

OC WEEKLY



Willkommen to Bistango Gardens for Oktoberfest September 29

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Willkommen will be the official greeting at Bistango when the popular Irvine restaurant transforms its al fresco Bistango Gardens into a Biergarten in honor of Oktoberfest. Though known for its contemporary American cuisine, Executive Chef Tim Doolittle will prepare German small plates and a number of German beers will be available for the celebration that will be held September 29 from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m.

The Bavarian-inspired small plates menu will include the following along with hand-picked German premium beers: Sauerbraten (\$14) -- Garlic potatoes and roasted carrots. Schweineschnitzel(\$16)--Warm potato salad and roasted apples. Bratwurst (\$10) --Sauerkraut, sweet mustard and soft roll.

The world's largest beer festival held annually in Munich, Oktoberfest is a 16-day event running from mid/late-September to the first weekend in October with more than 6 million people attending annually. The festival is an important part of Bavarian culture since its inception in 1810.

Rated one of Southern California's best "power lunch" destinations by the Orange County Register, the venerable Bistango has been critically acclaimed for 3 decades. Overseeing the bustling kitchen is former Wolfgang Puck protégé Doolittle whose imprint can be found on each dish on the diverse menu of fine American cuisine. The restaurant is also known as a veritable art gallery with works that rotate quarterly. In addition to its 400-bottle wine list, which has been heralded by Wine Spectator, Bistango offers an extensive list of classic and specialty cocktails and 15 craft beers by the bottle. Outside sits Bistango Gardens, whose mature trees, plants and flowers lend natural intimacy and an enormous circular fountain serves as its centerpiece.

Bistango serves lunch and dinner weekdays and dinner-only Saturdays. Live entertainment can be enjoyed each evening in its sophisticated lounge where couples often dance the night away. Bistango is located at The Atrium (19100 Von Karman Avenue, Irvine). For more information visit www.bistango.com or call (949) 752-5222.