

Dancing by the Med – Montpellier 2020

Dear dancing friend

The Montpellier club's 32nd International Ball will be on 13th June 2020. The venue is, as usual, CREPS, 2 Avenue Charles Flahault, 34090 Montpellier. Craigellachie will play for us, as they have many times before. All dances are "re-capped" and some are walked.

The weekend is renowned for its friendliness, for good weather and brilliant music, and for the quantities of fresh-picked cherries and apricots. The ball lasts 7 hours to allow for refreshment, for sociability and for keeping cool.



The Sunday excursion will be a cruise, on a boat reserved for us, during which we will: pass the walls of Aigues-Mortes and discover some of its history; see reed beds, marshes and rice fields, looking out for wild-life; visit a Camarguaise manade and learn how bulls are managed; return to the boat for an aperitif followed by a 4-course meal on board with wine and coffee, and finish the cruise around 14h30. This will leave time to explore the "Cité médiévale" of Aigues-Mortes if you don't have a plane or train to catch.

The total cost of the weekend will be £90, including ball, excursion, meals, drinks (and fruit of course). (Lower fee for non-dancing partners.) The programme will be available early 2020 on the club's website: <http://dansecossaisemtp.free.fr/accueil/index-e.html>



Ian and Judith both started playing at an early age for country dancing. Having served his apprenticeship in McBain's band, Ian formed Craigellachie in 1986 and the band has played in many European countries, in Australia & New Zealand, at the AGM of the RSCDS and at the Shetland Fiddle Festival. In November 2014 Ian was appointed as the Musical Director of the RSCDS.



Keith Anderson, who was Glenfiddich's "Scottish Fiddler of the Year" at the age of 20, has played fiddle for the majority of our balls over the last dozen years.



We're a small club but our members often help out with accommodation (first come, first served). There are 4 small hotels within walking distance of the venue: Hôtel Acapulco (350m), Hôtel Hospitalet St Charles (550m), Hôtel Les Fauvettes (600m) and Hôtel du Parc (990m).

Montpellier has daily flights from Gatwick with EasyJet. Low-cost flights are also available, with EasyJet, Ryanair and Flybe, from 6 other English airports to Béziers, Perpignan, Carcassonne, Nimes, Lyon and Marseille. Edinburgh has direct flights to Beziers and daily connections to Gatwick and Luton (as does Glasgow). Nice is also worth consideration. All are connected to Montpellier by train.

Apart from getting a wider choice of flights and prices, there are many reasons for extending the weekend as Montpellier is an attractive city close to the Mediterranean. For suggestions go to <https://www.montpellier-france.com>

We hope to welcome you at CREPS from 14:30. Dancing starts at 16:00

Happy dancing



Carla Gamba, President,
Club de danse écossaise de Montpellier

November 2019