



# GRAND TOURS

PROVISIONAL ITINERARY

JOHN F. KENNEDY SHAMROCK REGIMENT BAND TOUR, 12-19 MARCH  
2020

## Trip Cancelled Due to Covid

In March of 2020, the students of the John F. Kennedy High School Band had been eagerly counting down the days to what was meant to be a once-in-a-lifetime trip to Ireland. Months of preparation had gone into the journey—fundraisers, rehearsals, and planning—all building excitement for the opportunity to perform abroad, experience a new culture, and create unforgettable memories together. For many of the students, this would have been their first time traveling internationally, making the trip even more meaningful.

As departure drew closer, however, news of a rapidly spreading virus began to dominate headlines. What initially seemed like a distant concern quickly became a global crisis. In a matter of days, uncertainty turned into reality as travel restrictions were announced and schools across the country began to close. Ultimately, the difficult decision was made to cancel the Ireland trip to protect the health and safety of the students, staff, and their families.

The cancellation was deeply disappointing for everyone involved. Students who had worked so hard and looked forward to this experience were left with a sense of loss and unfinished anticipation. Despite this, the situation also brought a sense of perspective. The band community showed resilience and understanding during an unprecedented moment in history, supporting one another through the disappointment. While the trip to Ireland never took place, the shared experience of preparing for it—and navigating its cancellation—remains a meaningful chapter in the band's story.



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<b>COST – Adult/Student Triple</b>	<b>\$3300</b>	<b>Chaperone Triple</b>	<b>\$3070</b>
<b>Adult/Student Double</b>	<b>\$3375</b>	<b>Chaperone Double</b>	<b>\$3145</b>
<b>Adult Single</b>	<b>\$3850</b>	<b>Chaperone Single</b>	
<b>\$3620</b>			

**\$100 due with enrolment form**

**\$500 is due per traveller by 6/1/19 (additional due dates to follow)**



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### JOHN F. KENNEDY SHAMROCK REGIMENT BAND TOUR, 12-19 MARCH 2020

#### DAY 1

Thursday

TIMES TBA

#### WELCOME TO IRELAND

Arrive Dublin Airport, pending flight details.

3/12/2020

Upon arrival, proceed through passport control and customs, meet local representative from Grand Tours in the arrivals terminal. You will then be escorted to the awaiting motorcoaches for your transfer the short distance to the hotel in Malahide, County Dublin.

TBA hrs: Dinner in hotel.

**OVERNIGHT: Grand Hotel, Malahide, Co. Dublin, Tel: +353-(0)1-845 0000**

#### DAY 2

Friday

3/13/2020

TBA hrs: Wake up call, all rooms TBA

hrs: Irish buffet breakfast.

#### MALAHIDE - DUBLIN – MALAHIDE – CLONDALKIN

**TBA hrs:** We depart hotel for the city arriving in Nassau Street, meet up with local guides for a sightseeing tour of Dublin, our first visit will be **St. Patrick's Cathedral**. During the tour you will see some of the more notable sights, Bank of Ireland-(Old Parliament House), the Georgian Squares of Merrion & Fitzwilliam, Phoenix Park, the General Post Office located in O'Connell Street. The tour finishes with a visit to **Trinity College - (Book of Kells)**.

**TBA hrs** **Optional** lunch on your own.

Followed by some time at leisure for personal sightseeing.

**TBA hrs:** John F. Kennedy Band Director & staff to meet with representative of St. Patrick's Festival office, for Patrick's Day briefing, (venue TBA).

**TBA hrs:** Transfer from Nassau Street, Dublin to Malahide.

**TBA hrs:** Dinner in hotel.

**TBA hrs** Transfer to the Green Isle Hotel, Clondalkin.

**TBA hrs:** Cultural event in the hotel's ballroom, joint performance **Clondalkin Youth Band** and **John F. Kennedy Shamrock Regiment Band**.

Followed by an exchange of gifts and pleasantries.

**TBA hrs:** Depart Clondalkin and return transfer to Malahide.

**OVERNIGHT: Grand Hotel, Malahide, County Dublin.**

#### DAY 3

Saturday

3/14/2020

TBA hrs:

#### MALAHIDE – GALWAY

Wake up call, all rooms.

TBA hrs:

Irish buffet breakfast.



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- TBA hrs:** Today we travel across the midlands of Ireland to the enchanting Medieval City of Galway, capital of the West. On arrival in Galway take a short panoramic sightseeing tour of the City where we will see Eyre Square- (John F. Kennedy Memorial Park), Salmon Weir Bridge, Galway Cathedral, University of Galway, The Claddagh, Spanish Arch and Galway Bay. **Optional** lunch on your own.
- TBA hrs:** Coach with instruments & some band members transfer to St.Patrick's School, Lombard St. After drop-off, short walk to the hotel and **check-in**.
- TBA hrs:** Group meet (pick-up TBA) for coach transfer to the hotel for **check-in**.
- TBA hrs:** Dinner in hotel, (Band & Chaperones).
- TBA hrs:** Band and Chaperones depart hotel and walk the short distance to St. Patrick's School, Lombard Street, for rehearsal.
- TBA hrs:** Dinner in hotel, for the remainder of the group.
- TBA hrs:** Adults depart hotel and walk to St. Patrick's School.
- TBA hrs:** **Cultural Exchange Concert:** Patrician Band and John F. Kennedy Shamrock Regiment Band.
- TBA hrs:** The Mayor of Galway, will make a presentation on behalf of the City of Galway to the JFK Band followed by speeches from the Principal of St. Patricks School and Band Director of John F. Kennedy.
- TBA hrs:** After the concert walk back to the hotel.

**OVERNIGHT: Jurys Inn, Galway, Tel: 353-(0)91-566444 or similar hotel.**

#### DAY 4

Sunday

3/15/2020

**TBA hrs**

**TBA hrs:**

**TBA hrs**

**TBA hrs**

**TBA hrs:** Today we discover Connemara a breathtaking region of mountains and lakes. Drive through Barna, Furbo, the Irish speaking village of Spiddal and on to Clifden - with an almost alpine setting, nestling on the edge of the Atlantic. **Optional** lunch on your own.

We will visit **Kylemore Abbey**, built as a castle in 1868. The Abbey - a masterpiece of Victorian engineering and ingenuity - was set on the lake shore at the heart of a 15,000 acre estate. Afterwards, return to Galway, via Maam



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Cross, site of the replica cottage used in the classic movie 'The Quiet Man', Oughterard and Moycullen.

**TBA hrs:** Dinner in hotel, (Band and Chaperones,).

**TBA hrs:** Dinner in hotel, remainder of the group.

**OVERNIGHT: Jurys Inn, Galway or similar hotel.**

#### DAY 5

Monday

3/16/2020

#### GALWAY – BUNRATTY – NENAGH – DUBLIN

**TBA hrs:** Wake up call, all rooms.

**TBA hrs:** Irish buffet breakfast, (Band and Chaperones).

**TBA hrs:** Irish buffet breakfast, remainder of the group.

**TBA hrs:** Depart hotel for County Clare.

**TBA hrs:** Visit **Bunratty Castle** and **Folk Park** where Irish life at the turn of the century is tellingly recreated. Some time for shopping in Bunratty Village Mills. **Optional** lunch on your own in the Village.

**TBA hrs:** Continue our journey to Nenagh, County Tipperary.

**TBA hrs:** Arrive in the Town and proceed to the railway station car park. Disembark from coach & walk the short distance to the Hotel (TBC)). Band members to change into uniform and then **warm up** in the station car park in preparation for the parade performance.

**TBA hrs:** **Parade route**, Kenyon Street, Pearse Street, Kickham Street, Banba Square, finishing at the Court House.

**TBA hrs:** Welcome speech by a representative of the Nenagh Municipal District, followed by **J. F .Kennedy Band recital** on the steps of the Court House.

**TBA hrs:** Return transfer from the Court House to the railway station car park. Then walk to the Hotel and change out of uniform.

**TBA hrs:** **Local Chamber President** will speak to the Shamrock Regiment in the Hotel on behalf of the Town of Nenagh. Dr. Joshua Parsons, Band Director will then present a gift on behalf of the band to the town.

**TBA hrs:** Light refreshments.

**TBA hrs:** Depart Nenagh and return to Malahide, County Dublin.

**TBA hrs:** Dinner in hotel.

**OVERNIGHT: Grand Hotel, Malahide, Co. Dublin.**

#### DAY 6

Tuesday

3/17/2020

#### IN DUBLIN - HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY

**TBA hrs:** Wake up call, all rooms.

**TBA hrs:** Irish buffet breakfast.

**TBA hrs:** Band (in uniform) and staff transfer from hotel to Blessington Street.

**TBA hrs:** Parade assembly point (**TBC**).

**TBA hrs:** Remainder of group departs hotel to viewing area in O'Connell Street.

**TBA hrs:** Parade dispersal, (return to Coaches to change out of Uniforms).

**Optional** lunch on your own.





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<b>hrs: Parade from Granby</b>	<b>TBA hrs:</b>	Balance of afternoon at leisure.	<b>TBA starts, Row.</b>
<b>TBA hrs:</b>		Return transfer to Malahide.	
<b>OVERNIGHT</b>		Dinner in hotel.	
		<b>Grand Hotel, Malahide, Co. Dublin</b>	

#### DAY 7 MALAHIDE – BELFAST - MALAHIDE

**Wednesday TBA hrs:** Wake up call, all rooms.  
**3/18/2020 TBA hrs:** Irish buffet breakfast  
**TBA hrs:** This morning we depart on an excursion to Belfast, Northern Ireland.  
 On arrival in Belfast we will meet up with local guides and take a panoramic tour of the City, which will include the political wall murals located on the Protestant Shankill Road & Catholic Falls Road, Crumlin Road, Parliament Buildings Stormont, St. Anne’s Cathedral, the Albert Memorial Clock Tower, City Hall, Opera House and Queens University – a unique cultural experience.

**TBA hrs: Optional** lunch on your own.  
 In the afternoon we visit **Titanic Belfast**, the world’s largest Titanic Visitor Experience. Located on the spot where the famous ship was designed, built and launched. Titanic Belfast tells the story of the RMS Titanic, from her conception in Belfast in the early 1900s, through her construction and launch, to her famous maiden voyage & subsequent place in history. Explore the shipyard, travel to the depths of the ocean **TBA hrs:** and discover the true legend of Titanic, in the city where it all began.  
**TBA hrs:** Return transfer to Malahide.  
**OVERNIGHT:** Dinner in hotel.  
**Grand Hotel, Malahide, Co. Dublin.**

#### DAY 8 MALAHIDE – DUBLIN AIRPORT

**Thursday TBA hrs:** Wake up call.  
**3/19/2020 TBA hrs:** Luggage to be brought down to the motorcoaches.  
**TBA hrs:** Box continental breakfast to be collected in the Lobby.  
**TBA hrs:** Transfer from hotel to Dublin Airport.

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