

# 2026 St. Louis Summer Fun List

## All About Animals

- Aikman Wildlife Adventure – Arcola, IL
- ★Audubon Center at Riverlands – West Alton, MO
- Big Joel's Safari – Wright City, MO
- Critter Lane Petting Zoo – Bonne Terre, MO
- Endangered Wolf Center – Eureka, MO
- ★Grant's Farm – STL (*Free admission, Parking fee*)
- ★Lone Elk Park – Valley Park, MO
- ★Marcoot Jersey Creamery – Greenville, IL
- ★Powder Valley Nature Center – Kirkwood, MO
- Rainbow Ranch Petting Zoo – Nashville, IL
- Sophia Sachs Butterfly House – Chesterfield, MO
- St. Louis Aquarium – St. Louis Union Station
- ★St Louis Zoo – St. Louis (*Parking fee in lots*)
- ★Suson Farm – St. Louis
- ★Treehouse Wildlife Center – Dow, IL
- Warm Springs Ranch – Boonville, MO
- Wild Animal Adventures – Staunton, MO
- ★Willoughby Farm – Collinsville, IL
- World Bird Sanctuary – Valley Park, MO

## Historical Sites

- ★Battle of Pilot Knob State Historic Site – Pilot Knob, MO
- ★Cahokia Mounds – Collinsville, IL
- ★Daniel Boone Home & Village – Defiance, MO  
(*fee for home tour*)
- ★Fort de Chartres – Prairie Du Rocher, IL (*donation*)
- Jefferson Barracks & MO Civil War Museum – St. Louis
- ★Lewis & Clark State Historic Site – Hartford, IL
- ★Lincoln Home National Historic Site – Springfield, IL
- ★Mastodon State Historic Site – Imperial, MO (*museum fee*)
- ★Missouri's 1<sup>st</sup> State Capitol – St. Charles, MO (*fee for tour*)
- Missouri Mines State Historic Site – Park Hills, MO
- ★Sandy Creek Covered Bridge – Hillsboro, MO
- ★Ulysses S. Grant National Historic Site – St. Louis

## Magnificent Museums

- City Museum – St. Louis
- ★Economy Museum – St. Louis
- Edwardsville Children's Museum – Edwardsville, IL
- ★Great Rivers Museum – Alton, IL
- Lewis & Clark Boathouse Museum – St. Charles, MO
- Lincoln Presidential Museum – Springfield, IL

## ★ *Denotes FREE!*

## Magnificent Museums

- Magic House Children's Museum – Kirkwood, MO
- Magic House MADE (Art & STEM) – St. Louis, MO
- ★Missouri History Museum (Kid's Area) – St. Louis
- Museum of Transportation – St. Louis
- ★St. Louis Arch & Museum (*museum free, fee for tram*)
- ★St. Louis Art Museum – St. Louis
- ★St. Louis Science Center – St. Louis (*parking fee*)
- Ste. Genevieve Museum Learning Center – Ste. Gen., MO

## Indoor Fun

- Activate Games – St. Louis
- Adventures of Intrigue – St. Louis
- Altitude Trampoline Park – Glen Carbon, IL
- Amp Up Action Park – Town & Country, MO
- Back to Play – DeSoto, MO
- B&B Theaters – Creve Coeur, MO
- Blossom Play Café – O'Fallon, IL
- City Foundry – Museum of Illusions, Game Show, Escape Game
- Defy – Ballwin
- Edison's Entertainment – Edwardsville, IL
- Escape the Room – St. Louis
- Enchanted Playroom - O'Fallon, MO
- Go Play – Chesterfield & Lake St. Louis, MO
- Grandma's Playroom – St. Louis
- Lava Island – Rock Hill, MO
- Little Diggers – Des Peres, MO
- Little's Loft – Kirkwood, MO
- Kids Bowl Free (Register online, multiple locations)
- Kids Empire – Ballwin, MO
- Kokomo Joes – St. Peter's
- Mac's Family Fun Time – Highland, IL
- Marcus Theaters (Tuesday deals and Kids \$3 movies)
- Playtime Arcade Party Center – Wentzville, MO
- Silly Putter Blacklight Mini Golf – St. Louis
- Sky Zone – Fairview Heights, IL & Fenton, MO
- Slick City – Chesterfield, MO
- St. Louis Carousel – Chesterfield, MO
- The Edge – Belleville, IL
- The Minifig Shop – Kirkwood, MO
- Urban Air – Fairview Heights, Fenton, Cottleville
- Urban Fort – St. Louis
- We Rock the Spectrum Gym – Edwardsville & Fenton
- Wild Sprouts – St. Charles, MO

## Transportation Fun

**Frisco Trail Store** – Valley Park (shop or donate)  
**Grafton Sky Tour Gondola** – Grafton, IL  
**Iron Spike Model Train Museum**-Washington, MO  
**Loop Trolley** – St. Louis  
**Missouri Live Steamers** – Union, MO  
**Monticello Railway Museum** – Monticello, IL  
**Museum of Transportation** – St. Louis  
**Wabash, Frisco, & Pacific Railroad**-Wildwood, MO  
**Ride the ferry** at Grafton, Brussels, St. Genevieve, IL  
**St. Louis Ironton Railway** – Jackson, MO  
**St. Louis Wheel** – STL Union Station

## Take a Tour

**Busch Stadium** – St. Louis  
**Chocolate, Chocolate, Chocolate Co.** – St. Louis  
**Hakuna Matata Cruise** – Grafton, IL  
★**Melvin Price Lock & Dam** – Alton, IL  
**Meramec Caverns**- Sullivan, MO  
**Onondaga Cave State Park** – Leasburg, MO  
**St. Louis Riverboat Tour** – St. Louis  
**Fly Heli St. Louis** – St. Louis Downtown Airport

## Water Parks, Creeks, & Beaches

**Aquaport** – Maryland Heights, MO  
**Bridgeton Crossing Aqua Park** – Bridgeton, MO  
**Carlyle Lake** – Carlyle, IL  
**Chesterfield Family Aquatic Park** – Chesterfield, MO  
**Collinsville Aqua Park** – Collinsville, IL  
**Crestwood Aquatic Center** – Crestwood, MO  
**Fairview Heights Rec Center** – Fairview Heights, IL  
★**Hawn State Park** – Ste. Genevieve, MO  
**Heights Aquatic Center** – Richmond Heights  
★**Indian Camp Creek Park** – Foristell, MO  
★**Johnson's Shut-ins State Park** – Middle Brook, MO  
**Knight's Action Park** – Springfield, IL  
**Korte Rec Center** – Highland, IL  
★**Mastodon State Park** – Kimmswick, MO  
**Manchester Aquatic Center** – Manchester MO  
**Northpointe Aquatic Center** - Ballwin, MO  
**O'Fallon Aquatic Center** – O'Fallon, IL  
**Raging Rivers Aqua Park** – Grafton, IL  
**River Rapids Waterpark** – Ste. Genevieve, MO  
**St. Ann Aquatic Center** – St. Ann, MO  
**Timbers of Eureka Waterpark** – Eureka, MO  
**Wapelhorst Aquatic Center** – St. Charles, MO  
**Webster Groves Aquatic Center** – Webster Groves, MO  
**White Bridge Aquatic Center** – Hazelwood, MO

★ *Denotes FREE!*

## Kid-Friendly Restaurants

**Crown Candy Kitchen** – St. Louis  
**Dairy King** – Breese  
**Fitz's Bottling Co** – St. Louis (2 locations)  
**Fountain on Locust** – St. Louis  
**Hi-Pointe Drive-in** – Various locations  
**Gus's Pretzels** – St. Louis  
**Mission Taco** - Kirkwood  
**Old Spaghetti Factory** – Chesterfield & St. Louis  
**Ted Drewes** – St. Louis  
**Union Station Soda Fountain** – St. Louis

## Outdoor Fun

**Aloha Mini Golf & Shaved Ice** – Valley Park  
★**Braeutigam Orchards** – Belleville, IL  
**Desert Falls Mini Golf** – St. Louis  
**Eckert's Farms** – Belleville, Grafton, Millstadt  
**Falls Rec. Center Mini Golf** – O'Fallon, MO  
**Gateway Grizzlies Game** – Sauget, IL  
**Kayak Rental** – Simpson Lake, Klondike Park, Silver Lake  
★**Laumeier Sculpture Park** – St. Louis  
**Lewis & Clark Confluence Tower** – Hartford, IL  
**Missouri Botanical Garden** – St. Louis  
**Boat rentals at the Boathouse** – Forest Park  
**Six Flags** – Eureka, MO  
**Skyview Drive-in** – Belleville, IL  
**St. Louis Cardinals** – St. Louis  
**Swing Around Fun Town** – St. Charles & Fenton  
**Wow Entertainment Mini-Golf** - Fenton

## Day Trips

★**Abraham Lincoln Sites** – Springfield, IL (some are free)  
★**See the World's Largest Items in Casey, IL**  
(Largest rocking chair, mailbox, golf club, & more)  
★**Explore River City of Cape Girardeau, MO**  
(Conservation area, playgrounds, river murals, history)  
★**Arcadia Valley of Missouri** - (Elephant Rocks, Johnson's Shut-ins, Battle of Pilot Knob in Ironton, MO)  
**Drive River Road to Grafton, IL** (Skytour, Alpine Coaster, Loading Dock, Pere Marquette State Park)  
★**Shawnee National Forest in southern Illinois** (Giant City State Park, Ferne Clyffe, Cave-in-Rock, Boo Castle Park)  
★**Ste. Genevieve, MO** (Museums, waterpark, playground)  
**Washington, MO** by car or by Amtrak - Playground, indoor play area, shops, Iron Spike Train Museum

*\* Visit [Midwestnomads.com](http://Midwestnomads.com) for more daytrips & details*

## Splash Pads (All FREE except where noted)

### Splash Pads in Missouri

**Ackert Park** – University City  
**Brendan's Playground** - O'Fallon, MO  
**Brentwood Park** – Brentwood, MO  
**Citygarden & Kiener Plaza** - St. Louis  
**City Hall Park** - Dardenne Prairie  
**Creve Coeur Park** - Creve Coeur  
**De Soto Athletic Complex** – De Soto, MO  
**Edmundson Park** - Edmundson  
**Eise Park** - Maryland Heights  
**Fogerty Park** - U. City  
**Fox Park** -St. Louis  
**Gateway Arch** – St. Louis  
**Indian Camp Creek** - Foristell  
**Jaycee Park** - St. Charles  
**Kade's Playground** -Herculaneum  
**Kinetic Park** – Dardenne Prairie  
**Koch Park** – Florissant  
**Larry G. Crites Park** – Festus  
**Millennium Park** - Creve Coeur  
**McDonald Park** - St. Louis  
**MO Botanical Garden** - St. Louis (admission required)  
**Musick Park** - Hazelwood  
**Nature Playscape** - Forest Park  
**370 Lakeside Park** - St. Peters  
**O'Day Park** - O'Fallon, MO  
**Route 66 Splash Park** - Sullivan  
**Shaw Park** - Clayton  
**Sylvan Springs Park** - St. Louis  
**Tower Grove Park** - St. Louis  
**Trojan Park** - Wellston  
**Vago Park** - Maryland Heights  
**Veteran's Memorial Park** - Union  
**Veteran's Tribute** - Weldon Spring  
**Wilmore Park** - St. Louis  
**Zachary's Playground** - Lake St. Louis

### Splash Pads in Illinois

**Alton Splash Pad** – Alton, IL  
**Bethalto City Park** – Bethalto, IL  
**Bicentennial Park** – Belleville, IL  
**Dupo Community Park** – Dupo, IL  
**Glazebrook Park** – Godfrey, IL  
**Hartford Park** – Hartford, IL  
**Leon Corlew Park** – Edwardsville, IL  
**O'Fallon Sports Park** - O'Fallon, IL

### Splash Pads in Illinois

**Our Lady of the Snows** – Belleville, IL  
**Scheve Park** – Mascoutah, IL  
**Schranz Park** – Swansea, IL  
**Serenade Park** – Troy, IL  
**Zimmer Park** – Waterloo, IL

### Take a Kid-Friendly Hike

**Al Foster Trail** – Wildwood, MO (Easy)  
**Babler State Park** - Wildwood, MO (Easy)  
**Bee Tree Park** – St. Louis (Easy)  
**Bluff View Trail** – Wildwood (Easy)  
**Cahokia Mounds** – Collinsville, IL (Easy)  
**Castlewood State Park** – Ballwin, MO (Moderate/difficult,cliffs)  
**Cliff Cave Park** – St. Louis (Easy/moderate)  
**Cuivre River State Park** – Troy, MO (Moderate)  
**Elephant Rocks State Park** – Belleview, MO (Easy)  
**Emmenegger Nature Park** – Kirkwood, MO (Easy/moderate)  
**Ferne Clyffe State Park** – Goreville, IL (Easy/moderate)  
**Giant City State park** – Makanda, IL (Easy/moderate)  
**Glassberg Conservation Area** – Eureka, MO (Moderate)  
**Hickory Canyons** – Farmington, MO (Easy/moderate)  
**Klondike Park** – Augusta, MO (Easy/moderate)  
**Kress Farm Garden Preserve** – Hillsboro, MO (Easy/moderate)  
**La Barque Conservation Area** – Pacific, MO (Moderate)  
**Mastodon State Park** – Kimmswick, MO (Easy/moderate)  
**Meramec Spring Park** – St. James, MO  
**Olin Nature Preserve** – Godfrey, IL (Easy/moderate)  
**Pickle Springs** – Ste. Genevieve, MO (Moderate)  
**Powder Valley Nature Center** – Kirkwood, MO (Easy/moderate)  
**Rock Hollow Trail** – Wildwood, MO (Easy)  
**Rockwoods Reservation** – Wildwood, MO (Moderate)  
**Salt Lick Point** – Valmeyer, IL (Moderate/difficult, cliffs)  
**Shaw Nature Reserve** – Gray Summit, MO (Easy/moderate)  
**Silver Lake Trail** – Highland, IL (Easy)  
**St. Francois State Park** – Bonne Terre, MO (Moderate)  
**Valley View Glades** – Hillsboro, MO (Moderate)  
**Watershed Nature Center** – Edwardsville, IL (Easy)  
**Willoughby Farm** – Collinsville, IL (Moderate, hilly)



Midwest Nomad Family



**\* Visit the blog for more great kid hikes!**  
[midwestnomads.com/midwest-travel/](http://midwestnomads.com/midwest-travel/)

★ **Perfect Playgrounds - ALL ARE FREE!** ★

**Airplane/Township Park** – Edwardsville, IL

Two playgrounds, bike trail, restrooms, picnic areas

**Angie's Playground** – Florissant, MO

Huge, fenced inclusive playground with a flower theme

**Boo Memorial Playground** – Carbondale, IL

Must see HUGE castle and dungeons & dragons themed playground, picnic area, gardens, fenced, great day trip!

**Brendan's Playground** – O'Fallon, MO

Bug themed playground. Fenced with a splash pad

**Brentwood Park** – Brentwood, MO

Huge new destination playground, splash pad

**Broemmelsiek Park** – Defiance, MO

Large newer playground, trails

**Central Park** – Chesterfield, MO

New playground with great features

**Crestwood Park** – Crestwood, MO

New playground for kids big and little

**Deer Creek Park** – St. Louis

Rocket themed playground, bike trail, sand play area

**Forest Park Nature Playscape** – Forest Park, STL

Nature play area with water, logs, and more.

**Gordon Moore Park** – Alton, IL

Newer fenced inclusive playground plus several other playgrounds, walking trails, restrooms, and gardens.

**Hannah's Playground** – Breese, IL

Farm themed inclusive playground, fenced, restrooms

**Hawk Ridge (Zachary's Playground)** – Lake St. Louis

Inclusive fenced playground with a castle theme, restrooms, and splash pad.

**Highland Park** – Richmond Heights, MO

Unique ninja like climbers and slides, no restrooms

**Kinetic Park** – Dardenne Prairie, MO

Huge new playground plus pump track & indoor climbing

**Jake's Field of Dreams** – Wentzville, MO

One of the best playgrounds with a sports theme & a kid-sized Busch Stadium, fenced & restrooms

**Jaycee Park** – St. Charles, MO

Nature themed inclusive and fenced play area with splash play area and restrooms.

**Kade's Playground** – Herculaneum, MO

Amazing Pompeii themed playground with volcano slide and large splash pad. Restrooms and fence.

**Longview Farm Park** – Town & County, MO

Cute farm themed play area, trails, restrooms, horses

**McAuley Playground** – Cottleville, MO

Irish themed playground that is inclusive and fenced.

**Millennium Park** – Creve Coeur, MO

New and large inclusive playground & splash pad

**Moody (Longacre) Park** – Fairview Heights, IL

Partially fenced nature themed play area with restrooms.

**O'Day Park** – O'Fallon, MO

Unique ninja style play area. Use caution on the splash pad due to sharp concrete blocks.

**Oglesby Park** – Foristell, Mo

Huge destination playground, lake, trails, restrooms.

**Ollie's Fun Forest** – St. Peters, MO

New fenced, inclusive playground with a nature theme

**O'Fallon Community Park** – O'Fallon, IL

New accessible playground with a train theme

**Queeney Park** – St. Louis

Fun board game themed inclusive playground

**Rinderer Park** – Highland, IL

Fenced inclusive playground with zipline, restrooms.

**Schranz Memorial Park** – Swansea, IL

A great castle themed playground & small splash pad

**Shaw Park** – Clayton, MO

Two fun playgrounds & splash pad

**The Heights Playground** – Richmond Heights, MO

Fenced fun play area plus a nature play area

**Tilles Park** – St. Louis

Large playground and splash fountain.

**Veterans Tribute Park** – Weldon Spring, MO

Unique and huge playground with a splash play area.

**Vlasis Park** - Ballwin, MO

Large new playground with fun features

**Watson Trail Park** – Sunset Hills, MO

Multiple fun playgrounds plus trails and a lake

**Wildwood Community Park** – Wildwood, MO

One of the best nature themed playgrounds with unique features, a creek, and clean restrooms.

**Wonderland Playground** – Forest Park, St. Louis

Inclusive playground next to the Forest Park Visitor Center