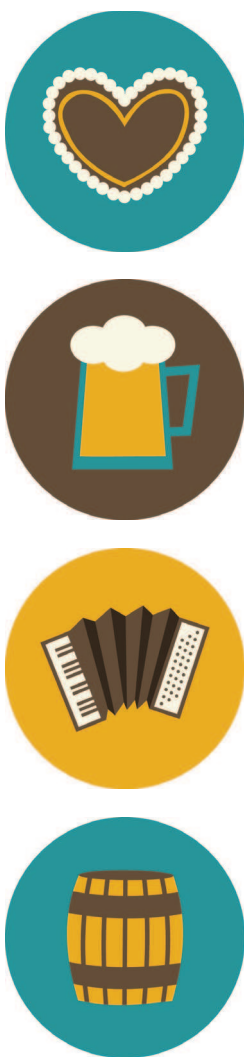


Presented by the Florence Events Center  
**FIFTH ANNUAL FLORENCE**

# Oktoberfest

**COMMUNITY CELEBRATION**

Saturday, Oct. 14 | 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. | Florence Events Center



— **Menu** —

- Beer and soda • Bratwurst, sauerkraut and potato salad
- Potato soup in a bread bowl
- Soft pretzel • Pickle on a stick • Popcorn • Apple strudel and ice cream



Oktoberfest dates back to 1810, when festivities commenced on Oct. 12 to celebrate the marriage of Bavarian Crown Prince Ludwig to Princess Therese von Sachsen-Hildburghausen. While the Crown Prince and his bride have long since passed away, Oktoberfest celebrations continue, and the standard-bearing party in Munich is annually among the world's most anticipated events.

Those who can't make it to Germany this October can get a small taste of Bavaria at the Florence Events Center, 715 Quince St., during the fifth annual Oktoberfest Celebration in Florence.

Making the most of this event can help revelers feel as if they're in Munich after all.

**Celebrate with a group**

Oktoberfest celebrations are social gatherings where the notion of "the more, the merrier" certainly applies. At the FEC, communal tables mean you may be seated near people outside of your group, including guest entertainers, such as the Alpine Echoes Band or some of this year's dancers. Take this chance to promote brotherhood and meet your neighbors.

**Resolve to try new cuisine**

While beer might garner the bulk of

the attention at Oktoberfest celebrations, food is just as big a part of the festivities. This year's Oktoberfest features bratwurst, sauerkraut and potato salad, as well as potato soup in a bread bowl, pretzels, pickle on a stick, popcorn and soft drinks. Many food vendors' profits go to support Friends of the FEC, Florence Regional Arts Alliance, Boys & Girls Club of Western Lane County, Last Resort Players and Florence Food Share. This year's dessert is apple strudel with ice cream.

**Get up and dance**

Even celebrants who are unlikely to be mistaken for Fred and Ginger anytime soon recognize the important role music plays in Oktoberfest celebrations.

While some may mistake it for polka, the music played at Oktoberfest celebrations is actually German "oompah." Those skittish about stepping in may want to wait until they (and their friends and family also in attendance) have finished a stein before taking to the dance floor. Check out the traditional German dance groups, Skandia Leikarringen

Dancers and the Tirolean Dancers, as well as the folk music by the Cultural Ecology Band and the Alpine Echoes Band.

**Experience the entire festival**

Celebrants can get their faces painted and take a picture at the BeauxArts Photo Booth. Outside, the Wiener Dog Races raise money for the American Cancer Society in the cutest way possible — with Dachshunds. There will also be raffles, contests and prizes.

**Get home safe**

Arrange transportation home before attending an Oktoberfest celebration. To ensure everyone arrives home safely, people can assign a designated driver from their group or arrange for a taxi to take them to and from the festival so no one feels the need to get behind the wheel.

Oktoberfest is annually one of the world's biggest parties, but celebrants need not go all the way to Munich to enjoy a raucous celebration. Come down the Florence Events Center on Saturday, Oct. 14, for a whole day of beer, food, music and fun.

Tickets are \$7 in advance, or \$8 at the door. Visit [eventcenter.org](http://eventcenter.org), stop by the Box Office at 715 Quince St. or call 541-997-1994.

## 2017 Schedule of Events

11 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the Florence Events Center, 715 Quince St.

- 11 to 11:45 – Cultural Ecology Band
- 11:45 to 12:15 – Skandia Leikarringen (dancers)
- 12:15 to 1 – Alpine Echoes Band
- 1 to 1:15 – Contest
- 1:15 to 1:45 – Skandia Leikarringen
- 1:45 to 2:30 – Cultural Ecology Band
- 2 – Wiener Dog Race
- Registration Opens
- 2:30 to 2:45 – Contest
- 2:45 to 3:15 – Tirolean Dancers
- 3 – Wiener Dog Races (outside)
- 3:15 to 4 – Alpine Echoes Band
- 4 to 4:30 p.m. – Tirolean Dancers
- 4:30 to 5:15 – Alpine Echoes Band
- 5:15 to 6 – Cultural Ecology Band

# DACHSHUND DERBY

Get ready for a Dachshund derby at the fifth annual famous Florence Wiener Dog Races!

The Wiener Dog Races are presented by the Siuslaw News on Saturday, Oct. 14, during this year's Oktoberfest at the Florence Events Center, 715 Quince St.

Registration begins at 2 p.m., followed by the races at 3 p.m. Current shot records are required for the dogs.

Cost to register pets for the derby is \$10. All proceeds go to the American Cancer Society and Florence Relay for Life.

Awards will be handed out for first and second places in three categories: puppy (up to 2 years), youth (2 to 5 years) and adult (6 years and above). An overall champion will also be named.

Race your Dachshund on the special, extended race track and support your favorite four-legged runner from the sidelines.

To pre-register or for more information, contact Jeanna at 541-999-6077 or by email at [jpetersen@thesiuslawnews.com](mailto:jpetersen@thesiuslawnews.com).



(Inset) 2016 Wiener Dog Race Grand Champion Gotti, with Alaura Little of Florence

SIUSLAW-NEWS FILE PHOTOS

**Sponsored by**

- Oregon Sen. Arnie Roblan
- Darlings RV Resort & Marina
- KCST Coast Radio
- Siuslaw News