

# HOW DOES IRELAND CULTIVATE ITS SPECIFIC CULTURE THROUGH SPORT ?

## → Gaelic sports and rugby are a means of cohesion between players



Unlike Gaelic sports, rugby is a sport present all over the world but also mythical and identity to the Irish culture

Very strong in this sport for years, the Irish have recently won the Six Nations tournament created in 1882, played every year in February and March by the men's teams of England, Scotland, France, Wales, Ireland and Italy.



## → "Ireland Call"



In addition, in 1995, at the request of the Irish Rugby Federation, the "Ireland Call", an anthem mainly sung at the beginning of rugby matches, was

created.

Thus, all these examples reinforce the feeling of tradition and sharing that rugby represents, allowing the Irish culture to shine on an international scale.

## IRISH CULTURE IN SPORT - IRISH SPORT MUCH MORE THAN JUST A SPORT

Ireland has its own sports, called Gaelic sports, which really identify to the country. Hurling is a very popular sport and for a long time has been representing the Irish Gaelic sport. Hurling is an Irish sport invented many centuries ago. It is one of the oldest sports in Ireland. The Irish don't miss the opportunity to watch a match, at the stadium, or on television, gathering with friends in a friendly atmosphere. That's why since 2018, Hurling has been listed as an intangible heritage by UNESCO.

Many women wanted to learn hurling in the 1900s. In order to distinguish it from hurling, only practiced by men, a women version was created called Camogie.

The GAA « Gaelic Athletic Association » is a sports organization to preserve Gaelic sport and spread Irish Gaelic culture. Ireland is a very traditional country and wishes to preserve its sports and cultural heritage as much as possible. It was founded in 1884 by Michael Cusack and Michael Davitt.

## → Irish football and rugby shirts



Finally, the Irish culture is also specific through sport with Irish rugby and soccer shirts.

Still in an idea of sharing and tradition, the professional soccer and rugby players wear the emblematic green jerseys, with the little four-leaf clover on their jersey to bring them luck, mythical to the culture of the country.

Irish sport is more than just a sport. It is a way of sharing between players as well as between supporters, with the same common passion: in all sports, both amateur and professional, the Irish culture through sport attracts. Stadiums are full and there are more than 2300 clubs in Ireland.

Irish sport allows everyone to participate and cares about gender equality as Camogie was created for women.