



# GREATER MADISON CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU FAMILY ATTRACTIONS

© Henry Vilas Zoo

Madison welcomes families every day of the year! Numerous attractions and restaurants line our streets, offering extraordinary options for the young and young at heart.

## Henry Vilas Zoo

One of the nation's only free zoos, Henry Vilas Zoo has over 800 animals and 200 species. Make a day of it and spend some time at the nearby beach and park, located next to Lake Wingra.  
702 S Randall Ave, 608.266.4732  
vilaszoo.org

## Madison Children's Museum

The museum is in the heart of the city, right across from the State Capitol building. It offers extraordinary exhibits and interactive learning activities.  
100 N Hamilton St, 608.256.6445  
madisonchildrensmuseum.org

## Wisconsin State Capitol

Completed in 1917, Madison's Capitol is three-feet shy of the U.S. Capitol building. While touring visit the observatory, which has some of the best views of the city.  
2 East Main St, 608.266.0382  
tours.wisconsin.gov

## Madison Parks and Beaches

The Greater Madison area has public beaches, pools and splash pads for tons of water fun! Or explore dry land at one of our 260 parks, providing sports and activities during every season.  
608.266.4711  
cityofmadison.com/parks

## Overture Center for the Arts

Every Saturday morning from fall through spring, Overture Center offers free arts programs called Kids in the Rotunda, featuring storytellers, jugglers, magicians, puppeteers and theater troupes.  
201 State St, 608.258.4177  
overturecenter.com

## The UW-Madison Arboretum

Learn about nature and take in the beauty of the UW Arboretum, open year-round. Each season brings new reasons to visit and the Arboretum is a great place to bird watch, bike or hike.  
1207 Seminole Hwy, 608.263.7888  
uwarboretum.org

## UW Geology Museum

A must for any rock collector or dinosaur lover, the UW Geology Museum features mineral, rock and fossil collections, giving a glimpse into Wisconsin's past.  
1215 W Dayton St, 608.262.2399  
geology.wisc.edu

## Vitense Golfland

Vitense Golfland is home to much more than three top-notch miniature golf courses! It also has baseball batting cages, a climbing wall, arcade, golf range and the only lighted golf course in Wisconsin.  
5501 W Beltline Hwy at Whitney Way, 608.271.1411  
vitense.com

## Cave of the Mounds

Guided tours on paved, lighted walkways lead visitors past an unforgettable array of underground crystal formations. Cave of the Mounds is located just 20 minutes west of Madison and also provides a gemstone mine, fossil dig, butterfly garden and hiking/biking trails.  
2975 Cave of the Mounds Rd, Blue Mounds, 608.437.3038  
caveofthemounds.com

## UW-Madison Union South

Located on the south side of campus, Union South boasts a variety of dining options, movies, bowling, billiards and climbing wall.  
1308 W Dayton St, 608.890.3000  
union.wisc.edu



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### Olbrich Botanical Gardens

Stroll 16 acres of outdoor gardens, featuring stunning landscapes and the Bolz Conservatory, filled with exotic plants, flowers, orchids, birds and a waterfall. 3330 Atwood Ave, 608.246.4550 [olbrich.org](http://olbrich.org)

### International Crane Foundation

The ICF hosts a captive flock of approximately 100 cranes, including the only complete collection of all 15 species. Located in Baraboo, the ICF is about an hour north of Madison. E11376 Shady Lane Rd, Baraboo, 608.356.9462 [savingcranes.com](http://savingcranes.com)

### Crawdaddy Cove Water Park

Enjoy the kiddie waterslides and adventure pool—no stay at the Holiday Inn Hotel and Suites required! 1109 Fourier Dr, 608.826.0500 [wiscohoteles.com/water-parks](http://wiscohoteles.com/water-parks)

### Fireside Dinner Theatre

The Fireside Dinner Theatre is a favorite destination for families, with live Broadway musicals and dining in a unique entertainment complex, including state-of-the-art theatre and seven shows Wednesday-Sunday. Located 45 minutes south of Madison. Hwy 26, Fort Atkinson, 800.477.9505 [firesidetheatre.com](http://firesidetheatre.com)

### Studio, You Paint It Pottery

Pick out your favorite piece, paint it and come back for pick-up (or they can ship it to you). Painting is fun, relaxing and great on rainy days. 6680 Odana Rd, 608.833.1393 [studioyouonline.com](http://studioyouonline.com)

### The Bubbler

Located in the downtown Madison Public Library, the Bubbler offers workshops on a variety of topics, including animation, screen printing, music, clothing design, dance and painting. 201 W Mifflin St, 608.266.5975 [madisonbubbler.org](http://madisonbubbler.org)

## KID FRIENDLY RESTAURANTS

### Ella's Deli and Ice Cream Parlor

Voted Madison's "best place to take kids" for over 20 years, Ella's Deli serves great food in a fun-filled atmosphere. Leave time to enjoy Madison's only full-sized carousel! 2902 E Washington Ave, 608.241.5291 [ellas-deli.com](http://ellas-deli.com)

### Hubbard Avenue Diner

The Hubbard Avenue Diner and Bakery is famous for pie and serves up classic diner fare with an uptown twist. 7445 Hubbard Ave, Middleton, 608.831.PIES [hubbardavenuediner.com](http://hubbardavenuediner.com)

### Great Dane Pub and Brewing Co.

With four locations in and around Madison, it's easy to step into the Great Dane. Kids will love the smiley face fries and parents will love the wide variety of award-winning ales and lagers on tap. [greatdanepub.com](http://greatdanepub.com)

### Tex Tubb's Taco Palace

Located in the Atwood neighborhood, Tex Tubb's serves the best of the southwest, plus Shirley Temples and Roy Rogers for the kids. 2009 Atwood Ave, 608-242-1800 [textubbstacos.com](http://textubbstacos.com)

### Dotty Dumpling's Dowry

Featured in the New York Times and USA Today, Dotty Dumpling's Dowry is known for burgers. The kids menu also features chicken strips, grilled cheese and more. 317 N Frances St, 608.259.0000 [dottedumplingsdowry.com](http://dottedumplingsdowry.com)

## SEASONAL FAMILY ACTIVITIES

All year long there are seasonal events for the young and young at heart! From the Kid's Expo in March, to the UW-Madison Football Fun Day in August, there's something every month in Madison. Check out our events calendar for the latest in family events:

[visitmadison.com/events](http://visitmadison.com/events).



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# MADISON

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