



ILLINOIS. MILE AFTER MAGNIFICENT MILE.

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FAMILY-FOCUSED WEB SITE MAKES TRAVEL EVEN EASIER IN ILLINOIS

Illinois' Kidventures site provides ideas and tips to make travel fun for the whole family

CHICAGO – Families looking for the ideal travel resource will find fun ideas, unique trips and kid-friendly locations at the Illinois Office of Tourism's family travel Web site, Kidventures (enjoyillinois.com/kidventures). Kidventures is the all-in-one online resource for "What to do," "Where to eat," and "Where to stay" for families in Illinois. Parenting expert and media personality Emily Kaufman, best known as "The Travel Mom," has teamed up with the Office of Tourism to provide helpful tips for traveling with kids.

Illinois offers seasonal family-friendly getaways, and the new Kidventures site is the first place to stop when planning big fun for little ones in the Land of Lincoln. The site showcases the best of pint-sized offerings catering to kids ages two through 12 and their families. In Chicago, the Swissôtel has special museum-themed kid's rooms that are decked out with a variety of toys, a play area and special DVD programs. In Peoria, Wildlife Prairie State Park offers the unique opportunity to sleep in a train caboose on the edge of the Bison and Elk range. Kids who turn in for night at the Starved Rock Lodge in Utica will be treated to bedtime storytelling.

"Traveling with family can be fun, but it can also be stressful which is why I've created the helpful hints on the Kidventures site," said Emily Kaufman, The Travel Mom. "My tips come from personal experience and cover everything from how to find great values to making sure parents don't over schedule their trips. Travel is about relaxing and having fun, and my tips help ensure families can enjoy their time together."

The Illinois Office of Tourism offers information on attractions, events, accommodations and getaway ideas on the Office's Web site, enjoyillinois.com, or by calling **800-2CONNECT**. To assist them with their planning, travelers can also obtain free guides from Tourist Information Centers, local convention and visitors bureaus, or regional tourism development offices across the state.

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EDITOR'S NOTE: Media materials and downloadable images are now available on the Illinois Bureau of Tourism online media center at illinoismediacenter.com. Additional photography, available electronically, may be obtained by contacting Lisa Dorfman at lisa.dorfman@edelman.com, 312-552-1165.

The Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, Office of Tourism manages industry efforts that result in sustainable and significant economic and quality-of-life benefits for Illinois residents.

Governor Pat Quinn

Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, Office of Tourism