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2024 OFFICIAL BRANSON VACATION GUIDE

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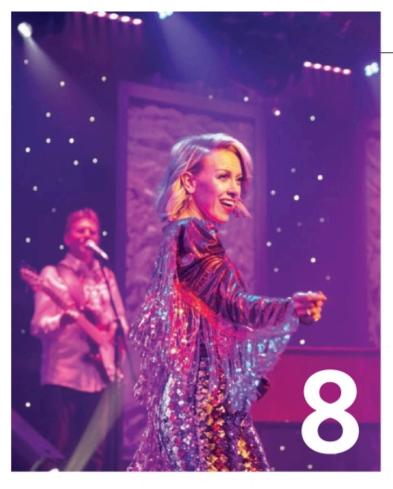
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CONNECT WITH U

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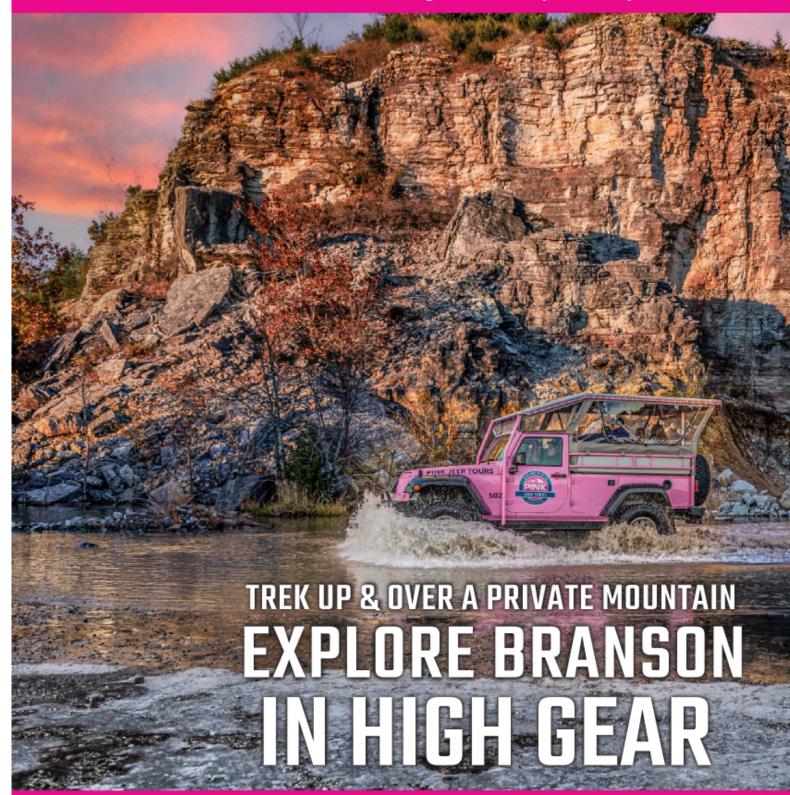


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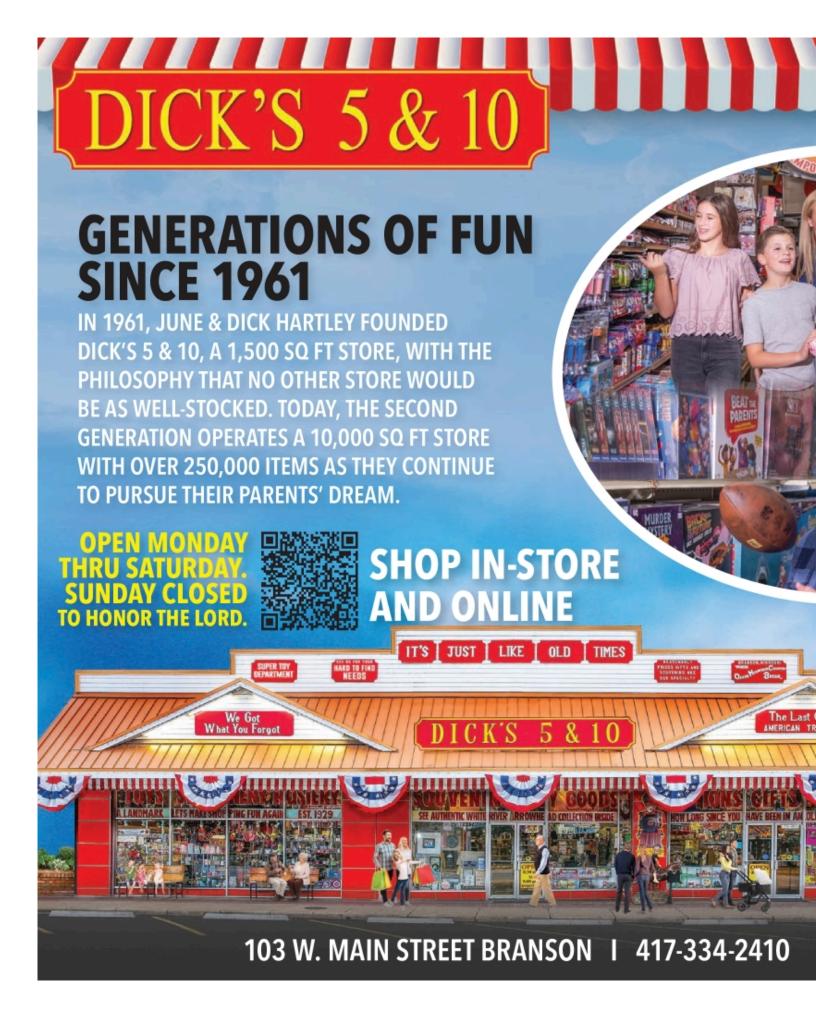
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Fax: 417-334-2190 FlyBranson.com

Located just south of Branson.



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STONES * SEQUES



WHAT IT TAKES TO STYLE

ANNIE SOWELL







Branson show.

occasion—not to mention the ing, hemming, and repair numerous. While the attent not be fully known by an audistruly the difference between

GRAND COUN' MUSIC HALL

With eight live performance show, Grand Country Music Megan Williams, keeps a bust responsible for the ward those eight performances, consists of choosing and stake is also responsible for tenance of current items. Stravel to attend wholesale into source their items, as the onstage are very important performances overall. "My of has always been that the care the scenery," shares G

As we wander down hallways between dressing rooms at Grand Country Music Hall, I catch glimpses through doorways of sequins and rhinestones adorning jackets, shoes, and nearly any other item of apparel imaginable.

With only an hour until showtime, performers and musicians trickle in and begin readying themselves to grace the stage. While they see and sport their onstage attire almost daily, the items that fill their brimming closets hypnotize me, which is no accident.

The talent of Branson's performers accompanied by the intentional designs of their wardrobes operate to keep an audience member's eyes glued to the stage. The lights, music, attire, and smiling faces weave together a mesmerizing performance for audiences year-round. The hours of measuring, designing, styling, and dressing for the

Mike Patrick with
Grand Jubilee wearing
suit designer Jaime
Castaneda's work,
which brings unique,
rhinestone-studded
Western wear to the
Branson stage. He
studied under Nudie
Cohn, famous for
styling greats like Elvis
Presley, Hank Williams,
John Wayne, and more.

Country Music Hall Emcee and Producer, Mike Patrick. "You can't change the scenery on [our] stage, so nobody ever walks onstage twice in the same outfit... because that's our scenery." From the sequins and rhinestones that catch the light onstage down to the vibrant neon green—or hot pink, yellow, or aqua—western boots worn by Mike, every detail is meant to complement the talent of the performer.

One special aspect, apart from the glitz and glam that Grand Country utilizes, is theming. You may notice that one certain character of Grand Jubilee, Jim Dandy, is a man of many talents with one signature color—orange. By dressing him either with elements of orange in every look or from head to toe in orange for some, he must wear orange on the stage. This is a detail that is taken into account when planning new costumes. As Williams and Patrick shared, whenever they see anything orange, they buy it.





The second secon

SIGHT & SOUND THEATRE

When QUEEN ESTHER hit the stage of Branson's Sight & Sound Theatre in early 2023, word spread quickly of the magnificent costuming and wardrobe. Adorned in rhinestones, jewels, and sequins truly fit for a queen, this show leaves audiences in awe.

From the start of each Sight & Sound production, the costume design team is involved, conceptualizing the wardrobe to complement the story, themes, and time period. In the case of QUEEN ESTHER, the goal was for the audience to be transported into the Persian Empire, and with the show taking place primarily in the palace, the colors and designs had to be fit for royalty. The costume designers set to work, creating looks with grand silhouettes and "lots of sparkle." In order to draw attention to the main characters of the story, they gave each one a specific color scheme

to help the au easily identify t

Every costu
& Sound prod
that production
factors to be co
ing the collect
should be easy to
within 30 second
needs to be ab
dance according
characters ride
performance, so
be durable and co
activity as need

As the been ers enter the moments when their garment and in the best ble way. Queen specifically cation and beautiful story from standardiences inspecifically



I remember as a young girl being absolutely captivated by the saloon girls' dresses: the way the ruffles accentuate every slight motion and catch the stage lighting with each kick and twirl. Blending the new with the old as Silver Dollar City does best, the wardrobe for the Frontier Follies Saloon Show makes use of a variety of fabrics that maintains the traditional style of old-time saloon shows but prioritizes mobility and longevity for the activity involved in the performances.

The iconic saloon girl skirts feature ruffles in flashy, vibrant

colors, meant to catch the eye of audience members with each kick and spin.

Beverly Almond, Silver Dollar City's costuming supervisor, researches vintage photos, past shows, and Western films to curate the Frontier Follies Saloon Show's costumes. In 2023, she added special details to them for its 50th celebration, including a trim of gold on each one.

The costumes for this fun and upbeat show must also be fun and upbeat, but they must also include the elements of 1800s performance styles and showmanship. The Silver Dollar City costuming team works to make the wardrobes authentic to the time

while also exceptionally impressive for all audiences to enjoy today. As Williams carefully shufcollection in her workspace Country Music Hall, she with me about times that hand-placed each rhinestoning various items through room. Particularly, there we polka-dotted suit jackets, we placed a rhinestone on each of jackets; she notes that when saw the way the jackets castage lights, they were all blooms.

Branson's theatres are some of the brightest creat talent, and that extends to exfully placed rhinestone you talent of our performers and to be applauded, and as they bow at the end of your next show, I am sure you'll find newly in awe of the lovingly owardrobes you've seen on st







PRESLEYS'
COUNTRY JUBILEE

Over the years, multiple generations of the Presley family have graced the stage and dazzled with their stylish flair. I know that for myself, when I think of classic Branson style, I think of the Presley family. They take their costuming very seriously, and according to Eric Presley, the show wardrobe for each season is a collaborative effort between the generations. They create costumes to please all tastes of their performers but maintain the standards of showmanship that have been in place for over 56 years.

O The Presleys the character or perfitems to take into a style and taste

A large consid that will be perforn look: Is it fun, seri The emotion evok often determines t

The final consolook showy? From to rhinestones pieces selected noting from the stagknown Presley standividual costum songs are special, stone-trimmed the Presleys' Coutainers wear are These iconic jacknown and never ences with each person to the present the presleys' coutainers wear are these iconic jacknown and never ences with each person to the present the pres



WAKES, WAVES, FIND WATERSPORTS Table Rock La

How many times have you been out on the water and wante get out of your comfort zone, but let your fear get the best of

By LAUREN HUSTEAD

Learning a new watersport can be challenging, both mentally and physically, but the satisfaction that comes in the wake of the struggle can be the most rewarding part. As someone who grew up around the lake but was never taught any watersports, it was daunting to have joined a new group of friends that all seemed to have 15+ years of experience under their belts. Even as I was entering my 20s, it seemed like I would never reach their skill level. Luckily, I joined a great group of friends who were willing to show me the ropes and never quit on me, just like I didn't quit even after it took me

a full day of struggling to stay upright on comskis. Although it took me almost a full summer becoming more comfortable on the water to press to a slalom, the day finally arrived that I wable to ski steadily and swerve across the walk No matter your skill-level, this article will go depth on Table Rock Lake watersports, how to started, and some quick tips and tricks to reme ber before going out on the water. My hope is give watersport enthusiasts of all ages the courate to take a breath, get back up, and always have for See you out there!



Combo Skiing

This is a beginner-friendly sport and c to work on balance and gain confider



WHAT YOU NEED:







life jacket

ski rope

direct driv outboard boat

HOW IT WORKS:

Combo skiing attaches one ski to each foo out of the water at 25–28 mph from a crou

GET STARTED:

With your knees tucked into your chest an focus on staying leaned back until the rope pressure and pulls you out of the water.

REMEMBER!

You can always blame the boat driver if you up on your first few tries; we call this a "dr

HISTORY OF INSHORE WATERSPORTS

Watersports date back further in time than most realize. From surfing off the coast of Polynesia and Hawaii in the 1700s, to the first aquaplane board that skimmed across the water while being towed in the early 1900s, it is no question that humans are attracted to riding waves.

1700s

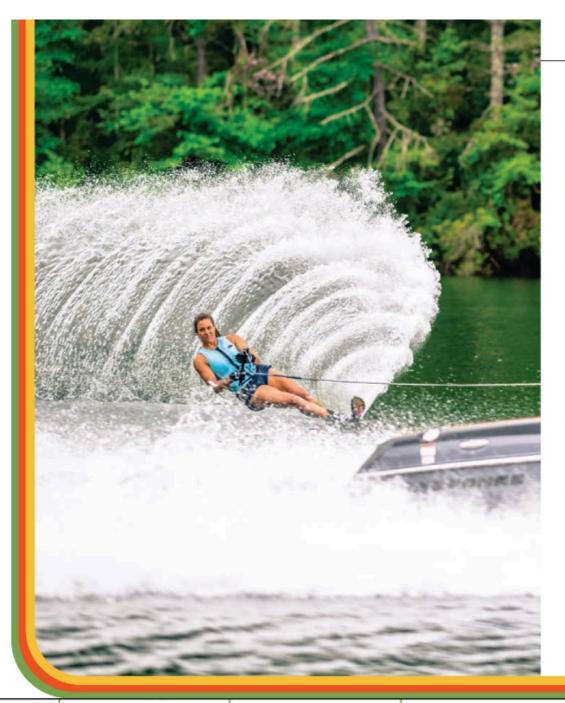
Surfing off the coast of Polynesia and Hawaii is popularized.



o 1900s

The first aquaplane board skims across the water while being towed. 1922

Ralph two pi leathe as skis behind boat, l world'



Slalom Skiin

Slalom skiing is a more intermedia ideal for someone who is comfor and wants to gain speed.

INTERMEDIA

WHAT YOU NEED:







life jacket

ski rope direct bo

HOW IT WORKS:

Unlike combo skiing, slalom skiing use your feet staggered in bindings.

GET STARTED:

Stepping up to a slalom will allow you t 28 to 36 mph and start carving on the to know you're ready to step up to a sla one foot up off the water while combo

REMEMBER!

Ever heard the phrase "early bird gets Table Rock Lake, the "early skier gets

1958

Manufacturers create boats just for water skiing; Table Rock Lake is built.

1980s

Banana boards, skurf boards, and kneeboards become the hottest products on the market; "skiboarding," a mix between water skiing and surfing, is revolutionized.

1985

California surfer Tony
Finn develops the
Skurfer, the precursor
of wakeboarding, which
is a smaller surflike
board designed to ride a
boat wake and perform
aerial maneuvers.

1990s

Wakeboarding is handed the symbolic watersport torch and continues to make its mark as one of the most popular watersports to this day.

20 Sur

beh gai boa imp tec big

wal



WHAT DO YOU SKI?

Feeling confident? Try out one of the four slalom ski courses on Table Rock Lake. The goal is to swerve around the outside of six buoys in a zigzag course without falling or missing a buoy in consecutive passes.

There are four public ski courses scattered across Table Rock Lake that can be used to master your skills. As you progress in the skiing world, you will be asked "What do you ski?" to which you would reply "I ski [length of line] off at [mph]," o for example, "I ski 15' off at 33 mph.

For reference, pro water skiers hold world records of 41' off at 34.2 mpl for women and 43' off at 36 mph fo men. Practice enough, you might be the next world-record holder!

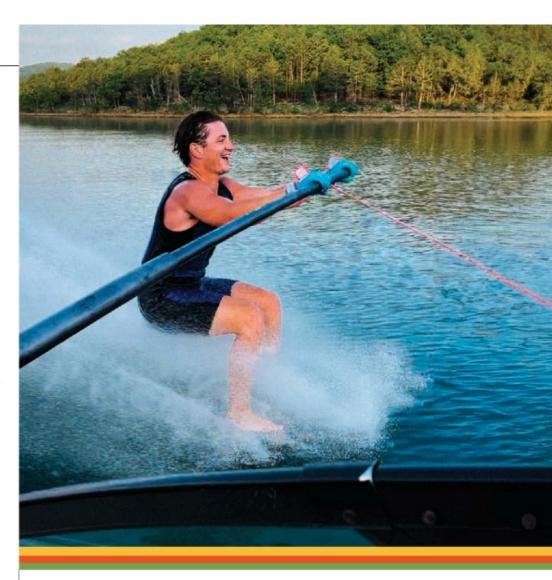


NO BOAT? NO PROBLEM.

The best part about Table Rock Lake is that there is something for everyone to enjoy. If you do not have access to a boat, try paddleboarding or kayaking. These two sports are beginner friendly and only require a paddleboard or kayak, a personal floatation device, and a paddle.

While kayaks are made to be sat in, a SUP, or stand-up paddleboard, is a great core workout as you push the board with strong paddle movements.

Keep your feet shoulder width apart and stand up slowly on the board before starting to perform forward, reverse, and sweep strokes.



Barefoot Skiing

Barefooting is the most extreme version of this sport and will take prior training to excel. Make sure to wear a barefoot suit with full padding, because those falls might stick with you!



EXPERT

WHAT YOU NEED:







barefoot boom



direct drive boat



a good attitude

HOW IT WOR

Barefoot skiing is in the combo and slalom, minu boat reaching speeds of glide on top of the water as your bare feet skim al

GET STARTE

Most people learn to ba a metal bar that attache extends off the side of t attaches to the bow for

REMEMBER!

Trust me, this is a seriou adrenaline junkies of th barefooting at least one



INTERMEDIATE

advice: "Don't let go until your nose hits the water."

WHAT YOU NEED:











HOW IT WORKS:

Unlike a direct drive, a V-Drive places the engine at boat, creating a deeper imprint in the water and ma Most wake boats use ballast systems to throw bigge wake tower as a substitute for a ski pylon. The ski ro tower, making it easier to catch air when wakeboard

GET STARTED:

A wakeboarder will start with both feet strapped in bindings, knees bent, and elbows tucked into their boat starts moving at 16-19 mph, a wakeboarder w to the board and get pulled up into a sideways stan

REMEMBER!

Once comfortable crossing the wake and controlli boards movements, you can attempt advanced trigiumping wake to wake or doing aerial flips.





Marinas & Food on the Water

All marinas listed have rental boats, gas docks, waterfront restaurants, and boat ramp access.

WEST SIDE:

Baxter Marina

 Ride the Wave Bar & Grill

Campbell Point Marina

· Watson's on the Water

Hideaway Marina

· Hideaway Grill & BBQ

Cape Fair Marina

· Stuffed and Pressed

EAST SIDE:

Cricket Creek Marina

· Hunt Brothers Pizza

State Park Marina

Café Bridges

Rock Lane Marina

 Rock Island Grill and Tiki Bar

Indian Point Marina

- · The Floating Cafe
- · Pro Shop: Ski Shack

Port of Kimberling Marina

- Pier 28 Pizza
- Pro Shop: Williams Bros. Ski and Sports



Wake Surfing

Wake surfing happens much closer to the back of the boat, allowing surfers to ride the wave directly behind the swim platform. This will require a shorter rope and a board specific for wake surfing.



BEGINNER

WHAT YOU NEED:



life

jacket



rope





V-Drive wake boat

wakesurf board

HOW IT WORKS:

Getting up on a wakesurf boa riding a wakeboard, but there bindings to hold your feet ste

GET STARTED:

Once the boat starts moving a you will dig your heels in to po into a sideways standing posit the board, surfers can throw to into the boat and start carving

REMEMBER!

Always remember to only wa inboard boat, not an outboar outboard (I/O). This means the will not be exposed to the rid the chance of contact.



Wake Foiling

This sport uses a wakesurf board with a mast connecting to a longer fin called a foil resembling airplane wings.



WHAT YOU NEED:









life jacket

wakefoil

V-Drive wake boat

attitude

HOW IT WORKS:

The foil is designed to lift the board out of the water at 8-12mph and can cruise directly behind the swim platform or as a deep-water start.

GET STARTED:

For beginners, start at slow speeds of 4-7 mph and keep your feet flat on the board as you are gently pulled up.

REMEMBER!

Cruising slowly with enough front-foot pressure to keep the board flat on the water is the best way to get comfortable with how the foil reacts to your body position. Once you're ready, you can drop the rope and start pumping your legs to continue riding the waves and elevating the foil out of the water.

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> Eng who wat the

> > Wak in t allo and



EXPLOREBRANSON.COM



As the subject of mindful tourism has become a topic of conversation amongst travelers, businesses in numerous destinations are taking steps to reduce their environmental impact, energy usage, and material waste.

Branson is no exception! As we are all becoming more aware of the effects of our everyday actions, purchases, and overall consumption, Branson businesses are making choices that take into account their costs related to energy and waste, their energy usage and the potential for alternative energy methods, and their environmental impact both during construction and in their overall operation. Keep reading to learn about these Branson attractions and businesses.

HOWLER BIKE PARK

3410 US-65, Walnut Shade, MO

Howler Bike Park opened in the Ozarks in 2022, drawing riders and outdoor sports enthusiasts from



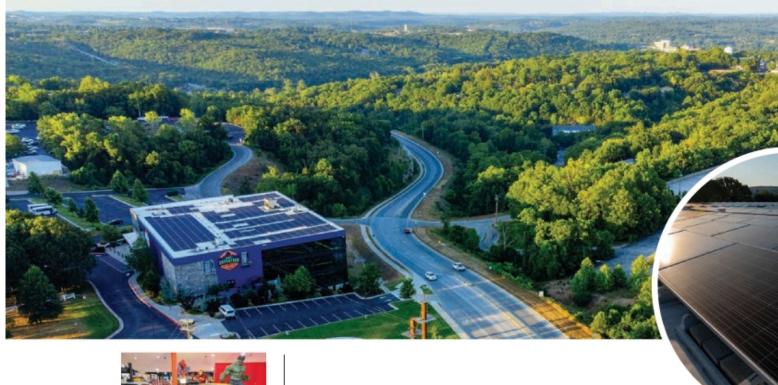
near and far. Howler built the park in harmony with the natural beauty and terrain of the Ozarks while constructing and maintaining trails that are well worth long-distance travel. Their main building, known as "Basecamp," was created using six repurposed shipping containers, and another one serves as a first-aid station. With activities and trails to accommodate all levels of experience, Howler has responsibly built a facility on their 200 acres that allows all to experience the outdoors with no negative environmental impact. It's a great addition for all lovers of the outdoors who visit Branson—and who are eco-conscious.



3 MINU Bear Cr offers s adventu Explore guides, natural As travelers are taking into consideration the environmental impatheir adventures, Branson is a destination taking sustainable actio

A DESTINATION THAT CARES FOR THE EA

The beauty of the Ozark Mountains serves as a reminder to each of us every day the gift that we have in this amazing planet, and we w





4 MINUTE WALK Branson Celebrity Car Museum

showcases a diverse collection of iconic vehicles, ranging from movie cars to vintage automobiles.

FRITZ'S ADVENTURE

1425 W. 76 Country Boulevard, Branson, MO

In addition to the obvious repurposing of shipping containers used for indoor play equipment, Fritz's Adventure boasts an impressive spread of solar panels atop their massive building. As of 2019, their roof is home to 393 solar modules, which work to reduce their energy usage and costs. It is projected at this time that they have saved approximately 1,130,502.25

pounds of carbon dioxide emissions, which is the equivalent of nearly 8,542 tre

If you've visited Fritz's Arknow how large the facility is energy is required to light an operations. This effort to mo operate their business is making not only to their own business the benefit of our environment.

FRITZ'S ADVENTURE
BYTHE
NUMBERS

393

1 MILLION
POUNDS

8,542 P L A I



TOTALLY RAD E-BIKES

1615 State Hwy. 76, Branson, MO (plus other locations)

One of Branson's newest additions, Totally Rad E-Bikes, offers rides through Branson in a way that hasn't been available before! Not only reducing your emissions, these e-bikes are an eco-friendly and fun way to see Branson. These throttle-assisted class 2 e-bikes are street legal—and should be driven on the streets—and go up to speeds around 20 mph.



SPARKY THE

Sparky the Trolley is a free service, running on a route around Historic Downtown Branson. With 13 stops throughout Downtown, at the Branson Landing, and along Lake Taneycomo, this allows you to make your way around town in a cost-effective and eco-conscious way. You're able to park at any point around the area and head to the nearest stop to catch the trolley.

For most of the year, the trolleys run each day of the week from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. \$\mathscr{G}\$



TUNE IN TO AMERICA'S TOP

DESTINATION

2024 OFFICIAL BRANSON V

WHAT TO LOOK FOR IN 2024



Where Jesus Walked

The production of Where Jesus Walked is non-denominational and is taken directly from the Bible. This experience is for everyone-Christians and non-Christians, historians, art lovers, music lovers, travel enthusiasts, and more. This one-of-a-kind production is in 360° surround video and surround sound. The projected images are selected from thousands of famous photographs taken by Ken Duncan and cover the entire 100-mile area Jesus traversed in his lifetime. Movement, music, and narration are added to the still photographs to create a breathtaking experience. Where Jesus Walked is produced and owned by XPR Media, Toronto Canada, a major creative consultant for the Vincent van Gogh Immersive showing all over the United States and around the world. The **Dutton Family Theater** offers comfortable reserved seating for this experience.

AMERICANA THEATRE

- All-Star New Years Eve Show
- · America's Top Country Hits
- · Awesome 80's
- · Best of Motown and More
- British Invasion
- · Broadway to Buble®: George Dyer
- C.J. Newsom's Classic Country & Comedy
- · ELVIS: Story of a King
- Matthew Boyce's Retro Christmas Spectacular
- · Once Upon a Fairytale
- Rock Icons at Americana Theatre
- · Southern Gospel Sundays

BRANSON EVENT CENTER

- Rock U: 101
- · "The Hits" Christmas Show
- · "The Hits" Starring David Brooks

BRANSON HOT HITS THEATRE

- · Doo Wop & More
- · Motown Downtown
- · Patsy to Patsy
- Platters & Golden Sounds of the 50s

BRANSON MAGIC THEATER

· El Mago Pop

CLAY COOPER THEATRE

- · #1 Hits of the 60's
- Clay Cooper's Country Express
- Clay Cooper's Country Express Christmas

- · The Clay-Goods Jambor-Eve
- · Dean Z The Ultimate Elvis
- · Dean Z The Ultimate Elvis Christmas
- · The Haygoods
- The Haygoods Christmas Extravaganza
- · Hot Rods & High Heels
- · Hot Rods & High Heels 1950s Chirstmas
- · Kidz Rock: Talent on Parade
- · Matt Gumm LIVE
- · Paul Harris & The Cleverlys
- · The Terry Bradshaw Show

DICK CLARK'S AMERICAN BANDSTAND THEATER

- Buckets N Boards Comedy Percussion Show
- · Legends in Concert
- · Legends in Concert Christmas Show
- Legends in Concert New Years Eve Show
- · Legends of Country
- · SIX
- · SIX Christmas Show

DOLLY PARTON'S STAMPEDE

- · Dolly Parton's Christmas Show
- Dolly Parton's Stampede

THE DUTTON FAMILY THEATER

- The Duttons
- · Where Jesus Walked

THE FREEDOM ENCOUNTER THEATER

· Freedom Journey Show

GRAND COUNTRY

- Amazing Pets
- · Branson Country
- Comedy Jambore
- Down Home Cour
- Grand Jubilee
- · New South Gospe
- Ozarks Country
- Ozarks Gospel

HAMNERS' VARIE

- ABBA Tribute-Than
- · Back to the Bee G
- Beach Boys Califo
- · Hamners' New Ye
- Hamners' Unbeliev
- Hamners' Unbelie
- Mike Walker Lastir

HUGHES BROTHE

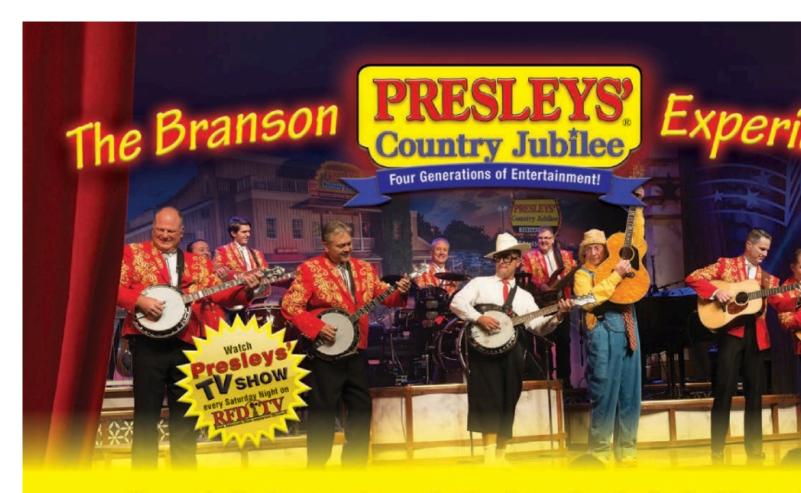
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- Cassandre' The Vo Christmas Specta
- Dalena Ditto's Co
- · Escape Reality N
- · Hughes Brothers
- Hughes Brothers
- Hughes Music Sho
- Re-Vibe

JACKIE B. GOODE CAFE

Rotating Lineup







If you are looking for entertainment, there's no better place than Presleys' Country of At Presleys' there's a little something for everyone, no matter how young you a or where you call home. In 2024 Presleys' is celebrating 57 years on Hwy 76, so come and see what an evening of music and fun can do for you and your family.



WHAT TO LOOK FOR IN 2024



El Mago Pop

Antonio Díaz, El Mago Pop, is the highest grossing European illusionist in the world (Forbes), the youngest illusionist in history to present his own show on Broadway, and the first European to do so. His magic is broadcast in nearly 200 countries on Netflix and Discovery Channel, Inspired by the idea of challenging the limits of the impossible, El Mago Pop takes a journey through the extraordinary. Through a show defined by surprise, fantasy, sensibility, rhythm and emotion, patrons experience Antonio Díaz's close-up magic and his most unusual and spectacular illusions. Opening at his Branson Magic Theater, El Mago Pop invites you to come see his tribute to life and to the hope it instills in us.

FOR MORE LIVE MUSIC SHOW FUN

GO TO PAGE

To go behind the scenes in theater costuming!





JERRY PRESLEY'S GOD & COUNTRY THEATRES

- A Chicago Tribute
- · A George Straight & Friends Tribute
- · Absolutely Country Definitely Gospel
- · An Elton John Tribute
- Carpenters Once More
- · Jerry Presley "Elvis LIVE!" Aloha From Hawaii
- · Jerry Presley "Elvis LIVE!" Christmas
- · Jerry Presley "Elvis LIVE!" Gospel Concert with the Blackwood Singers
- · Jerry Presley "Elvis LIVE!" Madison Square Garden
- · Jerry Presley "Elvis LIVE!" The Final Concert
- Neil Diamond Tribute
- · The Sons Music Celebration

KING'S CASTLE THEATRE

- · Anthems of Rock
- · Branson's Christmas Wonderland
- · Dublin's Irish Tenors & The Celtic Ladies - A Celtic Christmas
- · Dublin's Irish Tenors & The Celtic Ladies featuring Irish Dance Stars
- · Ultimate 70's Show
- New Jersey Nights

LITTLE OPRY THEATRE

- · George Jones, Haggard & Friends
- · The Petersens
- · Rick McEwen Presents The Gambler
- · Sanders Family Christmas
- · Smoke on the Mountain
- · Sons of Britches

THE MAJESTIC THEATRE

- Branson Murder Mystery
- · Murder by Eggnog

THE MANSION THEATRE FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

- · The Bellamy Brothers
- · Daniel O'Donnell
- · Gatlin Brothers
- Gene Watson
- · Jimmy Fortune

MICKEY GILLEY GRAND SHANGHAI THEATRE

- · Grand Shanghai Circus Amazing Acrobats
- · Illusionist Rick Thomas Mansion of Dreams
- · James Taylor Soft Rock of the 70s & 80s Tribute
- · Texas Tenors
- · Texas Tenors in "Deep in The Heart of Christmas"

PIERCE ARROW THEATER

- · Pierce Arrow Country
- · Pierce Arrow Presents Decades
- · Pierce Arrow New Year's Eve Party

PLAYHOUSE DINNER THEATER AT SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS

- A Christmas Story Dinner Show
- · Great American Chuck Wagon Dinner Show
- · Goldwing Express Morning Show
- · Million Dollar Quartet Dinner Show
- · WhoDunnit Hoedown Murder Mystery Dinner Show

PRESLEYS' COUN

- Presleys' Country
- · Presleys' Country

REZA LIVE THEAT

- Doug Gabriel's #1
- · Jay Osmond LIVE
- · REZA "Edge of Illu

SHEPHERD OF TH **OUTDOOR THEAT**

- · Shepherd of the H
- · Shepherd of the H + Buck's BBQ & B Pre-Show Dinner
- · Wild West Murder

SHOWBOAT BRAN **BRANSON BELLE**

- Showboat Branson
- Showboat Branson
- · Showboat Branson Pancakes & PJs

SIGHT & SOUND 1

- Miracle of Christn
- QUEEN ESTHER

YAKOV'S THEATR

YAKOV





listir Exp artic dire shov

For

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Sight & Sound's Queen Esther Dolly Parton's Stampede



Showboat Branson Belle

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KICKIN' IT

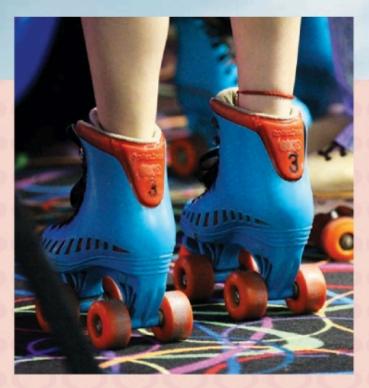
Figure 1 Company of the company of t

34 * EXPLOREBRANSON.COM

You're starting to see Patterned tailored bell-bottomed jear eye shadow, and Tof bands with real on them (JUST KIE Let's face it-retro a comeback. We

our TV shows and in the soundtract favorite movies where can you to experience it fit. The name's Miss

Branson, Missour



SKATE WORLD

To many, roller skating was more than a mere pastime; it was a passion. Playing rink games with friends, the aroma of hot dogs and pizza lingering in the air, feeling free and fearless as you speed past fellow skaters, trying out new moves that make you feel like a superstar, it all contributes to an exciting night out with friends and loved ones. While roller rinks may not be as popular today as they once were, that doesn't make them any less fun. Skate World is the only skating rink in Branson and hosts all the classic games and snacks that will send you spiraling back into the '70s and '80s.

1984 BRANSON ARCADE

What is more reminiscent of the '80s than an arcade filled with pixelated screens and teens carrying around bags of quarters while they hover over the shoulders of champions? 1984 Branson Arcade offers the same classic games and doesn't require the bag of quarters to play. With one entry fee, you will have access to their preservation museum, an '80s themed lounge, and arcade games from the '70s all the way up to the occasional '90s. The only activities that require quarters are pinball, air hockey, and prize machines. Will you make it to the leaderboard as the next Donkey Kong dominator?

I feel THE NEED the need, for speed

-MAVERICK, TOP GUN (1986)







RETROMANIA

Retromania is the epitome of '80s nostalgia in Branson. Sit in a movie theater with friendly Gremlins, play a round of black-light mini golf with musical legends, take a walk through the '80s museum, and admire the decorative movie props and memorabilia throughout the place. Did I mention they

have escape room and a haunted hou monsters lik

Fredo figur every several c pictures wit ite retro charac all that Pac-Man Get a bite to eat at on the other side of menu consists of c cuisine and offers well, making for a a tubular place to you won't leave w back," but just be Austrian accent.

CAKES-N-CREAMS 50'S DINER & DRIVE-IN

By definition, the '50s technically aren't considered "retro" anymore. That said, vintage diners were known to be an affordable, "cool" hangout spot for friends and a resting place for weary travelers up until the fast-food industry began to supersede them in the 1970s. Founded in 1981, Cakesn-Creams 50's Diner has been an iconic doppelganger to these classic joints and does a swell job at keeping the retro-feel alive. They serve funnel cakes, burgers, banana splits, sandwiches-nostalgic fare for our old-fashioned foodies out there. And, as if it couldn't get any better, behind the diner is the American 76, a free drive-in replica that plays "classic movies, '50s trailers, and era shows" from spring break until fall each year. "Be there or be square."



MEL'S HARD LUCK DINER

Another beloved Branson eatery is Mel's Hard Luck Diner, a '50s-fashioned, music-themed establishment with a talented singing staff. At Mel's diner, you will be welcomed and waited upon by professional singers and musicians, some of which

make an appearance in po around town. Delight in Chef Salad" as your main "Great Balls of Ice Crear you're a true retro fan, the diners' aesthetic mer period references in their



AUDREY II, LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS (1

MR. B'S ICE CREAM PARLOR

As Dorothy put it, "There's no place like home," and that's exactly what Mr. B's Ice Cream Parlor has called Downtown Branson for over 40 years. Mr. B's has remained the oldest ice-cream shop in town—and it shows. The black-and-white-tiled floor, the red-and-white-striped awning, Coca-Cola signs and other antiques adorning the parlor's interior; everything about Mr. B's reflects a comforting and nostal-gic atmosphere to accompany their delicious dessert and snack menu.

MELLOW MUSHROOM

Ah, the '70s. Peace and platforms. An eccentric sense of art and style. While the trending decade of today, Branson still favors the flower children. Let skinny. Mellow Mushroom, a pizza joint founded in Atlanta, Georgia, in 19 using the freshest, healthiest ingredients to craft their groovy cuisine. Me crib is enriched with psychedelic artistry, and if that's something that you'd a whole clothing line of trippy threads. So, if you happen to find yourself he ing the Branson Landing, be sure to "veg out" at the Mellow Mushroom. "

MILLION DOLLAR QUARTET DINNER SHOW

Inside a small recording studio in the late 1950s, a milestone in music history was made. Elvis Presley, Carl Perkins, Johnny Cash, and Jerry Lee Lewis came together for one of the greatest jam sessions known to man. Million Dollar Quartet is a musical drama that follows the boys back to Sam Phillips' studio, the legendary producer coined as the inventor of rock 'n' roll, where they have a wild, rockin' time. Enjoy a delectable dinner as you tap your foot to "Great Balls of Fire," "Hound Dog," and many more legendary hits.

THE ULTIMATE 70'S SHOW-DANCING QUEEN

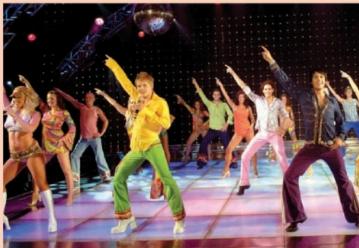
If you've never done the "Y.M.C.A." dance or jumped around to "We Are Family," where have you been for the last five decades? It's no wonder why songs from the '70s are played at almost every party and special event—they make you want to boogie down! If you're looking to get your groove on in Branson, check out The Ultimate 70's Show. With high-energy and kaleidoscope colors, this show is nothing but a spectacular display of classic '70s hits and dance moves that will have you jiving out of your seat!

PIERCE ARROW: DECADES

Through the phenomenal vocals of the Pierce Arrow Quartet, this musical comedy will take you on a journey through the '50s, '60s, '70s, and '80s. A wholesome performance that appeals to all age groups, you'll be clutching your sides from the comedic genius of James Sibley in between charismatic and nostalgic jam sessions from the boys! Pierce Arrow is comprised of award-winners and record-setters, so it's safe to expect a sensational production of rock 'n' roll, disco, hair bands, and more!

Decades passed are not decades gone. What was once pop culture years ago is being intertwined with ours today, allowing the retro decades to live on. So, let's not take it for granted, because "life moves pretty fast. If you don't stop and look around once in a while, you could miss it." – Ferris Bueller, Ferris Bueller's Day Off (1986) \$\mathscr{G}\$

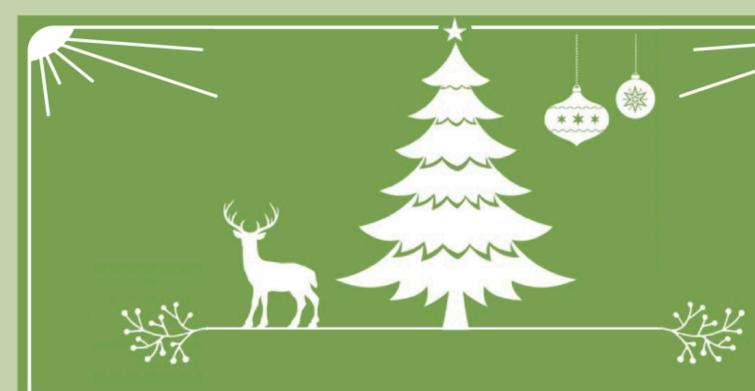








Your turn to kick it old-school with Branson's Ultimate Retro Spotify Playlist ExploreBranson.com/kickin-it-old-school



OZARK MOUNTAIN

Christma

Beginning November 1 each year, it's time for an Ozark Mountain Christmas! This spectacular Christmas celebration runs through January 7, 2025 and is filled with lots of lights, live music shows, and holiday cheer.



Holidays remind us of the importance of preserving history and time-honored family traditions. At the Shepherd of the Hills Homestead, the North Pole Adventure does just that. Celebrate this season with a magical walk-through experience that takes you on a journey through thousands of twinkling lights, a visit with Santa Claus, Christmas family activities, and an extended hayride through a portion of the farm and North Pole Adventure. Make it a family tradition this Christmas season!

Take the family to one of the drive-through light Branson's Lights of Joy will be shining super LE with hundreds of scenes near Sight & Sound The There Be Lights at Promised Land Zoo is the large through display in the Ozarks and has a Living Nat real live animals. Celebrate the season at Shephe Hill's North Pole Adventure with a 1-mile drive or of Lights, and then enjoy a walk-through experie takes you through thousands of twinkling lights day displays, including a visit with Santa and his r



Branson's lineup of Christmas events is truly something to behold, with celebrations (and lights!) at literally every turn. Branson's star performers are ready to share the holidays with you and your family as many of the live music shows convert to Christmas versions

razzle & dazzle

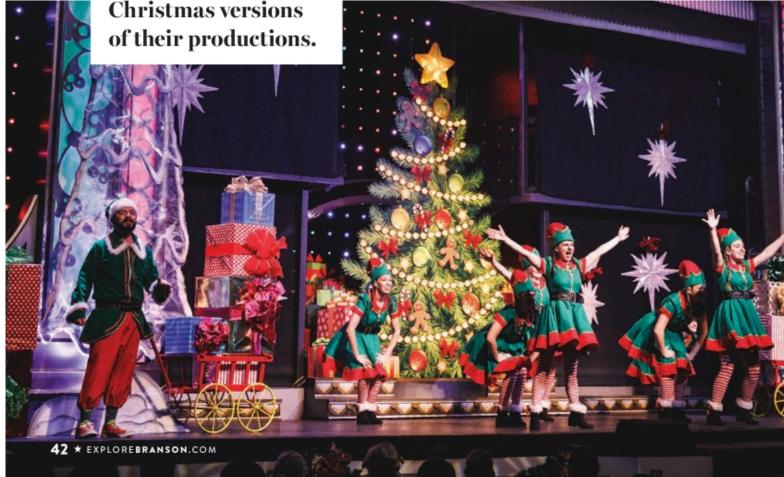
BRANSON'S CHRISTMAS SHOWS

With dazzling costumes and sets, Branson's entertaining families celebrate the reason for the season in song and dance. There's no better way to get in the holiday spirit than by enjoying a Branson Christmas show. From country music to Broadway-style productions, pop songs to Christmas carols, Branson's lineup of live performances offers a wide variety of holiday entertainment, and you'll leave each show feeling very merry!

AN OLD TIME CHRISTMAS

Silver Dollar City's An Old Time Christmas is Branson's brilliant holiday experience with over 6.5 million lights, an elaborate 8-story animated Christmas tree, a light parade, holiday foods and more. The park has been the

reigning champion for B Holiday Event in America Even brighter is Christmas light tunnels, wreath portals special effects nine stories t ers, rides soar above the Christmas lights visible belo demonstrate glassblowing and pottery, creating one-o gifts. The City's stages offe day and night, including the production, A Dickens' Chi the newest production, C Christmas. Rudolph's Holly Light Parade winds through floats, characters, dancers Guests aboard the Frisco S Train enjoy a Christmas sto to their favorite carols.





season of tradition

THE 76TH ADORATION PARADE

The 76th Adoration Parade takes place on Sunday, December 8, at dusk. Branson celebrates keeping Christ in Christmas on this special night. With the lighting of the Adoration scene atop Mt. Branson, it is an overwhelming outpouring of love from our community as we come together to honor the story of Jesus' birth.

MERRY OZARK MOUNTAIN CHRISTMAS

Branson has long been famous for its backdrop of natural Ozarks beauty in juxtaposition to the bright lights and neon excitement of the live music shows and attractions that fill the Entertainment District. Just last year, the Community Christmas Tree celebrated that perfect balance of nature and neon. Dubbed "Evergreen and Ever Glowing," it was a

colorful spectacle from top to bottom with warm white, strobe, and synchronized, multi-color, morphing lights (6,000 LEDs in all!) plus a neon sign on its base wishing the world a "Merry Ozark Mountain Christmas." This 39' display paid tribute to the unique balance between nature and neon, one of the enduring appeals of the Branson area, and every year is located in front of the Branson Ferris Wheel.

sparkle & shine

AMERICA'S CHRISTMAS TREE TRAIL

In 2023, the new addition of "America's Christmas Tree Trail" encouraged the ever-growing number of holiday visitors to explore the area to see more than 25 of the town's biggest, brightest, and most unique Christmas trees, and complete activities on an app along the way.

Challenges included finding butterfly, musical note, or ot branches of a Christmas traquestions; or taking photos a locations. Participants earnonline stickers for visiting Ch and successfully completing

RING IT IN

If New Year's Eve requires a start on a memorable note a variety of entertainment are family-friendly, romanti thing in between. Check out shows taking the stage and new year each December 3'

Learn more about Branso amazing holiday lineup at ExploreBranson.com/Christ

THE = ultr-mutt = Pet-Pien WEEKEND By ANNIE EPLER

You've probably heard that Branson has something for everyone, and that doesn't exclude your four-legged furry friend. Leaving your dog when going on vacation shouldn't always be the standard. Follow along on a weekend with my dog, Remi, and me. Whether you're looking for a relaxing or active vacation, we've got you covered on all the best spots to go. It's time to load your dog up in the car because we are going on an adventure!

DAY ONE // EARLY MORNING

GETTING STARTED

First, you will need to secure lodging. Branson is home to lots of pet-friendly vacation rentals that will be perfect for you and your dog. There are at least a dozen dog-friendly hotels, like the Hilton Branson Convention Center downtown and the Chateau on the Lake, which overlooks Table Rock Lake.

Once you get settled into your vacation rental, it's time to grab some delicious breakfast. Remi and I started our day off at Sugar Leaf Bakery, Café & Espresso. They have everything from quiche to breakfast sandwiches, as well as great

everything from quiche to breakfast sandwiches, as well as great coffee. All dogs are required to stay on the outdoor patio. They have

many tables available with umbrellas for shade and a gorgeous fountain out front. I ordered the quiche with a side of fruit and the Treat Yourself Latte—with caramel, vanilla, and white chocolate—which is one of my all-time favorite drinks.



Bring a collapsible dog bowl to ensure your pup doesn't get dehydrated (and bring a little food for them, too).





DAY ONE // LATE MORNING

POSE FOR PAWS

Once Remi and I were done ear we went over to Buster's Old some friends. This is such a un with your pet that is also a grea home. They have different outfing ones for your dog! They als special effects to make the phoand memorable. You will feel like in time as you explore their diffects and some a

DAY ONE // AFTERNOON

HITTING THE TRAIL

After getting our photos take pack some lunch and head o Mountains to hike. Branson has not outdoor trails to explore. Or ite hiking spots is the Lakeside Area. This trail is located in the but is also very secluded within lakeside views are breathtakin

taking in the beauty of this truly special outdoor area. I also always use my hands-free dog leash

West any rocky, une tude changes. snacks to stay ney, and a hand harness for saf navigation.



PACK UP YOUR PUP

PET-FRIENDLY STAYS

HILTON BRANSON CONVENTION CENTER

- · Limited to two pets
- \$50 fee per pet
- 75 lbs. max

CHATEAU ON THE LAKE

- Goody bag
- \$150 fee per pet
- 50 lbs. max

OTHER PET-FRIENDLY LODGING OPTIONS

- The Ozarker Lodge
- Westgate Resorts
- · La Quinta by Wyndham
- The Gazebo Inn
- Lilley's Landing Resort & Marina

BEYOND THE HOTEL

If a hotel isn't your style, consider staying at a cabin or vacation rental. Branson Family Retreats and Rent Branson are both great pet-friendly options. These vacation homes are perfect for big families and will have enough outdoor space for dogs to run and enjoy the fresh air.



and harness for Remi. This makes it easier for me to safely get around on the trails. Some other notable trails in Branson are the Ruth and Paul Henning Trail, Table Rock Lakeshore Trail, White River Valley Trail System, and the Busiek State Forest and Wildlife Area.

PRO

During the warm summer months, pavement can get very hot — consider bringing protective footwear for your dog to protect their paws.



DAY ONE // EVENING

DID SOMEBODY SAY DINNER?

Once we worked up an appetite after our hike, we decided to check out Bricktown Brewery on the Branson Landing. They opened a location in Branson in 2023 and have a beautiful view of Lake Taneycomo. The food is delicious and loaded with flavor, and the craft beers are always cold and refreshing. They specialize in burgers and pizzas, but have other options as well. All dogs must sit on the spacious outdoor patio, which overlooks the lake.



DAY ONE // LA

TIME FOR

Then we walke of Remi's favo in Branson: Dor Me. This store the Branson La unique pet gif She specifical peanut butter as treats! After a q we walked over Mountain Cho for some more is also located Landing and is walk away. The thing from cho



caramels, truffles, and, of dog bones! These bone 100% dog-safe white of got an order of their del I ordered some chocolate place is truly a chocolate (just don't feed your dog



Pack a life jacket for y with some paw-and-no Also, bring some food a to prevent dehydratio

DAY TWO // MORNING

ALL PAWS ON D

The next day, we headed Park Marina to rent a but The vast lake provides a you and your pup to exposites, such as the Table tine water, and lush greet a boat is relatively easy a is fill out the rental requirecessary fees. With the conveniently located next trails, you are sure to he beautiful adventure with four-legged pal!

DAY TWO // AFTERNOC

HIT THE CAFE

Once we were done on to over to Café Bridges at Marina. This place is to the lake, which makes if from water or land. They sandwiches and pizza, but salads, and more. I typical their specialty coffee di

2024 OFFICIAL BRANSON VA



A HOWLIN'

TAKE A PET-FRIENDLY ROAD TRIP

If you would rather take a short road trip instead of a hike, consider going to Fantastic Caverns in Springfield, Missouri. This cave is pet-friendly and was even discovered by a dog.

John Knox was a farmer in the area and sent out his bloodhound to track down an animal on the property.

The bloodhound, Juno, finally tracked the animal all the way to an obscure opening at the base of a bluff and went inside. Juno became stuck inside the cave and finally Knox had to go after him. Knox went into the cave and safely retrieved his dog.

Today, Fantastic Caverns remains pet-friendly. Your dog does need to stay on a leash and in the tram during the eurr. This is a great activity that you and your dog will enjoy together!





DAY THREE // MORNING

PANCAKES WITH A VIEW

The next day we started the morning early by grabbing breakfast to-go from Hungry Hunter. I always get their pancakes because they are so big and delicious! Then I drove the short distance to Table Rock State Park to enjoy my breakfast with Remi.

PRO

In the summertime in Branson, Murphy Park has plenty of shade for your dog to rest in.



I packed her some dog biscuits and water. I found a picnic table overlooking the lake with the morning fog over top. This is such a pretty spot, especially in the morning!

DAY THREE // AFTERNOON

PICK YOUR TRAIL

Once we were done eating and relaxing, we hit up some of the trails nearby. If you are looking for an easy trail, then definitely check out Table Rock Lakeshore Trail. This is a paved trail that is 4.4 miles in length. However, it does not loop so feel free to turn around at any time. If you are looking for a more challenging hike nearby, go to the White River Trail System. This

has four differ Red, Blue, Oran All four trails are and unpaved. V esque views and activities, the V is an ideal way Ozarks and tak of Branson.

DAY THREE //

A PEACEFU PICNIC

When dinner around, we drow Dairyland for a grabbed a burgowent over to Mulis a very short has a peaceful a

DOG DAYS

MORE PLACES FOR YOUR
PUP TO STAY AND PLAY



DOGGIE DAYCARE

Camp Little Paws and the Branson Pet Resort are excellent doggie daycare options, providing exercise and socialization for your dog's stay, whether for an evening or a whole weekend. When convenient, boarding can allow you to fully enjoy Branson while your pup has its own vacation.



DOG PARKS

The Elmo & Rosalea Marrs Memorial Dog Park at Stockstill Park in Branson allows your dog to run, play, socialize, and exercise off-leash. Admission to the park is sold in one-day or threeday passes, and you can purchase them at BransonMO.gov



DOGGONE FUN

Explore Branson's extensive list of pet-friendly hotels, restaurants, activities, and pet services at ExploreBranson.com/article/pet-friendly-hotels-restaurants-activities-more-branson



pup cups

AFTER A LONG WALK!

DAY THREE // NIGHTTIME

A CONE TO REMEMBER

To end the night, we went over to YOLO Rolled Ice Cream. Their freshly prepared ice-cream rolls are made right in front of you after ordering. Customers can choose from a variety of flavors like brownie, thin mint, cereal milk, and many more. The ice cream is then enhanced with a variety of tasty toppings and placed into a cup, cone, waffle taco, or even made into a waffle sundae.



Make sure to order a pup cup for your dog so you both can cool down after a long day.



They also have more fruity flavors to choose from, as well as gelato. I ordered the caramel pretzel. Thankfully, dogs are welcomed inside, so enjoy the air conditioning while you relax with your sweet treats. §





MYSTERIOUS MYSTERIOUS MYTHS & LOCAL MYTHS LEGEND

YOUR GUIDE TO LIVE ENTERTAINMENT, EXCITING ADVENTURES AND INSPIRING OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES.

By JORDAN DAVIS

hile most of us associate Branson with summer days on Table Rock Lake and nights filled with neon lights and fun, there's another side to this town: one filled with local legends and stories of the paranormal. These stories are part of the very foundation of Branson's most iconic locations, and it all started with a hole in the ground...



BRANSON HOTEL

When it comes to the cornerstones of Branson's history, the Branson Hotel has a unique position, predating the town itself. Built by the Branson Town Company, the hotel finished construction in 1906. Over the years, the hotel has served not only as a resting place, but also as the first home of the Taneyhills Library in the 1930s. However, in the last century, the Branson Hotel has also gained a reputation for the paranormal, with many stories revolving around its most famous guest...



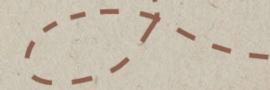
Harold Bell Wright (see, I told you he would come up again) played a crucial role in putting Branson on the national stage, capturing the attention of the entire nation. In 1907, the Branson Hotel became Wright's second home, where he penned his renowned novel The Shepherd of the Hills, drawing inspiration from Branson for the fictional Ozark village of Mutton Hollow. Since Wright's passing, guests of the hotel have reported sightings of a ghostly figure writing at a desk in the same room he used back in 1907, now known as the Heritage Room. However, paranormal experiences are not limited to this particular room.

In the Notebook Room, guests are encouraged to share stories of their visits. As you flip through the pages of the guestbook, you'll come across several accounts of guests hearing a faint whisper, as if someone was walking beside them. According to a Texas couple,

they discovered orbs floating around in their captured at the hotel. The couple also claimed turned on by itself in the middle of the night, we coming from the device. One particularly intrig from a woman who stayed in 2014. During her st witnessing a cloud of mist form as she looked in the shared that her blanket was mysteriously snatch in the night. But whether you believe in the parar Branson Hotel offers a unique blend of Ozark his comforts that sets it apart from any other hotel

GUESTS HEARING A FAIR WHISPER, AS IF SOMEON WAS WALKING BESIDE





Whe

Ozark histor

ench

Gues



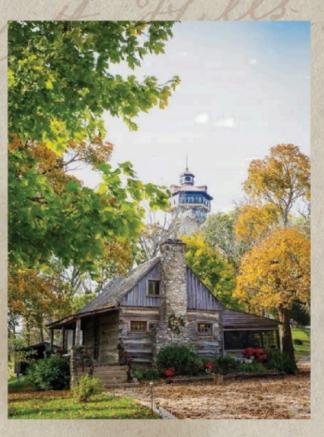
THE SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS: BALDKNOBBERS

In the aftermath of the American Civil War, Southern Missouri grappled with the daunting task of rebuilding amid a struggling economy and societal turmoil. The region witnessed a surge in outlaw activity and Bushwhackers, with infamous figures like Jesse James, roaming the state. Alone, Taney County experienced 40 unsolved murders, highlighting the desperate need for restored law and order. In response, Nat Kenny and 12 others took matters into their own hands, forming the Citizen's Committee—a vigilante group aimed at restoring stability. However, their fate would take an unexpected turn.

The group soon became more widely recognized as the Baldknobbers, earning their name from the prominent "bald" hill where they convened. As their numbers grew, they quickly established a notorious reputation, sporting distinctive horned masks. However, the Baldknobbers' ascent came with its own set of challenges. They gradually succumbed to the very lawlessness they had sought to combat.

Their actions gained national attention when Harold Bell Wright depicted a group of Baldknobbers as antagonists in his book, The Shepherd of the Hills (as mentioned earlier). Today, visitors can delve into this intriguing past through the Shepherd of the Hills Outdoor Drama, a captivating theatrical representation of Wright's work, offering a glimpse into how the group twisted the law for personal gain. Additionally, at Silver Dollar City, the Baldknobbers make an appearance in the thrilling dark ride: Fire in the Hole, where they raid a frontier town.

In Branson, the past intertwines with the present, blending the rich heritage of the Ozarks with the modern. And whether you're looking for Spanish gold in Marvel Cave, a brush with the paranormal at the Branson Hotel, or to see how the Baldknobbers became outlaws, Branson has a story for you to become a part of. The only question is, where will you fit in? B



superi an exgentl in the journ ancier hon some Forhav Owe sudde famil ago. F soun stra capti of resi Exte the with a comm to all g own p



Accession ***

Your vacation has needs, and when you're traveling, you do too!

By ASHLIE BEEDE



Aspen Baxter

DISABILITY & MENTAL HEALTH ADVOCATE

FND | Autism | Celiac | Service Dog, JoJo

Many Branson businesses have implemented accessibility accommodations since the introduction of the ADA in 1990. From wheelchair ramps to handicap bathroom stalls, Branson businesses have continued to embrace accessibility. Now, after nearly 35 years, it is time to shed some light on how some of these businesses have truly gone the extra mile for our friends who visit with differing needs. As a Type 1 diabetic who took many family vacations as a child, I know first-hand that there are more things to plan and think about when it comes to traveling and managing your health. As I set out to write this, I knew I wanted to bring in someone to help share their experience in visiting my home town who is a true advocate for disabled travelers. That's where

Aspen Baxter comes in! As a traveler who uses a wheelchair and lives with Autism and Celiac disease, traveling can be daunting for Aspen and her service dog, JoJo. I invited her to come to Branson to experience some of the things that make our destination unique and shed light on how Branson embraces our disabled travelers. She went to shows, experienced attractions and tasted her way through town. Here's her review!

What was your opinion of traveling to Branson before you arrived?

I had visited once before as an (able-bodied) child, so I had always wanted to take my parents and had told them how beautiful Branson is. Since my injury,





injury, planning trips has become all about researching accessibility. It's a stressor but a necessary part of disabled travel. Many towns are not easy to maneuver. I'm happy to say Branson is not one of them! Accessibility around Branson was not hard to find!

What was most surprising about your visit?

There is so much to do! How do you even decide? The ease of getting around to see everything Branson has to offer made for a low-stress trip. Every place we visited had friendly and helpful staff, as well as many accessible transportation options.

What was your favorite moment on your trip?

My favorite moment during our trip was visiting the aquarium and sitting in the tunnel, staring at the water and all of the creatures. It was so peaceful and relaxing. I could have stayed there forever!

What was your opinion on your hotel stay accommodations?

The hotel exceeded my expectations by far! The Hilton Promenade at Branson Landing provided a fully accessible condo, including a roll-in shower and an accessible balcony overlooking the Landing. The room was beautiful and large, providing plenty of turnaround space. The indoor pool offered a manual wheelchair lift and I was super excited to finally be able to get in and out of a pool. This was the first out of the last seven hotels I've stayed at that had a working pool lift. The one downfall was the Jacuzzi bathtub in the room didn't have any grab bars around the tub. But overall, such a beautiful hotel that I would definitely recommend to others!

What was the best thing you ate while you were in town?

How could I choose just one? For a quick

morning brunch, I had a far salad at a cute little coffee s Leaf. We really loved the vibe ing food choices at Flaming I especially the flaming opti higher-end experience, I loved Shrimp dinner at Top of the Ro Bar. The views were breathtal

Were there more or less a accommodations in general anticipated?

The accessible accommodal more than I was anticipating! antly surprised that the tow maintained and offered ramp out many different parts of the the older, more historic are know what to expect as I've exuch a range of good to bad els. Branson was great, from accommodations at the hotel, and events to the help and kin





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FOR A LOWSTRESS TRIP.

staff. There is minimal accessible parking in some areas, but that is made up for by the free trolley with a wheelchair lift! We got around Branson Landing quite well with all their ramps. It was not difficult to find accessible restrooms nearby all the places we visited. The aquarium had ample space to move around. The Titanic Museum can get quite congested (and loud for those with sensory issues), so I'd only recommend going on off times or days, but I was able to get an amazing tour from our guide, Rod.

What are some things Branson is doing right or wrong in terms of accessibility?

I think you are ahead of "the game." I really can't critique much about my visit, to be honest. Maybe more accessible parking (near main street shops). This is always an issue in older parts of town. The amazing little juice bar we had breakfast at had no accessible restroom. There was a public restroom right across the street from it

at Liberty Plaza, but o wheelchair parking in the hills in that area are so so more parking available FREE trolley is an easy to

What is something you to returning to Branson

I'm really looking forward to Branson around the I heard wonderful things spirit, and I want to expell would love to come seand all of the beautiful I



After meeting Aspen a from other disabled trav that there are many di dations to be made f vacationing with health me, growing up as the or my family, things have al little more thought and this more apparent than our annual family vacat of my siblings carefully swimsuits and picked of wanted to ride first at was selecting which juice the best and what backp bring to keep my testir my family helped to mal childhood as normally a an adult who helps sha with those planning the I wanted to help make th as easy as possible for t with similar and differ erations. Less time spe how to access the fun B allows for more time to their families. And if w exactly what we all need

Other Accommodations Considerations

Aside from the experiences of Aspen and her family, we know there are other visitors with other needs to keep in mind. There are many efforts being taken in Branson to ensure all of our guests' needs are being met. I wanted to take a moment to offer a shout-out for some other accessibility features to keep in mind when planning your trip to Branson.

With all of this in mind, I am aware that still, the surface of accessibility in Branson. There are many, many disabilities and health limitations that people deal with every day, and one article cannot speak to them all. But, when you're in Branson, we hope you feel welcomed and wanted, because you are. As a destination, we toward a more inclusive and authentic experience, every guest. Whether it's deciding what to eat, how to get there, or what feels the most comfortable when you arrive, Branson is ready to go the extra mile and help you have the best vacation everbecause you deserve it.

SILVER DOLLAR CITY

Thanks to Mercy Health Systems, Silver Dollar City now has two Family Calming Spaces, which park visitors with sensory processing disorders can use to step away from the sights, sounds, and smells for a while! With a minimum of 14 days advance notice, sign language interpretation can also be requested for special events and shows.







FUN MOUN

has sound-blocking as well as elevator calming downsta more secluded rid



BRANSON AQUAPLEX AT RECPLEX

Sensory Swim is a free and quiet time at the Branson AquaPlex designed for individuals with sensory processing disorders and differing abilities to enjoy the AquaPlex without the crowds. There will be no music playing, and fountain features will be turned off during this time. More information can be found online.



SHEPHERD OF THE HIL

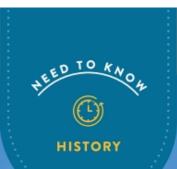
offers wheelchair their dinner show outdoor Drama, a Tower. The dinner vegetarian meal a





BRANSON LANDING

partnered with Shay & Pals, an organization that helps those with sensory issues by providing calming trailers for use at special events. During the Landing's special events, such as their Summer Concert Series, the trailer is parked near the fountains and is available for use free of charge to anyone with sensory issues or overstimulation needing a place to calm down and refocus away from the crowds. §



Historic Downtown Branson

Historic Downtown Branson is where it all began around 1888. Incorporated in 1912, repeat fires and annual floods could not keep this community from growing.



ranson is known for its many live music shows and downtown is home to the Owen Theatre, now headquarters for the Branson Arts Council. It was the first theatre in town, constructed in 1934. The 1906 railroad depot features Branson Scenic Railway, with picturesque rides through the Ozarks countryside in authentic 1950s luxury passenger cars.

A variety of affordable shops, galleries, and stores are all within an easy stroll. Free trolley rides offer an excursion through historic downtown with the flavor of an old-time Main Street. You will also find live entertainment, Ozarks crafts, great shopping, and choices of restaurants with homemade meals, eclectic fine dining at Level 2 Steakhouse at the Hilton Convention Center Hotel,



and the down-home atmosphere of Clockers' Café.

There are dozens of "mom-and-pop" stores offering unique merchandise. Dick's 5 & 10, a Branson landmark, has been in its location for more than 60 years. This one-of-a-kind, family-owned and operated store offers hours of shopping and browsing through more than 75,000 items.

Start at the Branson Centennial Museum for your walking tour information. Down the street, Liberty Plaza is located at the corner of Veterans Blvd. (Bus. US 65) and Pacific St. There you will find a large public restroom, plenty of parking, and a performance stage. The native stone fountain has the Branson logo that's a great stop for selfies. §



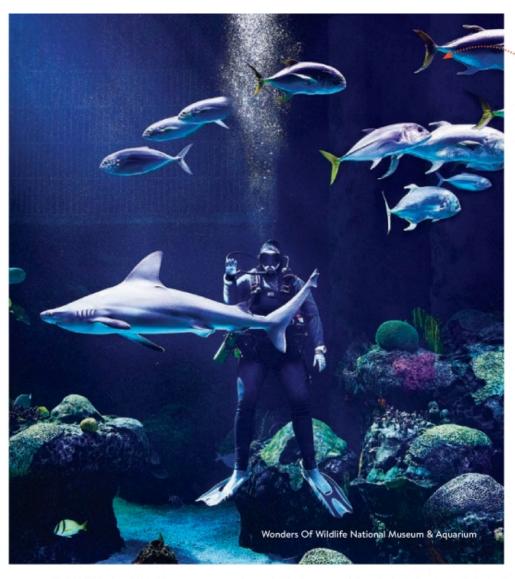




Down the Road

Getting more out of your getaway is a quick road trip away from Branson. From exploring history to embracing the fine arts to a day on the water, there's even more fun to be had just down the road.





HOLLISTER

Hollister shares the banks of Lake Taneycomo with Branson. The historic town was once a major train depot for early visitors. The Old English feel of the town's main thoroughfare on Downing Street is home to an annual grape festival.





Plan your day trip to Hollister at HollisterChamber.net

SPRINGFIELD

The third-largest city in Missouri is Wildlife, voted the best aquarium a Missouri for several years by USA Toutdoor World-the first and large the world—is filled with outdoor get a meal on-site at Hemingway's Blue out the Missouri Sports Hall of F Springfield Cardinals AA baseball af Cardinals at Hammons Field. See 50-minute tour in a Jeep-drawn to National Battlefield, Dickerson Polymond Museum on the Square, and the Also nearby is Wild Animal Safari Laura Ingalls Wilder Home and Missouri Forest Source and Missouries Wilder Home and Missouries and Missouries wild Animal Safari Laura Ingalls Wilder Home and Missouries wild Animal Safari Laura Ingalls Wilder Home and Missouries wild Animal Safari Laura Ingalls Wilder Home and Missouries wild Animal Safari Response wild Animal Response wild



Plan your day trip to Springfield at SpringfieldMo.org

WALNUT SHADE

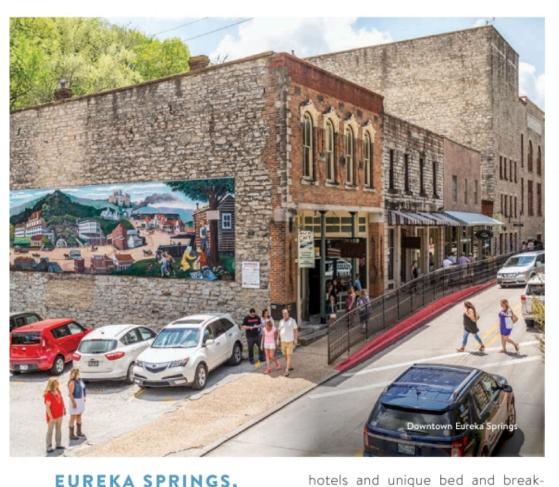
See the National Tiger Sanctuary, organization offering education Creek Wine Company is a familipust 10 miles north of Branson with tastings daily; Howler Park is so destination for adventurous cythe world, who are blazing a trasought-after spot in mountain bid.

FORSYTH

The Taney County seat is populenjoy fishing, boating, and hiking of camping facilities, Bull Shoals Labors, and restaurants.



Plan your day trip to Forsyth at ForsythMissouri.org



EUREKA SPRINGS, ARKANSAS

With block after block of one-of-a-kind shops, boutiques, fine-art galleries, craft emporiums, spas, museums, and restaurants, this Victorian-era town has something for everyone. Festivals and events span everything from the blues and opera to car shows and UFOs, antiques, and the arts. Historic

welcome visitors. Turpentine Creek Wildlife Refuge provides lifetime care for abandoned, abused, and neglected "Big Cats." The Great Passion Play, now in its 60th season, presents the epic story of Jesus Christ's last three days on Earth. Secluded and peaceful with winding mountainside streets, Eureka Springs has charm like no other town.

fast inns, motels, cottages, and cabins

Streets are lined with Victorian homes hugging cliffsides, and the entire downtown area is on the National Register of Historic Places.



ROCKAWAY BEACH

Rockaway Beach, the first "Family Re west of the Mississippi River, was for small, friendly lakeside town, long kno boat racing, is 10 miles northeast of



Plan your day trip to Rockaway Beach at RockawayBeach.net

OZARK

Home to Smallin Civil War Cave a restaurants, Ozark is just 25 minutes. The Ozark Mill offers lunch and dinner rolling Finley River. The Garrison is a affair tucked away beneath the mill. Obest places in Missouri to go antiquir



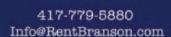
JAMES RIVER

In the 1800s, several early pioneer's located along the James River, dra fishing and wild game. In the 20th ce invented the "jon" boat, a long, narr that was stable, yet easy to maneuv swift current of the Ozark Mountain





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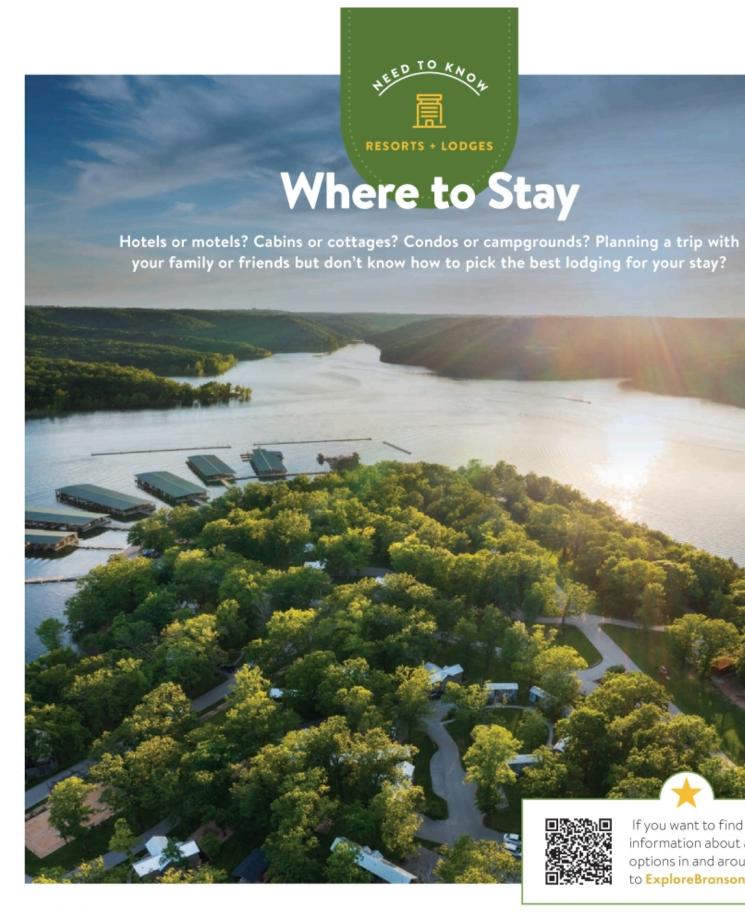




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WHAT

hen you're choosing an accommodation for your vacation, there are many aspects to consider. The place where you stay on your trip can make or break your vacation, so it is imperative that you get the right lodging for your needs. Branson's diverse lodging options include more than 16,500 units in four-star resorts, national-brand hotels, independent family-owned inns and lakeside lodging, nightly rental cabins and condos, vacation homes, and more.

When looking at booking a hotel or motel, you should consider not only the best deal available, but also one with all the amenities you need for a comfort-

able and secure stay. Budget plays an important role in where you stay during the trip and, fortunately, Branson is a great vacation value. You can book a hotel or motel online and read hotel reviews as well as check out the photos to help make a good decision for your family.

A cabin or cottage is a good alternative if you want privacy. You'll find options ranging from rustic log cabins to luxu-

rious lodges or even a treehouse. Renting a cabin gives you a front-row seat for nature's amazing show in the Ozarks.

If you have time to spend a couple of weeks in the Ozarks, and need to make food yourself, you can go for a rental condo with a well-equipped kitchen and plenty of space to spread out. Condos make a great choice for families or a group here for a longer visit. Or bring your own living room on wheels and park the RV at one of the dozens of campgrounds.

A comfortable accommodation during your trip is one of the best parts of an enjoyable and memorable vacation. §





ABOVE Camp Long Creek

LEFT

Still Waters Resort

BELOW

Rent Branson Cabins - Chateau Mountain







LEFT

Billy Gail's Restaurant

BELOW

Guy Fieri's Branson Kitchen + Bar

RIGHT

Fuel Fresh American Grill

LOWER RIGHT

Andy B's Bowl Social



In Branson, we believe that good food tastes even better when shared, so you'll find a lot of family dining options. Branson area restaurants include fine dining, steakhouses, seafood, and buffet, as well as eclectic eateries, breakfast restaurants, favorite chains, fast food, food trucks and banquet facilities capable of seating hundreds for meetings and conventions, weddings, and other special events.

The stage is set, and dinner is ready! Prepare to be entertained at a unique show venue and enjoy a great meal with your family or group. Experience a cruise on the pristine waters of Table Rock Lake, with a delicious three-course meal and be entertained by a lively show



on the Showboat Branson Belle. Or catch a powerful performance featuring 32 magnificent horses and topnotch trick riders at Dolly Parton's Stampede. Some other theatres offer meals with their shows as well, so check them out.

Whether enjoying the big game on the giant screen or spending a fun evening chatting with friends, there's a number of pubs, sports bars, and clubs that serve up great apps and original recipe cocktails in the perfect setting for your next night out on the town.

Vacation is a time to unwind, to celebrate, to rejuvenate, to see new places, and try new things. You can splurge for a bit (and then get back to your healthy eating) while on a trip and still enjoy yourself!

You'll definitely want to get a taste of Branson while you're here and enjoy some of the locals' favorites—let's go eat! \$\mathscr{G}\$







Find all of your far retail therapy listi **ExploreBranson.c** isit Branson Landing for shopping, dining, and entertainment, located between Lake Taneycomo and Historic Downtown. With more than 100 storefronts and accommodations, it is easily walkable with an open-air promenade and lakeside boardwalk. Capped on the north end by Belk department store and by the landmark Bass Pro Shops on the south end, the Landing's town square features a \$7.5-million fountain show with lights, fire, water, and music. Find favorite retail stores listed on their website.

A short stroll from Branson Landing is Historic Downtown. Perhaps the most unique among the storefronts is Dick's 5 & 10, one of the last remaining

five-and-dime stores in the U.S. For crafters and Americana lovers, check out Plum Bazaar Bead & Jewelry Shop, Branson Quilts, The Flagstore, and even more shopping options and activities to discover.

Over the years, the people of the Ozark Mountains have made our own distinctive arts and crafts, which visitors can find at the Branson Craft Mall. You will be in awe of the number of items in 200 booths created by imaginative artisans. Find sweet treats at the Branson Fudge Company or grab a bite at the Pickin' Porch Grill.

The Shoppes at Branson Meadows offers a variety of stores and more. Don't miss Made in the USA General Store, Consignment Clothing Exchange,







Historic Downtown Branson



Touch of Class boutique, and Ozark Quilts. For a nostalgic and rejuvenating break, check out the authentic 1984 Arcade.

Visit Grand Village Shops for more than 25 distinguished stores where you're sure to walk away with the perfect memory of your time in Branson. Check out Kringles Christmas Store, one of the largest Christmas stores in the Midwest, Back in Time Toys, Sugar Leaf Bakery & Café, Mel's Hard Luck Diner, Peter Engler Designs, Mulberry Mill, and more.

No shopping complete with Outlets. You brands at discussions as at Coach, Spade New Michael Kors Armour, and moterated in Brands at Coached in Brands at Coa













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BransonVeterans.com

DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS

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BlueStarMothers.org

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VA.gov/Fayetteville-Arkansas-Health-Care

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VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

417-336-6017

VFW.org



VETERANS O

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number 11 under construction) in Branson are open to the public and range from luxury resorts to daily fee options. They are close to one another and lodging options, live music shows, restaurants, wineries, breweries, museums, and countless other attractions.

Five of Missouri's Top 10 rated courses are here, including the top four. Some of these are ranked among the country's top 100 public courses.

One of Branson Golf's most noteworthy aspects is Payne's Valley, the only Tiger Woods-designed public course in America. It's a stunning layout punctuated with an exclamation point that is its bonus 19th hole. It's as much a geological-wonder-meets-family-attraction as it is a golf hole.

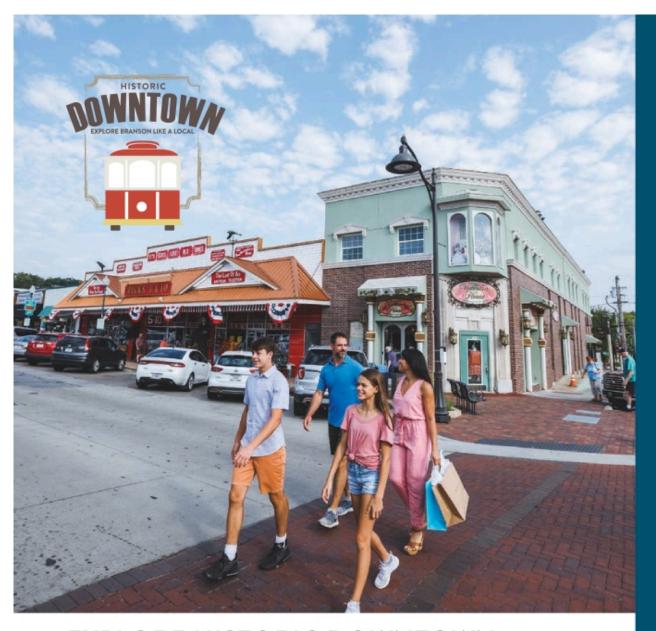
Ozarks National, Mountain Top, The Pointe, Thousand Hills, Buffalo Ridge, LedgeStone, Top of the Rock, Branson Hills, Payne's Valley, and Holiday Hills are all outstanding in their variety. The region's golf oasis is made all the more captivating thanks to the destination's plethora of live music shows, family attractions, and outdoor adventure.

While Tiger's course dominates with drama—as he did in his heyday—the other courses were designed by Jack Nicklaus, Gary Player, Bob Cupp, Tom Fazio, and Bill Coore and Ben Crenshaw, among others. They offer first-class playing conditions, welcoming hospitality, and five courses, which are certified by Audubon International for their environmental and conservation best practices.

For mo Branso Explore

Buffalo Ridge Golf Course

Payne's Valley Golf Course



EXPLORE HISTORIC DOWNTOWN

Where Branson began over 100 years ago, today it remains the heart of this town, where history and modern amenities stand side-by-side.

Bordered by the lake on three sides and Branson's entertainment district on the west, Historic Downtown, the Branson Landing and the Branson Convention Center are where visitors enjoy lots of stores, hotels, restaurants and attractions. City parks, trails, the new Liberty Plaza fountain and special events stage. There's a free trolley that operates

throughout downtown.

Whether you're strolling the sidewalks, browsing locally grown items at the farmers market, taking a scenic train ride, attending a concert or shopping for antiques, Downtown Branson is an experience you won't forget.



ExploreBransonDowntown.com 417-334-1548











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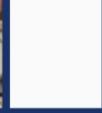














LANDING PREVIEW: Bass Pro Shops • Bath & Body Works • Chico's Paula Deen's Family Kitchen • rue21 • Victoria's Secret • Kirkl LandShark Bar & Grill • Cantina Laredo • Andy B's Tiki Bar • J Build-A-Bear Workshop • Arcade City • Guy Fieri's Branson Kitch Parakeet Pete's Waterfront Zipline • Hilton Promenade Hotel • Bear Workshop • Arcade City • Guy Fieri's Branson Kitch Parakeet Pete's Waterfront Zipline • Hilton Promenade Hotel • Bear Workshop • Arcade City • Guy Fieri's Branson Kitch Parakeet Pete's Waterfront Zipline • Hilton Promenade Hotel • Bear Workshop • Arcade City • Guy Fieri's Branson Kitch Parakeet Pete's Waterfront Zipline • Hilton Promenade Hotel • Bear Workshop • Arcade City • Guy Fieri's Branson Kitch Parakeet Pete's Waterfront Zipline • Hilton Promenade Hotel • Bear Workshop • Arcade City • Guy Fieri's Branson Kitch Parakeet Pete's Waterfront Zipline • Hilton Promenade Hotel • Bear Workshop • Arcade City • Guy Fieri's Branson Kitch Parakeet Pete's Waterfront Zipline • Hilton Promenade Hotel • Bear Workshop • Arcade City • Guy Fieri's Branson Kitch Parakeet Pete's Waterfront Zipline • Hilton Promenade Hotel • Bear Workshop • Arcade City • Guy Fieri's Branson Kitch Parakeet Pete's Waterfront Zipline • Hilton Promenade Hotel • Bear Workshop • Arcade City • Guy Fieri's Branson Kitch Parakeet Pete's Waterfront Zipline • Hilton Promenade Hotel • Bear Workshop • Arcade City • Guy Fieri's Branson Kitch Parakeet Pete's Waterfront Zipline • Hilton Promenade Hotel • Bear Waterfront Zipline • Hilton Promenad

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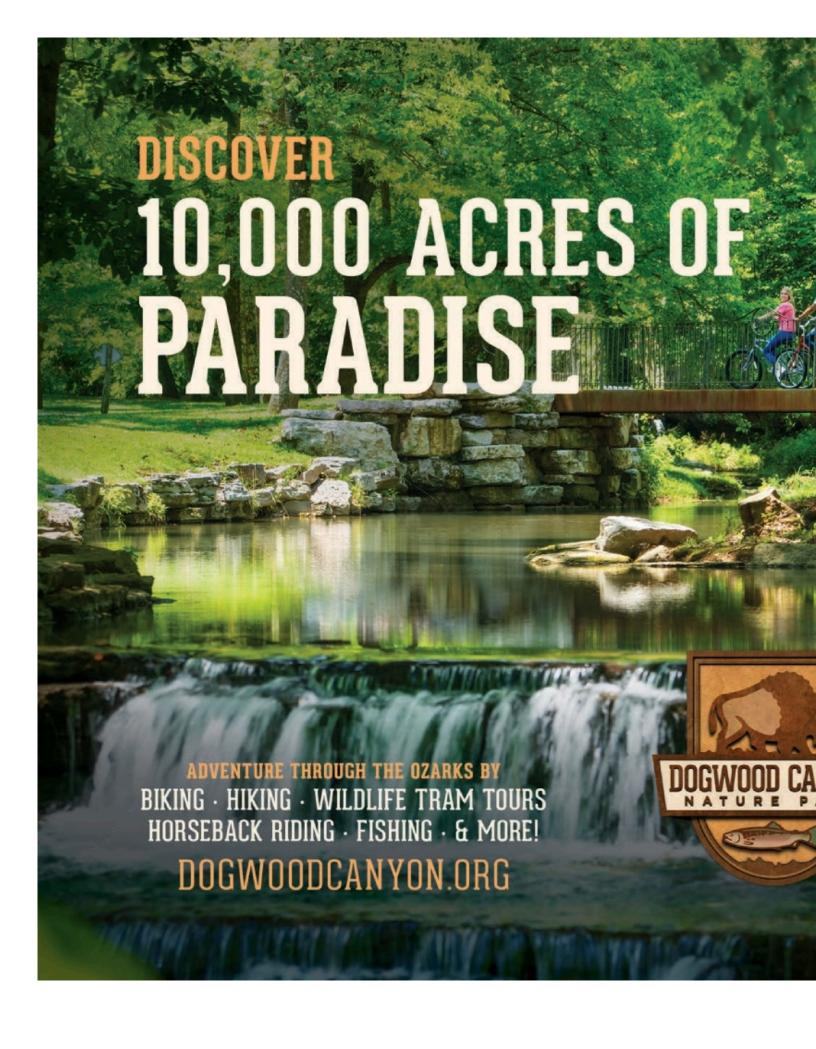
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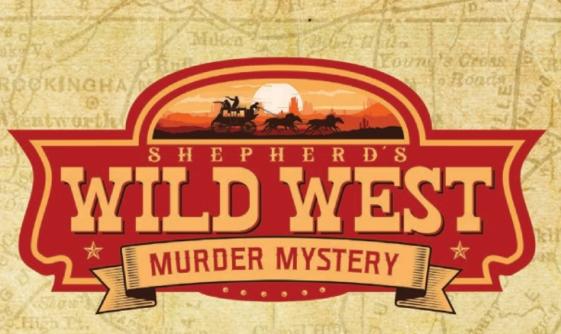
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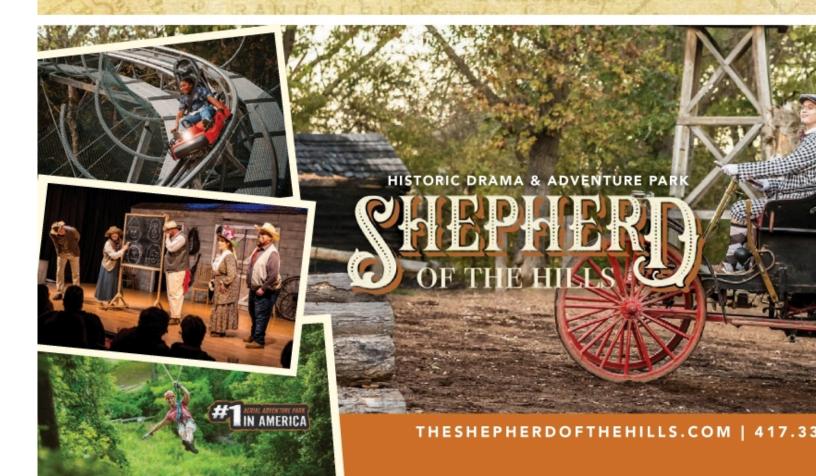
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Our Young Guests Review The World's Largest Permanent Titanic Museum Attraction

As reported & written by Titanic Officer Campbell

Is it possible for children to be so excited about a museum that they can barely contain themselves?

You might be inclined to say no, and I would have been a doubter myself before I had the opportunity to interact with our young guests.

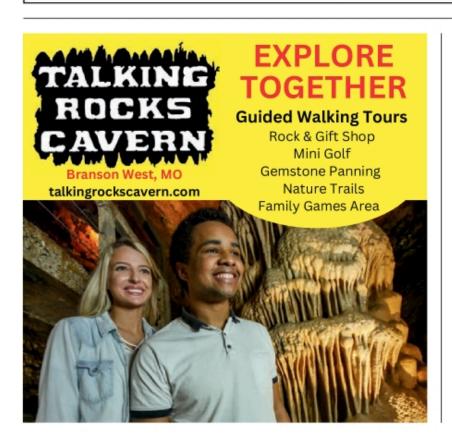
Literally every day, our young guests continue to offer me enthusiastic reviews. An eight-year-old boy with curly red hair exclaimed, "This the best museum I have ever been to!"

His mother, beaming, confided in me that he had specifically asked to visit Titanic Museum Attraction for his birthday.

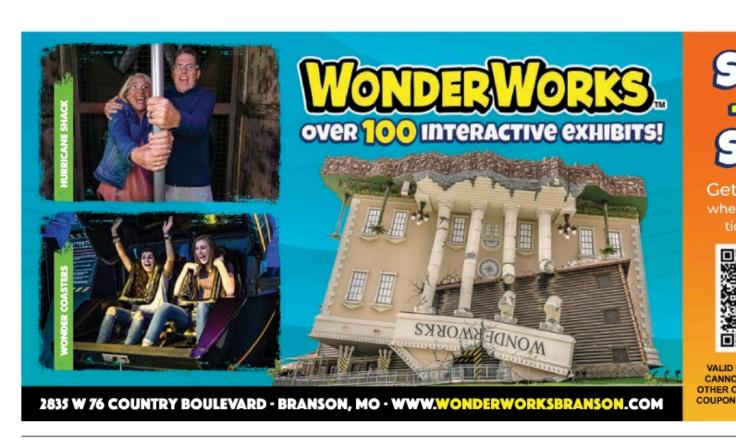
So, again, is it possible for children to be excited about a museum? Just ask the kids who visit Titanic Museum Attraction. They tell us openly, honestly, and with enthusiasm: **two thumbs up.**

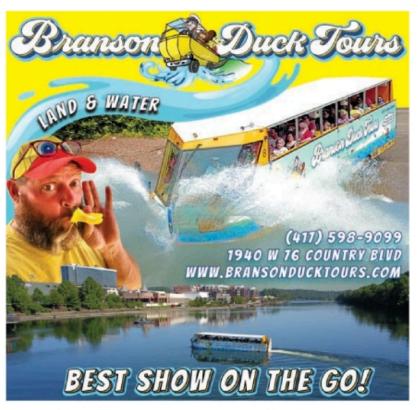
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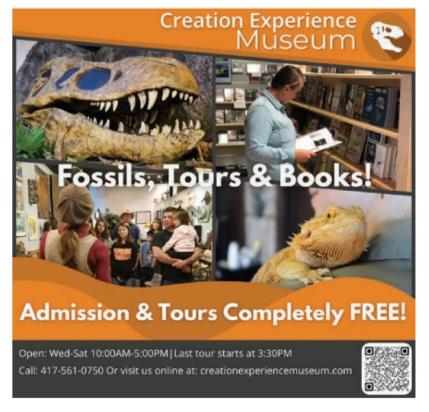


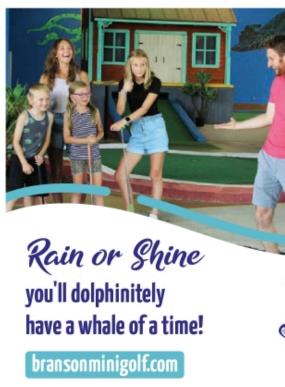


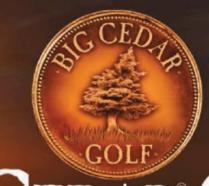












BIG CEDAR GOLF

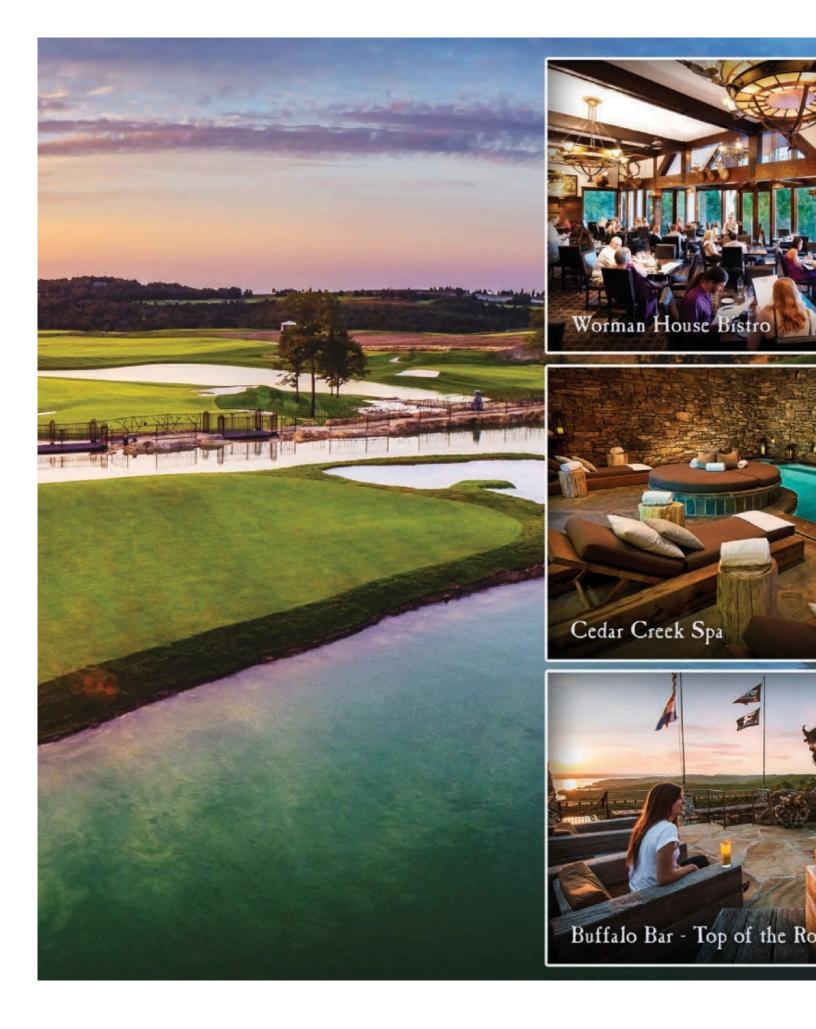
"America's Next Great Golf Destination"

Named the #1 Family Resort by Golf Magazine

Located deep within the rocky, forested terrain of the Missouri Ozark Mountains, Big Cedar Lodge is a remote haven of natural beauty that brings conservation to life. Over the years, Big Cedar Lodge has expanded its commitment to connecting people with the great outdoors by redefining golf in the Ozarks. Five distinct courses are a vision of founder, Johnny Morris and five of the biggest names in golf: Jack Nicklaus, Tom Fazio, Gary Player, Coore & Crenshaw and Tiger Woods.

But that's not all. Explore nature-inspired accommodations, immersive wildlife attractions and breathtaking views. Discover new experiences with exquisite cuisine, the serenity of Cedar Creek Spa, and unexpected adventure across the expansive property overlooking Table Rock Lake. Connect with family by connecting to the great outdoors.

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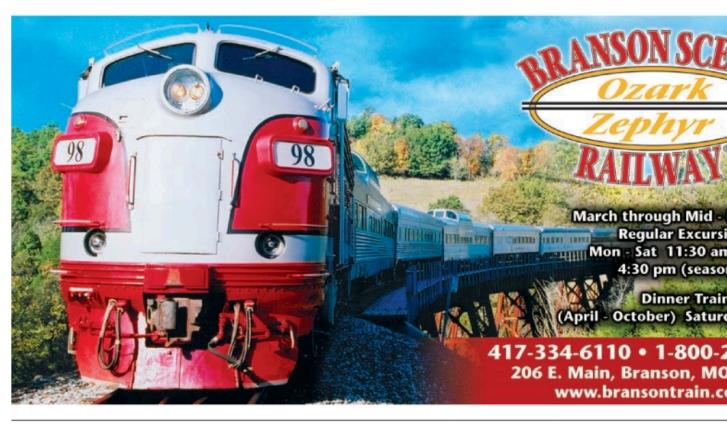


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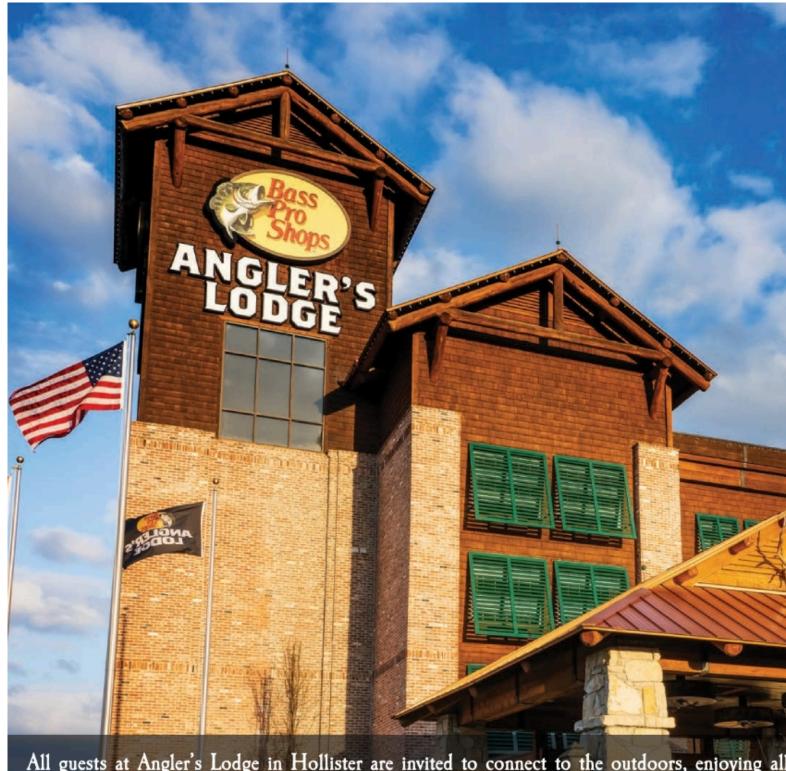
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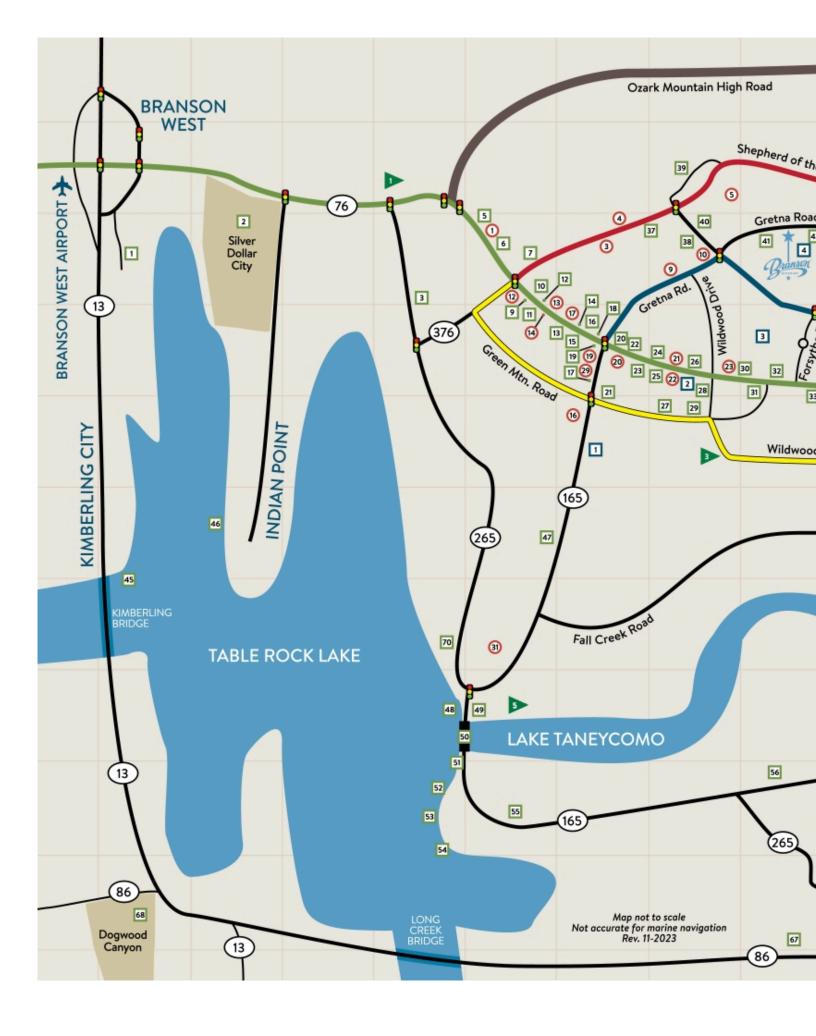


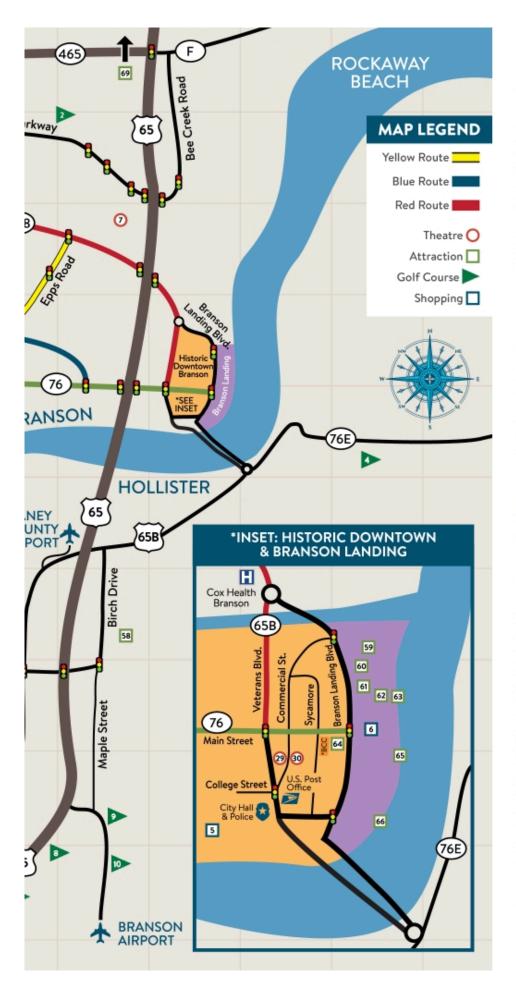
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BRANSON/LAKES AR

THEATRES	
Americana Theatre, The Andy Williams Moon River Theatre Branson Central Theatre Branson Hillside Theatre Branson Tribute Clay Cooper Theatre Dick Clark's American	21 24 16 31 19 20
Bandstand Theatre	28
Dolly Parton's Stampede Dinner Attraction Dutton Family Theatre Grand Country Music Hall Hamners' Variety Theatre Hot Hits Theatre Hughes Brothers Theatre Jerry Presley's	27 14 25 4 30 17
God & Country Theatre King's Castle Theatre Majestic Theatre Mansion Theater for the	26 23 10
Performing Arts, The Mickey Gilley Grand	6
Shanghai Theatre Nashville Roadhouse Theater Pierce Arrow Theater Presleys' Theatre Reza Live Theatre Shepherd of the Hills	13 12 3 22 29
Playhouse Theatre Sight & Sound Theatre Yakov Theatre ATTRACTIONS	1 5 7
165 Scenic Overlook Adventure Ziplines of Branson Andy B's Bowl Social Aquarium at the Boardwalk Arcade City Ballparks of America Beyond the Lens Big Air Trampoline Park Big Cedar Lodge Bigfoot Fun Park Branson Auto & Farm Museum Branson Coaster, The Branson Ferris Wheel Branson Helicopter Tours Branson Jet Boats Branson RecPlex Branson Scenic Railway Branson Zipline at Wolfe Mountain Branson's Wild World Brookside Mini-Golf Butterfly Palace Chateau on the Lake Resort Spa	56 38 61 28 62 4 22 41 67 9 35 32 16 18 65 44 69 33 40 6
Adventure Ziplines of Branson Andy B's Bowl Social Aquarium at the Boardwalk Arcade City Ballparks of America Beyond the Lens Big Air Trampoline Park Big Cedar Lodge Bigfoot Fun Park Branson Auto & Farm Museum Branson Coaster, The Branson Ferris Wheel Branson Helicopter Tours Branson Jet Boats Branson RecPlex Branson Scenic Railway Branson Zipline at Wolfe Mountain Branson's Wild World Brookside Mini-Golf	38 61 28 62 4 22 41 67 9 35 32 16 18 65 44 64 69 33 40

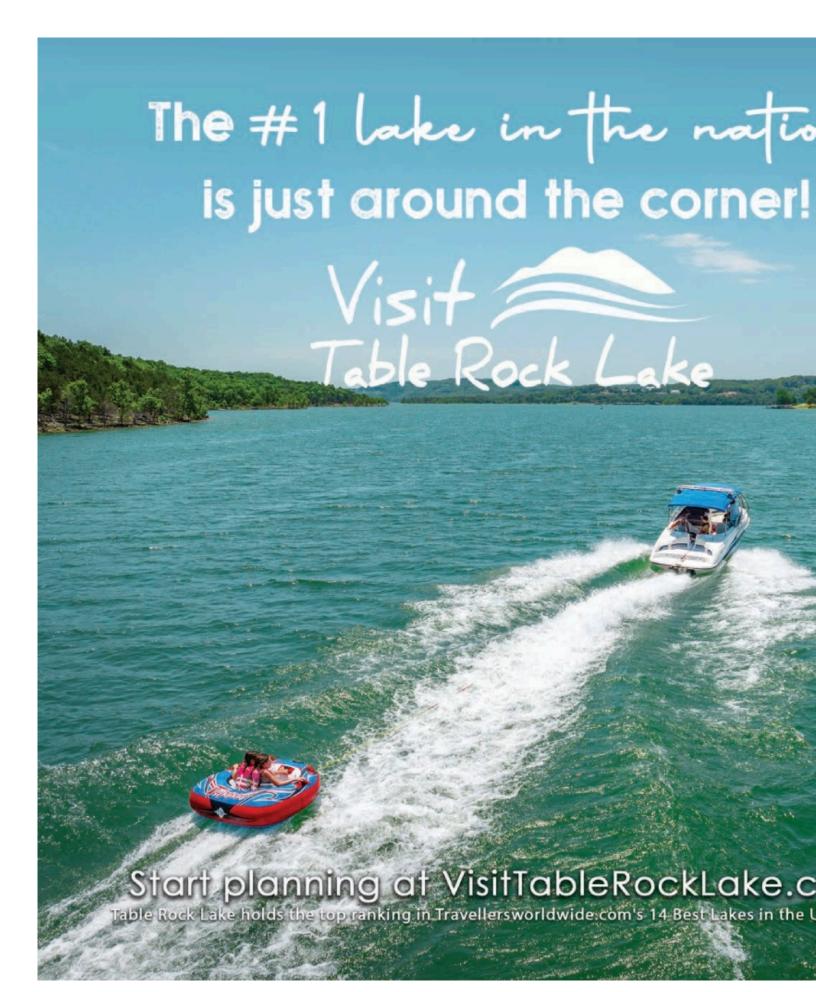
Indian Point Ma Kayak Branson Keeter Center Lights of Joy Lindwedel Wine Lost Treasure G Main Street Lal Missouri Ridge Ozark Hills Win Ozark Nights Parakeet Pete's Parakeet Pete's Pink Jeep Tours Pirate's Cove A Port of Kimber Promised Land Let There Be Ripley's Believe Ripley's Super I Runaway Moun Shepherd of th Tower/Vigilante Pole Adventure Shepherd of th Shipwrecked Tr Shoot for the S Showboat Bran Silver Dollar Ci St. James Wine State Park Mar Table Rock Dar Table Rock Stat Talking Rocks C Titanic Museun Track Family Fu Track Family Fu Track Family Fu Veterans Memo White Water WonderWorks World's Largest

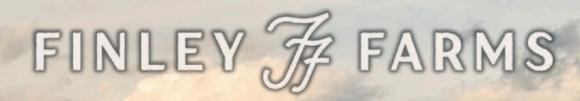
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