

TARTAN DAY - Scottish American Heritage Month

April is Scottish American Heritage Month. Almost 30 million U.S. citizens claim Scottish or Scottish-Irish heritage. Although there are many national and local events to celebrate Scottish American Heritage Month, Tartan Day is a day carved out for an annual celebration of Scottish culture and values. On April 6, 1320 the Declaration of Arbroath was signed. Tartan Days are celebrated with parades with signature pipe bands and Highland dancing. On April 6, 1998, the United States recognized Tartan Day. Approximately 6 million people in the United States claim to have Scottish ancestry. National Tartan Day was designated to be recognized annually on April 6th by the United States House of Representatives on March 9, 2005. On April 4, 2008, April 6th was proclaimed as National Tartan Day by President George W. Bush.

To read more about the history, culture and contributions of Scottish Americans, please visit <http://www.scotland.org/about-scotland/scottish-culture-and-traditions>; <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/89659/0021549.pdf>, or <http://www.tartanday.org/influence.htm>



DID YOU KNOW?

In the United States, New York City is the leading Tartan Day celebration followed by St. Charles, Missouri. Missouri Tartan Day is celebrated on the Missouri River banks on the weekend closest to April 6th. The Missouri Tartan Day Festival was first held April 2000. St. Andrew and Celtic Societies of St. Louis, Kansas City, Jefferson City and Springfield, Missouri members all convened at the State Capital to receive the first proclamation designating Tartan Day in Missouri

Sources:

<http://insidemc.montgomerycollege.edu/details.php?id=44721>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tartan_Day

<https://www.facebook.com/MOTartanDay/>

<http://www.alamy.com/stock-photo/tartan-day.html>