

OKTOBERFEST FROM A TO Z

Oktoberfest Kultur / Oktoberfest Culture

Munich without Oktoberfest is still a lot of fun!

Enjoying life together in dirndl dresses and lederhosen

The Wiesn is not merely a major economic factor for Munich, but also a tourist attraction and an event that has been adopted internationally. Oktoberfest festivals in Munich style are held all over the world, such as in Blumenau, Brazil, as well as in Kitchener, Canada and Qingdao, China.

The original Oktoberfest on the Theresienwiese normally attracts some six million visitors. Strangers and friends in *lederhosen* and *dirndl dresses* normally party on the beer hall benches in a collective exhilaration; pensioners stroll between the fairground stalls and nibble roasted almonds; lovers win teddy bears for each other at the shooting stands and children rejoice in the traditional chairplane rides. "The Wiesn is simply a way of life," Baumgärtner told DW.



"Summer in the City" is also held in Munich's Olympic Park

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The alternative is a citywide summer party

You cannot replace the Oktoberfest, but you can save what can be saved. Like the jobs of the *traveling traders*. The Munich Department of Economics therefore created the event "Summer in the City". There are now rides, booths and pop-up beer gardens in various places in Munich, naturally with COVID-compliant distancing and hygiene rules.

On the Theresienwiese, for example, sand has been piled up with palm trees in it. There is a parcours climbing frame on which athletes train and children can do gymnastics. In the evening, the municipal sports department offers free aerobics lessons with a trainer behind the palm tree lane. There are also occasional concerts.

Drinking beer under palm trees

The people of Munich are taking advantage of these options. Not far from the beach students have set up a beer tent. "Hey, hey, baby, uh, ah," DJ Ötzi's Oktoberfest hit, echoes across the area. "Recently, some even set up a proper pool here," says Christin.