

2016 New Bedford Oktoberfest Survival Guide

Oktoberfest is the largest “People’s Festival” on the planet. The festival was originally created to celebrate the marriage of Germany’s King Ludwig I to Princess Therese of Saxe-Hildburghausen, in Munich more than two centuries ago. All citizens were invited to celebrate with the royal family on the fields in front of the city gates.

There was a parade, music & dancing, horse races, wine and beer tasting, bowling, games, and of course, mouth-watering food. Outside of good excuses – battling with Napoleon’s troops, a Cholera epidemic, and a few wars – the festival would take place each year with various activities being added or removed.



*Mark those calendars
for the 11th Annual
New Bedford
Oktoberfest!*

The two-week long festival would continue to grow in popularity and any non-German nationals that were fortunate enough to be in the country during the festival would, of course, partake in the celebration. Clearly, this left an indelible impression – one powerful enough to adopt the idea for the nations that these folks returned to.

Today, Oktoberfest is celebrated in scores of countries – complete with the Polka music, bratwurst, and of course, beer. Since America’s largest ancestral group is German, it should come as no surprise that Oktoberfest took root as a popular excuse to drink, dance and have fun.

On the South Coast, there's no bigger and better version of Oktoberfest than New Bedford's own, NB0ktoberfest. Organized by the South Coast Business Alliance, the festival is now on its 11th year and has become one of the city's most popular annual events.



NB0ktoberfest in less than 10 years has become one of the region's most popular events.

What makes Oktoberfest an even more special one, is that the South Coast Business Alliance also pairs each event with charitable organizations by donating part of its proceeds – which surpassed \$500,000 with last year's event. Since its inception, they have focused their efforts on at-risk youth programming and various other organizations around the South Coast. Most recently they started the SCBA UMass-Dartmouth Scholarship Fund which provides a scholarship to one graduating senior with demonstrated financial need.

Additionally, they have donated over \$15,000 to the Children's Advocacy Center of Bristol County, supported organizations like Star Kids, the Zeiterion Theater, The Boys and Girls Club of Greater New Bedford, Friendly Sons of St. Patrick and many more. Several of their members have also received the South Coast Emerging 5 Award awarded each year to five recipients under 40 for their contributions and support within the community, including the President Christian Farland, Doug Glassman, Jason Almeida and Nick Francis, Board Member &

Chairman of the New Bedford Oktoberfest.

So, simply by attending the event you not only have a complete, total blast, but you can feel good that you contributed to a local charity, and benefited the community in some way. Wunderbar!

If you are a regular attendee, you may want to know what is still happening, what's been taken away and if there is anything new. If you have never been, you'll want to know what to expect. Read on, mein guter Kumpel.

Die Kost (FOOD!)

One of life's most hedonistic treats is to walk about a festival and enjoy all the wonderful aromas emanating from food being prepared. The wafting smells of various types of fare are a complete assault on the nose...and what fun it is to navigate from food truck, to stand, to tent. Eat, dance, relax and even people watch.

This year most vendors that you enjoyed in the past, will be returning. Everyone's local favorite, No Problemo, will be providing their regular burritos, tacos, tostadas, tortas and more. For the special occasion they will be making "Wurst Ques," or bratwurst quesadilla.

Only one place to get something like that locally, and only one time per year. It's worth visiting Oktoberfest just for that!



*There will be vendors
from far and wide
offering delicious*

fare!

FanCheezical Food Truck is a food truck out of Providence that serves grilled cheese sandwiches and sides. There's the Old Skool "like mom used to make," a BBQ 2.0: house smoked pulled pork w/ homemade BBQ sauce and cheddar cheese, the #19: Prosciutto, arugula and apricot spread w/ cheddar cheese, the Bay of Pigs: bacon, ham, pulled pork, cheddar cheese and special Cuban sauce and others. Sides include homemade Tomato Bisque, Corn in a cup with Cojito cheese and cilantro, Aurora's Salad which contains watermelon, tomatoes, basil and feta and a few others. In addition, DNB Burgers and, Knew Potato Kaboose (French Fries done 30 different ways) will be offering their fare.

Doesn't that sound schmecklich? Doch!

Die Musick

Providing the vibe and atmosphere will be some of the best local musical acts. From 7:00-7:40 New Bedford's own, The Pourmen will showcase their Celtic-Folk-Acoustic Punk talents. Following them from 8:00pm-9:00pm will be headliners, Boston based Jon Bon Jovi cover band Living On A Bad Name. The final act will be singer-songwriter Celisse who describes herself as a "...simple, complicated girl, writing typical, unusual music." Middlehouse Systems has generously provided the sound system to make it all possible.

Das Bier

No Oktoberfest, anywhere on the planet, is complete without beer. There will be over 50 beers present this year and 35 of them will be regional, including Buzzards Bay Brewery, Sam Ofest, Angry Orchard, Downeast Cranberry, Traveler Jack-O Pumpkin Shandy, Cisco Pumple Drumkin, Cisco Sankaty Light, Troegs Hopknife, Weihenstephaner Festbier, Von Trapp Ofest, Mayflower, Narragansett, Troeg's, Brooklyn, FoolProof and many more. This is double the variety of beers that last year had, and this year gluten free beer, ciders and sangria have been

added to the menu. Chances are your favorite will be there and the only difficulty will be which beer to pair with your pizza, hot dog, hamburger or Wurst Ques.” The first-world struggle is real!



There will be beer, food, beer, music, food, and dancing. And beer. (Cisco Brewers)

My biggest suggestion is to grab a beer sampler card: 5 beers for \$10. The first 600 people to purchase a sampler card get an NB0ktoberfest signature sampler cup. What more can be said about beer? Does one have to “sell” the concept? Finally, organizers will be offering 32oz. beer steins – only available to the first 200 lucky individuals. They are \$20 each.

The State Pier is an ideal spot for Oktoberfest. The time of year is perfect for mild weather – the sun is still high enough in the sky, the mornings are cool and the days are warm, but not hot. There is never an issue with rain, since most of what happens at Oktoberfest takes place indoors. Regardless there will be a massive tent provided by Chase Canopy set up on the working waterfront. There will be a Corn Hole game for those who wish for a little extra-curricular activity. If you are looking for a fun night out with the pals

or gals, or perhaps just that special someone, this October 1st will be the night to set aside – mark those calendars because it is an event you won't want to miss out on!

If you are interested in purchasing tickets, you can do so at eventbrite.com/e/scbas-11th-annual-oktoberfest-2016-tickets-8195993437. So, grab your Krug (or as the Dummköpfen say “Steins”) and let out a cry of “Zum Pröst!!”

11th Annual New Bedford Oktoberfest

When: Saturday, Oktober 1, 2016 from 3:00pm-12:00am

Where: State Pier Ferry Terminal/49 State Pier

Facebook: facebook.com/nboktoberfest

Website: scballiance.org/

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