10 Ways to Prepare Yourself for Charlotte Oktoberfest 2018

1. Take in the event - it is SPECIAL.

Some breweries will bring rare beers that last literally minutes on beer store shelves – if they make it to this region at all. Some beers have been cellared and improved with age. The event also features some cideries.

2. Pace yourself.

Many of the beers have two and even three times the alcohol content of the most common beers. Take breaks. Play some of the games or listen to the bands that will be present.

3. Dress to ingest.

Wear good, comfortable shoes. I would recommend darker clothing that could take a stain from a dark beer. There will be drips and sloshes, especially if you use the lanyard with the tasting glass holder.

4. Just a very little bit.

Especially if you're really trying to make the rounds and try a lot of different beers, don't be afraid to specify that you want less than two ounces so you can try more.

5. Eat and drink (water).

It's good policy anyway, but it's imperative at an event like this. Water will be free and plentiful.

6. Take notes. There's an app for that.

There is always a great printed event guide with information on each brewery, so bring a pen. But also bring a charged smartphone.

7. Bring a small bag for swag.

Unless you like storage locker-esque cargo shorts, you'll want a simple bag for all the coasters, stickers, koozies, bottle openers, brochures, event guide and whatever else you can get your hands on.

8. Avoid driving.

This isn't a secret warehouse rave – police and ALE know the event is going on. Have a friend ready. Uber. Lyft. Cab. Call a parent (really, they'll be proud).

9. Get a VIP pass or volunteer.

The General Admission ticket itself is a great deal. But the VIP pass gets you in 90 minutes early with access to special tours.

10. Pace yourself, eat, hydrate and have a plan to get home safely.

Did I mention this already? Do it. All of it. A ticket, some food and an Uber ride home are a fraction of the price of a trip to Munich's Oktoberfest – unless you tack on legal costs because you were in no shape to drive home!

Source: Sam Perkins, charlotteagenda.com

Be sure to check out www.facebook.com/CharlotteOktoberfest for future announcements regarding Charlotte Oktoberfest 2018!