

Rennes

Population 210,000/426,000 Rennes Metropole

www.rennes.fr

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Capital of Brittany– Parliament de Bretagne

The links between Cork and Rennes have been developing each year since the two cities were twinned in 1982. The participation of Cork in the Rennes International Fair and latterly our participation in the Salon Internationale du Tourisme de Rennes each year forms the cornerstone on which so many activities are built. The Fair provides a forum not just for bringing of information about Cork's tourist and business potential, but also provides opportunities for exploring ways in which the links between the two cities can be further developed.

Some of the twinning activities which have recently taken place are:

- Annual participation in Salon Internationale du Tourisme de Rennes.
- A delegation from Cork visited Rennes to participate in Rennes Mental Health Week and spoke and both the Lord Mayor and Denise Cahill of Cork Healthy Cities made presentations at the conference which were very well received.
- For the past number of years, runners from Rennes have taken part in the Cork City marathon. In 2017, 2 athletes from Rennes came to Cork to take part in the half-marathon. They were F Maillard and M Le Perchec. In 2016, P Morel travelled to Cork to take part in the Cork City Half marathon. In 2015 a group from the University of Rennes including a professor, coach and seven students took part in the marathon and half marathon.
- Quarterly meetings of the Cork Rennes Twinning Committee.
- Participation in European Network – Conference of Atlantic Arc Cities.
- Fifteen students from Lycee de la Salle in Rennes came to Cork in June 2016 to commence their internships in various businesses/organisations in Cork. They spent

three weeks on work experience in Cork. The group paid a courtesy visit to the Lord Mayor.

- Charlotte Marchandise-Franquet, French Healthy Cities Network and Deputy Mayor for Health, Rennes, was in Cork in May 2016 as guest speaker in the Cork Healthy Cities Inaugural Conference Cork - A City that Connects for Health.
- The Start-up Nations Summit gathered over 150 delegates from 70 plus startup communities across the world in Cork in November 2016. Included in this number were representatives from two Rennes Start-ups, Matthieu Beucher (Klaxoon) and Valerie Fédronic (Facetts). They had a private meeting with the Lord Mayor, Cllr. Des Cahill, and over the course of their weekend in Cork had many meetings and opportunities to discuss their visions, culture and business opportunities. They participated in the full programme of events during the weekend.
- A delegation from ENS (Ecole Normale Supérieure de Rennes) Rennes visited UCC on the 15th April, 2015 and it was agreed that a formal agreement with UCC would be implemented. Arising from this, the agreement was put on a formal footing with the signing of an MOU by the President of UCC, Dr. Michael Murphy and President of ENS Rennes, Professor Patrice Quinton in the late summer.
- Representatives from the Rennes-Cork Sub committee visited Cork in July 2015 and met with members of the Cork-Rennes Sub Committee.