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## **Bringing the Celtic magic back in 2008!**

*Celebrating the cultures of Ireland, Scotland, Cornwall, and Wales with the 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Sonora Celtic Faire located at the Mother Lode Fairgrounds.*

*Sonora-* After an absence of ten years, the Celtic Faire returns to the Sonora Fairgrounds on March 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> 2008 for the 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Sonora Celtic Faire! A few new twists to this classic favorite are bound to spice things up! As always, music will be the highlight of the weekend. With bands from all over the world, diverse is the name of the game. Also on the schedule is the exciting and competitive Highland games, along with knights' tourney, dance troops, and a wide assortment of clans, re-enactment guilds, and street performers. ***We also have great parking and shuttle bus service from the Sonora Wal-mart though downtown Sonora to the Mother Lode Fairgrounds!***

This year's headliners Black 47 come to us from New York, but are originally from Ireland. They were featured on MTV during 1996 with their song "Funky Ceilie". Their ultra-political high-energy music (a full rock band with Uilleann bagpipes and also a horn section) shouldn't be missed! With Beoga from Ireland, Cara from Germany and Malinky from Scotland this year's musical line up is one of the most international and exciting to date! And of course, it wouldn't be the Celtic Faire without favorites Tempest, Wicked Tinkers, Golden Bough, The Black Irish Band, Cooking with Turf, Mic Lucy Irish Band, Clandish & Stag & Thistle Pipe Bands. **15 bands in all!**

Stroll the market place with family, make new friends, and experience a taste of chivalry and perhaps courtly love. Over 80 Celtic craftsmen and 12 special food & drink vendors will make 2008 the best ever! Brought back by popular demand will be the Scot's & Irish whiskey competition. The best single malts and blends will be sampled and judged by the festivalgoers. We will also be featuring Guinness & Harp Ales on-tap like always.

Scottish modern clans, Sierra Spiral Dancers, Highland Scottish Dancers, The Stepp Sisters (Irish Dance), a historical village with hundreds of costumed re-enactors, longbow archery, craftsmen, knights jousting on horseback and nobles in full regalia Guest appearances by members of Italian nobility. Also attending will be a giant, a blacksmith, a professional showoff, the Vikings, and a little Myth and Magic.

**Now you know why it is called the Disneyland of Celtic Faires!!!!**

The Celtic Faire starts Friday March 7<sup>th</sup> with a kick-off party at 7pm featuring Tempest. On Saturday March 8<sup>th</sup> gates open at 10am and close at 10pm. Sunday March 9<sup>th</sup> gates open at 10am and close at 5pm. Friday kick-off party tickets are \$10.00 advance and \$12.00 at the door. Saturday tickets are \$ 18.00 advance & \$24.00 gate. Sunday tickets are \$16.00 advance & \$20.00 gate. Children ages 6-12 are always \$10.00 (5 and under free). For more information and ticket pricing go to [www.sonoracelticfaire.com](http://www.sonoracelticfaire.com).

For high res photos of all our bands, visit  
<http://www.sonoracelticfaire.com/press.html>



Black 47 espouses an unblinkingly political and thoroughly Irish form of rock 'n' roll, with songs covering topics from the Northern Ireland conflict to civil rights and urban unrest in contemporary New York.

### *Beoga*



Beoga are a five-piece traditional band based in County Antrim. The band was drawn together after 'jamming' in a ferocious music session at the All-Ireland Fleadh in August 2002.

### *Cara*



Cara is a newly formed band, rooted in Irish and Scottish traditional music, but with ambitions to create a new and unique sound.

### ***Malinky***



Ranked among today's foremost young exponents of Scottish song, Malinky combine an array of vocal talent with a highly distinctive instrumental palette, in fresh yet timeless arrangements of both traditional and contemporary material.

### ***Wicked Tinkers***



Prepare yourself for a wild ride with Wicked Tinkers! Pioneers of the growing Tribal Celtic movement, the Tinkers have been playing haunting, heart-pounding bagpipes and irresistible, tribal drums as a professional touring band since 1995.

### ***Tempest***



It wouldn't be the Celtic Faire without Tempest! You can count on Tempest to rock the crowd and get people up off their feet and dance.

### ***Black Irish***



The Black Irish Band, also known as the Hooligans of Jamestown, have been together for 19 years and have released 17 CD albums to date.

### ***Golden Bough***



Rooted in the traditional Celtic music of Ireland and Scotland, this trio of modern day minstrels has expanded upon these ethnic styles through the development of intriguing arrangements and original compositions.

### ***Cooking With Turf***



Cooking With Turf, traditional Celtic dance tunes and songs. A local Northern California band featuring Richard Ferry, formerly of the band Golden Bough, flutes, whistles, vocals, Steve Kenworthy, guitar, fiddle, vocals, Julie Horner, hammered dulcimer, vocals, and Dave Chadwick, fiddle, tenor banjo and guitar. They will be joined by guest Nic Caciappo on bodhran (Irish hand drum).

## **Sampling of other acts**

**[www.SonoraCelticFaire.com/entertainment.html](http://www.SonoraCelticFaire.com/entertainment.html)**



### ***Knights of Avalon***

<http://www.knightsofavalon.org/>

The Knights of Avalon offer the most authentic, exciting, and entertaining joust show currently available. The armour is real, the lances are real, the hits are very real!



### ***Fowl Tales***

<http://www.fowltales.org/>

Bob Bartley and Gypsy have been working together for 30 years. After years of experience Bob and Gypsy know how to please, amuse and fascinate a crowd.



### ***Sierra Spiral Dancers***

The Sierra Spiral Dancers are a Tribal Fusion Belly Dance Troupe. As an ever-evolving caravan of performers, you can expect to see dancers that include all ages and come from a variety of ethnic and dance backgrounds.



### ***The Great Whiskey Competition***

Taste 10 types of whiskey and vote for your favorites. Entrees include Irish whiskey, single malt scotches from Scotland, bourbon from the United States and other international entrees. National pride will be on the line in this friendly & fun competition.



### ***Historical Re-enactment***

From jousting to a knighting to the firing of a civil war rifle to the pounding of a blacksmith's hammer. There is always something going on. The many guilds who visit our faire highlight Celtic culture throughout history. From the 1st century BCE through the late 1860s. As you pass through the faire, you will see barbarians with painted faces, the queen and her court, and civil war soldiers.