

## Columbus Scottish Festival (Indiana), September 10-11, 2016

Celebrating its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2016, the Columbus (Indiana) Scottish Festival hopes to welcome you to a weekend full of fun! Always a family-friendly event, festival goers will enjoy viewing and participating in traditional Scottish activities. Re-enactors represent Scottish people through time in both their homeland and abroad, while the children's area provides hands-on activities to spark Scottish creativity. Athleticism is a big part of any Scottish festival and the Columbus Scottish Festival is no different. Visitors will have their pick of events to see demonstrations of speed, skill and strength. The speed and agility of the sheep dogs as they move their flock with precision never fails to leave spectators in wonder. Strength and agility are easily masked by the beauty and grace of the Highland dancers as they compete. This competition has been growing steadily, drawing dancers from as far away as Canada and Florida. And, of course, no Scottish festival is complete without the Highland Games heavy athletics competition. Men and women alike participate. Cheer on your favorite athlete as he or she tosses the caber!

Speed and strength of a different sort are also on display at the Pam Price European Car Show which showcases classic and vintage European cars. Fans of British marques will enjoy an impressive variety ranging from Jaguar to Morgan to Anglia. Trophies are awarded each day for Best of Show and the all-important People's Choice Award. Come out and vote for your favorite!

Visitors can research their own Scottish roots by chatting with representatives at the numerous Clan and Scottish Society tents lining the venue's paths or learn about the subtleties of that most Scottish of products, whisky, at the Whisky Tasting sessions. Scottish merchandise and food, as well as a beer garden, are available throughout the day.

Music is a huge part of the festival. In addition to traditional and modern entertainers scheduled in the entertainment venue, bagpipes and drums tour the festival grounds at regular intervals throughout the day. The festival will also be adding even more bagpiping and drumming this year with inaugural Mid-West Pipe Band Association piping competition. See some of the best bands as well as solo pipers competing with one another and swelling the ranks of the massed bands on Saturday of the festival. And, of course, no festival is complete without a Ceilidh ("kay-lee")! Visitors and volunteers, alike, turn out Saturday evening for music featuring the festival entertainers, great food, and having a go at Scottish country dance is always a highlight of the evening at the annual ceilidh.

We look forward to warmly welcoming our guests to the Columbus Scottish Festival! Join the festivities on September 10-11, 2016 at the Bartholomew County Fairgrounds, Columbus, Indiana.

The Columbus Scottish Festival started in 1990 with support from community groups and interested individuals to create a festival that would celebrate Scottish heritage and customs. The first festival was held in 1991 and by 2001, the all-volunteer festival was designated as a non-profit and incorporated as its own entity. The Columbus Scottish Festival is proud to be one of the longest running festivals in our community, welcoming visitors from towns nearby to countries far away.

For more information, volunteer, and sponsorship opportunities - check out our website at [www.scottishfestival.org](http://www.scottishfestival.org) or like us on Facebook!