

Overview of Wisconsin

With long coastal stretches along both Lakes Michigan and Superior, the leafy state of Wisconsin presents some of the most picturesque scenery in the Midwest.

Lush rolling hills and fertile soil make for prime agricultural land, while mesas, forests and small glacial lakes round off Wisconsin's wonderfully varied topography. The winding Saint Croix River creates the natural border with Minnesota in the west, before meandering north towards the verdancy of the colossal Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest. Eastern Wisconsin is characterised by the sprawling lake-side metros of Green Bay and Milwaukee.

Wisconsin is also a delight for outdoors enthusiasts, who have the choice of casting for trout in the Kinnickinnic River, tapping trees for maple sap in the Northwoods, exploring the historic lighthouses and stunning waterways of the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore, or going mountain biking across the Kettle Moraine.

The state boasts a rich culture and thrilling pro-sports scene too. Scandinavian immigrants have had an impact on Wisconsin heritage, particularly in the north, which boasts some of the best Nordic ski trails in the country. Each year, international athletes travel to Wisconsin for the American Birkebeiner ski marathon, the most significant cross-country skiing event in America.

As for the arts, Wisconsin was the home state of visionary architect Frank Lloyd Wright, the founder of the Prairie School of Design. In the village of Spring Green, visitors can tour Taliesin, his home and architectural magnum opus.

Two things Wisconsin are perhaps best known for often go hand in hand: beer and American football. Milwaukee is the brew city, home to the famous Miller Brewing Company as well as countless microbreweries, with German immigrants credited for introducing its famous bratwursts and brews.

These are all perfect accompaniments to watching Wisconsin's beloved Green Bay Packers take the field. Adventurous visitors are welcome to join Wisconsin fans, or 'cheeseheads', in braving snow and freezing temperatures to cheer them on at their home stadium, Lambeau Field.

The odd nickname bestowed upon Packers fans is a testament to another of Wisconsin's claims to fame: dairy products. Often called America's Dairyland, Wisconsin produces more cheese than any other state in the country.

Wisconsin is a home of pastoral serenity, traditional Americana and natural wonders. Visitors will be entranced by its diverse array of attractions and outdoor activities, whether it's braving the ski slopes or unwinding by the side of a Great Lake, craft beer in hand.

Key Facts

Language:

English is the most common language spoken but Spanish is often heard in the south-western states.

Passport/Visa:

It is highly recommended that travellers' passports have at least six months' validity remaining after the intended date of departure from their travel destination. A visa is required for short visits unless travellers qualify for entry under the Visa Waiver Program. The Visa Waiver Program (VWP) enables citizens of certain countries to travel to the US for a stay of up to 90 days without a visa. Visitors under the VWP need to register online three days before travel and have an Electronic System for Travel Authorization (ESTA). This allows the US government to screen all visitors before travel. Visitors entering the country under the VWP must have a machine-readable passport (MRP) that has a barcode on the photo page. Travellers under the VWP must have passports that include biometrics if they wish to enter the country without a visa, which means that passports must contain unique personal data such as fingerprints or iris details. All passports must contain a digital photo image in order to travel visa-free. All visitors to the USA have a photograph and two fingerprints taken by an inkless scanner on arrival, including those travelling visa-free under the VWP. As part of the Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative (WHTI), all travellers travelling between the United States and Canada, Mexico, Bermuda, and the Caribbean region are required to present a passport or other valid travel document to enter or re-enter the United States. If departing from the USA, a valid passport is required by immigration authorities. Immigration officials often apply different rules to those stated by travel agents and official sources.

Currency:

The official currency is the US Dollar (USD), which is divided into 100 cents. Only major banks exchange

foreign currency. ATMs are widespread and credit cards are widely accepted. Banking hours are Monday to Friday, 9am to 3pm.

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Electricity:

Electrical current is 120 volts, 60Hz. Plugs are mainly the type with two flat pins, though three-pin plugs (two flat parallel pins and a rounded pin) are also widely used. European appliances without dual-voltage capabilities will require an adapter.

Travel to Wisconsin

Climate for Wisconsin

Wisconsin's climate is typically continental, with four distinct seasons. Its relatively short summers are warm, with pleasantly cool evenings. Winters are often harsh, with very low temperatures and heavy snowfalls. In the north, lakes and streams may be covered with ice from November to April. These cold conditions are precisely why Wisconsin is so popular among winter sports enthusiasts.

Health Notes when travelling to United States of America

There are no specific health risks associated with travel within the USA. Medical facilities are excellent, but expensive. Only emergencies are treated without prior payment and treatment can be refused without evidence of insurance or proof of funds. Good medical insurance is essential. Visitors must be fully vaccinated with the primary series of an accepted COVID-19 vaccine to travel to the United States by plane if they are non-U.S. citizens.

Safety Notes when travelling to United States of America

Travel within the United States is generally trouble-free, though travellers should be aware that the US shares with the rest of the world, an increased threat from terrorist incidents. Security has been heightened, particularly at airports. Restrictions on hand luggage apply and travellers are advised to check on the latest situation with airlines in advance. Travellers should also be alert to the dangers of car and street crime in cities and should use common sense and take basic precautions. Hurricanes are common between June and November, putting the southern USA, including the Gulf Coast and the eastern US at risk. There is a risk of wildfires in many dry areas in the US, particularly on the West Coast from March to November.

Customs in United States of America

Laws vary from state to state, including speed limit, fines and punishment. The age at which alcohol may be legally bought and consumed is 21 years.

Duty Free in United States of America

Travellers to the United States who are returning residents of the country do not have to pay duty on articles purchased abroad to the value of \$800 provided their stay was longer than 48 hours and their duty-free allowance was not used in the 30-day period prior. For passengers arriving from Samoa, Guam and the U.S. Virgin Islands, a duty-free allowance of \$1,600 is allowed. The following items are included in this: 50 cigarettes and 10 cigars and 150 millilitres (5 fl. oz.) of alcoholic beverages or 150 millilitres (5 fl. oz.) of perfume containing alcohol. Restrictions may apply to goods from Cuba, Iran, North Korea, Burma (Myanmar), Angola, Liberia and Sudan. It is prohibited to import Cuban cigars from any country.

Travellers to the United States who are non-residents do not have to pay duty on the following items: 50 cigars or 200 cigarettes and gifts to the value of \$100 provided their stay in the USA is not less than 72 hours and that the allowance has not been used in the preceding six-month period.

Prohibited items for residents and non-residents include meat or meat products, poultry, narcotics, absinthe, plants, seeds, vegetables, fruits, soil, live insects and other living plants or animal pests. Fish is prohibited unless it carries disease-free certification. Wildlife and animals or their by-products carry restrictions. Dairy products and eggs from specified countries are not allowed. Firearms and ammunition are not allowed without the necessary license and permit.

Doing Business in United States of America

In such a large country, filled with so many diverse groups, business practices may differ according to each state, however rarely to any large degree. The East Coast is traditionally more formal than the West Coast, though in states such as California, dress code and conservative appearance are as common as they would be in New York. Punctuality is important throughout the country and it is considered rude to be late for a meeting. Gift-giving is uncommon as it may be construed as bribery. Appropriate titles (Mr, Mrs, Ms) are used upon introduction and until otherwise stated. Americans favour politeness and greetings of 'Hello' and 'How are you?' are often expressed with sincerity. Business hours may vary in each state, but an 8am start and 5pm finish Monday to Friday is the most common with an hour over lunch.

Status and age are not necessarily indicative of seniority, nor do they carry much weight in themselves. Those doing business in the States should be mindful of this fact; foreigners should never make assumptions about someone's position or rank. Best practice is to be respectful to all parties. That said, the US upholds a hierarchal business structure, in which 'the boss' is the ultimate decision-maker. Senior leaders have the power of the last word, and can go against the grain just as easily as they can follow popular opinion. Foreigners should concentrate on winning over this individual, even if the greater group seems unsupportive. Americans value a direct style of communication. In this fast-paced, consumer culture 'time is money', and small-talk is viewed as unnecessary and wasteful. It's best for foreigners to get to the point quickly, speak about issues in a frank and open manner, and to avoid taking offence if someone questions or challenges them outright.

Communication in United States of America

The international country dialling code for the United States is +1. Mobile networks cover most of the country, especially all urban areas, and WiFi is widely available.

Tipping in United States of America

A 15 percent tip is expected by taxi drivers, bartenders, hairdressers and waiters, but travellers shouldn't tip in fast-food or self-service restaurants. In expensive restaurants or for large parties, the tip should be 20 percent of the bill. It is normal to tip staff such as valets and porters in hotels; this is discretionary, although a minimum of \$5 is expected. Most services are customarily tipped if the service is good.

Passport/Visa Note

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Airports in Wisconsin

Wausau Airport (CWA)

Central Wisconsin Airport

www.fly-cwa.org

Location: Wausau The airport is located two miles (3km) southeast of the central business district of Mosinee.

Time: GMT -6 (GMT -5 from mid-March to the first Sunday in November).

Getting to the city: There is no public transportation to the airport. Many local hotels offer free shuttle transfers, while taxis and rental cars are available.

Car rental: Car rental companies at the airport include Avis, Budget, Enterprise, Hertz, and National.

Airport Taxis: Taxi companies operating from the airport include Courtesy Cabs and All American Taxi. It is recommended to book a taxi in advance.

Facilities: Airport facilities include a cafe, a gift shop, a first-aid station, an art gallery, information points, a post office drop box, and conference rooms.

Parking: Parking is free for the first three hours and then charged at \$1 per hour, up to a daily rate of \$7. Cash and credit card payments are accepted.

Dane County Airport (MSN)

Dane County Regional Airport

www.msnaairport.com

Location: Madison The airport is located five miles (8km) northeast of Madison.

Time: GMT -6 (GMT -5 from mid-March to the first Sunday in November).

Contacts: Tel: (608) 246 3380

Getting to the city: The Madison Metro Transit System Route 20 bus runs to the airport every 30 minutes on weekdays, and every 60 minutes in the evenings and on weekends and holidays. Travellers going to downtown Madison should take the westbound bus marked 'Route 20, North Transfer Point', while those heading east can take the bus marked 'Route 20, East Towne Mall'. Many hotels in Madison offer complimentary shuttle transfers from the airport.

Car rental: Car hire companies operating from the airport include Alamo, Avis, Budget, Enterprise, Hertz, and National. Car rental desks are located in the baggage claim area.

Airport Taxis: Taxis are located at Door 7, at the north end of the baggage claim area. Taxi companies operating in the area include Green Cab, Badger Cab, Union Cab, and Madison Taxi. Ride-hailing apps such as Lyft also operate out of Dane County Airport.

Facilities: Airport facilities include a business centre and conference rooms, massage services, a first aid station, information desks, pet relief areas, baby-changing and breast-feeding facilities, a family lounge, newsstands, souvenir shops, restaurants and bars, and public phones. Disabled services are available.

Parking: Short and long-term parking is located directly across from the terminal, while the economy lot is roughly a ten-minute walk away. The first 15 minutes are free in the Hourly (Ramp) Lot, then \$1 for 15 to 30 minutes, \$2 for 30 to 60 minutes, \$3 for 60 to 90 minutes and \$4 for 90 minutes to two hours. Thereafter, parking is \$2 per hour with a \$16 daily limit. Daily rates are \$10 in the Long Term (Ramp) Lot, \$8 per day in the Surface Lot, and \$6 per day in the Economy Lot.

Milwaukee Airport (MKE)

General Mitchell International Airport

www.mitchellairport.com

Location: Milwaukee The airport is located five miles (8km) south of Milwaukee.

Time: GMT -6 (GMT -5 from mid-March to the first Sunday in November).

Getting to the city: The Milwaukee Country Transit System operates several lines to the airport: Route 80 connects to downtown Milwaukee from around 5am and after midnight, while the GreenLine runs to Bayshore Town Center between around 4am and 2am.

Car rental: Car rental companies represented at the airport include Alamo, Avis, Budget, Dollar, Enterprise, Hertz, National and Thrifty.

Airport Taxis: Metered taxi service is available from the taxi pick-up station located outside of Baggage Claim 3.

Facilities: Airport facilities include a lost and found, various dining and shopping options, conference and banquet rooms, UPS mail drops, ATMs, public phones, a children's play area, and an aviation history museum.

Parking: All parking lots cost \$2 per hour. However, daily rates vary from \$24 in the hourly lot to \$8 in the SuperSaver lot. All parking is within walking distance of the terminal, with the exception of the SuperSaver lot, which is served by a free shuttle. Passengers arriving via Amtrak can park in a special lot for \$8 per day.

Appleton Airport (ATW)

Appleton International Airport

www.atwairport.com

Location: Appleton The airport is located six miles (10km) from downtown Appleton.

Time: GMT -6 (GMT -5 from mid-March to the first Sunday in November).

Getting to the city: Although no public transport services Appleton Airport, taxis and rental cars are available. Ride-hailing apps such as Lyft and Uber operate at the airport. Some local hotels provide free shuttle service for guests with advance bookings.

Car rental: Car rental companies represented at the airport include Alamo, Avis, Budget, Hertz, National, and Enterprise, located at their registration counters inside the terminal.

Airport Taxis: Taxi companies available at the airport include Apple Valley Taxi and Fox Valley Cab.

Facilities: Airport facilities include gift shops, restaurants, a dog day-care facility, ATMs, and vending machines.

Parking: Short and long-term parking bays are right in front of the terminal.

La Crosse Airport (LSE)

La Crosse Regional Airport

www.lseairport.com

Location: La Crosse The airport is located five miles (8km) northwest of La Crosse.

Time: GMT -6 (GMT -5 from mid-March to the first Sunday in November).

Getting to the city: La Crosse Municipal Transit provides transport to the La Crosse area. Local shuttle companies offer door-to-door service.

Car rental: Rental cars are available from Hertz, Avis, National, and Enterprise.

Airport Taxis: Taxi companies servicing the airport include CTS Taxi and Bee Cab Inc. They can be contacted via the courtesy phone next to the baggage claim area. Ride-hailing apps such as Uber and Lyft are also available.

Facilities: Terminal facilities include a lost and found, a conference room, a pet relief area, a children's room, and a gift shop. The newly refurbished airport restaurant offers food and a bar, serving locally brewed products.

Parking: There is a 20-minute grace period in all lots. The short-term lot charges \$2 for the first hour and \$1 per half hour thereafter, up to a maximum of \$11 per day. Long-term parking is free for the first 20 minutes, \$2 for the first hour, or portion thereof, and \$1 per hour thereafter up to \$8 per day.

Green Bay Airport (GRB)

Green Bay Austin Straubel International Airport

www.flygrb.com

Location: The airport is located nine miles (14km) southwest of Green Bay.

Time: GMT -6 (GMT -5 from mid-March to the first Sunday in November).

Getting to the city: There is no public transport directly serving the airport. However, a number of shuttle companies offer door-to-door service, while ride-hailing apps, taxis, and rental cars are also available.

Car rental: Rental cars are available from Avis, Enterprise, Hertz, and Alamo.

Airport Taxis: Numerous taxi companies service Green Bay Airport, including Ace Cab, Astro Taxi, Elite Shuttle, Yellow Cab, It's Your Taxi & Shuttle, and 1 Awesome Cab. Ride-hailing apps such as Uber and Lyft are also available. It is advisable to book a taxi ahead of time to ensure prompt service.

Facilities: Airport facilities include vending machines, family areas, business centres, VIP lounges, and ATMs.

Parking: Parking in the short-term lot is \$1 per half hour up to \$16 per day. The long-term lot charges \$1 per hour, up to \$8 per day, and \$40 per week. There is a cell phone lot for pick-ups and drop-offs.

Milwaukee

Wisconsin's largest city, Milwaukee originated as a Native American settlement and later grew into an outpost for French fur traders and missionaries. But the city's real boom took place in the 1800s, when waves of German immigrants settled here, bringing with them, among a profusion of other cultural traits, the art of beer brewing.

Milwaukee went on to become known as the beer capital of the world as well as a major commercial and manufacturing area. Although a few major breweries have relocated, Milwaukee's brewpub culture remains strong, as does its German heritage.

Milwaukee is situated on Lake Michigan. One of the Great Lakes, it's so vast that it appears no different from the ocean when walking along the shore. While surfing is not an option, almost all other water activities are, including sailing, powerboating, jet skiing, cocktail cruises, as well as some of the best shipwreck diving in the area. If lounging in the sun sounds more appealing, visitors can head to Bradford Beach, a long strip along the lake packed with swimmers and sunbathers in the summer.

For the less adventurous, more inclined to shop and dine than jump on a jet ski, the other waterfront is the place to be. The RiverWalk system of promenades and bridges meanders along the Milwaukee River, linking the central downtown area, including the financial and Westown districts, and the Historic Third Ward.

Westown is a hot spot for entertainment, with a variety of upscale restaurants, clubs and hotels, as well as an upmarket shopping mall, convention centre and various performing-arts venues.

The Historic Third Ward, a rehabilitated warehouse district with trendy lofts and stylish boutiques, is perfect for an afternoon stroll, as is the nearby Brady Street neighbourhood, which offers a more eclectic experience. Its tattoo parlours and alternative clothing shops, vestiges of the 1960s when the area was a counter-culture haven, are now mixed with galleries, diverse nightlife spots, cafés and exciting eateries.

After touring the city, thirsty visitors in need of a respite ought to try one of the three favourite local indulgences: beer, bratwurst, and frozen custard. Without these, a trip to Milwaukee would simply be incomplete.

Getting around in Milwaukee

Many tourist attractions in downtown Milwaukee can be explored on foot and the skywalk network in the city centre conveniently protects pedestrians from the elements. However, if visitors wish to travel a bit farther, the Milwaukee County Transit System (MCTS) operates buses on more than 50 routes in the city and surrounding region.

Single tickets can be bought on board but exact change is required. Multiple-ride tickets and weekly or monthly passes can be bought at outlets such as supermarkets throughout the city. The Milwaukee Trolley Loop in the city centre is aimed at tourists and stops at major attractions.

The Milwaukee Intermodal Station is the city's transport hub, with Amtrak trains connecting to Chicago as well as long distance buses. Cycle rickshaws also operate in the city and a ferry service runs across Lake Michigan to Muskegon.

Taxis often queue at hotels and other attractions, though visitors should not assume it will be easy to hail one on the street. In recent years, Milwaukee has worked hard to make the city bicycle-friendly.

Climate in Milwaukee

Milwaukee has a humid continental climate, characterised by precipitation throughout the year, hot summers and cold, snowy winters. Summers (June to mid-September) are warm and pleasant, with temperatures averaging between 52°F (11°C) and 81°F (27°C). Summer receives frequent rain with an increased chance of thunderstorms, resulting in muggy conditions.

Winters (December to early March) are quite cold, and snow is common and plentiful throughout the season. Average temperatures drop to between 16°F (-9°C) and 30°F (-1°C) in January. Due to its proximity to Lake Michigan, Milwaukee experiences lake-effect conditions, which increase snowfall. In the summer, areas along the lakeshore are often comparatively cooler than inland, and in the winter, they are slightly warmer.

Sightseeing in Milwaukee

Wisconsin may not have a reputation for glamour, but there's plenty to see and do in Milwaukee for visitors to this friendly city. Highlights include the enormous Lake Michigan and the RiverWalk system along the Milwaukee River, which jointly ensure that fresh air, pretty views, and water sports opportunities are in abundance.

Apart from beaches, lakes, and rivers, Milwaukee is home to a lot of architectural landmarks, ranging from the imposing St Josaphat Basilica and City Hall to the sleek and modern Milwaukee Art Museum. The Domes, huge glass structures in Mitchell Park, are just as stunning outside as they are inside, housing habitats from different ecosystems.

There are a number of interesting museums in Milwaukee, including the Villa Terrace Decorative Arts Museum and the Harley-Davidson Museum. Kids will love interactive attractions at the Public Museum, containing an IMAX theatre and planetarium, as well as the Discovery World Museum at Pier Wisconsin, the Betty Brinn Children's Museum, and the Milwaukee County Zoo.

Milwaukee is also known as 'Brew City', and is home to both large-scale producers and local microbreweries in abundance. Miller-Coors Brewing Company and the Pabst Brewery are perhaps the most recognisable and offer tours. Smaller operations also offer tours and tastings on weekends, including the Sprecher Brewery, Lakefront Brewery, and the Great Lakes Distillery.

Milwaukee Attractions

Miller Park

Miller Park is the home of major league baseball's Milwaukee Brewers. Opened in 2001, the ballpark combines state-of-the-art features, including a unique fan-shaped convertible roof, with the 'Take Me Out to the Ballgame' nostalgia of America's pastime. Ballpark tours are also available. But if visitors are able to get tickets, there is perhaps no better way to experience the best of American sport than by watching a ballgame with popcorn and a hot dog on a warm summer evening.

Website: milwaukee.brewers.mlb.com

Miller Brewing Company

The Miller Brewery, established in 1855, is a landmark in Milwaukee. Visitors can participate in a free and entertaining guided tour of the brewery, packaging centre and historic caves on the premises. Tours last around one and a half hours and conclude with samples either at the old Miller Inn or in the beer garden, a seasonal option.

Website: www.millerbrewerytour.com/tour-information

Mitchell Park Horticultural Conservatory

The Mitchell Park Horticultural Conservatory is commonly referred to as 'The Domes', due to its memorable architecture. Its three giant glass vault-like structures are bursting with diverse plant life. Visitors can explore a different habitat in each dome: arid, tropical or floral.

Website: county.milwaukee.gov/MitchellParkConserva10116.htm

Lambeau Field

Home of the Green Bay Packers football team, Lambeau Field is an iconic American football stadium. Today, its preserved retro style and original seating bowl boast modern facilities and services, despite the disadvantages of an outdoor stadium in Wisconsin's notoriously cold winters. If visitors can get tickets and stand the cold, watching the Packers play at home is an amazing experience. If not, a tour of the stadium where some of the greatest legends in American football have played is the next best thing. When attending a football game at Lambeau Field, visitors should arrive early for a barbecue and join the tailgate party in the parking lot.

Website: www.lambeaufield.com

The House on the Rock

Eccentric millionaire Alex Jordan Snr built the House on the Rock in retaliation to renowned architect Frank Lloyd Wright, who dismissed his architectural aspirations. The Japanese-style house is rambling and dark, containing many collections of antiques and curiosities. From the late 1960s, the collections increased in eclectic directions, with additions of mechanical musical instruments, dolls, model ships and guns. The world's largest carousel is housed inside as well as a recreation of the squid and the sea monster from 20,000 Leagues Under the Sea. The most famous feature is the Infinity Room, which juts out unsupported from the House 218 feet (66.5m) into the surrounding valley. There are also hotels, conference facilities, a spa, golf course and Japanese gardens.

Website: www.thehouseontherock.com

Wisconsin Dells

Wisconsin Dells takes its name from the distinctive sandstone formations in the glacial gorges of the Wisconsin River. Three of its water parks claim the titles of the biggest in the US: Noah's Ark is the largest outdoor park; Wilderness Territory is the biggest indoor park; and Mt. Olympus Water and Theme Park is the largest resort and water park complex. There are plenty of things to do if you'd like to stay dry, including golf, go karts, horse riding, Timber Falls Amusement Park, live entertainment, restaurants and shops. The Wisconsin Dells are open in winter too, with snowboarding, skiing and ice fishing. The Ho-Chunk Casino is also a great place for adults to enjoy themselves.

Website: www.wisdells.com

Airports in Milwaukee

Milwaukee Airport (MKE)

General Mitchell International Airport

<http://www.mitchellairport.com>

Location: Milwaukee The airport is located five miles (8km) south of Milwaukee.

Time: GMT -6 (GMT -5 from mid-March to the first Sunday in November).

Getting to the city: The Milwaukee Country Transit System operates several lines to the airport: Route 80 connects to downtown Milwaukee from around 5am and after midnight, while the GreenLine runs to Bayshore Town Center between around 4am and 2am.

Car rental: Car rental companies represented at the airport include Alamo, Avis, Budget, Dollar, Enterprise, Hertz, National and Thrifty.

Airport Taxis: Metered taxi service is available from the taxi pick-up station located outside of Baggage Claim 3.

Facilities: Airport facilities include a lost and found, various dining and shopping options, conference and banquet rooms, UPS mail drops, ATMs, public phones, a children's play area, and an aviation history museum.

Parking: All parking lots cost \$2 per hour. However, daily rates vary from \$24 in the hourly lot to \$8 in the SuperSaver lot. All parking is within walking distance of the terminal, with the exception of the SuperSaver lot, which is served by a free shuttle. Passengers arriving via Amtrak can park in a special lot for \$8 per day.

Madison

The capital of Wisconsin and home of the University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison is a small city bursting with vibrancy and progressiveness. It has the same abundance of youthful energy and innovation combined with the richness in arts, culture, and history that make college towns such beguiling destinations.

Nowhere are all these attributes more prominently on display than State Street, an outdoor pedestrian mall anchored by the stunning Wisconsin State Capitol building at one end and the university campus at the other.

State Street is a picturesque walkway packed with eclectic boutiques, sidewalk cafes, coffee shops, ethnic restaurants, rare booksellers, and arts and theatre venues. The lovely Capitol Square at the top of the street is the site of popular community events, including art fairs and food festivals, Saturday farmers' markets, and evening chamber orchestra concerts.

Nearby neighbourhoods Mansion Hill and University Heights abound with architectural sights, from imposing sandstone mansions to designs by Frank Lloyd Wright and other Prairie School masters. Madison, however, has yet another advantage with which to lure travellers: beautiful scenery.

Situated on an isthmus between Lakes Monona and Mendota, the greenest city in the nation is surrounded by three more lakes, an extensive range of parkland, and the spectacular UW-Madison Arboretum, a 1,260-acre research centre featuring the oldest and most varied collection of restored ecological communities in the world.

It is open to the public for hiking, biking, skiing, and snowshoeing. Sailing, boating, swimming, and ice fishing are also highly popular sports in the area. This proximity to the great outdoors, along with Madison's many other charms, has been a key factor in the city consistently being ranked among the country's top places to live, work, play, and raise a family.

Getting around in Madison

The Madison Metro Transit System is a good way to get around the city, although coverage is spotty in some neighbourhoods farther from the centre of town. Visitors planning to regularly travel outside of the city centre will find that hiring a car is the easiest way to get around.

Drivers unaccustomed to snowy conditions should note that the roads can be treacherous in the winter and so taxis may be a better choice. However, they must be booked by phone. Ride-hailing apps, such as Lyft and Uber, operate in the area.

Climate in Madison

Madison has a humid continental climate. Summers are warm and pleasant, with highs around 82°F (28°C), though thunderstorms can be frequent. Winters can be bitterly cold, sometimes dropping as low as 10°F (-12°C) in January, and snow is common and plentiful throughout the season. Tornado season is from March to June, and the wettest month of the year is August.

Airports in Madison

Dane County Airport (MSN)

Dane County Regional Airport

<http://www.msnairport.com>

Location: Madison The airport is located five miles (8km) northeast of Madison.

Time: GMT -6 (GMT -5 from mid-March to the first Sunday in November).

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Parking: Short and long-term parking is located directly across from the terminal, while the economy lot is roughly a ten-minute walk away. The first 15 minutes are free in the Hourly (Ramp) Lot, then \$1 for 15 to 30 minutes, \$2 for 30 to 60 minutes, \$3 for 60 to 90 minutes and \$4 for 90 minutes to two hours. Thereafter, parking is \$2 per hour with a \$16 daily limit. Daily rates are \$10 in the Long Term (Ramp) Lot, \$8 per day in the Surface Lot, and \$6 per day in the Economy Lot.

Door County

Wisconsin's small eastern peninsula bounded by Lake Michigan and Green Bay is one of the Midwest's not-so-secret hideaways. Once visitors experience the quiet beauty of Door County, they will understand why so many families return year after year.

Along with Washington Island, the peninsula is graced with miles of pristine shoreline dotted with bustling harbours, hidden coves, sandy beaches, and historic lighthouses. A handful of quaint towns are scattered throughout, each heavy on charm but different enough to cater to visitors' various tastes.

Sturgeon Bay is the largest, with a historic downtown district and waters that teem with walleye, northern pike, and lake trout. Further north, Egg Harbor is known for its serene beauty, while Fish Creek is the arts hub of the peninsula. The village of Ephraim has a rich heritage, with many historical sites.

Next door is Sister Bay, a buzzing spot with a lovely waterfront and excellent restaurants. Finally, a short ferry ride takes visitors to Washington Island, the oldest Icelandic community in the country, with stunning scenery encompassing high bluffs and rocky shores.

Summer is the most popular season for a visit, when sunbathers hit the beaches and sailors, cruisers, and kayakers take to the water. In the evening, a traditional Door County fish boil is a mandatory dining experience.

Autumn has its own appeal. The fall foliage is breathtaking, and roadside stalls and farmers' markets overflow with harvests from the local orchards and farms. In the winter, ice fishing shanties spring up across the frozen bay, while sleigh rides, roaring fires, and Christmas celebrations make this season special.

Currency

The official currency is the US Dollar (USD), which is divided into 100 cents. Only major banks exchange foreign currency. ATMs are widespread and credit cards are widely accepted. Banking hours are Monday to Friday 9am to 3pm.

Exchange rate for 1 USD - U.S. Dollar

0.00 BMD Bermudan Dollar	0.93 EUR Euro	0.80 GBP U.K. Pound Sterling	152.99 JPY Japanese Yen	1.37 CAD Canadian Dollar	0.91 CHF Swiss Franc
1.52 AUD Australian Dollar	39.40 UAH Ukrainian Hryvnia	443.91 KZT Kazakhstani Tenge	93,075.00 LBP Lebanese Pound	4.86 LYD Libyan Dinar	6.86 BOB Bolivian Boliviano
0.00 NPR Nepalese Rupee	0.00 OMR Omani Rial	0.00 QAR Qatari Rial	1.35 SGD Singapore Dollar	10.82 SEK Swedish Krona	0.00 TTD Trinidad Tobago Dollar
0.00 VEF Venezuelan Bolivar	58.11 DOP Dominican Peso	0.00 HRK Croatian Kuna	16.95 MXN Mexican Peso	610.53 XOF West African CFA Franc	0.00 PGK Papua New Guinean kina
0.00 BSD Bahamian Dollar	0.00 FJD Fiji Dollar	0.00 HNL Honduran Lempira	133.87 DZD Algerian Dinar	0.00 MMK Myanma Kyat	0.00 BWP Botswana Pula
3.72 PEN Peruvian Nuevo Sol	938.44 CLP Chilean Peso	386.84 AMD Armenia Dram	23.29 CZK Czech Koruna	17.63 MDL Moldova Lei	139.89 ISK Icelandic Krona
12,582.40 UZS Uzbekistan Sum	3.72 ILS Israeli New Sheqel	0.71 JOD Jordanian Dinar	0.00 KWD Kuwaiti Dinar	38.15 UYU Uruguayan Peso	0.00 MUR Mauritian Rupee
0.00 NIO Nicaraguan Córdoba	10.88 NOK Norwegian Krone	4.03 PLN Polish Zloty	3.75 SAR Saudi Riyal	0.00 LKR Sri Lanka Rupee	36.79 THB Thai Baht
3.66 AED U.A.E Dirham	5.09 BRL Brazilian Real	4.63 RON Romanian New Leu	7.81 HKD Hong Kong Dollar	610.53 XAF Central African CFA Franc	25,405.70 VND Vietnamese Dong
878.36 ARS Argentine Peso	0.00 XCD East Caribbean Dollar	0.00 GTQ Guatemalan Quetzal	10.06 MAD Moroccan Dirham	0.00 BHD Bahrain Dinar	1.00 PAB Panamanian Balboa
1.70 AZN Azerbaijan Manat	3,920.00 COP Colombian Peso	88.42 KGS Kyrgyzstan Som	362.00 HUF Hungarian Forint	10.89 TJS Tajikistan Ruble	16,073.70 IDR Indonesian Rupiah
47.95 EGP Egyptian Pound	1,358.84 KRW South Korean Won	7,456.52 PYG Paraguayan Guaraní	4.74 MYR Malaysian Ringgit	508.31 CRC Costa Rican Colón	1.67 NZD New Zealand Dollar
277.87 PKR Pakistani Rupee	91.39 RUB Russian Rouble	18.51 ZAR South African Rand	3.13 TND Tunisian Dinar	0.00 BBD Barbadian Dollar	1.82 BGN Bulgarian Lev
32.33 TRY Turkish Lira	57.28 PHP Philippine Peso	32.31 TWD New Taiwan Dollar	1,164.84 NGN Nigerian Naira	0.00 XPF CFP Franc	0.00 GHS Ghanaian Cedi
0.00 JMD Jamaican Dollar	0.00 ANG Neth. Antillean Guilder	0.00 BND Brunei Dollar	108.90 RSD Serbian Dinar	7.24 CNY Chinese Yuan	6.94 DKK Danish Krone
3.49 TMT New Turkmenistan Manat	83.42 INR Indian Rupee				