

Culture Bridge ...



... Means Understanding Others And Reflecting Our Own Situation



The Munich Beer Festival - das Oktoberfest in München

Every year in Germany people celebrate in Munich a fair called 'Oktoberfest'. It is a tradition in Bavaria where every year more than six million people are celebrating. The first Oktoberfest was in 1810 when Prince Ludwig and Princess Theresia wanted to celebrate their wedding on a big meadow which is called 'Theresienwiese' (Theresia's Meadow) today. The prince liked everything from Old Greece and decided to make something like the Olympic Games. The people were satisfied. So they made a big festival with horse-racing and a lot of beer.

Since then you can go to the 'Oktoberfest' in Munich to drink a special beer which is only made while the 'Oktoberfest' is lasting and

eat a pretzel and a special sausage served with a special type of mustard. The festival takes place in big tents.

Many of the 'Oktoberfest' visitors are dressed in more or less traditional Bavarian clothes. The men wear for example the typical Bavarian short leather trousers and the women wear a 'Dirndl', which is a special dress. Almost all visitors of the 'Oktoberfest' go there to drink beer. However, only the older people are drinking much because the beer has got a higher alcohol percentage than normal beer. People are also singing old folk songs. But as people are forgetting the texts, the Bavarians hand out the lyrics in a little brochure. Today you can also find a fairground with a giant ferris wheel and a roller-coaster. The 'Oktoberfest' begins on the Saturday after 15th September and it ends on 3rd October, because of the cool weather in October.



Waitress wearing "Dirndl"

