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5 reasons to do Milwaukee for Spring Break

by Michelle Magee Elfvin



Credit: Bayard Elfvin

A lot has changed since the last time you visited Milwaukee. In the past few years, Milwaukee has had a culture and development boom, making it the fifth fastest growing city in the U.S. 2017. We went back with our kids a couple of weeks ago,

after almost a decade-long hiatus, and we almost couldn't believe it was the same Milwaukee.

The city remains beautifully artistic, with a uniquely charming historical character. We strolled through the Milwaukee Public Market on our way to The Children's Museum, while passing dozens of bars, shops and restaurants, all so inviting that it was difficult to pass up each new place. It has all the character and buzz that we love about Chicago, but it was so much easier to maneuver with three little ones in tow.

Milwaukee is refreshingly manageable and accessible, which it makes it a wonderful place for Chicagoans to go to unwind. Our entire experience blew us away. Driving less than an hour and a half from Chicago is enough to make you feel like you're on Spring Break, but it eliminates the hassle and expense of boarding a plane.

Leave the car seats buckled in, and your bags right where you can see them, because your family is road tripping to Milwaukee for Spring Break 2018.

Here's your cheat sheet on how to get the most from your trip:

Where to sleep: [The Kimpton Journeyman](#). This award-winning hotel makes you feel like you're on vacation, with all the comfort and coziness of your home. A complimentary happy hour is served with gourmet pizza and board games in the lobby. You are going to want to walk everywhere, but to see more attractions, take them up on the complimentary bicycles.

Where to learn: The [Milwaukee Art Museum](#) for older kids, [Discovery World](#) for elementary-aged kids, and the [Betty Brinn Children's Museum](#) for the little ones are within a mile of your hotel, the [Milwaukee Public Market](#), and the [RiverWalk](#). Our kids love learning through play, and depending on the age of your littles, one of these places is sure to be perfect for your entire family.

Where to eat: [Sabrosa Cafe & Gallery](#) stole our hearts for breakfast, while [Tre Rivali](#) gave us an afternoon coffee fix and insanely delicious pizzas. [The Outsider](#) has an outstanding rooftop dinner experience, and there were even games for the kids to play. For snacks, the best lobster hoagie sandwich around, wine and chocolate, the [Milwaukee Public Market](#) is an experience not to pass up.

Where to play (or watch someone else play): [Miller Park](#) is the home of the Brewers Major League Baseball team, and they play the Cubs on April 5-8! The [Northwestern Mutual Children's Theater & Playzone](#) and Festival Park are located on the lakefront, and are the home of Milwaukee's famous [Summerfest](#).

Where to explore: The [Milwaukee RiverWalk](#) is a two-mile path right along the water, tying together three riverfront neighborhoods. It's strewn with art, waterfront bars and

restaurants, and rich historic architecture. The RiverWalk is a great place to start and finish your Milwaukee adventure!

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