

## French citizen Benjamin Briere and Irish French Citizen Bernard Phelan Are Free from Unlawful Detention In Iran

---



**May 12, 2023** – Hostage Aid Worldwide is immensely grateful that French citizen Benjamin Briere and Irish French citizen Bernard Phelan have finally been freed from unlawful detention and are returning home to their families and loved ones.

Bernard is an Irish French tourism consultant from Tipperary who was arrested by Iranian police on October 3, 2022. He has since been locked up in dire conditions in the notorious Vakilabad prison.

Benjamin Briere is a French tourist who has been unlawfully detained in Iran since May 26, 2020. Ben was acquitted in March 2023 of all alleged crimes against him but instead of being released, Ben was illegally imprisoned for a retrial in June.

Today, both Benjamin and Bernard are finally free to resume the life they were robbed of while incarcerated in Iran.

We would like to extend our heartfelt wishes to Bernard, Benjamin and their families, and thank the Irish and French governments and all those who worked tirelessly to secure Benjamin and Bernard's freedom and helped in bringing them home.

Finally, Hostage Aid Worldwide urges President Macron and the French Administration to continue their efforts and do everything possible to secure the release of all the remaining French hostages and unlawfully detained in Iran and bring them safely back home. We also urge all governments to increase their efforts and do everything possible to secure the release of their citizens unlawfully detained abroad.



[www.hostageaid.org](http://www.hostageaid.org)



@HostageAid



HAW-Hostage Aid Worldwide



Hostageaid

