

St. Patrick's Day

PUBLICITY

Sharing commitment to international peace, security

By Damien Cole

Ambassador of Ireland to Japan

My warmest greetings to the readers of the Japan News on the occasion of St. Patrick's Day 2024. Each year, on March 17, the people of Ireland celebrate St. Patrick's Day, our national day. We are joined in these celebrations by the 70 million people of Irish heritage and by our friends and supporters all over the world. I would like to take this opportunity to express the deepest sympathies of the people of Ireland to all those affected by the 2024 Noto Peninsula Earthquake earlier this year.



Damien Cole

St. Patrick's Day is an occasion to take stock of the strong ties between Ireland and Japan. I would like to express my deep gratitude to the Government of Japan and members of the Diet, as well as political, economic, cultural, academic and media partners for your work in nurturing this relationship.

Japan sees a rich program of St. Patrick's Day events during March every year, from Tokyo to Matsue, from Sapporo to Kumamoto. I am delighted to see the variety of events each year, with parades, music and dance.

I look forward to participating in the Tokyo parade in Omotesando on March 17 and the Green Ireland Festival in Yoyogi Park on March 16 and 17. The Tokyo parade is the oldest and largest St. Patrick's Day parade in Asia, and the Green Ireland Festival will be the largest Irish event in Asia.

This vibrant St. Patrick's Day program is thanks to the dedication of the Irish community and friends of Ireland in Japan who work tirelessly to make this happen, and to whom I express my sincere thanks and appreciation.

I am delighted that Minister Roderic O'Gorman T.D., Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth, is representing the Government of Ireland at the St. Patrick's Day events in Japan this year. He will lead an intensive program in Japan, including official engagements with political counterparts and launching Ireland's concept for Expo Osaka, Kansai, 2025.

This year's St. Patrick's Day festival highlights Ireland's future in the world, celebrating our young people and diaspora. We are very proud of young Irish and diaspora leaders in innovation, creativity, community development, business, and academia around the world.

Ireland shares with Japan a commitment to international peace and security and the rules-based multilateral system, especially at this time of conflict and turbulence. Like Japan, we continue to denounce Russia's illegal invasion of Ukraine. Ireland and the European

Union remain committed to continuing our support for Ukraine for as long as it takes. To date, Ireland has welcomed almost 105,000 Ukrainians, more than 2% of our total population.

Last year, Ireland celebrated 50 years of membership in the EU. Ireland remains a core member of the EU single market and the eurozone. The EU has been a catalyst in creating the prosperous and progressive Ireland of today.

Ireland has experienced a period of sustained growth. Our economy is a highly developed and open knowledge economy, focused on services in the high-tech, life sciences, finance and agribusiness sectors.

This year, in 2024, Team Ireland in Japan is busy preparing for the opening of the new Ireland House in Tokyo in 2025 and Ireland's participation in Expo Osaka, Kansai, 2025. These combined investments are a tangible expression of Ireland's continued commitment to Japan. We look forward to celebrating St. Patrick's Day 2025 at our new embassy in Yotsuya, Tokyo.

So, on this St. Patrick's Day, I would like to invite you to join us in wearing something green, supporting your local parade, and joining in the fun and spirit of the day. Lá fhéile Pádraig sona daoibh go léir!



Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth

Roderic O'Gorman T.D., Ireland's Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth



Embassy of Ireland Tokyo

St. Patrick's Day Parade in Omotesando, Tokyo, last year

Happy St. Patrick's Day from Team Ireland in Japan!



Ambasáid na hÉireann | An tSeapáin
Embassy of Ireland | Japan
駐日アイルランド大使館



Ireland Japan Chamber of Commerce

BORD BIA
IRISH FOOD BOARD

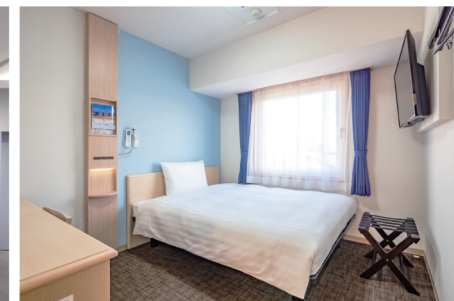
IDA
Ireland

Tourism
Ireland

Enterprise
Ireland

Happy St. Patrick's Day

From toyoko inn



Your journey starts here

352 Hotels with 77,119 Rooms as of 29 Feb. 2024

東横 toyoko inn

