



Wurstfest Committee
312 Market Street
Hermann, MO 65041

PRESS RELEASE

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The Best of Missouri's Wurst at Hermann

(HERMANN, Mo.)—A two-day celebration of Hermann's 160-year history of sausage making and German culture will take place during the 31st annual **WURSTFEST** on March 27-28. The Hermann Area Chamber of Commerce joins local sausage makers, wineries, B&Bs, restaurants and shops in reaffirming Hermann as the "Sausage Capital of Missouri" during this popular festival held Saturday from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m., and Sunday from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Visitors are invited to sample and purchase Old-World delicacies such as Bratwurst, Leberwurst, Schwartenmagen and Sommer Sausage in the Pavilion at Stone Hill Winery and at the Hermannhof Festhalle on both days. Admission for sampling is \$6. Participating sausage vendors include: Williams Brothers Meat Market, Washington; Schubert's Packing, Millstadt, IL; Heintz Processing, Cuba; Stonies Sausage Shop, Perryville; Swiss Meat & Sausage Company, Hermann; Wright City Meat, Wright City; Tony Caldarello Italian Sausage, Kansas City; Paradise Locker Meats, Trimble, MO; Davis Meat Processing, Jonesburg; and Baumann's Fine Meats, Ballwin.

Activities are planned throughout town with several venues planning live music in the evening and artists will be demonstrating their work at Kuntsler Haus on 1st Street. Some of the other activities planned around Hermann during the weekend, include blacksmithing at the Hermann Farm and Museum Forge on Gutenberg Street from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.; a whole hog sausage breakfast at Hermann Fire House #1 on 2nd Street from 7:30 a.m.-noon Sunday; and the annual Wurstfest Wiener Dog Derby at 1 p.m. Sunday in the City Park.

Dachshund owners are encouraged to enter their dogs in relay races, costume and talent contests. Registration begins at 11 a.m. and costs \$10 on the day of the race. Admission to the derby is \$3, with 12-under admitted free; admission is included in the Wurstfest admission price.

Entertainment will highlight Hermann's German Heritage. On Saturday and Sunday, Marilyn Loehnicg will perform from noon – 4 p.m. at the Stone Hill Pavilion and Ginny Hall & Glenda Townsend will perform at the Festhalle. Other entertainment will include the Rhineland Wurstjaegers at Stone Hill at 1 p.m. both days and at 2 p.m. both days at the Festhalle.

A statewide sausage-making contest will be held at the Hermannhof Festhalle on Saturday and a display of products from the winners of the competition will be displayed Sunday. The owners and friends of Stone Hill Winery will demonstrate old-time sausage-making skills throughout the weekend. Antique sausage making and winemaking equipment will be displayed at the Pavilion.

A panel of both celebrity and expert judges will be on hand to evaluate the numerous sausage entries. Matt Chambers, meteorologist for KMOV-TV in St. Louis, and Jim McCarty, editor of Rural Missouri Magazine, will represent the celebrity judges. Professional judges include: Andy Cloud of Carthage, president of the Missouri Meat Producers Association; Don Nikodem, executive director of the Missouri Pork Producers; Ed Woods, owner/operator Woods Smoked Meats in Bowling Green; Dr. Andrew Clarke, professor of Meat Science, University of Missouri; and Steve Mueller of Hermann and Bob Aston of St. Louis, both talented sausage makers and sausage judges emeritus.

Several of the area shops and museums will be featuring craft demonstrations, and the local wineries, including Adam Puchta, Bias, Hermannhof, Röbbler, Oak Glenn and Stone Hill, will offer wine tastings and/or tours.

Deutschheim State Historic Site, Missouri's official German Heritage Site, will be open both days with sausage-making exhibits, sausage samples, pink lemonade, and tours of the site. There will be no charge for tours at Deutschheim for Wurstfest attendees; tours are scheduled at 10 a.m. 12:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m.

For information about Hermann Wurstfest weekend activities and lodging information call 800-932-8687 or check the Web at www.VisitHermann.com.

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