How 7 Summer Barbecue Staples Got Their Names

By Robert C. Glenister

There are some things you can do with a grill that are pretty silly; 'hot dogs' is one. But it’s a good time, and there are some things on your plate that can actually be traced back to history. Let’s look at a few etymologies and histories behind the food on your (paper) plate.

1. Hamburger

Hamburger takes its name from the German city of Hamburg.

2. Hot Dogs

The Oscar Meyer from the hot dog package was a real guy. He played the coroner in The Wizard of Oz. The original Little Oscar, who drove in the weinermobile, was portrayed by Meinhardt Raabe, who also had a band with the name the Oscar Meyer.