

For Immediate Release



Kitchener-Waterloo Oktoberfest launches new events and entertainment as ticket sales open for 2023 festival

Waterloo Region, ON – May 4, 2023 – The sound of accordion music fills the air. Steins of cold beer await the first notes of Ein Prosit. Old friendships are renewed as everyone gathers to *Be Bavarian* once more. Kitchener-Waterloo Oktoberfest is back as tickets for the 55th annual Bavarian Festival officially go on sale.

Canada's Greatest Bavarian Festival is set to return with four weekends of oom-pah-pah from Friday, September 22nd to Saturday, October 14th in Festhallen venues across the Region. Downtown Kitchener will *Be Bavarian* on Thanksgiving weekend as the Willkommen Platz returns from Thursday, October 5th to Sunday, October 8th. Canadian country music staple The Road Hammers will headline the Oktoberfest Block Party on Thursday night, in support of Oktoberfest Cares. Tickets for that 19+ event also go on sale today.

Kitchener-Waterloo Oktoberfest and the participating Festhallen offer an authentic experience and hospitable atmosphere to hundreds of thousands of fest-goers annually. Festival President, Allan Cayenne, says this year the festivities will be even bigger.

"After years of pandemic restrictions and a slow return to in-person events in 2022, we are beyond thrilled to offer full festival activities for this year," said Cayenne. "Our Festhallen partners are preparing to show everyone that the Spirit of Gemütlichkeit is as strong as ever in our community. We look forward to sharing our authentic Bavarian experiences with our returning guests and lots of new visitors."

Festhallen tickets are limited and often sell out in advance, so buy your tickets early to experience the *Spirit of Gemütlichkeit* at one of these authentic venues:

- Concordia Club
- Habsburg Haus – jointly presented by the Alpine Club & Transylvania Club
- Hubertushaus
- KoolHaus @ Bingemans
- Schwaben Club
- Oktoberfest Block Party at the Willkommen Platz in Downtown Kitchener

The KoolHaus at Bingemans is back with an extended three weekends in 2023, with feature acts including Mariana's Trench, David Wilcox, The Trews, Finger Eleven and German sensation Dorfrocker!

Visit oktoberfest.ca/tickets to learn more about all festival venues and to buy tickets!

Full details and information are available at oktoberfest.ca and join the conversation on our social media channels!

About Kitchener-Waterloo Oktoberfest

The first Kitchener-Waterloo Oktoberfest was celebrated in 1969 at Concordia Club in Kitchener, organized by a group of dedicated founders. The keg was tapped and history was made. Since then, Kitchener-Waterloo Oktoberfest has developed its own traditions, becoming one of the largest Bavarian festivals outside of Germany. Hundreds of thousands of visitors celebrate annually in our Festhallen, at local restaurants, and by attending one of our several family and cultural events, including the annual Willkommen Platz and the Thanksgiving Day Parade. More than just biergartens, Kitchener-Waterloo Oktoberfest is committed to supporting the cultural, economic and social vitality of Waterloo Region, bringing millions of dollars in economic benefit to the region each year. Through the Oktoberfest Cares initiative, the festival supports local charities and other not-for-profit organizations, partners with over 50 local hospitality businesses, and raises funds to donate meals to the Waterloo Region Food Bank through the Onkel Hans Food Drive. For more information visit oktoberfest.ca.

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