



Táin March Festival

14-19 May 2019

*Celebrate the epic tale of the
Cattle Raid of Cooley*

A story of envy, honour and military prowess. The armies of Connacht and Ulster met in a titanic struggle over a prize bull called Donn Cúailnge. The Táin March starts in Rathcroghan in Co. Roscommon, where Queen Medb began her quest for the Brown Bull of Cooley and ends in Bush, Cooley, Co. Louth. Over three weekends and twelve walking days, marchers walk from Rathcroghan all the way to Cooley following Queens Medb's route in pursuit of the Brown Bull.

**FREE EVENTS ARE TAKING PLACE IN TULSK, ROSCOMMON, STROKESTOWN,
SLIABH BAWN, CLONDRA AND LONGFORD TO MARK THE FIRST WEEKEND
OF THE TÁIN MARCH FESTIVAL.**

**Celebrate the Táin March Festival!
Get involved in the fun!**

www.tainmarch.ie #TáinMarch

Clár Éire Ildánach
Creative Ireland
Programme
2017-2022



Tuesday 14th May 2019

19.00 - 20.30: Rathcroghan Visitor Centre, Tulsk, F45 HH51

Hear the story of the Táin in all its gory detail with master storyteller Mike McCarty – not suitable for kids!

Thursday 16th May 2019

17.45 - 19.00: Áras an Chontae, Roscommon, F42 VR98

Launch of the Táin Arts Exhibition – children's art and poetry. Launch of The Cats of Cruachan – a short animation inspired by children's poetry and art. Crowning of Queen Medb. Refreshments served.

19.00 - 20.00: Procession from Áras an Chontae to Roscommon Castle for a dramatic presentation on the origins of the Táin Bó Cuailnge.

Friday 17th May 2019

11.00 - 12.30: Rathcroghan Mound on N5 between Tulsk and Ballinagare

Queen Medb will assemble her warrior army and dispatch them to retrieve the Brown Bull in Cooley. School children gather at Rathcroghan Mound to greet Queen Medb and send her army on their way. Each school 'battalion' will read a praise poem for their warrior Queen. Marchers depart on the first leg of their journey as far as Lissonuffy.

19.00 – 21.00: Strokestown

Join Queen Medb's army as they march down Church Street to Bawn Street for an evening of food, fun, music and entertainment. Winners of local schools art competition will be announced.

Saturday 18th May 2019

10.30 – 14.00: Sliabh Bawn

All welcome to join the marchers as they cross Sliabh Bawn. Use the west entrance to the mountain, meeting point is T20. Bring your lunch! Hear Ancient Music Ireland, greet the marchers with their prehistoric musical instruments as they arrive from Lissonuffy. The tale of the Táin will be told as the march proceeds to Johns of Doughill where there will be a free bus to bring walkers back to their car.

14.00 - 15.00: Johns of Doughill, F42HE97

Warriors Feast with Queen Medb in attendance. Walkers can sample a taste of Táin era food and Mead brewed from the mysterious depths of Oweynagat cave.

The fun continues in Longford with family costume design workshops, a talk by Monumental Ireland, Queen Medb ceremony and a performance of the Women of the Woods by Candlelit Tales.

Sunday 19th May 2019

10.00 Marchers depart Johns of Doughill and proceed to Clondra and on to Longford town for a Táin March procession, poetry and art exhibition, storytelling, face painting and music. For details of Longford events follow The Táin March Longford on Facebook.