



Regatta returns to town

SAILING: BIENNIAL EVENT IN DUN LAOGHAIRE THE BIGGEST ON IRISH CALENDAR

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THE countdown is on to Ireland's biggest sailing event, the **Volvo Dun Laoghaire Regatta**, which takes place from Thursday, July 9 to 12.

Dublin Bay will host four days of racing in tandem with a fantastic festival atmosphere across the waterfront and Dun Laoghaire town as four sailing clubs – Dun Laoghaire Motor Yacht Club, Royal Irish Yacht Club, Royal St George Yacht Club and National Yacht Club – 400 boats and 2,500 competitors come together for the biennial event.

The bay and surrounding area will be a hive of activity for the sixth staging of this event and there will be plenty of action out

on the water across 29 different classes racing on eight different race course areas in Dublin Bay and Howth.

The quality of sailing will be extremely high with some of the country's top class sailors taking part including Olympian Annalise Murphy and Dave Cullen who will skipper CheckMate XV in the IRC II class, which was the overall winner in the 2013 **Volvo Dun Laoghaire Regatta**.

There are boats travelling from all over the country as well as a large number from overseas and they will be fighting it out for top position in their classes across the four days.

There will also be lots of entertainment for those on land including live music from the Hit

Machine Drummers, St Maur's Pipe Band and one of Ireland's best family entertainers, the Great Gazpacho.

Speaking about the upcoming event, Tim Goodbody, 2015 **Volvo Dun Laoghaire Regatta** chairman said: "We are really looking forward to kicking off our festivities on July 9 and welcoming all our 2,500 participants, both Irish and international.

"We have been working towards this event ever since the last one finished in 2013 and we have no doubt that this year will be just as successful. We are also confident that the regatta will bring in a significant amount to the local economy. Using the standard tourism formula, the four-day event is expected to

bring in €150,000 per day and €600,000 overall."

Adrian Yeates, managing director, Volvo Car Ireland added: "It is wonderful to see Dun Laoghaire and Dublin Bay light up over an exciting four days of racing and we wish all participants the very best of luck."

For more information see www.dlregatta.org or find **Dun Laoghaire Regatta** on Facebook and Twitter.



There will be top quality racing throughout the four-day event



Dublin Bay will welcome up to 400 boats for the regatta