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DINING + OUT



Our guide to celebrating all things Bavarian in the Big Apple

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# OKTOBERFEST

Oktoberfest may be a Bavarian event, but that doesn't mean there aren't great places to enjoy this epic beer festival without hopping on a plane. Here are eight ways to celebrate Oktoberfest right here in NYC.

**1. Fill up your beer passport at Treadwell Park**  
At this Upper East Side beer hall, locals sip from more than 100



## OKTOBERFEST 101

New to the beer-bingo celebration? Your Oktoberfest questions are answered.

**When does it officially run?**

Sept. 17-Oct. 3

**How did it start?**

Oktoberfest dates back to 1810 with week-long festivities to celebrate the Oct. 12 marriage of Bavarian Crown Prince Ludwig to Princess Therese of Saxony-Meiningen.

**Why is it in September?**

Over time, the festival stretched to two weeks and was moved

up to September to take advantage of warmer nights.

**Should I dress up?**

Traditional dirndls and lederhosen have become more popular at today's Oktoberfest celebrations in Munich, but unless you're participating in a costume contest, you won't feel out of place in street clothes here. If you must wear a touch of Oktoberfest fashion, sport some impressive braids or an alpine hat.

**How should I say cheers?**

Prost! Zum Wohl! is also acceptable. [www.nytimes.com](#)

clude Nuremberg-style Metzchen, German beverages, currywurst and chausentz. Oct. 5, 8:30 p.m., \$30; 79 N. 23th St., Williamsburg. Buy tickets at [wobbbrooklyn.com](#)

**7. Lickin' to Balkin**  
Brews Funk at

**Black Forest Brewklyn**

The indoor Biergarten will start its Oktoberfest festivities on Saturday, but one of the big events is its party featuring a live performance by Brooklyn Band Slavic Soul Party, a keg-tapping ceremony (with free beer from the first keg), a costume contest and a raffle/holding competition. Oct. 6, 8 p.m., \$30 at the door; 733 Fulton St., Fort Greene; 738-9325-0000; [blackforestbrooklyn.com](#)

**8. Explore local beers at the Queens Beer Festival**

Beer tastings continue through mid-October with the inaugural Queens Beer Festival, where you can sample brews from more than a dozen local breweries including Rockaway Brewery, Queens Brewery, Coney Island Brewing Co., LIC Beer Project and Greenpoint Beer & Ale. Oct. 25-6, 25, noon-6 p.m., tickets from \$25; LIC Plaza, 5-25-46th Ave., Long Island City. Buy tickets at [queensbeerfest.welapshot.com](#)

landt House Museum. Proceeds benefit the Friends of Van Cortlandt Park. Oct. 2, 2-7 p.m., \$30; Van Cortlandt Park, Bronx. Buy tickets at [nycharities.org](#)

**6. Learn how to prepare a proper German feast at**

**The Brooklyn Brewery**

Sore up on German cuisine from experts at Lacherles, Berthaus NYC and Scheller & Weber during this night of demos and tastings. Topics in-

Update New York breweries to visit this fall at [amNY.com/fall](#)



## 2. Drink along the waterfront at Watermark

During the South Street Seaport bar's weekend events, take in the Brooklyn skyline while sipping on German beer and noshing on tasty Oktoberfest treats. Want to get more into the beer-drinking spirit? Watermark is also hosting two-hour German brew tastings (\$60). Sat. & Sun., noon-midnight, from Saturday to Oct. 2. FREE admission; Pier 15, 78 South St., 212-871-4000, RSVP at [eventbrite.com](#)

Beer will be decked out with everything from traditional music and food to German beers on tap. You can even test out your German, too — all servers are fluent in the language. Sat. & Sun. from Sept. 23 to Oct. 2, tickets starting at \$25; 24-25 FDR Drive, Seaside Row L. Buy tickets at [nyc.zumschneider.com](#)

**5. Enjoy the great outdoors with Mike's Oktoberfest**

Combine doing good and drinking well with Mike's Oktoberfest at Van Cortlandt Park. Go on a guided hike throughout the park (choose between a 4-1/2- or 2-mile hike) and then enjoy German food and beer from the Brown Beer Hall on the grounds of the Van Cort-