# Get Ready for the Luckiest Day of the Year: It's Almost Time to Celebrate St. Patrick's Day!

St. Patrick's Day is a global celebration of Irish culture and heritage, and it's one of the most popular holidays in the world. Every year, people of all ages and backgrounds come together to enjoy parades, parties, and plenty of green beer.



#### It's Almost Time to Celebrate St. Patrick's Day

by Billie Holladay Skelley

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If you're looking for a way to celebrate St. Patrick's Day this year, we've got you covered. Here are a few ideas to get you started:

- Attend a parade. St. Patrick's Day parades are held in cities and towns all over the world, so there's sure to be one near you. These parades are a great way to see Irish culture in action, and they're always a lot of fun.
- Go to a party. If you're not in the mood for a parade, there are plenty of other ways to celebrate St. Patrick's Day. Many bars and restaurants host parties with live music, Irish food, and green beer.

- Cook an Irish meal. If you're feeling adventurous, why not cook an Irish meal for yourself and your friends? There are plenty of easy recipes available online, so you don't have to be a master chef to make a delicious Irish dinner.
- Watch an Irish movie. If you're staying in on St. Patrick's Day, there are plenty of great Irish movies to watch. Some of our favorites include
   "The Quiet Man," "The Commitments," and "Brooklyn."
- Listen to Irish music. There's no better way to get in the St. Patrick's Day spirit than to listen to some Irish music. Check out traditional Irish bands like The Chieftains and The Dubliners, or listen to more modern Irish artists like Hozier and Ed Sheeran.

No matter how you choose to celebrate St. Patrick's Day, make sure to have fun and enjoy the luck of the Irish!

#### St. Patrick's Day Traditions

St. Patrick's Day is a time for celebration, but it's also a time to learn about Irish culture and heritage. Here are a few of the most popular St. Patrick's Day traditions:

- Wearing green. The color green is associated with St. Patrick and Ireland, so it's traditional to wear green on St. Patrick's Day. It's said that wearing green will bring you good luck on St. Patrick's Day.
- Shamrocks. Shamrocks are a type of clover that is associated with Ireland and St. Patrick. Legend has it that St. Patrick used shamrocks to explain the Holy Trinity to the Irish people.

- Leprechauns. Leprechauns are mythical creatures that are said to be small, green, and have a pot of gold at the end of a rainbow. Many people believe that catching a leprechaun on St. Patrick's Day will bring you good luck.
- Kissing the Blarney Stone. The Blarney Stone is a stone that is said to give you the gift of gab if you kiss it. The Blarney Stone is located in Ireland, and it's a popular tourist destination.
- Drinking green beer. Green beer is a popular St. Patrick's Day tradition. It's made by adding green food coloring to beer.

These are just a few of the many St. Patrick's Day traditions that are celebrated around the world. If you're looking for a way to learn more about Irish culture, St. Patrick's Day is the perfect time to do it.

#### St. Patrick's Day Recipes

If you're planning on cooking an Irish meal for St. Patrick's Day, here are a few recipes to get you started:

- Corned beef and cabbage. Corned beef and cabbage is a classic Irish dish that is perfect for St. Patrick's Day. It's made with corned beef, cabbage, potatoes, and carrots, and it's usually served with a side of mustard.
- Irish stew. Irish stew is another popular Irish dish that is perfect for St.
   Patrick's Day. It's made with lamb, potatoes, carrots, and onions, and it's often served with a side of bread.
- Shepherd's pie. Shepherd's pie is a hearty and delicious dish that is perfect for a cold St. Patrick's Day. It's made with ground lamb,

mashed potatoes, and vegetables, and it's usually served with a side of gravy.

- Colcannon. Colcannon is a mashed potato dish that is often served on St. Patrick's Day. It's made with mashed potatoes, cabbage, and onions, and it's usually served with a side of butter and milk.
- Soda bread. Soda bread is a quick and easy bread to make, and it's perfect for St. Patrick's Day. It's made with flour, baking soda, buttermilk, and salt, and it's usually served with a side of butter and jam.

These are just a few of the many delicious Irish recipes that you can make for St. Patrick's Day. So get cooking, and enjoy the luck of the Irish!

#### St. Patrick's Day Activities for Kids

If you're looking for some fun and educational St. Patrick's Day activities for kids, here are a few ideas:

- Make a leprechaun trap. Leprechauns are said to be very sneaky, so it's important to make a good trap if you want to catch one. You can use cardboard, paper, and other materials to create a trap that will be sure to catch a leprechaun.
- Plant a shamrock. Shamrocks are a symbol of Ireland and St. Patrick, so it's a fun activity to plant a shamrock on St. Patrick's Day. You can plant a shamrock in a pot or in your garden.
- Make a St. Patrick's Day card. St. Patrick's Day is a great time



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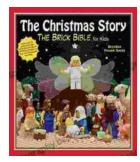
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