

# Great Things to See and Do in Door County, Wisconsin: A Nature Lover's Paradise

Nestled along the eastern shore of Lake Michigan, Door County, Wisconsin, is a peninsula renowned for its breathtaking natural beauty and rich cultural heritage. With its picturesque coastline, charming towns, and an abundance of outdoor activities, Door County is a nature lover's paradise, offering endless opportunities for exploration and adventure.



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by John Holl

★★★★☆ 4.7 out of 5

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## Explore Picturesque State Parks

Door County is home to several stunning state parks, each offering unique landscapes and recreational opportunities.

- **Peninsula State Park** is the crown jewel of Door County, boasting miles of rugged coastline, towering limestone bluffs, and pristine

forests. Hike along the scenic trails, relax on the sandy beaches, or explore the historic Eagle Bluff Lighthouse.

- **Cave Point County Park** is a haven for photographers and nature enthusiasts. Its sheer limestone cliffs, dramatic sea caves, and crashing waves create a breathtaking spectacle.
- **Whitefish Dunes State Natural Area** features towering sand dunes, a tranquil coastal forest, and a diverse array of plant life. Ascend to the top of the dunes for panoramic views of Lake Michigan.

### **Embark on Scenic Hikes**

Door County offers a network of well-maintained hiking trails, ranging from leisurely strolls to challenging treks. Traverse the lush forests, climb to panoramic viewpoints, and explore hidden waterfalls along these scenic paths.

- **Newport State Park Hiking Trail** is a 3.5-mile loop that leads through a hemlock-hardwood forest, past a cascading waterfall, and to a scenic overlook of Lake Michigan.
- **Eagle Bluff Trail** is a strenuous 4.5-mile climb that rewards hikers with stunning views of Green Bay and the surrounding countryside.
- **Baileys Harbor Range Light Trail** is a picturesque 1.5-mile hike that follows the coastline, offering views of the iconic Baileys Harbor Range Lighthouse.

### **Paddle the Crystal-Clear Waters**

With its abundance of lakes, rivers, and the vast expanse of Lake Michigan, Door County is a paddler's paradise. Kayak or canoe through tranquil

waterways, explore secluded coves, and enjoy the beauty of the shoreline from a unique perspective.

- **Rowley's Bay** is a calm bay perfect for beginner kayakers and canoeists, offering scenic views of the surrounding cliffs and forests.
- **Eagle Harbor** is a historic harbor with crystal-clear waters, ideal for exploring the sunken shipwreck of the Myron.
- **Lake Michigan Open Water** is for experienced paddlers who enjoy the challenge of traversing the open waters of Lake Michigan.

## Reel in the Catch

Door County is a renowned fishing destination, with abundant opportunities to catch various species in both inland lakes and Lake Michigan. Cast a line for trout, salmon, walleye, and bass.

- **Sturgeon Bay Ship Canal** is a popular spot for fishing during the spring and fall, offering a chance to catch massive sturgeon.
- **Lake Michigan** is a vast fishery where anglers can pursue salmon, lake trout, and brown trout.
- **Inland lakes** such as Kangaroo Lake and Clark Lake offer excellent fishing for bass, panfish, and northern pike.

## Indulge in Local Delights

Door County is not only a natural paradise but also a culinary haven. Sample the region's fresh fruits, handcrafted wines, and delectable dairy products.

- **Cherryland Orchards** is a family-run orchard that offers U-pick cherries, apple picking, and a variety of fresh produce.
- **Door Peninsula Winery** is a renowned viniculture destination, producing award-winning wines made from locally grown grapes.
- **Gibraltar Schoolhouse Cheese Factory** is a historic landmark that produces artisanal cheeses, including the famous award-winning Colby.

## Discover Quaint Towns and Villages

Door County is dotted with charming towns and villages, each with its unique character and attractions.

- **Fish Creek** is an artistic hub, home to galleries, boutiques, and gourmet restaurants.
- **Sturgeon Bay** is the largest city in Door County, offering a vibrant waterfront district and maritime attractions.
- **Egg Harbor** is a quaint village known for its picturesque harbor and historic buildings.
- **Ephraim** is a Scandinavian-themed village with charming shops, restaurants, and a historic marina.

Whether you seek thrilling outdoor adventures, tranquil nature retreats, or a taste of local culture, Door County, Wisconsin, has something to offer every traveler. Embark on a journey to this enchanting peninsula and discover the great things to see and do in this nature lover's paradise.



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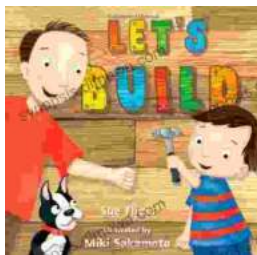
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