



## Delphi Lodge Events Calendar – What’s on in March?

It’s Springtime in the West of Ireland so let’s take a look at the line-up in the Galway, Connemara and Southwest Mayo region.

### Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> to Friday 17<sup>th</sup>

#### **Seachtain na Gaeilge Festival**

This annual fortnight-long festival is a celebration of the Irish language, culture and heritage. It encapsulates the pride of the Irish language community and inspires further generations to immerse themselves in our native tongue. The festival has built up a huge momentum in recent years, becoming the largest celebration of the Irish language and culture held every year. Seachtain na Gaeilge has something for everyone; young and old, native and non-native, fluent and novice. All you need is a cúpla focal!

See: [www.arasnangael.ie](http://www.arasnangael.ie)

### Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> to Sunday 5<sup>th</sup>

#### **Éigse an Spidéil**

Éigse an Spidéil is an annual festival of traditional music, dance, sean-nós singing, art, and poetry which takes place in Spiddal, Co. Galway.

See: [www.eigseanspideil.ie](http://www.eigseanspideil.ie)

### Saturday 4<sup>th</sup>

#### **Gaelforce Sky Run Mountain Challenge**

A 22km Mountain run across three peaks of the Northern Maamturks in Connemara. This is a unique event and the only one of its kind on the west coast of Ireland. A 22km challenging race route involving steep ascents and descents, for experienced mountain runners only. Special access has been granted to this stunning route by local landowners making it an amazing opportunity for mountain runners.

See: <http://www.gaelforceevents.com/skyrun/en/skyrun.html>

**Monday 6<sup>th</sup> to Friday 10<sup>th</sup>**

**Muscailt Arts Festival @ NUIG**

Mùscailt, meaning to celebrate and inspire is the title of the celebrated spring arts festival hosted by the National University of Ireland, Galway. The 17th Mùscailt Arts Festival at NUI Galway invites all students, staff, alumni and the public to enjoy a week of art, music and performance on campus. Mùscailt has something for everyone in terms of music, Sculpture and photography, theatre.

See: [www.muscailt.nuigalway.ie](http://www.muscailt.nuigalway.ie)

**Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup>**

**The Saw Doctors Live at Westport Town Hall**

The Saw Doctors are an Irish rock band. Formed in 1986 in Tuam, County Galway, they have achieved eighteen Top 30 singles in The Republic of Ireland including three number ones. A fun night out.

See: [www.westporttownhall.ie](http://www.westporttownhall.ie)

**Friday 10<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 12<sup>th</sup>**

**Aran Celtic Music Festival**

The Aran Celtic Music Festival takes place on the Aran Islands and showcases the best of Celtic music, song, dance and heritage and brings together prominent musicians and artists for a unique occasion in the beautiful setting of the Aran Islands.

See: [www.ceilteach.ie](http://www.ceilteach.ie)

**Croagh Patrick Heritage Trail Walking Festival**

Walk in Mayo with the ancient mountain of Croagh Patrick as your destination. Come and walk the Croagh Patrick Heritage Walking Trail and experience unspoilt landscape and rich heritage in County Mayo on the west coast of Ireland. Croagh Patrick Heritage Trail is a 61 kilometre national way-marked walk which begins in the village of Balla in east Mayo and ends at the village of Murrisk at the foot of Croagh Patrick on the shores of Clew Bay.

See [www.croaghpatrickheritagetrail.com](http://www.croaghpatrickheritagetrail.com)

**Saturday 11<sup>th</sup>**

**Westport Gran Fondo**

Westport Gran Fondo is a one day cycling event and is the first of its kind in the Republic of Ireland. There are 2 events; Gran Fondo at 122km and Medio Fondo at 70km.

See: [www.westportgranfondo.ie](http://www.westportgranfondo.ie)

## Friday 17<sup>th</sup>

### St. Patrick's Day

The most Irish of all feasts and festivals. There'll be a parade in almost every town in the locality – with Clifden, Louisburgh and Westport all putting their best floats forward.

A little farther away the Galway St. Patrick's Festival will take place, celebrating Galway's diverse culture and talent. See [www.stpatricksfestivalgalway.com](http://www.stpatricksfestivalgalway.com)

Take in one parade or take up the challenge to visit as many as possible on the day – not for the faint-hearted.

## Saturday 18<sup>th</sup>

### Head of the River Rowing Regatta (Galway)

This year the Head of the River will be organised by NUIG Boat Club and Tribesmen, and it takes place from the mouth of the lake to a little downstream from the Quincentennial Bridge. The boats race for fours and double sculls starts at 10.30am, the race for single sculls and pairs starts at 1.30pm, and the race for eights and quad sculls starts at 4pm. Hundreds of competitors will be involved, and the best viewing points are Dangan slip or on or near the Quincentennial Bridge.

See [www.galwayheadoftheriver.ie](http://www.galwayheadoftheriver.ie)

## More things to do in March...

### Walking

With beautiful spring weather, March is a great time for walking in Connemara - for a list of scheduled walks go to: [www.walkconnemara.com](http://www.walkconnemara.com)

### Clewboy Archaeological Trail

Wonderful insights into the historic heritage of the area – can be split into manageable chunks, but should be experienced to some extent when here.

<http://www.clewboytrail.com/>

### Craft Fairs

For Craft and Food Galway's famous bustling market with hundreds of stalls selling fresh produce and locally produced crafts. Open Saturdays and Bank Holidays from 8am to 6pm and Sundays 12 noon to 6pm.

Westport also hosts an indoor market on Thursdays from 8.30 am till 1.00 pm – fantastic food and wonderful locally crafted goods. Get there early!

Or if you just want to have a look around the local craft shops, you can't go wrong with Westport, Louisburgh and Leenane.