

St. Patrick's Day Trivia

1. The very first St. Patrick's Day parade was not in Ireland. It was in Boston in 1737.
2. St. Patrick's Day did not become a national holiday in Ireland in 1903 and the first parade wasn't held in Dublin until 1931.
3. St. Patrick wasn't Irish. He was born in either Scotland or Wales, and was brought to Ireland as a slave.
4. St. Patrick's name wasn't Patrick. It was actually Maewyn Succat. And the holiday marks his DEATH, not his birthday.
5. The color originally associated with St. Patrick was blue; green became associated during the 19th century
6. Shamrocks symbolize the day; St Patrick used them to explain how the father, son and Holy Spirit were connected.
7. The city of Chicago started dyeing it's river green to celebrate St. Patrick's Day in 1962.
8. America is way more Irish than Ireland. In 2008, there were approximately 36 million Americans with Irish ancestors. The population of Ireland is about 4.5 million.
9. The original Guinness Brewery in Dublin has a 9,000 year lease.
10. On the average day, people worldwide drink 5.5 million pints of Guinness...on St. Patrick's Day, it jumps to at least 13 million pints.
11. 1% of all the beer in the WORLD is consumed on St. Patrick's Day.
12. Approximately 133 million American adults...or 56.3% of the adult population...will celebrate St. Patrick's Day this year. And 84% will wear green.