



Oktoberfest NYC 2017 guide

Sport your lederhosen and get pumped for Oktoberfest NYC 2017 including great brews, bratwurst, dancing and live music

By Jennifer Picht and Time Out New York contributors Posted: Saturday July 22 2017



Photograph: Filip Wolak

Strap on those lederhosen—really, people will be wearing them—and raise a mammoth, beer-filled stein to Oktoberfest NYC 2017. The Bavarian celebration is one of the best [NYC events in September](#), featuring some of the best beers in NYC as well as traditional favorites and delicious food. Take in the beautiful [fall foliage](#) while guzzling brews at some of the [best beer gardens and beer halls in New York](#), not to mention more celebrations taking place at [NYC parks](#), like Central Park. Prost!

What is Oktoberfest?

This traditional and autumnal festival, which originated in Germany, is celebrated all over the United States by drinking copious amounts of beer, sporting lederhosen, munching on pretzels, and doing some polka dancing and merrymaking.

When is Oktoberfest?

The official dates for this Bavarian festival are Saturday, September 16, 2017 through Monday, October 2, 2017.

Why is Oktoberfest in September?

The first Oktoberfest was held on October 12–17 in 1810 to honor the Bavarian Crown Prince Ludwig's marriage to Princess Therese von Sachsen-Hildburghausen. Supposedly, the celebration date was changed to the third week in September in the U.S. due to cold-weather concerns.

Where is Oktoberfest?

Oktoberfest celebrations take place in all five boroughs in New York at various public spaces and beer gardens. The largest events include Oktoberfest in Central Park (Sept 16), Munich on the East River (Sept 29–Oct 8) and Watermark's Oktoberfest (Sept 15–17, Sept 22–24, Sept 29–Oct 2).

thirsty.

WHERE TO CELEBRATE OKTOBERFEST IN AND AROUND NYC



*By Alana Tielmann
September 23, 2016*

Oktoberfest NYC

For the next few weeks, it's all things German at this event, which is being hosted at a different NYC venue each night. Popping up at 17 venues over 17 nights (whoa!), Oktoberfest NYC features German folk music, unlimited Spaten Stein packages and German cuisine plus the chance to win a trip to Munich for OKT 2017, including VIP tours of the Spaten and Franziskaner breweries. Just fill up your souvenir beer passport with stamps from each participating bar for entries to win.

Watermark Bar

Munich heads to NYC for an Oktoberfest bash being held over two remaining weekends at Watermark Bar, on Pier 15 at South Street Seaport. Get ready for live music, steins full of beer and traditional Oktoberfest fare at this family friendly event. September 24-25, October 1-2 from 12 p.m. until 12 a.m.



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Notes, Comments, Insights and Observations

Oktoberfest With a View

September 19th, 2016 by Lois Anzelowitz Levine



The traditional keg tap at this year's opening weekend of Oktoberfest at Watermark Bar.

You would think everyone in NYC was German when it comes to Oktoberfest festivities in this town. NYC bars and restaurants start promoting Oktoberfest events by the middle of Sept. and, if you are one who enjoys our city versions of the Munich autumn festival, you will have more than your share to choose from.

One that I recommend: Merchants Hospitality Oktoberfest at Watermark Bar on Pier 15. With or without beer, the 10,000-square foot space, with a panorama of the Brooklyn and Williamsburg bridges and the Brooklyn skyline, is impressive. From Sept. 17-Oct. 2, Merchants Hospitality will be taking it over, offering menu items for \$8 and

for \$16, 1-liter steins of beer. For \$60, you can get two-hour unlimited beer tastings (including food), Sa and Su from 3-5 pm and from 8-10 pm.

Communal picnic tables provide the party atmosphere to enjoy bratwurst, hot dogs, pretzels and more, and enjoy the games that go best with beer—giant beer pong, Ping-Pong, corn-hole and stein holding competitions. If you have children in tow, they will be entertained with bubbles and face painting activities.

Oktoberfest is free, and will be held every Sa and Su from noon-12 am, Sept. 17-Oct. 2.