath Society](#)

Join the Clan McGrath Society

Registration is simple and FREE !!

Follow the link: [Join the Clan McGrath Society](#)

Complete the form with your details and received regular updates and our seasonal newsletter. Take advantage of early booking for future events.

The Location – Enniskillen, County Fermanagh

The beautiful historic town of Enniskillen is situated at the centre of County Fermanagh. The town has been developed on a natural island which separates upper and lower Lough Erne. Enniskillen's population is approximately 11,500 people and is the largest town in Fermanagh.

The Town

Enniskillen town centre is firmly built along the long, narrow Main St, which actually changes name six times along its length! This gives Enniskillen a real sense of bustle and life as well as imbuing the shops with their own unique character. High Street stores sit comfortably beside small independent traders. The proximity of Lough Erne to the town centre and the abundance of boat moorings, adds a continental feel to the town and is a major centre of activities and events throughout the year. The large number of small bars and restaurants provide the very best in hospitality to the visitor and great food and drink made from the finest local produce. At the centre of Enniskillen is the Town Hall, completed in 1901 it is home to the six story clock tower which can be seen from a wide area adorned with statues commemorating Enniskillen's proud military history. The bandstand outside the Town Hall is regularly used throughout the summer and brings a vibrant cultural aspect to the heart of the town. At the west end of Main Street and opposite each other are St. Mac Cartan's Church of Ireland Cathedral and St. Michael's Roman Catholic Church. St. Mac Cartan's built in 1842 is noted for its bells, with one in particular having been cast from a cannon used at the Battle of the Boyne. St. Michael's built in 1875 has a distinctive steep roof and is noted for its stained glass window of Saint Molaise, the founder of Devenish Monastery. The McGrath Gathering will visit Devenish as part of our opening day of the Clan Gathering 2026 programme.



Enniskillen Castle and town on the shores of Lough Erne

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The Castle

Lying on the Lough shore and dominating the waterway between lower and upper Lough Erne is Enniskillen Castle. The castle was originally home to the Maguire Gaelic Chieftains. The Maguire rule lasted for 300 years from the 13th to 17th century, contemporary with the McGrath overlordship of Termonmagrath. Having established their rule first in the area of Lisnaskea, one of the junior branches of the clan under Hugh 'The Hospitable' Maguire established a second stronghold at Enniskillen in the 15th century. Although an exact date for the construction of the castle is not known, Hugh 'The Hospitable' Maguire died in 1428 after returning to Ireland from pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela in Spain. The castle must have been completed sometime before then, probably in the 1420s. The earliest reference to



Bartlett's 1602 map depicting Enniskillen Castle and the Clan McGrath lands of Termonmagrath and islands of Lough Derg

the castle is in the Annals of Ulster in 1439, the text tells of King Tomas Og (the young) Maguire being held captive at his own castle in Enniskillen by Domnall 'The Freckled' Maguire. Enniskillen Castle will be the venue for our opening ceremony of Clan McGrath International Gathering 2026 and we will explore the relationship between the Clans McGrath and Maguire through the principal historic events recorded in the Annals and how Enniskillen became the staging post in the medieval period, for pilgrims seeking passage to Clan McGrath territories at Termonmagrath and Saint Patrick's Purgatory, the medieval pilgrimage at Lough Derg.

Explore more....

Strategically placed, Enniskillen lets you explore the wonderful Lakelands of Ulster and the many, many places of interest on its doorstep. Like the beautifully restored 19th century Butter Market, now one of Ireland's premier craft centres located in the heart of the town. On the outskirts of Enniskillen is the magnificent neo-classical mansion of Castle Coole completed in 1798. Crom Castle on the shores of upper Lough Erne is situated in a 1,900 acre estate that includes the largest surviving area of oak woodland in Ulster. There is Florence Court House, a Palladian style mansion completed in the 18th century by the 1st Lord Mount Florence. If the natural world is your passion Marble Arch Caves located in a global geopark, allow visitors to explore a fascinating natural underworld. Enniskillen is the perfect location to explore further afield including Ulster's historic towns and cities including Donegal, Derry, Omagh, Armagh, Belfast and Downpatrick, burial place of Saint Patrick. Wherever you decide to travel, be assured a warm welcome awaits.



Castle Coole, Enniskillen – 18th century neo-classical mansion

OUR BASE – The Killyhevlin Hotel, Enniskillen



The award winning 4-Star Killyhevlin Hotel, Lakeside Lodges and Spa is located in the heart of the Fermanagh Lakelands, on the doorstep of the thriving town of Enniskillen. The hotel is ideally located to allow guests to enjoy everything this unique area has to offer.

The Killyhevlin Hotel will be our base throughout our gathering and will be where our coach departs from each morning for our programme schedule. It is also the venue of

our pre-gathering meet and greet and where our registration desk will be located for those attending the gathering.

With that in mind we have worked with the Killyhevlin Hotel to create an exciting offer for accommodation throughout our event and tailored so that you can experience the very best of a luxurious and relaxing hotel escape.

Indulge in the hotel's foodie delights and tempt your taste buds with a 4 course dinner in [Kove Restaurant](#), or treat yourself to our vintage bubbles escape and enjoy the Lakeview's in our Konservatory with an [Afternoon Tea](#) and a glass of prosecco or work out in the hotel gym or relax in the hotel spa.

Out special accommodation package is detailed below:

**SPECIAL
ACCOMMODATION
OFFER
CLAN GATHERING
18-21 JUNE 2026**



**FOUR-NIGHT
ROOM RATE**

**KILLYHEVLIN HOTEL
ENNISKILLEN, CO. FERMANAGH**

DOUBLE ROOM X2 SHARING

£110 PER PERSON PER NIGHT SHARING

SINGLE ROOM

£150 PER NIGHT



**BOOK DIRECTLY BY
EMAILING:
info@killyhevlín.com**

**USE BOOKING REFERENCE:
McGrath Gathering**

- All rooms are Bed & Breakfast
- Includes access to leisure facilities

www.killyhevlín.com

ALTERNATIVE ACCOMMODATION

Enniskillen and the surrounding area is one of Ireland's most beautiful areas of outstanding natural beauty and a premier tourism location. It is extremely well provided with a range of accommodation to suit all budgets including a range of Airbnb options. Although the venue for some of the Clan McGrath International Gathering 2026 will be the Killyhevlin Hotel, pick-up and drop-off by coach for all the main tours, events and activities will be provided in the overall Gathering 2026 package and ticket price.

There will be a small number of pick-up and drop-off locations around Enniskillen. However, if you are booking accommodation outside Enniskillen, please ensure that you are able to transport yourself to our pick up points in the town of Enniskillen.

Hotels

The Manor House Resort Hotel

Killadeas, Enniskillen, Co. Fermanagh, N. Ireland, BT74 1NY

T: + 44 (0) 28 6862 2200

E: info@manorhousecountryhotel.com

W: www.manorhousecountryhotel.com

Set on the picturesque shores of Lower Lough Erne, just seven miles from the Fermanagh county town of Enniskillen, a trip to the Manor House Country Hotel is a journey back in time to a more

The Westville Hotel

14-20 Tempo Road, Enniskillen, Co. Fermanagh, N. Ireland BT74 6HR

T: +44 (0) 28 6632 0333

E: sales@westvillehotel.com

W: www.westvillehotel.co.uk

This modern, contemporary, boutique style hotel is ideally situated in the centre of Enniskillen.

Belmore Court & Motel

Tempo Road, Enniskillen, Co. Fermanagh, Northern Ireland, BT74 6HX

T: +44 (0) 28 6632 6633

E: info@motel.co.uk

W: www.motel.co.uk

Offering a comprehensive range of accommodation to suit all needs. Situated in the centre of Enniskillen town.

Lough Erne Resort Hotel

Belleek Road, Co. Fermanagh, Northern Ireland, BT93 7ED

T: +44 (0)28 6632 3230

E: reservations@loughernereresort.com

W: www.loughernereresort.com

This 5-Star resort hotel offers rooms, suites and lodges and golfing facilities.

B&B Accommodation

Lackaboy House

51 Old Tempo Road, Enniskillen Town, Co Fermanagh BT74 4BA

T: +44 (0) 28 6632 2488

E: lackaboyfarmhousebandb@btconnect.com

W: www.lackaboyhouse.com

Your hosts have been providing quality Bed & Breakfast Accommodation at their home on the edge of Enniskillen town for many years.

Abocurragh Farmhouse Bed & Breakfast

Letterbreen, Enniskillen, County Fermanagh, BT74 9AG T: +44 (0) 28 6634 8484

E: info@abocurragh.com

W: www.abocurragh.com

Abocurragh Farmhouse offers Bed & Breakfast Accommodation on a 120 acre working dairy farm, situated in the picturesque Lake land area of Fermanagh, close to Enniskillen.

Willowbank House

Bellevue Road, Enniskillen, Co Fermanagh, Northern Ireland, BT74 4JH

T: +44 (0) 28 6632 8582

E: info@willowbankhouse.com

W: www.willowbankhouse.com

Purpose built, this Bed & Breakfast property sits 3 miles from Enniskillen on an elevated site overlooking the shores of Lough Erne, the slopes of Cuilcagh and Belmore Mountains.

Dromard House

127 Belfast Road, Tamlaght, Enniskillen, Co Fermanagh, BT74 4HS

T: +44 (0) 28 66387250

E: dromardhouse@yahoo.co.uk

Offering Bed & Breakfast Accommodation in a beautiful woodland setting in the heart of the County Fermanagh countryside, yet just 2 miles outside Enniskillen. Centred around the traditional Ulster farmhouse, on 180 acres of lovely countryside.

Self-Catering Accommodation

Island Town Apartment

18A Shore Road, Enniskillen, Co. Fermanagh BT74 7BB

T: +44 (0)28 6632 1164

E: enquires@islandtown.co.uk

W: www.islandtownapartment.com

Island Town Apartment is just a 20 meter walk meander from the shores of Lough Erne.

Inishclare Cottages

Killadeas, Enniskillen, Co. Fermanagh, BT94 1SF

T: +44 (0) 28 6634 0127

W: www.inishclarecottages.com

Inishclare Cottages are two beautiful, traditionally styled cottages available for rent on the shores of Lough Erne in Co Fermanagh. The larger Cottage sleeps up to 7 people comfortably, enjoying high standards of modernisation with two shower rooms. The smaller cottage sleeps up to 4 people.

Dunarden Cottage

4 Dunarden Drive, Lisbellaw, Enniskillen, Co Fermanagh, BT94 5DJ

T: +44 (0) 28 6638 7677

Dunarden Cottage is a modern bungalow set in a small cul-de-sac on the outskirts of Lisbellaw village; it is an excellent holiday home from home.

Other Accommodation

The following are websites listing other accommodation available in the Enniskillen and wider Co. Fermanagh area:

Enniskillen.com - www.enniskillen.com

A local website providing information for visitors to Co. Fermanagh including tourism, towns, accommodation and what's on.

Booking.Com - www.booking.com

A list of accommodation options in and around Enniskillen, Co. Fermanagh. Search for Enniskillen.

Airbnb - www.airbnb.com Search top quality vacation rentals, boutique hotels and more. Search for Enniskillen.

GETTING THERE – Travel to Enniskillen

Dublin to Enniskillen via Dublin Airport:

You can fly direct to Dublin from 20 USA cities.

You can fly direct to Dublin from Canada.

Regular daily direct flights from many airports across the UK and Europe.

Connecting flights connecting via London from South Africa, Australia and New Zealand and other global destinations.

By Bus from Dublin / Dublin Airport: Dublin to Donegal Bus Éireann services 30 and X30 serve the town with journeys taking about two and a half hours from Dublin.

By Car from Dublin / Dublin Airport: It's a very easy drive from Dublin to Enniskillen on the N3. You'll be on a motorway for the first half of the journey.

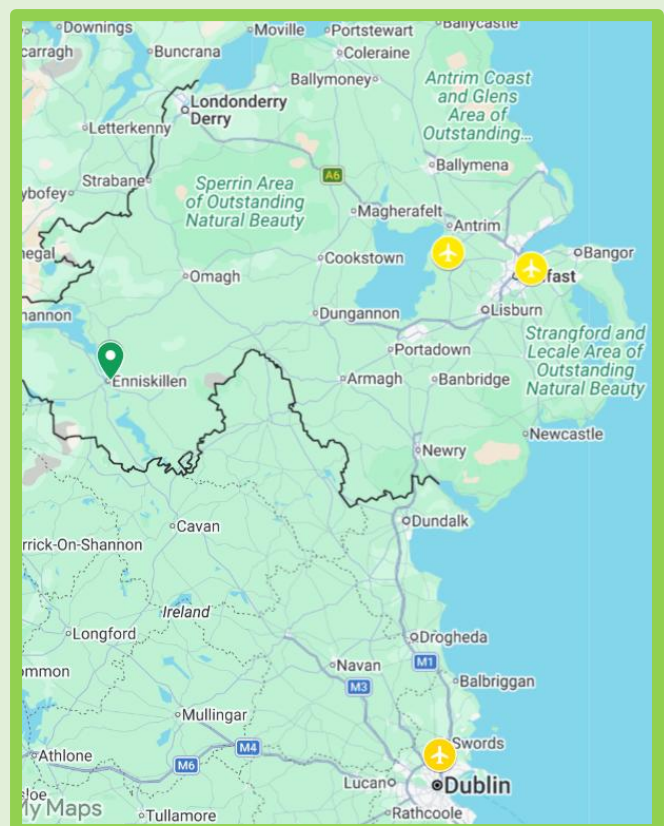
Belfast to Enniskillen via Belfast International Airport:

There are currently no direct flights from the US, Canada, Australia, NZ or South Africa to Belfast.

Belfast International Airport receives regular flights from many UK and European cities and receives connection flights from the USA, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa via London and Dublin.

Belfast George Best City Airport:

Regular daily direct flights from many airports across the UK and Europe.



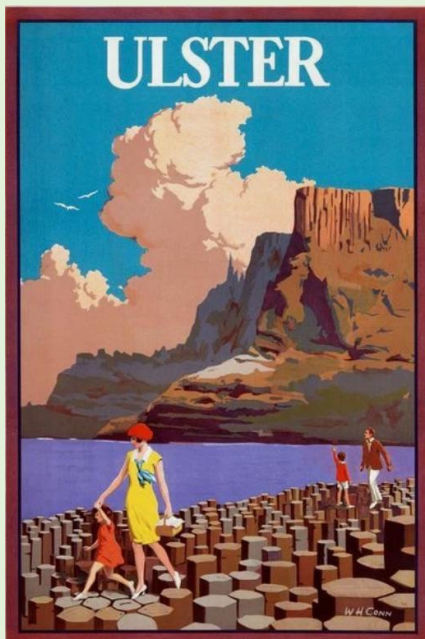
AIRPORT TRANSFERS

Lynch Coach Hire, our coach company for the Clan Gathering, offers airport transfer services to Enniskillen from Dublin and Belfast International Airports and Belfast City Airport. To obtain pricing for this service, please contact Andrew Crawford via email to andrewcrawford1990@hotmail.com or via telephone at +44 74 6400 0899

By Bus from Belfast City Centre: Ulsterbus services X261 and 261 take you from Belfast Central Station to Enniskillen in about 2 hours

By Car from Belfast: It's very easy to drive from Belfast to Enniskillen. Leave Belfast on the M1 Motorway travelling west and follow signs to A4 for Enniskillen. Travel time 1 ½ hours.

TOURIST INFORMATION



Enniskillen is the perfect setting to explore Ireland's north-west. However, it is also easy to reach further afield, with excellent roads and public transport facilities.

Belfast is less than 1 ½ hours by road, Derry/Londonderry 1 ¼ hours and Dublin only 2 hours. To find out more about what Ireland has to offer and plan an extended stay, you can access information on the following websites:

www.ireland.com Feel Ireland's beating heart; its people, its energy, its landscapes and enjoy the things that really matter.

www.discovernorthernireland.com Discover places to stay, events, deals and offers from the official tourism body for Northern Ireland.

www.visitbelfast.com Official Belfast information, events, things to do, tourist information and attractions.

www.visitderry.com Official tourism site for Derry-Londonderry, check out upcoming events in the walled city.

Useful Links

Dublin Airport: www.dublinairport.com

Bus Eireann Journey Planner: www.journeyplanner.buseireann.ie

Belfast International Airport: www.belfastairport.com

Belfast George Best City Airport: www.belfastcityairport.com

Ulsterbus Journey Planner: www.journeyplanner.translink.co.uk

Avis Car Hire: www.avis.com

Budget Car Hire UK (including Northern Ireland) : www.budget.co.uk

Budget Car Hire Ireland: www.budget.ie

Enterprise Car Hire (UK including Northern Ireland):
www.enterprise.co.uk

Enterprise Car Hire Ireland : www.enterprise.ie

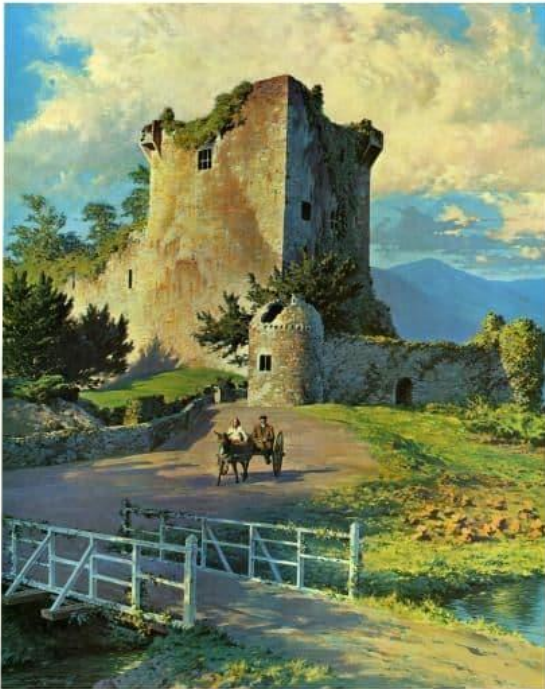
Europcar Car Hire (UK including Northern Ireland):
www.europcar.co.uk

Sixt Car Rental: www.sixt.com



Castle McGrath, Pettigo

THE WEATHER



IRELAND

Ireland is not called the Emerald Isle for nothing!! There is a plentiful supply of water from the skies. Irish weather can be unpredictable so we like to talk about it, a lot.

Ireland's climate is influenced most by the Atlantic Ocean and Gulf Stream and as a result it doesn't have the extreme temperatures that other countries at a similar latitude would have. The major warm ocean current called the North Atlantic Drift keeps sea temperatures mild too. Hills and mountains, mainly around the coast, shelter the rest of the island from strong winds coming of the ocean. So while the weather can be changeable - it's rarely extreme. In summer (May to July), the average highest temperatures are between 64 and 68°F (17—20°C). In June, the month of the Clan McGrath International Gathering 2026, we have 18 hours of daylight and it gets dark only at 11pm. Hence the well-worn Irish phrase, "sure there's a grand stretch in the evenings".

A weather friendly wardrobe

Summer is the high season for visitors to Ireland and June can come with long sunny evenings, parks in full bloom and the opportunity to eat al-fresco. However, we like the term 'be prepared' and a weather friendly wardrobe will need to be

adaptable. Go for layers that you can put on or take off as the temperature changes. Bring a sweater, even in summer; water proofs to accompany all outdoor activities; sunglasses; comfortable walking shoes (we will be exploring sites that are off the beaten path). Don't be fooled into thinking you won't need sunscreen in the summer months – when the sun shines in Ireland it's quite strong, so wear a high factor and bring a sunhat.

Okay, as we mentioned in the beginning, it does rain in Ireland, but long bouts of rain are pretty rare. So, you can either put on suitable clothes, or duck into a nice cosy pub to wait out the shower. You can imagine which one is our favourite strategy.



Emain Macha – Navan Fort, Ancient Seat of the Kings of Ulster

2026 Gathering Programme

Bound by Blood: The Clan McGrath and Gaelic Kingship



www.clanmcgrath.org
info@clanmcgrath.org



Welcome / Failte... to the Clan McGrath International Gathering 2026 on this the 30th anniversary of the first Northern McGrath gathering which returns to the beautiful medieval territory of Termonmagrath, incorporating parts of counties Fermanagh, Donegal and Tyrone. Basing ourselves in Enniskillen, Co. Fermanagh, the theme of this year's gathering is: 'Bound by Blood: The Clan McGrath and Gaelic Kingship'. Our programme has been thoughtfully planned and locations selected, allowing us to step into the ancestral heart of Ulster, where the story of the Clan McGrath intersects with the great Gaelic dynasties. We will trace the Clan McGrath's enduring role in the spiritual and political fabric of Gaelic Ireland and through storytelling, scholarship, and symbolic reflection, we will honour the bonds that shaped a kingdom - and the kinships that still echo today.

DAY 1 - Thursday 18th June



08:30 Registration Opens - Killyhevlin Hotel, Enniskillen

09:30 Raising the Banner - Killyhevlin Hotel

09:45 Board Coach for Enniskillen Castle

10:00 Official Opening Ceremony - Enniskillen Castle

The Clan McGrath International Gathering will be officially opened in the presence of specially invited guests. The ceremony will take place in the beautiful Enniskillen Castle museum, once seat of the powerful Clan Maguire and staging post for pilgrims travelling to Lough Derg and St. Patrick's Purgatory. The links between the Maguires and the McGraths is a long and strong connection and we will celebrate our bond as we are hosted at this magnificent fortification.

11:00 Tour of Enniskillen Castle and Museum

13:00 Lunch

14:00 Guided Boat Tour of Lough Erne and Devenish Island

Following the route of medieval pilgrims, we will board the MV Kestrel for a guided tour of Lough Erne and stop on Devenish Island to visit the medieval Augustinian Abbey. Devenish (Irish: Daimhinis, meaning 'Ox Island') is associated with Saint Mo Laisse, who reputedly founded the monastery in the 6th century. The Augustinian Order who settled here in the 12th century, were a closely linked with the Augustinian Monastery on Saints Island, Lough Derg. The monastic community of Devenish, who welcomed medieval pilgrims on their way to Lough Derg, were under the patronage of the Clan Cassidy, and the Augustinian community at Saint's Island under the patronage of the Clan McGrath.

16:00 Clan McGrath Society AGM

Following our boat tour, we will return to Enniskillen Castle for refreshments before conducting our Annual General Meeting and election of officers to the Clan Council and to hear representations from those candidates for the role of Taoiseach (Chief) of the Clan McGrath.

17:30 Drinks Reception and BBQ - Special Guests, Live Music

20:00 Return to Killyhevlin Hotel

DAY 2 - Friday 19th June



09:00 Board Coach - Travel to Pettigo, Co. Donegal

09:30 Visit the Clan McGrath Castle, Termonmagrath

The Clan McGrath were Coarbs, hereditary overseers and patrons of the Lough Derg pilgrimage islands since the 13th century. In the 16th century, the McGrath Castle was built by Archbishop Miler McGrath, a native of Ulster. The castle was a symbol of power and position.

10:30 The Termon Centre, Pettigo

Seminar on the role of Coarbs in medieval Gaelic Ireland and Scotland and how the Clan McGrath managed politics and influence in a volatile world.

11:30 Board Coach - Travel to Lough Derg Visitor Centre

12:00 Unveiling of the Clans of Ireland Historical Sites Plaque

Clans of Ireland mark significant sites associated with Irish Clans. In 2024, Sleady Castle was marked with a Historical Sites Plaque, and in 2026 we are proud that Lough Derg Visitor's Centre will be marked with a plaque to recognise the Clan McGrath historic links and important role in the history of this great pilgrimage.

12:30 Board Boat - Travel to Station Island, Lough Derg

Station Island, known in the medieval period as St. Patrick's Purgatory, is still a globally renowned pilgrimage site. The three-day pilgrimage is still a challenging journey for those seek spiritual renewal. The Clan McGrath is privileged to be invited to visit the island during the pilgrimage season, recognising the importance of our historic links to this deeply historic, spiritual and meaningful place in the story of our clan and of Ireland. We will be hosted for a tour of Lough Derg and enjoy lunch on the island.

15:00 Board Coach - Travel to Belleek

15:30 Belleek Pottery Visitor Centre - Tour of the Pottery

The Belleek Pottery was founded in 1849 by John Caldwell Bloomfield. Seeking to provide work for the impoverished people of the area, the mineral rich geology of this part of Fermanagh / Donegal drove Bloomfield to acquire investors and by 1865 the pottery's distribution of fine Irish crafts included the US, Canada, Australia, England and customers included Queen Victoria and royal houses of Europe. Today, the pottery still employs 600 local people and continues to produce the world's finest china.

17:00 Board Coach - Return to Enniskillen

18:00 Arrive at Killyhevlin Hotel

Free Time - Social evening at the Killyhevlin Hotel

DAY 3 - Saturday 20th June

Note: Lunch is not provided today, there are many options to try local fare during free time in Donegal Town.



09:00 Board Coach - Travel to Donegal Town

10:00 Donegal Friary and Red Hugh Statue

Guided Tour of the 15th Century Franciscan Friary, location of Archbishop Miler McGrath's entry into the Franciscan Order c.1540 and burial place of McGrath Chiefs. The Annals of the Four Masters, an historic text which gives us so much insight into the history of the Clan McGrath was written here. Following our tour, the Clan McGrath will lay a wreath at the statue of Red Hugh O'Donnell to remember the exiled sons and daughters of Ireland.

11:00 Assemble for the Parade of the Clan McGrath

The Clan McGrath will assemble with banners and colours to parade through Donegal town accompanied by a Pipes and Drums to Donegal Castle, once seat of the O'Donnell Chiefs, ancient Kings, Princes and Lords of Tyrconnell where we will be received by a representative of the Clan O'Donnell of Tyrconnell.

12:00 Tour of Donegal Castle

14:00 Free Time in Donegal Town

Donegal Town is rich with history, arts and crafts. Explore the variety and richness of local products made famous across the world. Explore the flagship store of Donegal Tweed makers Magee 1866 or traditional Irish hatmaker Hanna Hats. There is also An Clachan Arts and Crafts and many other wonderful places to explore.

16:00 Board Coach - Travel to Enniskillen

17:00 Arrive at Killyhevlin Hotel

Free Time - Social evening at the Killyhevlin Hotel

DAY 4 - Sunday 21st June



09:00 Board Coach - Travel to Dungannon, Co. Tyrone

10:00 Tullyhogue Fort - Guided Tour

A guided tour of the ancient inauguration site of the O'Neill Kings of Ulster. This centre of royal power came to prominence in the 11th century when it was a dynastic centre and inaugural place for Cenel nEogain (later the O'Neills). From its hilltop position, it commands wide views over this ancient landscape and is visible for miles around. We will learn about the inauguration rites of the Gaelic Chiefs and the importance of the inauguration stone in the ceremonies carried out here.

11:30 Board Coach - Travel to Dungannon

12:00 Hill of O'Neill Centre

Explore the O'Neill Kings of Ulster, Princes and Lords of Tyrone and kinship with the northern McGraths. We'll discover the role of fosterage in Gaelic Ireland and the importance of these lifelong bonds in shaping the history of Ireland and the Clan McGrath.

13:00 Lunch

13:30 Board Coach - Travel to the City of Armagh

14:00 St. Patrick's Cathedral, Armagh

Founded as the ecclesiastical capital of Ireland by St. Patrick, the cathedral sits on one of prominent hills of Armagh. The city in Irish is Ard Mhacha meaning the height or hill of the Celtic goddess Macha and it was to this place with a strong pre-existing spirituality that St. Patrick became the first Archbishop of Armagh and Primate of All Ireland, a title that still exists today in both the Catholic and Anglican traditions. It is here that High-King Brian Boru, the ancestor of the Clan McGrath, came to have his Kingship blessed according to the ancient right. It is here too, that upon his death at the Battle of Clontarf in 1066, that his body was

taken and laid to rest. Following a guided tour of the Cathedral, the Clan McGrath will honour the memory of High-King Brian Boru and lay a wreath at the site of his grave in memory of those who have gone before us.

15:00 Board Coach - Travel to Navan Fort (Emain Macha)

15:15 Navan Fort (Emain Macha) Visitor Centre

We will receive a guided tour of this ancient seat of the Kings of Ulster, including a living history period hillfort and visitor centre with a deep dive into the epic saga of Cúchulainn, the Red Branch Knights and the Tain Bo Cúailnge (The Cattle Raid of Cooley).

17:00 Board Coach - Return to Enniskillen

18:00 Arrive at Killyhevlin Hotel

19:30 Clan McGrath Gala Dinner, Killyhevlin Hotel, Enniskillen

We will gather to celebrate the closing of our 2026 Clan McGrath International Gathering and to hand over our clan banner to the Clan McGrath of Thomond who will host our next gathering. We will enjoy Ceol agus Craic, music and fun on the shores of Lough Erne at our drinks reception before enjoying dinner together in the presence of our Taoiseach and invited guests.

The 2026 Clan McGrath International Gathering is organised by The Clan McGrath Society - Cumann Chlann Mhic Craith, operated entirely by volunteers.

The Society will seek to deliver all aspects of the programme but reserves the right to make changes at short notice where necessary.

Irish weather can be unpredictable so we like to talk about it, a lot. Bring a weather friendly wardrobe, you'll need to be adaptable. Bring a sweater, even in summer; waterproofs to accompany all outdoor activities; sunglasses; comfortable walking shoes (we will be exploring some sites that are of the beaten path), and an umbrella. When the sun shines in Ireland it's quite strong, so wear a high factor and bring a sunhat.



CLAN McGRATH

International Gathering



THE CLAN McGRATH SOCIETY, About us...



The Clan McGrath and the Cumann Chlann Mhic Craith / Clan McGrath Society is a gathering place for all McGraths from every nation. We are a strictly 'not for profit' society and strictly independent from local government or tourism bodies and business interests.

Our society is based in our ancient home in Ireland and we aim to represent the historic septs of Thomond and Ulster and the many McGrath and associated name groups and individuals around the world.

Our goal is to use our website www.clanmcgrath.org and our social media pages, to share our culture, history and heritage. Membership of the Clan McGrath is a right of birth, marriage or adoption. Membership of Clan McGrath Society is open to all of the McGrath name and its variants including Magrath, Megrath, McGraw, Megraw, McCraw etc. Membership of our society has many benefits including our seasonal newsletter and advance notification and booking of our events and Clan McGrath International Gatherings. Your story is our story.

DID YOU KNOW?

The Clan McGrath Society / Cumann Chlann McGrath is completely voluntary and a non-profit organisation. The Clan McGrath and Clan McGrath Society / Cumann Chlann Mhic Craith are registered entities of [Finte na hÉireann - Clans of Ireland](#).

The earliest reference to the McGrath as a family name is in a citation from 1086, referring to a Craith described as the Chief Poet of the Province of Munster. Craith and his family were related to the O'Briens (descendants of Brian Boru) and served as their poets. Craith may have been born around 970.

In 1097 the Annals of Innisfallen record the "Son of Mac Craith the poet died". This is the first instance of Mac Craith being used as a family name.

As poets the Mac Craiths are important enough to be recorded in the Annals.

The Clan McGrath of Thomond are descended from Cinnéide, father of High King Brian Boru. The Clan McGrath of the Termon were first recorded in the Annals of Ulster in 1290.

The Clan McGrath were the hereditary Coarbs of the famous pilgrimage islands of Lough Derg, protecting the monastic community and controlling the routes to the pilgrimage island.

Archbishop Miler McGrath b.1522-d.1622 was born in Termonmagrath, his father was Coarb (Termoner) of Lough Derg.

Miller took up the Archbishopric of Cashel and Bishopric of Emly, Co. Tipperary in 1570-71 bringing with him 200 armed McGraths, McMenamins and Monaghans, all Ulstermen and their kin. Their descendant still reside in the area to this day. The Annals of Ulster detail names and lineage of McGrath Chieftains of Ulster from the 13th century until the 17th century.



CUMANN CHLANN MHC CRAITH

CLAN McGRATH SOCIETY

HISTORY
HERITAGE
CULTURE & CLAN