

Kitchener Waterloo Oktoberfest

Oktoberfest, just the mention of it puts smiles on the faces of most people who enjoy a good beer! I live/work in the Kitchener Waterloo area and have since 1986. That's 20 years of good clean living and during October good eating and fantastic parties.

Unfortunately I have probably forgotten more about the different clubs that I've attended than I can remember, but as it all comes back to me (and I have new experiences each year) you can expect to find them here.

I'll also attempt to put together some sort of list of favourite clubs and hotels/motels which are nearby. Alpine Club

Alpine is a traditional German club, excellent food, good drink and good people. I would recommend this club to anyone who is more interested in the traditional oktoberfest experience and less in insane partying. That's not to say that the drinking is bad at Alpine, oh no...it's great. The shooter bar is always an experience.

We (my friends and I) usually descend on the Alpine in a group of about 40. That's significant since it's a fairly small (in terms of fest halls) club. We have had some of the best times at this small traditional club. Wood choppers, dances, Miss Oktoberfest, this club has all the necessities. Concordia Club

There are two faces to the concordia club. It's been a traditional german club for ages (at least 100 years), but for most, this is a party place.

It's huge (under the tent) with several bars, two huge shooter bars and more draft beer than you can imagine. The atmosphere at this club is younger and more drink/party central. They also tend to feature pretty good (popular) bands on some nights. If you've got a group of university students, or under 30's (or if you feel like you're one), this one should be on your "must-visit" list.

Here is a map/directions to the club

Well, last night (Oct 13, 2006) I went to the Concordia. Our tickets were good from 6 until 7 (after that your tickets are still valid, but you may have to wait in line to get in). We arrived around 6:30pm after the most bizarre taxi ride I've ever taken...I swear it reminded me of the scene in Wolf Creek when the guy is driving them into the middle of nowhere!

After arrival, we hit the washrooms quickly. The Concordia (the main oktoberfest part) is a big tent, but the washrooms are in an attached building. Ok, that's taken care of, time to eat!

The food prices were a little high, but that's to be expected. I had a sausage and krout and a schnitzel on a bun. Came to a total of about \$10. The Sausage was much better than the schnitzel. Foods done, time for some drink.

I ordered a pitcher of beer (\$16-\$17...\$20 after tip), it was cold and tasty. I can only guess by the banners around that it was Molson Canadian. A quick trip to the shooter bar for some Apple Schnapps and the night had begun!

We did all the silly dances (Chicken, Hokey Pokey, etc) there were probably more than 2000 people under the tent, but all was in order, no fights or nastiness at all...everyone was just there for a good time.

I played a couple of the games (after much more alcohol), shooting some sort of air rifle and crossbow seemed to be the most popular. Oh yeah, the girl in the dunk tank seemed to get her share of attention too!

All in all, it was a great time. Music was good (don't remember the band's name), drink was good, freinds were good. I left a little early to avoid the taxi rush and managed to get one not too far from the hall...whew. Anyone who's done the Oktoberfest walk home on a cold night knows how grateful we were to get that cab.

Take it easy.

J