

Wisconsin's Fall Landscape Fosters Romance

(NAPSA)—In Wisconsin, mild autumn weather and striking colors create an ideal setting for a cozy getaway for two. Couples can browse in unique shops and galleries; golf; bike; watch wildlife; take a leisurely fall drive; pick apples or pears right from the tree; stop at a roadside stand for cider, gourds, Indian corn and other fall favorites; enjoy sumptuous cuisine or simply stroll through a kaleidoscope of brilliant foliage. A wide variety of comfortable lodging, from historic bed-and-breakfasts to luxurious resorts to quaint cottages, is available with amenities such as whirlpool tubs, fireplaces and gourmet meals.

Door County

Graced with more miles of shoreline than any other county in the United States, Door County is a first-rate choice for couples in search of charming scenery. The beauty of the outdoors is apparent at five state parks and along miles of picturesque waterfront that create a scene often described as “the Cape Cod of the Midwest.”

The Door Peninsula is not only rich in natural beauty, it is also home to many interesting places to browse and dine. Nearly 100 galleries and studios showcase the works of local artists, inspired by their scenic surroundings. A myriad of shops carry home accessories, antiques, clothing, jewelry and other gift items.

Cedarburg

About 20 miles north of Milwaukee, near the Lake Michigan shoreline, the city of Cedarburg is a small-town getaway big on character. In the heart of the city is a National Historic District that includes limestone and cream-city brick buildings dating back to the 1840s. A wonderful place for a leisurely stroll, the historic district includes the Cedar Creek Settlement, an 1864 wooden mill that now houses more than 30 unique shops, art studios and restaurants as well as the Cedar Creek Winery.



Photo credit: RJ & Linda Miller

Wisconsin's fall scenery provides a picturesque backdrop for a romantic getaway.

Visitors can also take a walk in Cedarburg's Covered Bridge Park, home of the last remaining original covered bridge in Wisconsin.

Bayfield

Proud of its serene, small-town atmosphere, Bayfield is a relaxing escape on the shores of Lake Superior. The town's stately Victorian homes are perched on a hillside overlooking the harbor, with panoramic views of the world's largest inland lake. Bayfield is the gateway to the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore, a chain of 21 pristine islands that is popular among sea kayakers and dotted with more lighthouses than any other coastline in the United States. A car and passenger ferry provides access to Madeline Island, while boat tours allow visitors to see many of the other islands.

Bayfield's natural grandeur provides creative inspiration for artisans, whose jewelry, sculptures, woodworking, pottery and paintings can be found in local galleries and studios.

Prairie du Chien

For a glimpse of Mississippi River country adorned in autumn's splendor, Prairie du Chien makes

a perfect getaway. One of Wisconsin's prettiest river towns, Prairie du Chien stands at the confluence of the Wisconsin and Mississippi rivers. Visitors can drive the Great River Road, a National Scenic Byway, and gaze at miles of river scenery. At Wyalusing State Park in Bagley, hiking trails atop 500-foot bluffs treat visitors to spectacular views of the Mississippi River Valley. Fall is also an ideal time for wildlife watching, as thousands of waterfowl travel the Mississippi River flyway during their seasonal migration.

History buffs find that Prairie du Chien has plenty to explore. Arguably the town's most notable historic site is the painstakingly restored Villa Louis, an estate that was once the home of a prominent frontier family and is now a world-renowned example of the opulent Victorian era.

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