

Ozaukee County: The perfect girls' trip destination

Submitted by the
Ozaukee County Tourism
Council

Whether you are planning a girls' trip, a staycation or another celebration, Ozaukee County is the perfect destination! Girls' trips are not only a great way to celebrate the special ladies in your life, but they are also good for one's soul. Ozaukee County boasts "lakeside, countryside and historic places" and offers plenty of options when you are on the search for a charming and historic bed and breakfast, want to explore historical landmarks and sites, love to support small businesses and shop local, appreciate museums and creating art, or are a self-proclaimed wine connoisseur or beer lover.

Founded in 1853, Ozaukee County boasts historical landmarks, some of which are bed and breakfasts. Start your stay by booking a room in historic downtown Cedarburg at the Lilly Pad (Boerners' Guest House), Stagecoach Inn (an actual stagecoach stop from the 1800s) or Washington House Inn, or stay in Ozaukee County's countryside at Welcome HOME Bed & Breakfast in Newburg. Each bed and breakfast's historical significance to Ozaukee County is unique and will feel like a home away from home.

Ozaukee County has grown significantly since its official start in 1853 but each community has embraced and honored its unique history. When you're in the Mequon/Thiensville area, stop by the Trinity Freistadt Historical Site, which tells

the history of the Trinity-Freistadt community, and the Jonathan Clark House, a historic house museum of mid-19th century Mequon and Thiensville that interprets the life of the early settlers. Cedarburg's historical sites include the Cedarburg History Museum, the Cedarburg Cultural Center and the Historic Interurban Train Depot. Grafton honors their Paramount Blues history with their Paramount Walk of Fame and Walking Tour, while Saukville offers the Ozaukee County Pioneer Village, a living history museum with more than 24 buildings from the 1840s to early 1900s era. Port Washington boasts a number of historically significant sites, including the Port Washington Exploreum and History Museum, Port Washington Light Station & Museum and the Port Breakwater and Lighthouse. Belgium's sites include the Luxembourg American Cultural Society and Harrington Beach State Park Quarry. Stony Hill School, the birthplace of Flag Day, has been fully restored and is set in the countryside of Waubesa. Many of these historical sites have unique hours and may be available by appointment only.

Plenty of shopping

Small businesses are the heart of many Ozaukee County communities, and shoppers will find no shortage of amazing boutiques, specialty shops and even large historic buildings housing multiple businesses under one roof. The charming Shoppes of Port Washington offers the opportunity to

browse 40 small businesses and artists in one location, as does the Shops of Cedar Creek Settlement, a collection of stores and restaurants located in renovated 19th century buildings at the north end of Cedarburg's historic district.

Destination shopping in Cedarburg includes The Gem Shop, just across from Cedarburg's Cedar Creek Settlement, which offers hand-on shopping of raw and polished gemstones, unique home décor and jewelry, and Pagoda Fine Jewelry, which offers unique and custom pieces of wearable art. Antiques at Gordons is a must-see for antiquers coming through Grafton, and true cheeseheads won't want to miss Cedar Valley Cheese in Belgium. Thiensville's Suburban Motors Harley-Davidson is the original "Wheeler-Dealer" and not only sells motorcycles but also apparel and gifts for those who explore life on two wheels. Nearby, North Shore Boulangerie is an authentic French boulangerie in Mequon's new Foxtown Development. Adorable Zing Boutique in Port Washington offers a wide variety of eco-friendly women's clothing and accessories at an affordable price.

Unique experiences

Groups looking for an experience will love the Cedarburg Art Museum and Cedarburg Cultural Center where local artists' work is always on display. glaze! Pottery Studio, in Thiensville, is another favorite for groups — paint your own pottery or try your hand at glass fusing



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Grafton's Ladies Night Out offers a perfect event that the whole group will enjoy.

and create one-of-a-kind pieces you'll treasure forever. Memories Ballroom in Port Washington offers a variety of events, from dinner theater and audience-interactive murder mysteries to their famous "Chicken Comedy" nights featuring nationally-renowned stand-up comedians. The Wisconsin Museum of Quilts and Fiber Art in Cedarburg offers rotating exhibits in an old repurposed farmstead and is dedicated to educating the public about the artistic, cultural, historic and social importance of quilts and fiber arts. Before you leave town, support local farmers at Cedarburg's Witte's Veg-

etables where you can pick your own produce or shop in their farm stand.

Finally relax with a specialty coffee drink from one of our many coffee shops, including Fiddleheads which has locations in Thiensville, Mequon, Grafton and Cedarburg, or a bottle of wine or craft beer from a local brewery. Self-proclaimed wine connoisseurs can visit Cedar Creek Winery in Cedarburg for a winery tour, wine tasting or to take home bottles of their signature wines. Consider yourself more of a beer lover? Each community in Ozaukee County has a brewery for you to try, and some boast more than one. An

Ozaukee County brewery tour wouldn't be complete without stops at Foxtown Brewing (Mequon), Inventor's Brewpub (Port Washington), Rebellion Brewing (Cedarburg), The Fermentarium (Cedarburg) and Sahale (Grafton).

Moms, sisters, cousins and friends will love exploring Ozaukee County's lakeside, countryside and historic places! For more trip inspiration and to plan your girls' trip, go to ozaukeetourism.com, follow us on Facebook and Instagram or pick up the Ozaukee County Tourism Visitor's Guide at one of the local chambers of commerce/visitor centers!