



## From the First & Second Largest Beer Festivals in the World: Oktoberfest and Cannstatter Wasen

**Routing:** Munich - Stuttgart



The world-famous Oktoberfest is indeed an event of superlatives: 6 million visitors, 1,000 participating landlords and breweries, tents with a capacity for 10,000, and of course: beer en mass or Bavarian: "im Mass", the large steins holding more than a quarter gallon of beer! But beer is not the only thing to enjoy while visiting Oktoberfest: The Grand Entry Parade or the Official Costume Parade displaying the fascinating diversity of regional traditions, costumes, and historic uniforms or the fest's roller coasters and Ferris wheel are worth a visit; not to forget the famous "Munich Hofbraeuhaus" and "Loewenbraeukeller". The Oktoberfest's cousin, the Cannstatter Wasen Festival in Stuttgart, is just as frolicsome. And if exploring beer fests is not enough, plenty of other things wait for you: be it the region's famous museums, a unique shopping experience at Stuttgart's Kraemermarkt (chandler market) or enjoying a

three country panorama from Stuttgart's TV tower are only a few of the many things to do. And when on your beer tour, don't forget, the best base is a choice of the local rustic culinary delights: 'Kaesepaetzle', 'Weisswurst' with sour kraut, or 'Goeckele' are just some of them! Itinerary is based on travel by train.

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### PROGRAM:

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#### 1<sup>st</sup> Day

#### Flight to Munich

*Crown Prince Ludwig, later to become King Ludwig I, was married to Princess Therese of Saxony-Hildburghausen on 12<sup>th</sup> October 1810. The citizens of Munich were invited to attend the festivities held on the fields in front of the city gates to celebrate the happy royal event. The fields have been named Theresienwiese ("Theresa's fields") in honor of the Crown Princess ever since, although the locals have since abbreviated the name simply to the "Wies'n". Today, the Oktoberfest is the largest festival in the world, with an international flavor characteristic of the 21<sup>st</sup> century: some 6 million visitors from all around the world converge on the Oktoberfest each year. And since the Oktoberfest is still held on the Theresienwiese, the locals still refer to the event simply as the "Wies'n". When you hear the word "Oktoberfest", it's almost certain that one thing comes to mind... Bavarian Beer Festival! The truth is there is much more behind-the-scenes information that lurks beneath the countless years of this world-renowned Bavarian tradition.*

Check in hotel  
Hotel Bayerischer Hof  
Promenadeplatz 2-6  
80333 Munich  
Tel.: +49 89 2120634  
[www.bayerischerhof.de](http://www.bayerischerhof.de)

See the grand entry parade of the Oktoberfest landlords and breweries  
(First Saturday of Oktoberfest)

*This is the official prelude to the opening of the Oktoberfest and involves about 1,000 participants, including the landlords' families in decorated carriages, the magnificent horse-drawn drays of the Munich breweries, waitresses on decorated floats and all the beer tent bands.*

Visit to the beer tent "Schottenhamel" followed by a genuine Bavarian dinner

*The tent has the capacity for nearly 10,000 people. The served beer is called "Spatenbraeu" beer. Annually at noon of the first day of the Oktoberfest, the mayor of Munich traditionally taps the first Oktoberfest-barrel here since 1950. During the Oktoberfest, politicians, famous people and Munich's scene, all gather in the "Schottenhamel" tent. The traditional students' associations also have their special area in the tent where they meet every day.*  
[www.festzelt.schottenhamel.de](http://www.festzelt.schottenhamel.de)

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## 2<sup>nd</sup> Day

### Munich

Official Costume Parade of the Oktoberfest

*World-famous procession on the first Sunday of the Oktoberfest. The Costume and Riflemen's Procession gives an impressive insight into the fascinating diversity of customs rooted in the heart of Bavaria, in Franconia, Swabia, the states of Germany and in neighboring European countries. A varied succession of regional costume groups, "troops" in historical uniforms, marching bands, riflemen, thoroughbred horses, oxen, cows, goats, the decorated drays of the Munich breweries, floats displaying typical local traditions and historic carriages all pass by in a 4.5-mile-long procession through the streets of the city center. Ribbioned trees, harvest garlands, craftsmen's tools from bygone days, harvest produce, dancers decorated with flowers, stars and crowns, trumpeters on horseback, flag-throwers and a host of other performers transform this traditional Munich procession into a brilliant highlight on the first Sunday of the Oktoberfest.*  
[www.muenchen.de](http://www.muenchen.de)

Visit to the „Beer and Oktoberfestmuseum“

*Learn more about the history of the beer from the migration of people, the monasteries, the purity law, and the unique quality of Munich's beer. The third floor in the house is made available to the club "Munich Oktoberfestmuseum", which was founded almost 40 years ago by Xaver Heilmannseder, proprietor of the "Loewenbraeukellers" and of the Loewenbraeu tent at the Oktoberfest. For this purpose he left considerable funds in his will, in order to enable the club to organize exhibitions on this topic independently.*

[www.bier-und-oktoberfestmuseum.de](http://www.bier-und-oktoberfestmuseum.de) (only German)

Lunch at "Hofbraeuhaus Munich"

*The historic beer hall on the first floor of the building is considered the heart of the Hofbraeuhaus. Here, where Hofbraeuhaus beer was once brewed, underneath the cross vaults, up to 1,300 guests can sit at tables, some of which have been here since 1897 as testified by the many initials, names and comments engraved on them.*

Platzl 9  
80331 Munich  
Tel.: +49 89 2901360  
[www.hofbraeuhaus.de](http://www.hofbraeuhaus.de)

Spend your afternoon and evening at the Oktoberfest grounds.

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### 3<sup>rd</sup> Day

#### Stuttgart

Transfer to Stuttgart (2 h 20 min)

*Charmingly situated in the heart of one of Germany's largest wine-growing regions, this vibrant metropolis fascinates visitors from all over the world. The state capital of Baden-Württemberg delights tourists not only by virtue of its magnificent panorama, its impressive gardens and parks, its fine squares, splendid palaces and buildings in a wide range of architectural styles, but also by its cultural diversity.*

[www.stuttgart-tourist.de](http://www.stuttgart-tourist.de)

Check in hotel

Steigenberger Zeppelin Hotel  
Arnulf-Klett-Platz 7  
70173 Stuttgart  
Tel.: +49 711 20480  
[www.steigenberger.com](http://www.steigenberger.com)

Visit to the "Cannstatter Wasen" Festival

*Still today the 79 ft high and highly decorated fruit column in the middle of the festival grounds is a reminder that the young, beloved Wuertemberg Queen Katharina with her husband King Wilhelm I gave this to the people of the country in 1818 at the end of a period of starvation. Today Stuttgarters together with millions of guests celebrate one of the most beautiful and largest beer festivals and fairs in the world. Things are really exciting in the large festival tents. Up to 5,000 visitors can frolicsomenly celebrate in each festival tent. Bands wearing traditional clothing ensure the cheerful entertainment and the delicious Kaesespaetzle (Swabian noodles with cheese), roast, potato noodles with sour kraut, Goeckele or crispy knuckles are a good base for many quarts of beer. Super looping, haunted houses, racy water rides and the largest transportable Ferris wheel in the world make strolling along the Wasen to an enormous jamboree. For the daring, the spectacular rides are pure pleasure, the romantics look forward to the chain carousel and the ship swing.*

[www.stuttgart-tourist.de](http://www.stuttgart-tourist.de)

Visit to the TV Tower

*With its impressive height of 712 ft, the Stuttgart TV Tower is the original model for the television towers from around the world. From no other point in Stuttgart is the view of the city, of the vineyard landscape of the Neckar Valley, of the Swabian land up to the Alb, to the Black Forest and to the Odenwald so comprehensive as from the television tower. Many days a year, the panorama also includes the mountain summits of the German, Austrian and Swiss Alps.*  
[www.fernsehturm-stuttgart.de](http://www.fernsehturm-stuttgart.de) (only German)

Dinner at the “Cannstatter Wasen”

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## 4<sup>th</sup> Day

### Stuttgart

Visit to the New Castle

*With the New Castle, Duke Carl Eugen von Wuerttemberg (1744 - 1793) had the last large Baroque residence castle facilities in Germany built. He demanded from the city and the Wuerttemberg representatives of the orders that they build a "proper residence which is convenient to his royal dignity and the amplitude of his royal household" because he wanted to make Stuttgart to a second Versailles.*

[www.neues-schloss-stuttgart.de](http://www.neues-schloss-stuttgart.de)

Visit to the Old and New State Gallery

*The State Gallery of Stuttgart, built in the years 1838 - 1843 under King Wilhelm I of Wuerttemberg, has been one of the most visited German museums, especially since the opening of the world famous expansion from the British star architect James Stirling in the year 1984. The classicist building from the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the Old State Gallery, is home to the works from the 14<sup>th</sup> to the 19<sup>th</sup> century as well as the graphic collection with its extensive inventory of drawings, water paintings, collages, printed graphics, illustrated books, posters and photographs. Connected to the old museum on the gallery level, the expansion by James Stirling, The New State Gallery, is dedicated to the art of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Since the end of the Second World War the emphasis of the collection of the State Gallery is in the classical modernism and the contemporary painting and sculpture.*

[www.staatsgalerie.de](http://www.staatsgalerie.de)

Spend the afternoon at the festival

Stroll over the “Kraemermarkt”

*Away from the fairground rides and festival tents there is the open-air market – a place where you can stroll and buy to your heart's content in a relaxed environment. The offers are manifold and range from jewelry and trendy leather goods to herbs and spices. It is exactly the right thing, in between, if you are looking for a quiet change from roller-coaster and bumper cars.*

[www.kraemermarkt.de](http://www.kraemermarkt.de) (only German)

Dinner at the festival

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**5<sup>th</sup> Day**

**US**

Flight to the US