

Official 2025 Kitchener-Waterloo Oktoberfest Ticket Launch

- Festhallen Tickets on Sale
- 2025 Oktoberfest Pin Now Available
 - Mass Chicken Dance Back Again

May 15, 2025 – KITCHENER, ON – 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. <u>Kitchener-Waterloo Oktoberfest</u> (KWO) tickets are now on sale for the 57th annual cultural festival.

Canada's Greatest Bavarian Festival is set to return with four fun-filled, "oom-pah-pah" weekends from Friday, September 26th to Saturday, October 18th in Festhallen venues across the Region including <u>Hubertushaus</u> in Mannheim, Habsburg Haus (<u>Alpine</u> and <u>Transylvania</u> Clubs) in Kitchener, <u>Kool Haus</u> (Bingemans) in Kitchener, <u>Schwaben Club</u> in Breslau and <u>Concordia Club</u> in Kitchener.

Returning to Downtown Kitchener on Thanksgiving weekend is the free, family-friendly Willkommen Platz. Located in Carl Zehr Square, Kitchener City Hall, King Street and at the Gaukel Block, the event will run from Friday, October 10th to Sunday, October 12th and also includes KIDtoberfest, DOGtoberfest and a new FARMtoberfest exhibit hosted by Farm Food Care Ontario as part of their popular Breakfast on the Farm series. Traditional Bavarian entertainment, a lively biergarten and amazing local and Canadian performers will take to various Willkommen Platz stages throughout the weekend, featuring headliners like iconic rock band The Watchmen.

"The 2025 Festival is shaping up to be more interactive and memorable than ever," shares KWO Executive Director, Tracy Van Kalsbeek. "Our Oktoberfest Festhallen can't wait to showcase this community's unique spirit of Gemütlichkeit through their authentic Bavarian experiences and welcoming atmosphere to the hundreds of thousands of festgoers who will be joining us this year!"

Festhallen tickets are limited and often sell out in advance, so purchase your tickets early. Visit <u>oktoberfest.ca/tickets</u> to learn more about all Festival venues and to buy tickets!

2025 Oktoberfest Pin Now Available

K-W Oktoberfest merchandise including the newly launched 2025 limited edition pin featuring Onkel Hans with a Canadian flag on a traditional Bavarian Maypole, can be purchased online at oktoberfest.ca by clicking on Shop Now.

Mass Chicken Dance at the Market - You're Invited!

Back again by popular demand! Join us for a Bavarian-filled, fun kick off to our 2025 ticket launch on Saturday, May 31st from 10:00 am until noon at the St. Jacob's Market as we band together for a chicken dance celebration! Dust off your lederhosen and dirndls and be prepared and "vogeltanz" to the sound of the accordion! This is a family friendly event, so please bring your kids to join the fun! Feel free to invite your friends, extended family members and even your neighbour from down the street!! We dance at 11:00 am so meet us at the market's outdoor food court at 10:45 am for the official warm up.

PHOTOS ENCLOSED: FESTHALLEN FESTIVITIES, 2025 OKTOBERFEST PIN.

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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. Tens of thousands of visitors celebrate annually in our Festhallen, at local restaurants and by attending one of our many family and cultural events. 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. *Oktoberfest Cares* provides funding for charitable partners and supports Festival initiatives that enrich our community such as the Onkel Hans Food Drive and keep admission costs low or free for favourites including the Women of the Year celebration and family-friendly events like KIDtoberfest, Thanksgiving Day Parade and the Willkommen Platz. For more information visit www.oktoberfest.ca.

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