

London set to go green for St Patrick's Day

Irish music on the Tube, a street food market and a Céilí in the capital all form part of this year's celebrations.

THE festivities will get under way on Sunday with a colourful procession of Irish marching bands, dance troupes and pageantry, as well as a 17ft-high puppet called Crom. The parade starts at Green Park and will pass by London's famous landmarks on its route from Piccadilly to Trafalgar Square.

The square will be turned green, with performers from across the capital's diverse Irish communities. Among the acts will be 'The Wagon Wheel' singer Nathan Carter, one of the biggest stars of Irish and country music, as well as The London Lasses and popular London-based band The Craichheads.

The Irish Embassy is working with Transport for London (TfL) to bring Irish music and



poems to the London Underground to coincide with the festivities. Several Tube

stations will have performers showcasing Irish music, dance, poetry and the country's rich cultural heritage,

while celebrating links with London. An exhibition at Moorgate station will highlight the contributions of Irish

workers to the development of London's Underground and rail networks.

Mayor Boris Johnson MP said: 'It's a pleasure to once again be supporting one of the biggest and best St Patrick's Day celebrations anywhere in the world.'

'Our free event in the heart of the capital is a terrific opportunity for Londoners and visitors to embrace the traditions of Ireland, to mark the huge contribution several generations of Irish people have made to our city, and to have 'the craic'.'

The celebrations start at midday and finish at 6pm. The following Tube stations will be busier than usual: Green Park, Leicester Square, Embankment, Piccadilly Circus and Charing Cross. Bus services will be cancelled or diverted from 9.30am until 3pm in Mayfair and St James's owing to road closures for the parade. Allow extra time for your journey and check before you travel at tfl.gov.uk/journeyplanner. For more information about the event, visit, london.gov.uk/st-patricks-day

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MAYOR OF LONDON



Cameras at the ready for a cab challenge

TRANSPORT for London and Exterion Media have kicked off a photography challenge in the latest phase of their Design Icons project.

They have created a series of classic postcard shots featuring a specially wrapped black taxi at some of the capital's most popular tourist attractions. Entrants are invited to recreate their postcards and take a photo featuring the

iconic black taxi – voted number one #DesignIcon – in front of their favourite London landmark. The best pictures will be chosen by a panel of experts and the most original images will be shown in an exhibition later in the year.

■ Upload your photos or send as a message via our Facebook page [facebook.transportforlondon](https://www.facebook.com/transportforlondon)

Transported by Design

Design Icons forms part of 'Transported by Design', an 18-month programme of events, exhibitions and competitions that celebrate the role of good design on the London's transport network.

The black cab was voted the most popular transport Design Icon from more than 100 nominees. To mark the start of the challenge a fleet of taxis bearing the 'Transported by Design' livery can be seen across the capital. Other activities are being planned to showcase the top ten.

■ To find out more about Transported by Design and Design Icons, visit tfl.gov.uk/transportedbydesign or transportedbydesign.tumblr.com/



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