

The Wine Geese Festival 2025

Marks the Tercentenary since '*French Tom*' emigrated from Ireland to Bordeaux, changing it forever. '*French Tom*' **Barton** became the most prominent of the 270 Irish Wine Geese. This Festival seeks to provide a variety of events - to suit as many differing tastes as possible.

WEEKEND OF 31ST MAY

That is the weekend of the RORY GALLAGHER CONCERT in Ballyshannon. This event is very popular, and it means that roads in northern Fermanagh/South Donegal will be close to gridlock. Unless you are going to the Event, we advise you avoid the area until Monday 2nd June.

UK ETA

Please note: the Events will take place in both UK Northern Ireland and in the Republic of Ireland. Overseas visitors may need to have appropriate entry permits or visas for both. UK Immigration Law changed on 02/04/2025, so visitors might now need to install the UK's **ETA App** for Apple IOS or Google's Android. [ETA: electronic Travel Authorisation]

OBJECTIVES OF THE EXHIBITIONS ARE TO:

1. Highlight the life of a merchant nicknamed *French Tom*, from Curraghmore near Kesh and Pettigo.
2. Shine a light upon an extraordinary group of Irish emigrants who changed history.
3. Examine the past, present and future of the Wine Geese families.

BOOKING EVENTS

Bookings will be accepted and processed until the Festival ends on 28 June. We will also endeavour to monitor the internet for scammers that set up fake 'mirror' booking sites.

PLEASE double-check the internet address of our ticket booking website. Spelling mistakes or unexpected web addresses are a giveaway.

PLEASE let us know if you spot a scammer 'mirror' site like our own official site via Kesh2Cask@outlook.com

BE DRINK AWARE

We support responsible drinking. <http://www.drinkaware.co.uk>

RESOURCES

Details of bars that hold traditional music nights are available at Reception in the Enniskillen Castle Visitors Centre. It also has details of Cafes in County Fermanagh, and transport options:

- Water taxis
- Traditional taxis
- Minibuses for hire.

ONLINE FESTIVAL INFORMATION

To keep up to date with locations, opening days and times, see <HTTPS://discovernorthernireland.com/whats-on/wine-geese-festival-p935901>

which will also provide:

- links to the **online** exhibition as well as to booking individual events.

Our email : kesh2cask@outlook.com

DRIVERS

This is a cross-border Festival so visitors may need to hire a car insured for driving in both the Republic of Ireland and, the United Kingdom.



STATEMENT FROM FERMANAGH GENEALOGY CENTRE

*Within the **Fermanagh Genealogy Centre** it is our privilege to seek outstanding Fermanagh personalities from our cultural heritage archives, and bring them to a wider audience.*

Part (2)

Brochure covering these Exhibitions:

‘FROM KESH TO CASK’

BARTONS @WAR

The ONLINE EXHIBITION

THE IRISH WINE GEESE and,

Exhibition on FERMANAGH’s WINE GEESE.

EXHIBITIONS' GLOSSARY

1691 Wild Geese

Refers to those who emigrated from Ireland after the defeat of the Jacobite Army at the Battle of the Boyne.

1725 Wine Geese

Irish merchants from the wine and spirits trade who emigrated to Bordeaux for **commercial** reasons. The term was coined by Ted Murphy in 2005.

Barter

The exchange of goods without using money

Bordelais

Citizens living in Bordeaux city. Also a word describing the classic Bx wine bottle shape.

Bx

Short for 'Bordeaux'.

Cabernet Sauvignon

The major grapevine used in Bordeaux, with others

Chateau/ Chateaux
(plural)

A fine country house originally owned by the nobility.

Chatelaine

When the head of a family of wine growers is female, she is referred to as La Chatelaine – 'the woman in charge' of a Chateau.

Claret

"Irish Wine".

Cutting wine

Blending it to suit particular countries.

El Camino	Pilgrim routes – typically from the French border to Santiago De Compostela.
Griffiths Valuation	Irish Land Survey completed 1830 – 1868.
Hogshead	A wooden barrel containing 280 litres of wine.
Huguenot	French Calvinists (i.e. Protestants), forced to leave France around 1685. Many headed to Ireland.
Irish Wine	Red wines from Bordeaux.
Pinot Noir	A grapevine whose grapes have black skins.
Skin Town	Enniskillen's nickname.
Terroir	Local conditions where grapes are grown, including consideration of: sunshine hours, humidity, soil type, drainage, temperature range, topography etc.
Vernacular	Functional (buildings) – for example, a blacksmith's. The opposite are public buildings, such as the Townhall.
Viniculture	The cultivation of grapevines

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We gratefully acknowledge the help and assistance received from the following:

- Ashmolean Museum, Oxford
- The Barton Family of Bordeaux and Madame Lilian Barton-Sartorius in particular.
- Dr Charles Ludington of www.charlesludington.com
- Eanna MacCanna (Director) of Little Ease Films Ltd.
- The Enniskillen BID Team
- Fermanagh Authors Association
- Fermanagh Lakelands Tourism
- National Library of Ireland, Dublin – NLI.ie

OUR SOURCES

“The Irish in Eighteenth-Century Bordeaux” edited by Charles C Ludington (2024) publ. by Routledge.

A useful background Website: WWW.Bordeaux-Undiscovered.co.uk

Irish Family Records (1972) published by Debrett’s Publ. Co.

“Medieval Irish Pilgrims to Santiago de Compostela” by Bernadette Cunningham. Publ. Four Courts Press (2018)

Irish Times archives: for numerous relevant articles.

Cornelis van Leeuwen article in scientific journal ‘NATURE’ March 2024 entitled: *“Climate change impacts and adaptations of wine production.”*

“Lord Belmont in Northern Ireland” Blogspot.

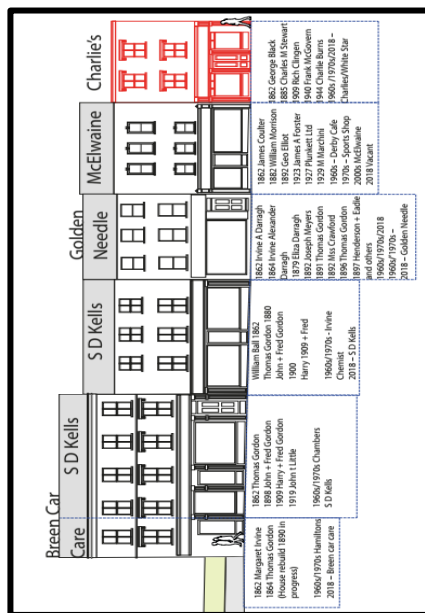
The **Estate Papers** of the Barton family and held at Chateau Langoa-Barton in Bordeaux.

Dr Susan Flavin at the Dept. of History in Trinity College Dublin. For example see her entry on the *TCD.ie* website in which she describes her experiment to re-create ancient Irish Ale.

YouTube™ also has several videos concerning the Wine Geese.

BELOW

*A small section of Enniskillen High St., from the **Enniskillen Streetscapes** Exhibition:*



Part (3)

ENNISKILLEN STREETSCAPE II EXHIBITION

Artist : Gabriel Burns



This Exhibition was named **Streetscapes II** in homage to **Streetscapes I** - created by Artist **Eleanor Wheeler**. You can spot her ceramic plaques around the town.

INTRO

This particular exhibition illustrates what “*Inis Cethlenn*” looked like, one hundred and seventy five years ago. Its businesses have served the island town for up to 200 years.

The combined drawings took seven person-years to create.

So far as we know, these 1848 streetscapes are unique. Once complete, we hope next to create a 3D animated version - to simulate driving through old Enniskillen.

PROPORTIONALITY

If you printed our digitised streetscape drawings at life size, you would need 12 km of paper end-to-end. So, in **this** exhibition we focused on the buildings between the East and West bridges.

IN CONCLUSION

The wonder is not in how much Enniskillen has changed but rather: how much it has stayed the same.

Our surnames too have remained largely the same over the period.

EXHIBITIONS' COPYRIGHT

MAIN EXHIBITION

EXHIBITION PANEL TITLE	COPYRIGHT ALLOCATION
FIRST (INTRODUCTION) PANEL	Geese: © Dave McNulty
ALE WIVES	© Creative Commons by 4.0 FAE Coloured Waves: © Creative Commons Licence 2.0
WINE GEESE	Bordeaux Port: © Creative Commons Licence 2.0 Geese : © Dave McNulty
THE WINE GEESE FAMILY	Geese : © Dave McNulty
FRENCH TOM	French Tom Portrait : © Barton Estate Coat of Arms : © Barton Estate
SECRET SAUCE	Bottle: © Dave McNulty Chameleon © Creative Commons Licence 2.0 Intertwined Circles of trade: © Dave McNulty
A BIGGER BOAT	Stone carving: © Crown DfC Historic Environment Division Ballyshannon Harbour: © National Library of Ireland Ship image: © Creative Commons Licence 2.0
WINE BOTTLE	© Barton Estate Geese: © Dave McNulty Claret Jug: © Ashmolean Museum Oxford
MASSY BARTON	Painting: © Barton Estate The Hugh Barton wine bottle: © Barton Estate Daniel Guestier: This painting is unlikely to be the original Daniel Guestier. It may be his grandson. See Creative Commons Licence 2.0
SNEYD'S CLARET	Dublin Castle: © Creative Commons Licence 2.0
DROITE D'AUBINE	Guillotine: © The Tedster/Creative Commons Chateau Mauvesin: © Serge Chapuis c/o The Barton Estate
HUGUENOTS	© Creative Commons Licence 2.0 Château Fermanagh : © 'TG'
BORDEAUX TRANSFORMED	Château Langoa-Barton : © Barton Estate President John Adams : © Creative Commons Licence 2.0 Bordeaux Port: © Creative Commons Licence 2.0
REMAINS OF THE DAY	Straffan House : © Dave McNulty Waterfoot House : © Dave McNulty Waterfoot House – historical : © Barton Estate

EXHIBITION PANEL TITLE	COPYRIGHT ALLOCATION
	Waterfoot House Location map: © Dave McNulty
GREAT HOUSES	Ireland: © OpenStreetMap.org The Grove House: © LandedFamilies Blogspot. also: on JaneAnson.com website
TOP OF THE WORLD	Globe: OpenVerse.org by SA 3.0 Vineyard: © Creative Commons Licence 2.0
CLOUDS	Cloud: © Creative Commons Licence 2.0 Vine Leaves: as above Vine greenhouse: © TG
BURKITT BLEND	Denis Burkitt: © The Burkitt Family Estate Burkitt Blend Pinot Noir: © Eldridge Estate Australia Pinot Noir Grapes: © Creative Commons Licence 2.0
KESH TO CASK PANEL	Casks: © Creative Commons Licence 2.0 Kesh Bridge: © Dave McNulty

All copyrights are duly acknowledged, as appropriate. If you are aware of any omissions or corrections, please email Kesh2Cask@outlook.com. Thank you.

INIS CETHLEANN/ ENNISKILLEN/ INNISKILLING

‘*Ceithleann*’ is a mythic Irish goddess after whom the island is named. Enniskillen is Ireland’s **only** island town and the junction linking Connacht with the neighbouring Province of Ulster.



Our castle was founded in 1428 by the Maguire Clan which held it on and off until 1607 when it came under English rule. Two regiments were based at this garrison.

The building above is the castle keep. The shadow on the left shows the Water Gate.

A sister town – Enniskillen **Ontario** - is named after the Earl of Enniskillen and it was the site of the first commercial oilwell in North America, in 1858.

THE ARTISTS' QUARTER



The artists below have their galleries here, situated in Enniskillen's Buttermarket, just off Church Street. There is also a Crafts Centre for jewellery etc.

Amongst other subjects, each has a collection of paintings on display of scenic spots painted around County Fermanagh - and in the West of Ireland.

www.MarjorieLeonard.com

www.FrancesMorris.com

www.JoTinney.com

The Buttermarket also has an excellent café: **Rebecca's**.

Festival Feedback is always welcome, whether critiques, general reviews or complaints.

To leave a Google™ review we recommend you type GOOGLE MY BUSINESS into your browser. You will be asked to log in to your Google account if you have one. The Company to look for (to leave a review) is **'Wine Geese Festival 2025'**.

Alternatively, simply send an email to: Kesh2Cask@outlook.com

We do not sell your email address.

We will do our best to resolve any complaint or, answer any criticism.



Routledge Research in Early Modern History

THE IRISH IN EIGHTEENTH-CENTURY BORDEAUX

CONTEXTS, RELATIONS, AND COMMODITIES

Edited by
Charles C. Ludington



*The Wine Geese Festival 2025 is **based** this new paperback from Routledge. Recommended reading.*