

Portland Polish Festival returns after Covid-19 hiatus

Portland's Polish Festival, the oldest Polish festival in the western United States, returns this year after taking three years off due to the coronavirus pandemic. The festival has celebrated Polish culture, traditions, and achievements for nearly three decades.

The two-day, all-ages event features authentic Polish food, live music and dance performances, exhibits about Polish history and culture, activities for children, polka contests, local merchants, and a beer garden. Admission is free of charge.

The festival was first held in 1993 and this year will mark its 27th time. It was last held in 2019, before the start of the pandemic.

"We're so excited to welcome everyone back to our festival, which is a tribute to our Polish heritage. We hope that you can join us and experience the tremendous Polish hospitality. Polish Festival is a non-profit event staffed solely by volunteers dedicated to making your visit a wonderful experience. All net proceeds go directly to maintaining the operation of our historical Polish Hall and all of the cultural programming activities" said Anna Gindlesperger, one of festival organizers.

This year, the festival will take place on September 16th from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. and Sunday, September 17th from 12 p.m. to 6 p.m. Find more information at www.polishfestivalpdx.org

Polish Festival in Numbers:

- * **12,000:** The average number of visitors who came to our festival in years past.
- * **60:** The number of dancers and musicians who have performed at the festival, hailing from the Pacific Northwest and Poland.
- * **15,000:** The average number of pierogis eaten by visitors in years past.

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