

New Attractions Greet Wisconsin Visitors

(NAPSA)—Visitors to Wisconsin this summer can head for the bleachers, browse the works of world-renowned artists and go for a breathtaking plunge at the state's newest attractions.

Fans can witness baseball history as the **Milwaukee Brewers** (414/902-4100; milwaukeebrewers.com) usher in a new era with their inaugural season at **Miller Park**. The recently completed ballpark boasts the only fan-shaped, retractable roof in North America. The seven-panel roof weighs about 12,000 tons, takes approximately 10 minutes to open and allows for a natural-grass playing field. Miller Park is open to the public year-round, offering visitors a novelty store, restaurant and meeting rooms.

To the delight of art enthusiasts, the renovated and expanded **Milwaukee Art Museum** (414/224-3200; mam.org) makes its debut this summer. Boasting the first completed structure in the United States designed by Spanish-born architect, engineer and sculptor Santiago Calatrava, the museum premieres its \$100 million project with an exhibition of works by Wisconsin-born artist Georgia O'Keeffe. The exhibition is located in the much-heralded **Quadracci Pavillion**, a new wing that, once completed, will feature a glass-walled reception hall enclosed by a light-and heat-controlling sunscreen. The most complex component of Calatrava's design, the louvered sunscreen will be movable and with its raising or lowering, will give the building a dramatic sculptural dimension that the architect has likened to a bird taking flight.

Visitors to the museum's renovated galleries can enjoy a sampling of a new collection of German Expressionist prints, a recent donation. The gift totals 446 prints and makes the Milwaukee Art Museum one of the nation's



Photo-Illustration—Christophe Valtin © Milwaukee Art Museum

A computer-generated rendition depicts the Milwaukee Art Museum's wing-shaped expansion, the first structure designed by world-renowned architect Santiago Calatrava to be completed in the United States.

top venues for German art. Other enhancements include a gift shop, restaurant, 300-seat lecture hall and a suspended pedestrian bridge that links the museum and the shores of Lake Michigan to Milwaukee's downtown.

Thrill-seekers won't be disappointed by the latest addition to the nation's largest waterpark. The new "Point of No Return" water slide at **Noah's Ark Waterpark in Wisconsin Dells** (608/254-6351; noahsarkwaterpark.com) is sure to provide stomach-dropping thrills to those with the courage to take the 10-story plunge. Touted as the tallest water slide in the Midwest, the double-slide complex pits riders against each other to see who gets to the bottom first. Noah's Ark offers 70 acres of water activities for all ages, including 35 water slides, two wave pools, two lazy rivers and shallow play areas for younger guests.

Visitors to the **Wisconsin State Fair in West Allis** (1-800-884-FAIR/3247; wistatefair.com) can join in the celebration Aug. 2-12 as the event marks its 150th year. Fair-goers can travel back

in time at the fairground's oldest building, the dairy cattle barn. The facility has been restored to its original 1900s design, with a few modern adjustments to make it a multifunctional year-round site. Drawing nearly one million visitors annually, the fair has activities for all ages. Some fair-goers come to learn about Wisconsin's agriculture; others come for the 25 free music stages featuring country, pop and rock music performers; and still others are drawn by the event's most popular treat—a delicious cream puff. More than 350,000 cream puffs are consumed by fair-goers every year during the 11-day event.

Free travel-planning publications, including the Wisconsin 2001 Summer Event & Recreation Guide, are available by placing an online order at the Wisconsin Department of Tourism's Web site (travelwisconsin.com). Guides and other free Wisconsin travel information can also be obtained by calling the state's 24-hour, live-operated hot line, 1-800-432-TRIP(8747).