

Oktoberfest 2008

September 23 - September 27, 2008

<http://www.bmwccaofest.org>

BMW CCA RETURNS TO WATKINS GLEN

The BMW Car Club of America will present its 39th Annual Oktoberfest in historic Watkins Glen, New York, from September 23-27, 2008. It's the Club's first O'fest in the state of New York since 1988, when Rochester was the host city, and the driving events took place at Watkins Glen International Raceway.

The Glen, one of the best-known Tier One tracks in the country, will again be the featured facility—and the Genesee Valley, Boston, White Mountain, Patroon, and Connecticut Valley Chapters will provide support. The brand-new [Watkins Glen Harbor Hotel](#) will be the host hotel.

The town of Watkins Glen, with its population of 2,150, is located at the southern tip of Seneca Lake and comprises 2.2 square miles of prime New York real estate. Drive time and distances from some of our major cities to Watkins Glen is a huge selling point; for example: Albany, NY, 165 miles, 3.5 hours; Boston, MA, 350 miles, 6.5 hours; Buffalo, NY, 120 miles, three hours; Cleveland, OH, 280 miles, five hours; Harrisburg, PA, 185 miles, three hours; New York City, 280 miles, five hours; Philadelphia, PA, 250 miles, 5.5 hours; Pittsburgh, PA, 268 miles, 5.5 hours; Syracuse, NY, 100 miles, 1.5 hours; and Toronto, Ontario, Canada, 200 miles, 3.5 hours.

Subscribe to the Ofest08 Announce email list. To subscribe send a message to: ofest08-request@bmwccaofest.org with the word subscribe as the subject.

VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers are the key to make Oktoberfest a success.

On your registration form you can add your name to the event(s) you would like to assist. Every event needs volunteers and volunteering is a wonderful way to meet other BMW CCA members and to share in the fun and excitement of O'fest.

By volunteering you will receive a specially designed shirt to be worn while you work. If you are not planning on registering but would like to volunteer, please contact the event chair of that chapter.

Volunteer Information - General description of the responsibilities within each worker area:

Photo Contest: Assist in receive post & identify photos on display - remove photos end of event.

Concours: Field layout, car placement, scoring.

Gimmick Rally: Assist in scoring, etc.

TSD Rally: Checkpoint/control workers, starting, finishing, staging, scoring, etc.

Registration: Check in registered attendees, hand out goodie bags

Welcome Committee: Greet and assist members.

FINGER LAKES REGION

Attending Oktoberfest will be a great way to expand your horizons! For example, if you've never been to upstate New York's famous Finger Lakes region, I'll bet you'll be astonished to discover that the shores of Seneca Lake—the largest of the Finger Lakes—is the home of a flourishing wine industry. No fewer than 32 wineries are located a short distance from Watkins Glen. A recent piece in The New York Times was headlined "Where Chardonnay and NASCAR Go Side By Side."

The Seneca Lake Wine Trail loops around Geneva, New York, at the northern end of the lake, just 45 minutes north of Watkins Glen. In fact, the Glen has its own winery right in town—the Professors Pi Cascata Winery. State Routes 14 and 414 head north uphill from the village along each side of the lake, and wineries extend on both sides.

For the naturalists among us, Fall in and around Watkins Glen is breathtaking. For example, Watkins Glen State Park is at the southern end of the village and has a trail that climbs up a 400-foot-deep gorge. Hikers will use the natural stone steps to pass over and under the waterfalls. The International Motor Racing Research Center is also in Watkins Glen, and features interesting exhibits of many famous cars. Recently a 1938 BMW 328 was on display. The Museum of Glass is a 30-minute drive in Corning, New York, and features a fascinating display on how glass is blown.

Within a short drive from Watkins Glen there is an array of interesting places to discover and visit, from museums to nature trails. Watkins Glen has everything for an active family.

WATKINS GLEN BECOMES A TRACK

Watkins Glen is the incredible story of a tiny village that just happened to be the hometown of a handful of young men who had observed European road racing in person and wanted to bring it to the United States. The very first race took place on October 2, 1948, over a crude 6.6-mile-long street circuit that encompassed asphalt, cement, and dirt roads in and around Watkins Glen.

In the 59 years since, the village has seen several styles of permanent tracks built. The current facility has a 3.4-mile course which encompasses a shorter course that is 2.45 miles long. The one-lap speed record for the short course was established at 150.334 when Davy Jones won the pole for the Camel Continental IX on June 28, 1992.

Since 1948, Watkins Glen International Raceway has hosted all types of races, including NASCAR Grand National Stock Car, Formula Libre, Watkins US Grand Prix, Can-Am, Trans-Am, Six Hours, Formula 5,000, CART Indy Car Series, US Grand Prix,

Camel Continental, NASCAR Winston Cup, The Bud at the Glen, Busch Grand National, Zippo US Vintage Grand Prix, The Frontier at the Glen, and many, many more.

2008 Picking an O'fest host city doesn't involve throwing darts at a map! Instead, the Oktoberfest Study Committee begins searching five years in advance. It has an established selection criterion that includes location, costs, strong supporting chapter(s), potential for strong attendance by members located within an approximate radius of 500 miles, good host hotels, interesting local entertainment opportunities, expected weather, and much more. Still, the OSC's one criterion that is never overlooked is its time-tested belief that most driving-school attendees consider the opportunity to drive on a world class Tier One track as the major reason to attend a given Oktoberfest. The 2008 attendees definitely have such a track in Watkins Glen International Raceway. With that said, it is my pleasure to announce that O'Fest attendees have the potential to do five days of driving at the Glen! As you will see from the following schedule, we have planned a fun-packed four days (with Sunday as a bonus) of excitement to meet both the driving enthusiast's and no enthusiast's palates. As time gets closer, members, vendors, and sponsors will receive continual updates to O'Fest details. Our goal is to inform you as timely as possible. Watch our website—and Roundel—and make your plans now to come to the beautiful Finger Lakes region of New York in late September. You'll be glad you did. We guarantee it!

Watkins Glen Harbor Hotel <http://www.watkinsglenharborhotel.com>
16 North Franklin Street
Watkins Glen, New York 14891
Phone: 607.535.6116 Fax: 607.535.6188