



Press release

Sunday 23rd July 2017

Up to 90,000 marvel at incredible Bray Air Display aerobatic performances

140,000 attend #BrayAirDisplay two day spectacle

A crowd of 90,000 people made their way to Bray Promenade today (Sunday 23rd July) to marvel at awe-inspiring aerobatic performances during the second day of this year's award winning Bray Air Display, supported by the Irish Aviation Authority. This brings to 140,000 the total numbers of spectators who attended this year's spectacular two day air festival to enjoy dizzying displays by 18 high performance teams from across Europe and Ireland. Bray basked in glorious sunshine yesterday and right on cue, the sun made a welcome return today just before the first aircraft took to the skies.

Headlining today was an F-18 jet from the Spanish air force demonstrating the very best of aerobatic skill and performance. The Royal Jordanian Falcons also wowed the crowd flying Extra-300 L aerobatic aircraft. A little more sedate but equally special were displays of a 74 year old Catalina Flying Boat and a beautiful vintage Aer Lingus DC-3 aircraft resplendent in 1940s livery. There was plenty of other Irish talent on display with Eddie Goggins, aka 'The Flying Dentist', the Irish Air Corps and the Irish Historic Flight Foundation flying Stearman and Chipmunk aircraft. The Irish Coast Guard also demonstrated a safe water rescue. A fitting tribute was paid to the courageous crew of the R116 who tragically lost their lives earlier this year.

Performances by international acts included the 'Swedish Air Force Historic Flight' team flying Viggen jets, a British Spitfire and a Seafire, a MiG aircraft as well as a pair of 'Vampires' representing Norway.

A Celtic jet team from Brittany in France, 'Patrouille Tranchant', flying four Fouga jets were one of the highlights following their magnificent fly-over above Croke Park and U2's homecoming gig last night.

As well as spectacular scenes in the air at the Bray Air Display there was plenty of fun to be had on 'terra firma'. On the ground family-fun activity included a food & craft village, a fun fair and live music.

"Bray Air Display 2017 has been a great success with fantastic public support. Thank you to everyone who came out today and yesterday to enjoy the spectacle. Once again we were blessed with glorious sunshine which made the two days even more special," said Sé Pardy, Bray Air Display Director. "We were delighted to be part of the IAA's 'Aviation Ireland' weekend and look forward to another wonderful display next year."

Eamonn Brennan, Chief Executive of the Irish Aviation Authority said, "The Bray Display has been a phenomenal success over the last couple of years. Aviation is a hugely important economic driver for our country and this year under the IAA's "Aviation Ireland" campaign we supported not just one but two spectacular air shows over the same weekend at Foynes and at Bray, making this year an extra special one for fans of aviation across Ireland. We see this as a great avenue to raise the profile of aviation and to generate an interest in our industry."

Supported by main sponsors the Irish Aviation Authority, as well as Wicklow County Council and Bray.ie, the award winning Bray Air Display is renowned as one of Europe's best air displays.

About Bray Air Display

The 12th annual Bray Air Display took place this year on Saturday 22nd and Sunday 23rd July 2017. One of Europe's biggest and best air shows, Bray Air Display attracted 140,000 people to the Co. Wicklow coastal town for the two day event last year. #BrayAirDisplay takes place thanks to main supporter the Irish Aviation Authority, as well as Wicklow County Council and Bray.ie. As well as the incredible display



in the skies over Bray the event includes a food and craft village featuring artisan food and specialist craft stalls as well as musical entertainment, and a family fun fair. Visit www.brayairdisplay.com and follow on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) for the full event details.

About Irish Aviation Authority (IAA)

The IAA is a commercial, semi-state company employing approximately 650 people at five main locations in Ireland. The IAA is responsible for the safety and security regulation of the Irish civil aviation industry, including 1,250 aircraft, 9,200 pilots and 24 airports. The IAA is also provides Air Traffic Management (ATM) services in Irish controlled airspace (covering some 451,000 square km) and at the three state airports (Dublin, Cork and Shannon Airports), as well as aeronautical communications on the North Atlantic. The IAA handles approximately 1 million flights in Irish managed airspace each year. IAA is a partner of the Aireon joint venture, which will deliver the first-ever space-based global aviation surveillance system from 2018. The IAA is a shareholder of Entry Point North, the leading international Air Traffic Controller training academy. For more information please see: www.iaa.ie

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