

Exploring The Treasures In Your Own Back Yard

(NAPS)—Necessity is more than the mother of invention. It can also be the inspiration for a vacation the entire family will remember with pleasure.

For example, if higher gasoline prices are putting an unexpected crimp in your travel budget, try spending a week visiting the attractions tourists visit when they come to your region.

Every area has a museum, historic site or water park that draws visitors from all over but often gets overlooked by the local residents.

Camping is considered by many to be another excellent way for families to discover the scenic treasures in their own backyard.

Whether you're a novice or experienced camper, the following tips from KOA Kampgrounds can help you get the most out of the experience.

- Call ahead to see what kind of services and activities the area offers.
- If you are traveling with the family pet, check to see which types of pets are welcome.
- Going camping doesn't have to mean being out of touch. Inquire if the camp offers Internet access.
- Roughing it shouldn't be an excuse for a having a rough time check-



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ing in or making reservations. Look for camping facilities, such as those offered by KOA Kampgrounds, that offer a speedy check-in service and toll-free number for reservations.

KOA, known for providing a camping experience that is clean, fun and safe, also offers consumers a wealth of helpful information on their Web site.

The site contains tips on destinations, things to do and see in the area around specific campgrounds and detailed directions on how to get to specific sites.

To learn more about opportunities offered by a camping vacation, visit www.koa.com.