



The Wild Rover

Traditional

Arranged by Martyn Sudworth

The **Wild Rover** is a popular Irish ballad. The song is generally recognized as a traditional Irish drinking song, though like many Irish folk songs it also became very popular in Scotland and England. In Britain, the song is especially popular with sport fans and as been adopted as the basis for many football chants. The song is a staple for artists performing live music in Irish pubs. The Dubliners and the Pogues have both recorded it.

Performing

When performed live in a pub setting, or for an audience, it is a custom for the participants to bang on the table or clap their hands in cadence four times during the break in the chorus, thus: And it's no, nay, never (clap - clap - clap - clap) no, nay, never, no more...etc



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Lyrics

Verse 1

I've been a wild rover for many's the year,
and I spent all me money on whiskey and beer.
And now I'm returning with gold in great store,
and I never will play the wild rover no more.

Chorus:

And it's no, nay, never! No, nay, never, no more,
will I play the wild rover. No (nay) never no more!

Verse 2

I went to an alehouse I used to frequent,
and I told the landlady me money was spent.
I asked her for credit, she answered me "nay,
such a custom as yours I could have any day".

(Repeat Chorus)

Verse 3

I took from me pocket ten sovereigns bright,
and the landlady's eyes opened wide with delight.
She said "I have whiskies and wines of the best,
and the words that I told you were only in jest".

(Repeat Chorus)

Verse 4

I'll go home to me parents, confess what I've done,
and I'll ask them to pardon their prodigal son.
And when they've caressed me as oft times before
then I never will play the wild rover no more.

(Repeat Chorus)

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15

Sop

Solo Cnt. *all play*

Rep

Cnt.2

Cnt.3

Flug. *mf*

Solo Hn.

Hn.1

Hn.2

Solo Tbn.

Tbn.2

B. Tbn.

Bar.1

Bar.2

Euph.

Eb Bass

Bb Bass

Tamb.

Drum Kit

6

2

3

4

mf

Detailed description: This is a page of a musical score for a concert band, starting at measure 15. The score is written for 18 instruments: Soprano Saxophone, Solo Contralto Saxophone, Repetitive Contralto Saxophone, Contralto Saxophone 2 and 3, Flute, Solo Horn, Horn 1 and 2, Solo Trombone, Trombone 2, Baritone Trombone, Baritone Saxophone 1 and 2, Euphonium, Eb Bass, Bb Bass, Tambourine, and Drum Kit. The key signature has one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The Solo Contralto Saxophone part has the instruction 'all play' above it. The Flute part has a dynamic marking of 'mf' (mezzo-forte). The Drum Kit part includes numerical counts (6, 2, 3, 4) and slash marks indicating specific drum patterns. The score concludes with a double bar line and a repeat sign.



22 C Chorus 1

Conductor (to audience)
Clap

Sop

Solo Cnt. *f*

Rep *f*

Cnt.2 *mf*

Cnt.3

Flug. *f*

Solo. Hn. *mf*

Hn.1 *mf*

Hn.2 *mf*

Solo Tbn. *mf*

Tbn.2 *mf*

B. Tbn. *mf*

Bar.1 *mf*

Bar.2 *mf*

Euph. *mf*

Eb Bass *mf*

Bb Bass *mf*

Tamb.

Drum Kit *mf*

ff *mf*

2