



# FUN TIMES



PRICE COUNTY & BLACK RIVER FALLS

Content provided by Travel Wisconsin

INDOOR ACTIVITIES



Kids go for a bumpy ride at the Kilahehi Indoor Theme Park / Photo courtesy of TravelWisconsin.com

## Cure Spring Fever with Spring Break in Wisconsin

By: Julie Henning

**E**ric Burbach is a professional carpet installer from Edgerton. Burbach's job has him traveling all over the region and he knows first-hand early spring is a time when people start coming out of hibernation. "Spring is when things really start warming up and with Wisconsinites being as hardy as we are, we really relish in that."

Burbach isn't exactly sure where he'll take his 10-year-old son for this year's spring break but he's leaning towards a trip up north. "I've never been to Door County, but I've always wanted to get there," he said. "And there's never a bad time to go up to Green Bay." But with the Milwaukee Brewers 2015 home opener on April 6, the lure of the covered stadium might keep Burbach a bit closer to home.

While the daffodils of spring are breaking through the permafrost, families of younger children are universally chomping at the bit for warmer temperatures and swimming pools to thaw.

With indoor waterpark resorts in Sheboygan, Wausau, Waukesha, Green Bay, and Lake Geneva, you don't have to travel far to find a lazy river. But if you want the extreme waterpark experience,

the Wisconsin Dells remains the most popular indoor waterpark destination in the Midwest.

"The Dells saw a huge boom in visitors with the harsh winter weather in 2014 and the trend is continuing this year," said Bianca Johnson, communication and public relations specialist with the Wisconsin Dells Visitors and Convention Bureau.

Johnson points out the affordability of a Dells vacation compared to the travel and ticket costs that come with a Disney vacation. "Most of the time you don't have to leave the resort and it really feels like you are in a pseudo tropical destination inside the waterpark domes."

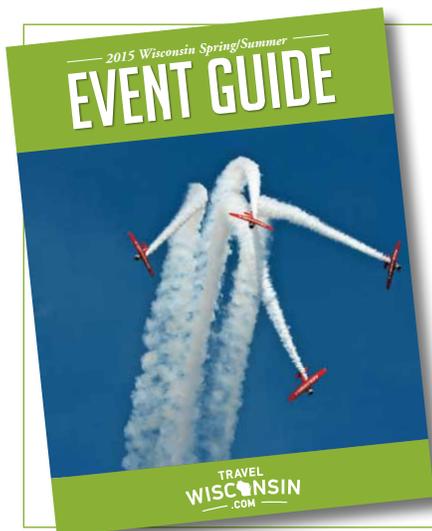
Marcela Kapfer, Madison resident and stay-at-home mom of four, echoes



Hands On Art Studio offers projects for painters of all levels / Photo courtesy of Door County Visitor Bureau

Johnson's sentiments. "The Dells is only forty minutes from our front door and we've been going there for six years now," she said. "When the grandparents visit from out-of-state, we like to turn the visit into an overnight trip—we like to call the Dells our 'home away from home'."

See Spring Fever, **PAGE 3**



## YOUR SUMMER JUST GOT BOOKED.

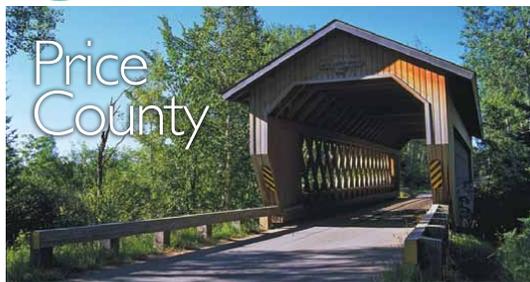
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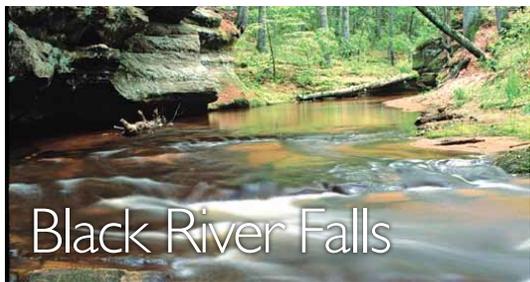
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# SNAPSHOT OF PRICE COUNTY AND BLACK RIVER FALLS



Price County

Along Rustic Road 105, Smith Rapids Bridge is one of the few remaining covered bridges in Wisconsin / Photo courtesy of TravelWisconsin.com



Black River Falls

Beauty is everywhere at Black River State Forest / Photo courtesy of RJ & Linda Miller.

**R**ight in the heart of north central Wisconsin, Price County is perfect for families who love the outdoors. Making family memories is fun and easy here with acres of woods and waters to play in, cozy cabins to retreat to, local shops to explore and delicious food to savor:

**OUTDOOR FUN BY THE NUMBERS:**

- Hundreds of miles of motorized and non-motorized four-season trails for hiking, biking, snowmobiling, skiing and more.
- 300,000 acres of public forest lands including the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest, Flambeau River State Forest and Price County Forest.
- 98 lakes with more than 18,000 acres of water – a boat or canoe lover's paradise.

**RELAX AT A CABIN:**

- Abels 4 Season Retreat – A luxury home tucked away in the trees on the shore of Long Lake.
- Sunset Pines Retreat – Features big windows, gourmet country-style kitchen, and overlooks the Flambeau River.

**DON'T MISS FAMILY PHOTO OPPORTUNITIES:**

- The sculpture created by retired lumberjack Fred Smith at Wisconsin Concrete Park.
- Smith Rapids Covered Bridge on the South Fork of the Flambeau River.
- The highest point in Wisconsin at 1,951.5 feet elevation – Timm's Hill County Park.

**B**lack River Falls is your go-to destination for outdoor adventure, with miles of wilderness trails perfect for hiking, biking and wildlife viewing. The area's quiet country roads, unique shops, delicious dining and charming downtown are just the right combination for a weekend getaway with quality family time.

**UNWIND AT A CABIN:**

- Whippoorwill Lodge – This Amish-built cabin has everything you need for a well-deserved, relaxing weekend.
- Cottages on Serenity Lake – Surrounded by 500 acres of nature, these secluded cottages are on a privately stocked lake.

**MUST SEE IN BLACK RIVER FALLS:**

- Karner Blue Butterfly – This endangered species is indigenous to Black River Falls and is celebrated for its beauty and grace.
- Downtown Murals – See the story of this town from these historic murals.

For more information on fun things to do and see in Price County, visit [www.TravelWisconsin.com/PriceCounty](http://www.TravelWisconsin.com/PriceCounty)

For more information on fun things to do and see in Black River Falls, visit [www.TravelWisconsin.com/BlackRiverFalls](http://www.TravelWisconsin.com/BlackRiverFalls)

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# CATCH A PERFORMANCE!

**"Dinosaur Train: Live! Buddy's Big Adventure"**  
March 8 : Green Bay

**"Annie"**  
March 24-29 : Appleton

**"Beauty and the Beast"**  
March 17-22 : Milwaukee



**"Pinkalicious"**  
March 14-April 12 : Wisconsin Dells

**"Disney in Concert: Tale as Old as Time"**  
April 24-26 : Milwaukee

**"The Velveteen Rabbit"**  
May 9-17 : Madison

From page 1

## Spring Fever

Weather permitting, visitors to the region can also enjoy one of three outdoor zipline courses that remain open year-round: Big Foot Zipline Tours, Chimney Rock Park Zipline Tours - Vertical Illusions, and the Wild Canyon Zipline Course at the Wilderness Resort.

For people who love Door County in the summer but want to experience what Wisconsin's beloved peninsula is like without peak tourism traffic, Jon Jarosh, director of communications and public relations at the Door County Visitor Bureau encourages visitors to come to and enjoy the slower pace.

Jarosh notes that Peninsula State Park offers winter camping and recommends a guided hike at the Ridges Sanctuary in Bailey's Harbor. Another option for families of all ages and interests is

Hands On Art Studio, an 8,000-square-foot do-it-yourself art campus located in a refurbished dairy barn in Fish Creek.

"Hands On Art Studio takes the mall art studio concept and puts it on steroids," he said. "You can make thousands of art projects from ceramics to spin art, glass fusing, jewelry, metal sculpture, and wood. There's always someone to help you get started and it's the kind of place where you can easily spend five hours and not realize that much time has passed."

In the Chippewa Valley, Action City Family Fun Center and Chaos waterpark are always a hit with kids—Metropolis Resort is located between these two indoor venues if your trip brings you to Eau Claire for

more than the day.

Julie Klingberg of Osseo takes her two elementary-age grandsons to the Irvine Park and Zoo located near the Northern Wisconsin State Fairgrounds. "Admission to the zoo is free and the boys especially love the Red Barn Petting Zoo. Then we head

Bay; and "The Velveteen Rabbit" (May 9-17) at the Overture Center in Madison.

And last, but not least, the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra will be performing "Disney in Concert: Tale as Old as Time," (April 24-26) with scenes from "Frozen," "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs,"

"Beauty and the Beast," "Cinderella," "Little Mermaid," "Tangled," and "The Lion King."

Describing the sweeping views of Lake Michigan from the shores of southeastern Wisconsin as magical and therapeutic, Arlington Heights, Ill. resident Melissa Schwartz regularly plans day trips to Kenosha and Racine in the name of rest and relaxation. From walking the piers to skipping stones in the shadow of the Wind Point Lighthouse, Schwartz said, "We love a little

jaunt north for recharging and connecting as a family."

For younger kids, you can't go wrong with a trip to the Racine Zoo followed by Kids Cove, a giant wooden playground right at North Beach. Follow this up with a ride in one of the nostalgic electric streetcars in downtown Kenosha (fares range from \$2.50 for an all day pass to free for kids ages four and under). While you're looping through downtown and out along the harbor walk, make sure and hop off to explore both the Dinosaur Discovery and Kenosha Public Museums.



A family takes on 42 challenges at the Northern Lights Sky Ropes Course at the Wilderness Resort / Photo courtesy of the Wilderness Resort

over to Yellowstone Cheese in Cadott and pick up some squeaky cheese curds to eat on the car ride home."

But if the arts and culture scene is more your style, theater troops around the state are about to hit the main stage and perform a wide-range of family-friendly shows including: "Annie" (March 24-29) at the Fox Cities Performing Arts Center; "Pinkalicious" (March 14 - April 12) at the new Palace Theater in the Dells; "Beauty and the Beast" (March 17-22) at the Marcus Center for the Performing Arts in Milwaukee; "Dinosaur Train: Live! Buddy's Big Adventure" (March 8) at the Weidner Center for the Performing Arts in Green



Kids at the Jelly Belly Visitor Center in Kenosha / Photo courtesy of Jeff Greenberg

## Take a day trip to Racine and Kenosha

**Running March 27 - April 12,** the Racine Art Museum is the site of the **6th Annual International PEEPs Art Exhibition.** Families of all ages

will enjoy the works of art created out of PEEPs candies. For a real-life sugar high, make sure to stop by **Larsen's Bakery** on Washington Avenue and order a Danish Kringle.

If your sweet tooth isn't completely satisfied, stop by the **Jelly Belly Visitor Center** in Pleasant Prairie and tour the warehouse and distribution on the Jelly Belly Express train. Everyone leaves with a free sample as you exit through the gift shop (*we like the bags of Belly Flops*).



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Aspiring artists try their hands at painting / Photo courtesy of Madison Children's Museum.

# WISCONSIN'S INDOOR ACTIVITIES FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

By: Travel Wisconsin

Looking for some indoor fun for the kids? No problem. With unbeatable waterparks, museums and dining options, you're sure to find fun all across Wisconsin. Check out these kid-friendly tours and destinations. Aspiring artists and future Cheeseheads alike are guaranteed to find something for everyone at one of these indoor Wisconsin hotspots.

### MADISON

Both kids and kids-at-heart will love a day on the town in Madison. First, head on down to the Capitol Square. Start the day by exploring the intricate paintings covering the rotunda in the Wisconsin State Capitol. Try out an afternoon at Madison Children's Museum. From the human-sized hamster wheel to their rooftop garden,

the Madison Children's Museum has plenty of inventive and creative ways to play. If you're looking for a night on the town with the kids, check out zany Ian's Pizza for a slice of cheeseburger pizza and a show at the Children's Theatre of Madison. Just 30 minutes away is Cave of the Mounds in Blue Mounds, celebrating 75 years of stalactites and stalagmites. Guided tours showcase this cave

that is a million years in the making. The best part of Cave of the Mounds is it's always a constant 50-degree temperature.

### GREEN BAY

Head to the land of green and gold to make your junior Packers fan's dreams come true. Take the Lambeau Leap

See Indoor Activities, **PAGE 5**

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From page 4

### Indoor Activities

by starting off the day with a stadium tour of the Packers' home field. Your family will get a chance to run through the players' tunnel and learn all about the rich history of the Green Bay Packers. Next, complete your visit on the Packers journey by visiting the brand new Packers Hall of Fame, reopening in April 2015. Also, don't forget to check out the Children's Museum of Green Bay. The hands-on museum includes exhibits like an indoor tree house and sailboat. To end the day, grab a table at Titledown Brewing Co. and order a pitcher of their homemade Sno-Cap Root Beer. After a kids' day out like this, you're sure to be crowned MVP.

### SHEBOYGAN

Do your kids like to swim like fish? Then look no further than the shores of Lake Michigan. Head to Sheboygan and book your stay at Blue Harbor Resort. There are plenty of great indoor activities inside the resort facility. You're guaranteed to find a crowd pleaser, between the indoor mini golf, arcade room and Breaker Bay Water Park. Next, check out the John Michael Kohler Arts Center for more than just finger painting. The Arts Center features educational exhibits, some family art classes and kid-style cooking classes. Or, drive up the coast to Manitowoc to visit the Wisconsin Maritime Museum for a tour of a real life World War II submarine.



Family viewing an exhibit at Wisconsin Maritime Museum in Manitowoc / Photo courtesy of Glenn Sanderson.

For more information and ideas to plan your next indoor activity day, visit [www.TravelWisconsin.com/IndoorActivities](http://www.TravelWisconsin.com/IndoorActivities)

## WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE

WISCONSIN INDOOR WATERPARK /AMUSEMENT PARK?

**TIMBER RIDGE LODGE IN LAKE GENEVA, WI**  
Timber Ridge is a lot of fun for younger children.  
-CRAIG H.

**THE WATERS OF MINOCQUA IN MINOCQUA, WI**  
Rustic charm meets waterpark fun! My family loves escaping to Minocqua for spring break.  
-VANESSA H.

**BOUNCE MILWAUKEE IN MILWAUKEE, WI**  
You can't go wrong with laser tag at Bounce Milwaukee.  
-RYAN C.

**BLUE HARBOR RESORT IN SHEBOYGAN, WI**  
My kids can't get enough of the waterslides and I can't get enough of the spa.  
-ANNA W.

**KALAHARI IN WISCONSIN DELLS, WI**  
Kalahari is amazing! It's not just a waterpark, they have an indoor theme park, outdoor hot tub, best candy and ice cream store you will ever find and a first class steakhouse. Everything you need in one location.  
-JEAN D.

**METROPOLIS RESORT IN EAU CLAIRE, WI**  
Metropolis is the best - my family enjoys Chaos Waterpark by day and Action City Family Fun Center by night.  
-AMY N.

**JELLYSTONE PARK IN WARRENS, WI**  
Jellystone has it all! Waterslides and mini golf for the kids, and a relaxing hot tub for the adults.  
-CARRIE S.

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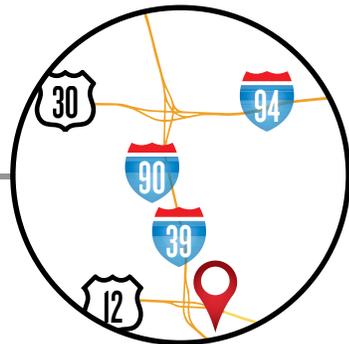
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