

# Camp Rince Provence

**This year I spent a very special summer holiday, the best I've ever experienced!!!**

**I was in Sarah Clark's Irish Dance camp: CAMP RINCE PROVENCE**

**Let me tell you, it was simply amazing! I spent 6 days doing what I love to do!! My feet were terrible in the end but I enjoyed every single minute of it!! We could learn from 4 of the world's best Irish dancers:**



**Breandán de Gallaí - Sarah Clark  
Joanne Doyle - Stephen Scariff**

**and that was really incredible!!!**

**You had those people, that you normally see on stage, right in front of you and could learn from them!! I mean, I knew that we would have instructors, who had (among others) been with Michael's shows *Riverdance* or *Lord of the Dance*, but I wasn't really aware of what that would actually mean! We had some of the most incredible Irish dancers directly in front of your eyes!!! Never before I had so marvellous teachers! Everyone of us, doesn't matter which level or age, could learn so terribly much from these amazing instructors.... and they haven't only been brilliant teachers to us, but also very lovely people, you could have a lot of fun with!!**

**The general organisation was also very well done! Don't ask me how Sarah managed all that, I can't imagine!!**

Everybody's arrival and departure was arranged to his/her best satisfaction, we had an amazing schedule of dancing classes where we could even choose between different bonus classes each day, dinner & lunch were very well organized as well as the evening program and the shuttle busses each time from the apartments to the dancing halls and back!!



Moreover Sarah cared about everybody's additional wishes & problems, as big or small they might have been, and that was really remarkable!! Honestly, I was wondering sometimes if she had another twin sister somewhere helping her to get all this done!! :-)



So, we spent an incredible week dancing all the time and meeting many like-minded people from all over Europe!!

I remember Michael saying once about *Feet of Flames* having successfully performed in Belfast, Northern Ireland, in front of 80.000 people, that... hearts can be united by Irish Dance never minding former historical events!!

And the situation in the camp kind of reminded me of this! Irish Dance brought there people together of all different ages, levels, genders and

origins. But nobody cared about this, cause in our hearts we all had the same passion: Irish Dance!! Lots of fun together was guaranteed and THAT was truly amazing!!!

Actually the people in the camp had very different opinions about Michael and his various shows! Some of them loved him, some of them didn't at all - but every single one was very aware of the fact that without him we wouldn't be together like this today!!!



The camp's final day was celebrated with a big spectacle for which each group had created its own choreography to perform! A special location was rented and all the parents and also other interested people could come to watch our performances (everything was announced before in the local newspaper)!

It's hard to find words to describe this evening... We all performed our choreographies, they were very different from each other but every single one was really fabulous! Also the instructors performed some dances and - needless to say - they have been brilliant! It was really magnificent to watch them!! The audience was cheering and clapping... there was an incredible atmosphere!!!

After the performances we did Ceili dancing in fancy costumes with live musicians! That was truly unbelievable!! There were loads of people enjoying themselves, like when you go in some local pub at home - just with the difference that those people there were all doing Irish Dance!! One time we were standing altogether in a circle, everybody was in a great mood, rejoicing and clapping, and one after the other was jumping into the middle performing some step. It was astounding!! There was some moment when I was standing at the side watching the situation and just couldn't believe my eyes! There were so many people, smiles on their faces and they had so much fun.... just doing Irish Dance! It was overwhelming for me to watch this!!!



**What I'm trying to say with these many lines: what we've been offered in this camp was just amazing! Everyone of us could improve his dancing so much as well as get to know many lovely, like-minded people! Once more I'd like to say a dearly 'thank you' to Sarah Clark and her team, who made this wonderful week possible!!!**

**It was an incredible time for me... a time I'll never forget!! And I'd really like to recommend this camp to everyone who is reading this report now and hasn't been there yet!!**

**You're guaranteed to experience a time you'll treasure in your heart forever!!**

**Christine Affenzeller**