

## FANTASTIC FESTIVAL AND NEW YEAR EVENTS

As Christmas approaches there is just time to squeeze in a fantastic festival experience before the year ends. Then take a deep breath and get ready for 2012 which promises to be another year brimming over with the best of festivals and events and more great ways to find your perfect festival break.



### WINTER WEEKENDS AWAY

In the South West the silver screen comes to life at the **Corona Cork Film Festival** in November while, in December, beautiful Dingle is the backdrop for a series of intimate concerts at **Other Voices**. Shake off the cobwebs over the Festive season at the **Leopardstown** and **Limerick Racing Festivals**. In February, celebrate film at the **Jameson Dublin International Film Festival**. In February, head West for something different at **Tedfest** where Teds, Dougals, Jacks & Mrs. Doyle re-create Craggy Island while the beautiful Altamont Gardens, Co. Carlow, hosts **Snowdrop Week** which heralds the welcome return of Spring.



### SANTA CLAUS IS COMING TO TOWN – EARLY!

The big man in red makes some special guest appearances around Ireland. Catch **Santa** at **Bunratty Castle Folk Park** or at **Santa's Workshop** at **Aillwee Cave**. Jump aboard the **Santa Express** at the **Waterford & Suir Valley Railway** or travel back in time to see **Green Santa** at **Belvedere House** where Santa wears green robes and not red ones! There is also tonnes of Festive fun at **Christmas in Waterford** and in Cork at **Christmas on the Grand Parade**.



### STOCKING FILLERS GALORE

In Dublin, find charming gifts and Festive fun at the **National Crafts & Design Fair** and at the **7up Winter Wonderland**. The **Galway Continental Christmas Market** transforms Eyre Square into a Festive and fun environment, while the finest of artisan produce is on show at the **Ducketts Grove Christmas Craft & Food Fair**, in Co. Carlow. In Limerick, don't miss the **Georgian Market** and the superb **Christmas Market at the Milk Market** for tasty treats, seasonal goodies, Santa and choirs.

**FOR FULL LISTING SEE [WWW.DISCOVERIRELAND.IE/WHATS-ON](http://WWW.DISCOVERIRELAND.IE/WHATS-ON)**

## DETAILS OF FEATURED FESTIVALS

Festival	Date	Website
<b>2011</b>		
7up Winter Wonderland	Dec 1-Jan 8	<a href="http://www.7upwinterwonderland.ie">www.7upwinterwonderland.ie</a>
Christmas on the Grand Parade	During Dec	<a href="http://www.cometocork.ie">www.cometocork.ie</a>
Christmas in Waterford	During Dec	<a href="http://www.christmasinwaterford.ie">www.christmasinwaterford.ie</a>
Corona Cork Film Festival	Nov 6-13	<a href="http://www.corkfilmfest.org">www.corkfilmfest.org</a>
Ducketts Grove Christmas & Craft Fair	Dec 11	<a href="http://www.carlowtourism.com">www.carlowtourism.com</a>
Galway Continental Christmas Market	Nov 25-Dec 18	<a href="http://www.galwaychristmasmarket.ie">www.galwaychristmasmarket.ie</a>
Green Santa at Belvedere House	Various dates Nov & Dec	<a href="http://www.belvedere-house.ie">www.belvedere-house.ie</a>
Leopardstown Racing Christmas Festival	Dec 26-29	<a href="http://www.leopardstown.com">www.leopardstown.com</a>
Limerick Christmas at the Milk Market	Various dates Nov 25-Dec 24	<a href="http://www.milkmarketlimerick.ie">www.milkmarketlimerick.ie</a>
Limerick Georgian Market	Dates tbc	<a href="http://www.limerickgeorgianmarket.com">www.limerickgeorgianmarket.com</a>
Limerick Racing Festival	Dec 26-29	<a href="http://www.limerickraces.ie">www.limerickraces.ie</a>
National Crafts & Design Fair	Nov 30-Dec 4	<a href="http://www.nationalcraftsfair.ie">www.nationalcraftsfair.ie</a>
Other Voices	During Dec	<a href="http://www.othervoices.ie">www.othervoices.ie</a>
Santa at Bunratty Castle Folk	Dec 2-23	<a href="http://www.shannonheritage.com">www.shannonheritage.com</a>
Santa's Workshop at Aillwee Cave	Various dates Nov & Dec	<a href="http://www.aillweecave.ie">www.aillweecave.ie</a>
Santa Express at the Waterford & Suir Valley Railway	Various dates Dec	<a href="http://www.wsvrailway.ie">www.wsvrailway.ie</a>
Walk Killarney and Kerry	Dec 26-27	<a href="http://www.killarney.ie/walkillarney">www.killarney.ie/walkillarney</a>
<b>2012</b>		
Art O'Neill Challenge	Jan 13	<a href="http://www.artoneillchallenge.ie">www.artoneillchallenge.ie</a>
Glen of Aherlow Winter Walking Festival	Jan 27-29	<a href="http://www.aherlow.com">www.aherlow.com</a>
Jameson Dublin International Film Festival	Feb 16-26	<a href="http://www.jdiff.com">www.jdiff.com</a>
Nire Valley Comeragh Mountains Bogtrot	Dates tbc	<a href="http://www.nirevalley.com">www.nirevalley.com</a>
Ride and Tide Endurance Festival	Dates tbc	<a href="http://www.gotrekking.ie">www.gotrekking.ie</a>
Runamuck	During Mar	<a href="http://www.runamuckchallenge.com">www.runamuckchallenge.com</a>
Scoil Cheoil an Earraigh	Feb 15-19	<a href="http://www.scoilcheoil.com">www.scoilcheoil.com</a>
Snowdrop Week	Feb 20-26 tbc	<a href="http://www.carlowgardentrail.com">www.carlowgardentrail.com</a>
Táin Walking Festival	Dates tbc	<a href="http://www.discoverireland.ie">www.discoverireland.ie</a>
Tedfest	Feb 23-26	<a href="http://www.tedfest.org">www.tedfest.org</a>
Temple Bar Trad Fest	Jan 25-29	<a href="http://www.templebartrad.com">www.templebartrad.com</a>
The Gathering	Feb 22-26	<a href="http://www.thegathering.ie">www.thegathering.ie</a>
Winter Music Weekend	Jan 12-15	<a href="http://www.wmw.ie">www.wmw.ie</a>

## A 'TRADITIONAL' NEW YEAR

The **Temple Bar Trad Fest** brings the cream of traditional music to the cobbled streets of Temple Bar. Hear acoustic acts of all hues at the intimate **Winter Music Weekend** in Co. Clare. Get your dancing shoes on for a lively weekend of céilís, workshops and masterclasses at **The Gathering** in Killarney and **Scoil Cheoil na Earraigh** on the Dingle Peninsula.



## GET OUT THERE

Explore the beauty of Ireland's landscape with some great walking festivals including **Walk Killarney & Kerry**, the **Glen of Aherlow Winter Walking Festival** in Co. Tipperary and the **Táin Walking Festival** in Co. Louth - all offering a variety of walks showcasing the beauty of the Winter and Spring landscape. Or set yourself a tougher challenge by taking part in the **Art O'Neill Challenge** in Wicklow, the **Ride and Tide Endurance Festival**, Co. Mayo, **Runamuck** in Co. Kildare or the **Nire Valley Comeragh Mountains Bogtrot** in Co. Waterford.