

# Wisconsin Treats Families To Memorable Winter Getaways

(NAPSA)—Families looking for fun-filled winter getaways find plenty in Wisconsin to please all ages. Outdoors, kids and kids-at-heart can enjoy skiing, sledding, ice skating and other invigorating activities that put a smile and rosy cheeks on eager faces. When it's time for indoor fun, attractions such as indoor waterparks and hands-on museums are ready to ward off cabin fever.

Wisconsin's largest city is filled with family-friendly attractions. In **Milwaukee** (1-800-554-1448; [www.milwaukee.org](http://www.milwaukee.org)), families can stay at the Hilton Milwaukee City Center and experience the nation's first urban indoor waterpark, Paradise Landing. The tropical-themed waterpark has 20,000 square feet of pools, waterslides and other water activities designed for splashing, wet fun. For classic winter recreation, families can go ice skating in the heart of downtown at the charming Red Arrow Park, where a free, outdoor ice rink is complete with a warming house and café. Indoors, the Betty Brinn Children's Museum fascinates the younger set with hands-on exhibits where kids can crawl through a giant human heart, operate a television camera and try exotic musical instruments. At the Milwaukee Public Museum, butterflies in flight surround visitors as they walk through the Puelicher Butterfly Wing. Next door, Discovery World captures kids' attention with intriguing science and technology exhibits that allow them to control industrial robots, pilot a pneumatic dinosaur and make polymer slime.

**Madison** (1-800-373-6376; [www.visitmadison.com](http://www.visitmadison.com)) also offers a wealth of family recreation, both indoors and out. Known as an ideal midsize city for outdoor sports enthusiasts, Madison offers a full menu of winter recreation, from ice skating at the picturesque Tenney Park pond to cross-country skiing on groomed trails at Governor Nelson and Lake Kegonsa



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**On a Wisconsin winter getaway, families have their pick of fun-filled activities, from sledding and ice skating to kid-friendly museums and indoor waterparks.**

state parks. Kids who enjoy the thrill of downhill skiing and snowboarding won't want to miss an outing to Tyrol Basin in Mount Horeb or Devil's Head Ski Resort in Merrimac. The Madison Children's Museum provides fun-filled discovery for infants to eight-year-olds. Here, kids can capture their shadow, plant vegetables in a make-believe garden and explore a simulated paleontologist's dig site. Families can also head to Olbrich Botanical Gardens, where a 50-foot-tall glass pyramid houses a tropical rainforest with towering palms, fragrant orchids, a rushing waterfall and chirping birds.

In east-central Wisconsin, the **Fox Cities** (1-800-236-6673; [www.foxcities.org](http://www.foxcities.org)) are a prime family destination. Kids can touch, twist, pull and push their way through the Fox Cities Children's Museum. Hands-on exhibits include the Happy Baby Garden, where giant fruits and vegetables enchant children under three; Station 99, featuring a real fire engine; and Construction Junction, complete with a one-quarter-sized electromagnetic crane. At the 762-acre Gordon Bubolz Nature Preserve, kids and adults alike can bundle up

for snowshoeing or cross-country skiing through forests and prairies.

Situated in Wisconsin's scenic Northwoods, **Cable** (1-800-533-7454; [www.cable4fun.com](http://www.cable4fun.com)) is a perfect winter destination for families looking to enjoy the season's outdoor playground. At Telemark Resort, outdoors lovers of all ages can take horse-drawn sleigh rides and go ice skating, cross-country skiing, snowboarding, snow tubing and snowshoeing right on the expansive property. Lights illuminate the skating pond at night, and weekend bonfires with hot chocolate and marshmallows add cheer and warmth to the experience. Also in Cable, Lakewoods Resort on the shores of Lake Namakagon is another great base for outdoor adventure. Lakewoods is adjacent to the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest, which offers top-notch cross-country skiing on groomed trails.

For free Wisconsin travel-planning information, including the 2002-2003 Fall/Winter Event & Recreation Guide, call the Wisconsin Department of Tourism's 24-hour, live-operated toll-free number at 1-800-432-TRIP (8747) or visit [travelwisconsin.com](http://travelwisconsin.com).