

Downtown Business Association of Bismarck

407 E Main Ave
PO Box 521
Bismarck, ND 58502-0521
Phone (701) 223-1958
Fax (701) 223-7385

Press Release

Contact: Kate Herzog
Phone: (701) 223-1958

FOR RELEASE
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Downtowners German Days Entertainment ReMix July 12-14

The 4th Annual Downtowners German Days, presented by Volkswagen of Bismarck, will feature new entertainment and an improved layout this year.

German Days is a celebration of all things German, including German and Germans from Russia music, food, and beer. Staging is at the Historic Depot parking lot on Main Avenue with live entertainment, polka and waltz bands, clogging, and German activities. Traditional foods, Coke products and German and German-American beers from Jerome's and McQuade's distributing will also be served.

The event kicks off when gates open at 5 p.m. Thursday with the ceremonial Keg Tapping, followed by the headlining band. This year's ceremonial Keg Tapping will be done by a Bismarck Magazine Hometown Hero.

Steinhoisting, hosted by Dee Daniels of 96.5 The Fox, will move to Friday evening, July 13. Men and women ages 21 and up can compete for a chance to beat their competitors and take home *Das Boot*, a 32 ounce glass 'boot' or stein.

Kinderfest children's entertainment will move to Saturday afternoon, featuring performances by Northern Plains Dance, Elite Energy Cloggers, a kids' "Sausage" Stuffing contest, and appearances by some favorite local mascots.

Also new this year - 'block party' bands will headline each evening. Thursday night catch Church of Cash, a Johnny Cash tribute band. Friday night One 'n Done will be rocking favorite block party songs, and Saturday night Backstage Pass with Randy Stein closes out the event. As always, favorite community polka bands will be entertaining at German Days including Young at Heart, Little Dutch Band, Dakota Keys, Backstage Pass with Randy Stein and Bismarck Rockin' Cloggers.

Also new in 2018 is an improved event layout with the stage relocated right in front of the Historic Depot, creating a new backdrop for performances. Another added feature in 2018 is online ticket sales, including a new discounted full-event pass for access all three days. Pay-at-the-gate admission is still available each day as well, \$5 for an adult day pass and kids 12 and under free. The German Days entry point will be moved to Main Avenue between Fourth and Fifth Streets to give patrons close access to all Downtown parking ramps. Edwinton Brewing in the west end of the Depot will be open during the event; customers may use Fourth Street to access the brewery.

The community is encouraged to get in the spirit of Bismarck's and North Dakota's German heritage by wearing traditional German clothing such as lederhosen, dirndls, or other German celebratory garb, and dance to polkas, waltz, and old time music. Steins, shirts and other German items featuring Bismarck's German Days will be available for purchase at the event.

Hours of the event are Thursday, July 12, from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m., Friday and Saturday, July 13-14, from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m.

Those attending the event are encouraged to use the Downtown Bismarck parking ramps. The cost is \$1 per hour or \$6 for a day pass. For parking ramp information, visit www.bismarckparkingauthority.com.

For more German Days information or the detailed event schedule, visit www.bismarckgermandays.com.

FMI:
Kate Herzog, COO
Downtown Business Association
kate@downtownbismarck.com
701-223-1958

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