

St. Patrick's Day overseas visit by ministers.

In response to the public interest in records relating to the costs of overseas trips conducted by ministers of the Department of Foreign Affairs, the following table of costs has been prepared.

The table details; the costs incurred by Mr. Micheál Martin TD, Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs and Defence and his official delegation over the course of their travels to Vancouver, Montreal, Toronto and Ottawa, Canada; the costs incurred by Sean Fleming TD, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs with responsibility for International Development and Diaspora and his official delegation over the course of their travels to Nigeria and Ghana; and the costs incurred by Minister of State For European Affairs Mr. Peter Burke TD and his official delegation over the course of their travels to Savannah and Atlanta in Georgia USA.

For ease of reference, the total costs of €70,050.56 are tabulated so as to show costs per official in terms of travel, accommodation, expenses arising and the costs of gifts either given or received over the course of each official trip undertaken to mark and celebrate Ireland's national holiday.

This year's St. Patrick's Day 2024 programme had the theme "Ireland's future in the world" focussing on young Irish people, our Diaspora and their perspectives of the world and Ireland's future place in it. The 2024 programme was the widest yet engagement which saw 38 State representatives bring Ireland's message to 86 cities in 48 countries, a message underlining Ireland's creativity and innovation, commitment to international peace and the rules-based multilateral system and the high value we attach to climate action and sustainability. Tánaiste Martin's visit to Canada coincided with the 85th anniversary of Ireland-Canada diplomatic relations, the growing focus on Canada and included a series of high-level political meetings, Diaspora engagement and trade promotion activities over a period of seven days.

Visits abroad for St Patrick's Day 2024	Flights (Business Class)	Flights (Economy Class)	Flights (Economy Internal)	Hotel Costs	Second Hotel (if applicable)	Third Hotel (if applicable)	Car hire	Train Tickets	Taxis	Other expenses (Photos etc.)	Cost of gifts (including shamrock)	Gifts received
Tánaiste, Minister for Foreign Affairs & Defence Micheál Martin TD - Canada	Ireland to Canada	Canada to Ireland		Toronto	Montreal	Vancouver						GAA Jersey & local artwork
Tánaiste Martin	€6,620.39	€0.00	€357.86	€732.40	Gratis	€472.25	€7,818.74	€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€307.44	
Lorraine Christian Private Secretary to Tánaiste	€2,297.39	€651.17	€971.44	€732.40	€238.37	€472.25		€0.00	€0.00	€0.00		
Deirdre Gillane Chief of Staff to Tánaiste	€2,297.39	€651.17	€971.44	€732.40	€238.37	€472.25		€0.00	€0.00	€0.00		
Paul Clarkson Dep Government Press Secretary	€2,297.39	€651.17	€971.44	€732.40	€238.37	€472.25		€0.00	€0.00	€0.00		
Philip Behan Global Ireland	€0.00	€1,368.88	€903.67	€732.40	€238.37	€472.25		€0.00	€0.00	€0.00		
Joe Hackett Secretary General	€2,297.47	€603.61	€971.44	€732.40	€238.37	€472.25		€0.00	€0.00	€0.00		
Total	€15,810.03	€3,926.00	€5,147.29	€4,394.40	€1,191.85	€2,833.50	€7,818.74				€307.44	

Minister of State for Foreign Affairs with responsibility for International Development and Diaspora Sean Fleming TD - Nigeria and Ghana				Abuja	Lagos	Accra						
Minister of State Sean Fleming TD	€0.00	€1,584.97		€187.25	€229.40	€808.24	€582.11	€0.00	€0.00	€476.93	€354.85	
Michael Gaffey Director General Development Cooperation & Africa Unit	€0.00	€1,584.97		€187.25	€229.40	€808.24		€0.00	€0.00	€0.00		
Anne Griffin Private Secretary	€0.00	€1,584.97		€187.25	€229.40	€808.24		€0.00	€0.00	€0.00		
Total	€0.00	€4,754.91		€561.75	€688.20	€2,424.72	€582.11	€0.00	€0.00	€476.93	€354.85	

	St Patrick's Day 2024 Gifts & List of Recipients	Cost (€ and local currency)
	Tánaiste visit to Canada:	
1	Premier of Ontario, Doug Ford - Declan Killen Cuff Links	€75.00
2	Premier of Ontario, Doug Ford - Irish Tweed Tie	CAD\$136.60
3	Mayor Ken Sim - Newbridge Silver engraved pen	€34.57
4	Anthony Von Mendel - Photobook	€20.69
5	Anthony Von Mendel - Book	€51.38
6	Canadian Prime Minister - Books (2)	€32.99
	MoS Burke visit to USA:	
1	Speaker of the Georgia House of Representatives, Jon Burns - Jameson whiskey black label	US\$42.99
2	President Pro Tem of the Georgia Senate, John Kennedy - Jameson whiskey black label	US\$42.99
3	Representative John Carson - Green herringbone scarf	€42.25
4	Mayor of Savannah, Van Johnson - Green herringbone scarf	€42.25
5	Atlanta City Councilmember, Liliana Bakhtiari - The Irish Cookbook	US\$40.00
6	Advisor to Mayor Dickens, Sean Smith - Donegal Tweed green pocket square	€25.60