



Oktoberfest at Watermark Bar
 From noon to midnight on all three weekends of the festival, Pier 15 (78 South St.) transforms into an authentic waterfront Oktoberfest, kicking off Sept. 17 with a traditional keg-tapping ritual. The Hudson River pier will be decked out in Oktoberfest finery, with live music, stein-holding contests and games like giant beer pong and cornhole. Everything on Watermark Bar's menu will be \$8 during the event, with 1-liter steins of Hofbrau, Weiherstephan and Radeberger going for \$16 (or spring for a two-hour unlimited tasting with food for \$60). Oh, and the event is totally free to enter, but you have to RSVP through Eventbrite.



begins, with a Link Beyond party Sept. 16 at 6 p.m. where the specialty brewed Superior American Oktoberfest beer (and) free for everyone, followed by a daytime free block party with 10 restaurants setting up stalls, serving traditional fare, but also Italian-style pizza, roasted pig and more (\$5-\$30). Free noon to 3 p.m.

Loreley Restaurant & Biergarten
 It's called Oktoberfest, but it's not that means it should last all of October! And it will at Loreley (7 Livingston St.), where the party continues right through Halloween night, and admission is always free. The Saturday night launch party (which opens Oct. 1) goes from noon to 8 p.m., with free Hofbrau Oktoberfest and a pig roast (also free). Stay in for serious beer talk and rotating DJs throughout the month, and if you're into the beats, don't miss Sausage Fest (Oct. 13-14). All events are held rain or shine in the covered and heated Radeberger Outdoor Beer Garden.

Munich on the East River
 If you're not under a giant tent sipping with decorations and rows of long picnic tables, and there's no talking over the overpriced food, sometimes, celebrity guests, then it's not really Oktoberfest. German-speaking staff (or Lederhosen, of course) from Bavaria. Saum Zum Schneider will greet you with a Stein to fill with four Oktoberfest beers (including exclusively Radeberger) at Solar One (120 St. Nicholas Pl.). Maybe take a walk on the carnival rides outside first, then come in for traditional eats including pork shank (don't worry, beer-loving vegetarians, they've got food for you, too) and decorated gingerbread. Sept. 23-25, 28, 30 Oct. 1-3, 10-12, npr.zumschneider.com

German-American Steuben Parade
 A subtly celebrates harder than actual Germans on Oktoberfest, though it's more about rocking cultural heritage than contests of who can outgust their own the fastest (don't try that). Lederhosen and kilt-wearing revelers from the U.S., Germany, Austria and Switzerland will take over 17th Avenue from 68th to 86th streets Sept. 17 (beginning at noon) for a three-hour parade of historic floats, marching bands, dancing and more. Also, tickets for the beer garden in Central Park are sold out, so you'll have to mark your calendars for next year! -- Tickets go on sale mid July and are snapped up almost immediately.

Oktober fests

As per the German custom, it's time to celebrate beer again. Oktoberfest begins Saturday, Sept. 17, with 10 days of Bavarian cookouts, giant steins and parties all over town. We've got your best bets for Munich-style good times.



WHERE TO EAT, DRINK & PLAY

Oktoberfest NYC