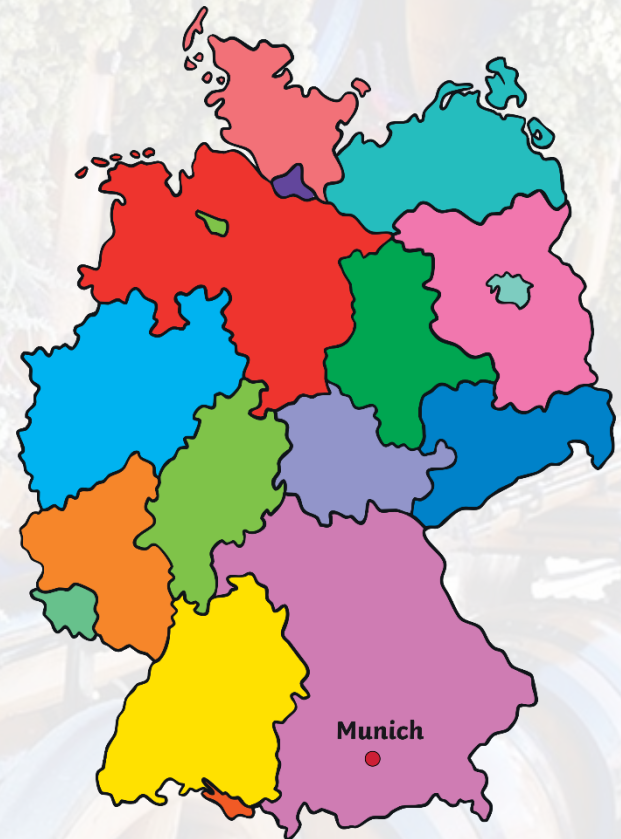


# Oktoberfest

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# What Is Oktoberfest?

- Oktoberfest is the world's largest beer festival.
- It is held annually in **Munich**, the capital of the German federal state, Bavaria.
- The event is called 'Oktoberfest', but it actually starts in September and lasts 18 days.
- More than six million people attend the festival every year.



# The History of Oktoberfest

- Oktoberfest was first held in **1810**, to celebrate the wedding between Prince Ludwig (later King Ludwig I) and Princess Therese of Saxe-Hildburghausen.
- The citizens of Munich were invited to celebrate with the royal couple.
- The celebrations were held on the fields in front of Munich's city gates.
- These fields were later named '**Theresienwiese**' (Theresa's Meadow), in honour of the princess.
- This name is still used today for these fields, that are now part of the city. That's why locals often call Oktoberfest '**Wiesn**' (Bavarian for 'Wiese' – meadow).



# The History of Oktoberfest

Since 1810, Oktoberfest has become bigger every year.

- In 2016, around **5.6 million** people visited the festival.
- **6.1 million** litres of beer were consumed.
- There are more than **1800 toilets** available for visitors.
- Around **20% of visitors** come from abroad.



# The Traditional Bavarian Costume

During Oktoberfest, many people wear the traditional Bavarian costume. In German it's called 'Tracht'.

Men and boys wear '**Lederhosen**'.

Lederhosen are short or knee-length leather breeches, traditionally made of deer leather. The trousers are paired with white or colourful shirts and knee-length socks or half stockings. Sometimes men also wear felt hats and traditional shoes called 'Haferlschuhe'.



# The Traditional Bavarian Costume

Women and girls wear a traditional dress called '**Dirndl**'.

The Dirndl consists of a bodice and skirt or a dress. This is paired with a blouse with puff sleeves and an apron.

Dirndl can be very elaborate, with scarves or aprons made of silk and decorated with detailed embroidery.

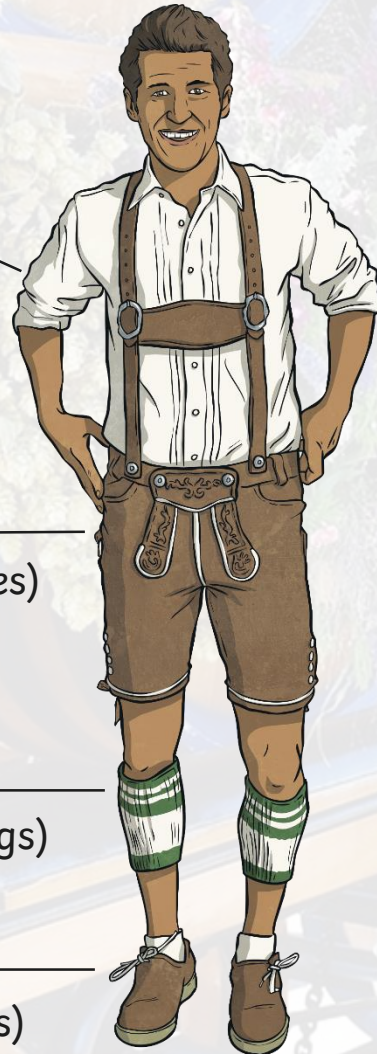


**There's a meaning behind the way the apron is tied:**

- A bow on the left means a woman is single.
- If it is tied on the right, it signifies that the woman is in a relationship.

# The Traditional Bavarian Costume

**Hemd**  
(shirt)

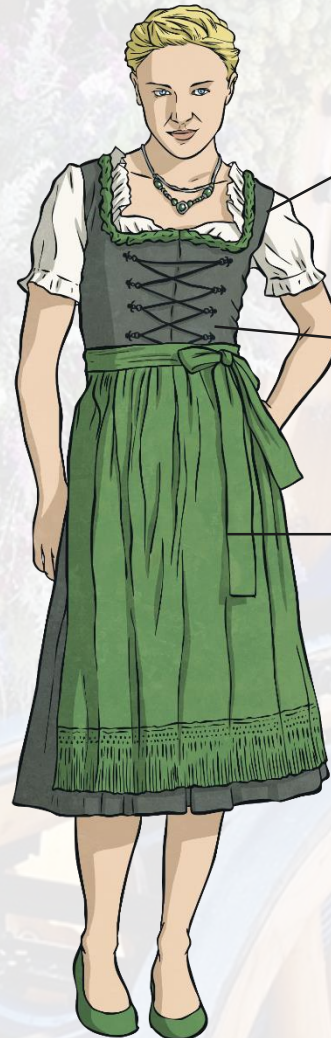


**Lederhose**  
(leather breeches)

**Loflerl**  
(half stockings)

**Haferlschuhe**  
(traditional shoes)

**Bluse**  
(blouse)



**Dirndl**  
(traditional dress)

**Schürze**  
(apron)



**Filzhut** (felt hat)

# The Traditional Bavarian Costume



The traditional decoration on a felt hat is called 'Gamsbart'. It is made of chamois-hair. In the past, the Gamsbart showcased a man's wealth and his ability as a hunter.

# Oktoberfest Traditions

- Beer plays an important role at Oktoberfest.
- Traditionally, only beer that is brewed in Munich is served at the festival.
- That means only six breweries are allowed to sell their beer.
- It is usually drunk from big one-litre mugs called 'Maßkrug'.



# Oktoberfest Traditions

- Oktoberfest is opened in a traditional ceremony.
- The Mayor of Munich taps opens the first barrel of beer in one of the beer tents. To do this, he uses a big wooden hammer.
- As soon as the beer starts flowing, the mayor declares 'O'Zapft is!' This is the Bavarian way of saying 'Es ist angezapft!' (It's tapped!).
- After this, Oktoberfest is officially opened.



# Popular Food at Oktoberfest



Pretzel and cheese spread ("Obatzda")

# Popular Food at Oktoberfest



Sausage salad (“Wurstsalat”)

# Popular Food at Oktoberfest



Different varieties of sausage

# Popular Food at Oktoberfest



Gingerbread hearts

# Popular Food at Oktoberfest



Toffee apples



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