

. MILWAUKEE .

Bucket List

How do you capture the spirit of Milwaukee when time is limited? With so much to see and do, it's hard to narrow down the options for a great day out. Here are a few suggestions...

MILWAUKEE ART MUSEUM

Milwaukee is the only city in the world where the city icon – the [Milwaukee Art Museum](#) – literally opens its “wings” to welcome all. Designed by star international architect Santiago Calatrava, this striking architectural beauty features a “wing-like” sunscreen with a span equaling that of a Boeing 747 that can be raised or lowered. Inside you’ll find an extensive collection of American and European works, German Expressionist, decorative arts, folk art and a Haitian art collection. The museum is also home to one of the world’s largest Georgia O’Keeffe collections.

HARLEY-DAVIDSON MUSEUM

Unleash your inner rebel at the [Harley-Davidson Museum](#). From the first Harley ever produced in 1903 through a priceless display of 450 bikes including one owned by Elvis Presley, the museum chronicles the history of an American legend and its role in pop culture. Hop on one of the bikes in the virtual ride room at the end of the tour for a great photo op! Stop at “MOTOR” for bold American classics like chili and barbecued ribs and don’t forget to cruise through the gift shop for a souvenir.

DISCOVERY WORLD

From high-tech displays to fresh and saltwater aquariums, to the dock of Wisconsin’s official tall ship, it’s maritime heritage meets 21st century cool at [Discovery World](#). Explore interactive science, industry and entrepreneurship exhibits, but insiders know that you can also play guitar along with a virtual Les Paul, lie on a bed of nails, take a virtual walk through the universe and pet the stingrays in the Aquarium!

MILWAUKEE PUBLIC MUSEUM

What was it like to walk along the narrow, cobble-stoned streets of Milwaukee at the turn of the last century? The [Milwaukee Public Museum](#)’s recently renovated “Streets of Old Milwaukee” transports you back to a time of gaslit walkways where you can peer into the vintage shops and homes of another era. Go on to explore a Costa Rican rainforest, a year-round live butterfly garden and see one of the world’s largest dinosaur skulls in a colossal dinosaur diorama.

MILWAUKEE COUNTY ZOO

Where better to take the family for an unforgettable visit than the nationally-recognized [Milwaukee County Zoo](#)? More than 2,200 animals, from bonobos to polar bears, and big cats to giraffes, are housed on 23 acres of natural habitats. Kids love the zoo train, and the new Sky Trail® Wisconsin Adventure Zone challenges all ages to try out the 500-ft zip line, climbing wall and ropes course.

POTAWATOMI HOTEL & CASINO

It’s game on at [Potawatomi Hotel & Casino](#) for the excitement of more than 3,100 slot machines, 100 table games and an expanded, off-track betting room. Treat yourself to one of the many culinary options, including the AAA 4-Diamond Dream Dance Steak restaurant, and enjoy a show at the intimate, club-like atmosphere of the Northern Lights Theater.



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NEIGHBORHOODS

Discover the [Historic Third Ward](#) on foot! The revitalization of this turn-of-the-century warehouse and manufacturing district has earned it comparisons to New York's trendy SoHo neighborhood. This six-square-block area located directly south of downtown contains the city's highest concentration of art galleries, as well as theaters and a selection of exclusive boutiques, specialty stores, restaurants, nightlife and the [Milwaukee Public Market](#).

From the Third Ward stroll along the RiverWalk to Old World Third Street, a historic landmark zone where Milwaukee's German heritage is brought to life in the detailed facades of the 19th-century, European-style buildings lining this cobblestone street. Shopping at legendary [Usinger's Sausage](#), [Wisconsin Cheese Mart](#) and [The Spice House](#) is a feast for all senses. Stop at [Mader's](#), where famous German dishes have satisfied hungry patrons for more than 100 years, or grab a "brat & a beer" at a neighborhood pub.

FESTIVALS

Find your inner rock star at [Summerfest](#), an 11-day music extravaganza filling 10 stages and an amphitheater at the lakeshore's 75-acre Henry Maier Festival Park. A non-stop mix of national headliners, from Billboard chart toppers to a steady dose of music legends, means fun for all ages. The festival park is also home to Milwaukee's summertime line-up of colorful ethnic fests including [Irish Fest](#), [German Fest](#), [Festa Italiana](#), [Polish Fest](#), [African World Festival](#), [Mexican Fiesta](#), ending with [Indian Summer Festival](#) in September.

BREWERY TOURS & BASEBALL

It's easy to combine a brewery tour and a [Milwaukee Brewers](#) baseball game on a great day out in Milwaukee. Stop by [Sprecher Brewing](#), [Lakefront Brewery](#) (rated in the top 4 per Trip Advisor), [Milwaukee Brewing Company](#) or [MillerCoors](#) before firing up the grill at a tailgate party at [Miller Park](#). If you're still thirtys after the game, explore one of the city's many new micro and nano breweries for a pint.

RIVERWALK, BOATS & "BRONZE FONZ"

Milwaukee's [RiverWalk](#) extends for more than 15 city blocks, linking the city's downtown district with the Historic Third Ward. You'll see a variety of permanent and temporary public art displays along this scenic promenade of restaurants, cafes, pubs and shops. At the southeast corner of Wells Street and the RiverWalk, be sure to stop for a thumbs-up photo with the "[Bronze Fonz](#)" – a life-sized statue of Henry Winkler's iconic character "Fonzie" from the Milwaukee-based "Happy Days" TV show. You'll also find excursion boat tours and rental pontoons on the RiverWalk, along with kayaks to explore the city on your own paddle power.

