

Art Hop through the Twin Cities

Check into one of the 36 Bloomington hotels, and enjoy free parking, close proximity to downtown Minneapolis and St. Paul, as well as the Mall of America and other attractions in the metro area.



DAY 1

Travel during the first weekend in August so you can experience the Uptown Art Fair in the eclectic neighborhood of Uptown Minneapolis. The Uptown Art Fair is the number two event in the state of Minnesota, second only to the Minnesota State Fair. Over 360 professional artists, 40 youth artists, and 25 performers exhibit at the three-day event, which is one of the only urban art fairs in the nation. With artist categories ranging from painting to ceramics to 3D mixed media, you are bound to come home with a treasure.

After a day of browsing artwork in the streets of Minneapolis, head to Guthrie theatre in downtown Minneapolis to enjoy some performing arts. The Guthrie Theatre boasts three stages, a full-service

restaurant, pre-show dining, numerous bars and some of the best views of Minneapolis to be found in the city. The Twin Cities metro area is home to more theatre seats per capita than any other city other than New York City, so you are sure to experience the best performances in the Midwest.



DAY 2

Spend the morning at the Walker Art Center, the first public art gallery in the Upper Midwest established in 1927. The Walker is recognized internationally as a singular model of multidisciplinary arts organization and as a national leader for its innovative approaches to audience engagement. Adjacent to the Walker is the Minneapolis Sculpture Garden, one of the nation's largest urban sculpture parks. It is home to the beloved symbol of the Twin Cities – *Spoonbridge and Cherry*.

In the afternoon, take a leisurely stroll around the exquisite Normandale Japanese Gardens. Take a self guided tour through the Normandale Japanese Gardens. You will

experience the art of traditional Japanese Garden elements including bridges, stone lanterns, streams and waterfalls. Call ahead of time to schedule a guided tour of the magnificent flowers and landscapes of the gardens, which is open year-round.



DAY 3

Hire a guide and take a city tour through the metro area to experience the art and architecture present in the historic cities. Snelling Avenue is home to many historic homes developed during the railroad period, and the St. Paul Cathedral is an astonishing architectural masterpiece that should not be missed. Don't forget to stop by the University of Minnesota and visit the Frank O. Gehry creation, the Frederick R. Weisman Art Museum. The important architectural achievement has become a landmark for the University of Minnesota and the Twin Cities.



If you still have some energy, conquer the art of shopping at the Mall of America. With over 520 stores, 50 restaurants, and numerous attractions, it is the largest entertainment complex in the United States. It is hard to come to the Twin Cities without experiencing the Mall.

To book this itinerary, visit our website at bloomingtonmn.org or contact the Bloomington Convention and Visitors Bureau Sales Department at 1-866-435-7425 or sales@bloomingtonmn.org.

