



BIER, WURST, AND LEDERHOSEN

Tracht is a popular type of Bavarian dress including lederhosen (AKA leather pants). When it comes to stein holding, folk music, and hammerschlagen, lederhosen feel somewhat like a wardrobe mandate. Whether you prefer to rock kniebund (longer shorts that hit below the knee) or plattler (short shorts that hit above), lederhosen are made of genuine deerskin and can run at a hefty price tag. So, if you got 'em, flaunt 'em. Here's how to live your best lederhosen life this fall.

By **MADÉLINE NACHBAR**

DO

size up to leave room for *bier*, brats, chops, and giant pretzels at **Gasthaus Bavarian Hunter's annual Oktoberfest** celebration, September 13–15, 20–22 (8390 Lofton Ave. N., Stillwater).

DON'T

drink too much lager. If you are unable to maneuver your suspenders alone in a small, confined biffy, it won't end well.

DO

show off your lederhosen at the stein-holding contest at the annual **New Ulm Oktoberfest** party and parade, October 4–5, 11–12 (intersection of Center St. and Minnesota St., New Ulm).

DON'T

miss the party with the peacocks at **Schell's Brewery** proper, all day on Saturday, October 12. It's a fest inside a fest! (1860 Schell's Rd., New Ulm).

DO

enter the lederhosen costume contest at the **Minnesota Renaissance Festival Oktoberfest**, September 28–29 (12364 Chestnut Blvd., Shakopee).

DON'T

wear the handkerchief that comes with your set. To avoid looking like a poser, DO accessorize with a felt or suede alpine hat instead.



Rhymes with Rocktober:

(clockwise from top far left) The Schell mansion, built in 1885; the taps flow at Schell's Oktoberfest (and it's not Miller Lite); an intimate dinner with friends downtown in New Ulm; beer and barrels; it's a family affair under the Schell's tent.

