

FREE Things To Do in Bloomington, MN and the Surrounding Area

Aamodt's Apple Farm

6428 Manning Avenue North, Stillwater
651/439-3127

www.aamodtsapplefarm.com

Take a walk through the orchard in Stillwater, Minnesota. The staff will direct you to the trees where you can pick the freshest apples available, a family tradition for over 55 years. Call ahead for the varieties that are currently being picked.

Apple Jack Orchards

4875 37th Street SE, Delano
763/972-6673

www.applejackorchards.com

Apple Jack Orchards boasts many apple varieties, apple cider, other tasty treats, and a large barn full of handmade crafts and gifts. Weekend wagon rides are available for a small fee. A fun fall family outing!

Bachman's Florists

6010 Lyndale Boulevard South, Minneapolis
612/861-7600

www.bachmans.com

Bachman's is one of the largest floral and garden centers in the nation. Tour available by appointment for groups of 10 or more. The tour includes greenhouses, nursery, garden center and floral design.



Basilica of Saint Mary

88 North 17th Street, Minneapolis
612/333.1381

www.mary.org

The Basilica of Saint Mary is America's first Basilica and a national historic site. Designed by Emmanuel Massqueray in 1906, it is a fine example of French architecture, with its stained glass windows and a 187 foot dome. Tours available by appointment.

Bloomington Art Center

1800 West Shakopee Road, Bloomington
952/563-8587

www.bloomingtonartcenter.com

The Bloomington Art Center features artwork from professional artists residing in the five state area. Six exhibitions of quality artwork executed in a variety of media and styles are shown yearly.

Bloomington Historical Museum

10200 Penn Avenue South, Bloomington
952/881-4114

www.bloomingtonhistoricalsociety.org

The Bloomington Historical Museum is a museum featuring pioneer artifacts donated by descendants of Bloomington settlers.



Carpenter Nature Center

12805 St. Croix Trail, Hastings

651/437-4359

www.carpenternaturecenter.org

The Carpenter Nature Center features year round recreation, environmental education activities and programs, a Visitor's Center with exhibits and over 15 miles of hiking trails with visitor stations.

Como Park Zoo & Conservatory

1325 Aida Place, Saint Paul

651/487-8200

www.comozooconservatory.org

Open 365 days per year, the Como Park Zoo & Conservatory exhibits include gorillas, orangutans, giraffes, polar bears, penguins, lions and tigers. The Marjorie McNeely Conservatory presents seasonal floral shows in the Sunken Garden.

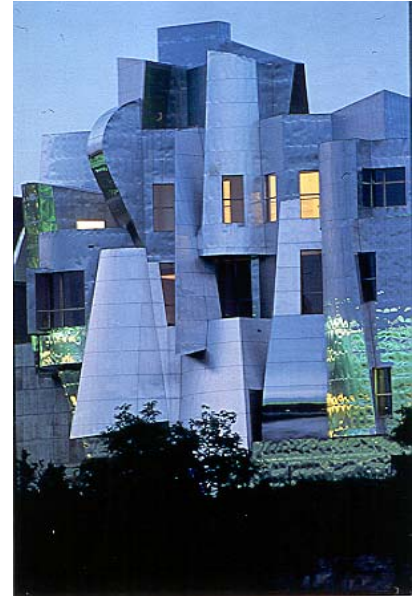
Frederick R. Weisman Art Museum

333 River Road, Minneapolis

612/625-9494

www.weisman.umn.edu

The museum's collection features early 20th century American Artists such as Georgia O'Keefe and Marsden Hartley and a vast selection of contemporary art. Closed Mondays and major holidays.



Governor's Residence Tour

1066 Summit Avenue, Saint Paul

651/297-2161

www.admin.state.mn.us/govres

The Governor's Residence on Summit Avenue is the official home of Minnesota's First Family and serves as a venue for state ceremonial functions, meetings conducted by the governor and events related to the residence. Free guided public tours are available during the summer months. Reservations required for 15 people or more.

Landmark Center

404 Landmark Center

375 W. Fifth Street, Saint Paul

651/292-3230

www.landmarkcenter.org

Tour the beautifully restored Old Federal Courts Building, site of the famous Gangster Trials. Free public tours on Thursdays at 11:00 a.m. and Sundays at 12:00 p.m.



Lego®

South 164, Mall of America, Bloomington

952/858-8949

www.mallofamerica.com

Located in Mall of America, the Lego exhibit features over 90 full-size LEGO models.

Mall of America®

60 East Broadway, Bloomington

952/883-8800

www.mallofamerica.com

Mall of America is the largest fully enclosed retail and entertainment complex in the United States. Over 520 specialty stores, LEGO, Nickelodeon Universe® and more are all inside. For a fee, visit Underwater Adventures Aquarium, A.C.E.S. Flight Simulation and NASCAR Silicon Motor Speedway.

Minneapolis Institute of Arts

2400 3rd Avenue South, Minneapolis
612/870-3200
www.artsmia.org

Internationally acclaimed as one of the greatest American museums, the Minneapolis Institute of Arts includes 85,000 masterpieces in painting, sculpture, decorative arts, prints, photography and textiles. Free admission.



Minneapolis Sculpture Garden

721 Vineland Place, Minneapolis
612/375-7600
www.garden.walkerart.org

The largest urban sculpture garden in the nation, highlighted by the “Spoonbridge and Cherry” fountain, features eleven acres containing over 40 sculptures, seasonal plantings and the Cowles Conservatory.

Minnehaha Falls and Regional Park

Hwy. 55 (Hiawatha Ave.) & Godfrey Road, Minneapolis
612/230-6400
www.minneapolisparcs.com/default.asp?PageID=4&parkid=252

The park contains four outdoor picnic sites and a picnic shelter with cooking and restroom facilities. Paved trails offer visitors the opportunity to see the park on bike or foot. Visitors can also walk along the Minnehaha Creek and follow it as it makes its way to the Mississippi River.

Minnesota State Capital

75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard, Saint Paul
651-296-2881
www.mnhs.org/places/sites/msc/

The elaborate 1905 capitol designed by Cass Gilbert, architect of the U.S. Supreme Court building, boasts a self supporting marble dome, one of the largest in the world. General tours are free, charges apply for extended tours.

Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge

3815 American Boulevard East, Bloomington
952/854-5915
www.fws.gov

The Visitor Center at the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge features interactive wildlife exhibits and a 12 projector, multi-image slide show. Miles of trails for hiking, biking and cross-country skiing are also at the Wildlife Refuge’s doorstep. Observation and photography activities available.

Nickelodeon Universe®

Mall of America®, Bloomington
612/883-8600
www.nickelodeonuniverse.com

The nation’s largest indoor theme park located in Mall of America features unique restaurants, themed shops and thrilling rides that will knock your socks off! Free admission, charge for rides.



Normandale Japanese Gardens

9700 France Avenue South, Bloomington
952/487-8145
www.nr.cc.mn.us/JapaneseGarden/index.cfm

This quiet retreat features shelters, bridges, waterfall, lagoon and trees all maintained in authentic Japanese tradition on the campus of the Normandale Community College.

Peavey Plaza

612/661-4700

www.minnesotaorchestra.org/sommerfest/peavey.cfm

Located outside the Minnesota Orchestra Hall in energetic downtown Minneapolis, Peavy Plaza is host to outdoor summer concerts and mini-market.

Saint Croix Vineyards & Tasting Room

Highway 36 & Manning Avenue, Stillwater

651/430-3310

www.scvwines.com

Tour vineyards and sample award winning wines in a restored 1800's barn at Aamodt's Apple Farm. Nine grape and two apple wines are available for purchase, along with cheese and bread to fill your picnic basket.



The Schubert Club Museum of Musical Instruments

302 Landmark Center

75 West Fifth Street, Saint Paul

651/292-3267

www.schubert.org

This museum of musical instruments includes galleries of keyboard instruments and multi-cultural collections. Reservations needed for groups.

Skyway Systems

Explore shopping, coffee shops and unique galleries in either Saint Paul or Minneapolis. Minneapolis boasts 60 city blocks connected by skyway. Saint Paul has five miles of connecting skyways to keep you warm in the winter and cool in the summer.

Stone Arch Bridge

125 SE Main Street, Minneapolis

651/228-1766

www.stonearchbridge.com

Built by railroad baron James J. Hill in 1883, the Stone Arch Bridge is the only bridge of its kind over the Mississippi River. It is made of native granite and limestone, and measures 2100-feet long by 28-feet wide. The bridge consists of 23 arches and spans the river below St. Anthony Falls in Minneapolis.

Saint Paul Cathedral

239 Selby Avenue, Saint Paul

651/228-1766

www.cathedralstpaul.org

The Cathedral of Saint Paul is set dramatically on Summit Hill overlooking the city of Saint Paul. The Cathedral's Renaissance architecture, inspired by the churches and cathedrals of France, is characterized by rounded domes and arches, a symmetrical cross floor plan and clean, straight lines. Decorative elements are grouped at certain points around the Cathedral – the façade, towers, sides, entrances and dome.



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.

