



Information for attending the Ireland Newfoundland 2016 Gathering August 19 - 27, 2016

The Ireland Newfoundland 2016 Gathering events will take place over 9 days, visiting various locations throughout Ireland's southeast. We will be visiting Thomastown, Co. Kilkenny; New Ross, Co. Waterford; & Carrick on Suir, Co. Tipperary.

2016 Schedule

Friday, August 19 – Sunday, August 21

- Focus on locations near Thomastown, Co. Kilkenny.
- Highlights: Visit Kilkenny Medieval City, Kilkenny Castle, Hurling Match, BBQ, Gala banquet, Thomastown.

Monday, August 22 – Wednesday, August 24

- Focus on locations near New Ross, Co. Waterford.
- Highlights: Dunbrody Famine Ship, New Ross Municipal District, JFK Homestead/Arboretum, Aloy O'Brien Concert & other musical events/entertainment, Tintern Abbey, Visit Enniscorthy 1916 Museum.

Thursday, August 25 – Saturday, August 27

- Focus on locations near Carrick on Suir, Co. Tipperary on the River Suir.
- Visit Kilcash, River Suir Programme, Closing Ceremony dinner/dance, historic visits, tours, & other musical events/entertainment.

Full 2016 Gathering Event Pass

- The Full Event Pass* will cover admission to all scheduled 2016 Gathering events. (Our Irish partners may include a very limited number of optional events which will not be covered in the basic price of the pass.)
- Full Event Pass holders will be hosted, free of charge, in the homes of our Irish friends.
- Full Event Pass will cost **\$575** per person.

Air Travel

- The NLIC group will depart from St. John's on August 18 (arriving in Dublin the morning of August 19) and returning to St. John's from Dublin on **August 29**.
- We understand that Gathering participants may fly on different airlines and on different dates.
- 2016 Gathering participants are responsible for purchasing their own airfares and travel insurance.

Ground Transportation

- The NLIC Ground Transportation Package will include local transport (Gathering bus) for transportation to/from the 2016 Gathering events.
- The NLIC Ground Transportation Package will include pick up on the morning of **August 19** at Dublin Airport & return to Dublin on the evening of **August 28th**.
- The NLIC Ground Transportation Package for the Full Event Pass will cost **\$300** per person.
- Attendees who choose not to avail of the Ground Transportation Package & who would like to source their own transportation (car rental, Irish buses/trains, taxis, etc) are 100% responsible for organizing & funding alternatives.

Accommodation

- Full Event Pass holders will be hosted, free of charge, in the homes of our Irish friends for the duration of the Gathering.
- Typically, participants are hosted with three different host families as the Gathering moves between the three main regions/counties where events are held.
- Participants can use private accommodations such as hotels and B&Bs as an alternative to staying with host families. Arrangement and cost of private accommodations are the responsibility of the individual.
- *If you return to Dublin with the NLIC group on the day of **August 28**, you will need a hotel room for that night. Participants are responsible for their own hotel costs and arrangements in Dublin on August 28.*

Food

- If you are planning on using the option of being hosted for the duration of the 2016 Gathering, please note that on most occasions, your host will provide you with Breakfast but usually Lunch & Dinner will be sourced elsewhere.
- Due to the nature of the Gathering & considering that many events will be scheduled throughout the day/evening, in the majority of instances, an event may include lunch &/or dinner.
- You may also find that other “snacks” will be available throughout the Gathering as served, for example in a meet & greet, during exhibitions or sing-songs.
- However, there still may be occasions when the attendee would source his/her own food (a lunch or a snack as needed.)

Summary

There are several options available for participants travelling with NLIC:

- (a) Full Event Pass (including hosting with our Irish friends) + Ground Transportation Package
- (b) Full Event Pass + own accommodation + Ground Transportation Package
- (c) Full Event Pass (including hosting with our Irish friends) + own ground transport
- (d) Full Event Pass + own accommodation + own ground transport

The most cost effective way to attend the 2016 Gathering is option (a) which is to be hosted in the homes of our Irish friends and use the NLIC Ground Transportation Package.

* NLIC is the sole provider of 2016 Gathering Event Passes for participants travelling to Ireland.

Booking information

- For those wishing to purchase a Full Event Pass + Ground Transportation Package, the total cost is **\$875**
- We will require a \$200 deposit per person at the time of booking to secure a place.
- Registration will take place at our 2016 Gathering **Attendee Information Session** (see below).
- Payments are accepted in the form of cash, cheque or money-order. Unfortunately, we do not have the facilities to accommodate digital transfer or credit card payments.

- Please note the deadline for full payment for attendees participating in the 2016 Gathering will be June 30, 2016. Our postal address is noted below.

- All those wishing to attend the Gathering will need to submit an **Attendee Registration Form** (coming this week!) This will be a basic form with your name, contact details, emergency contact information, allergy information, dietary requirements, mobility issues, if you are traveling alone/as a couple, if you a smoker/non-smoker, etc. We require this information so we can place you with a host who will be most suitable to your needs. Having a good a match of attendee & host will give the best Gathering experience! Please be assured that all information provided on this form will be kept confidential.

- An **Attendee Information Session for the 2016 Gathering will be held on Saturday, April 9, 2016** at the Benevolent Irish Society, 30 Harvey Road from 7-8 pm. We invite people to come & book their place, drop off their *Attendee Registration Form*, pay their deposit/obtain receipt, ask questions & find out more about the 2016 Gathering!

- For those who cannot attend the 2016 Attendee Information Session (or pay the deposit in person), please forward completed *Attendee Registration Forms* & \$200 deposit (cheque or money order) to our mailing address & we will issue a receipt:

NL Irish Connections
P.O. Box 8151, Station A
St. John's, NL
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For more information now, or to find our more details as they become available, please email us at contact@nlirishconnections.org, or visit our [Website](#) or [Facebook Page](#).

