

Free Activities in the Branson Area

vacationhomeinbranson.com

Geocaching: Bring your GPS device (handheld or for your car) and "treasure hunt" for nearly 100 different caches in the Branson area. Visit www.geocaching.com to pick out the caches you want to seek!

Table Rock Dam: Crowds gather daily just to gawk at this engineering colossus holding back the waters of the old White River.

College of the Ozarks - Hard Work U: Take a Campus Tour. Visit Edwards Mill, Fruitcake & Jelly Kitchen, Greenhouse, Williams Memorial Chapel, Hyer Bell Tower, The College Dairy, Memorial Field house, Star Schoolhouse & more.

Dewey Short Visitors Center: View a film (upon request) that tells about the White River (LaRiviere Blanch), Table Rock Dam, and the Ozarks area. The four seasons indoor nature walk & an outside nature trail.

Engler Block Craftsman: Art of the Ozarks, a unique shopping mall, where you can watch craftsmen at their trade.

Henning Conservation Area: Hiking trails (3 types); viewing deck/tower; exhibits & displays; 4 kiosks describing glade habitat. Paul and Ruth Henning purchased the land and created the conservation area after falling in love with the Ozarks while shooting some Beverly Hillbillies episodes at Silver Dollar City.

Shepherd of the Hills Fish Hatchery: Aquariums, displays, raceways (ponds), hiking trails, picnic area, feed machines for feeding fish. Fishing Access available, limited to lures & flies only. View a Video (upon request) about the fish hatchery.

Stone Hill Winery: Enjoy a look at Stone Hill's Heritage in wine making excellence. Tour & Taste, grape juice for kids.

Scenic Views: One popular one is on Hwy 165. (Going South, cross Table Rock Dam, then climb the heights for a great view of Branson, the mountains, Table Rock Lake, and Lake Taneycomo. Another is the Henning State Forest Lookout, about 2 miles West of town on W. Hwy 76 .

Camping: An abundance of campgrounds are located in the Branson area.

Hike/Bike/Canoe/Kayak: Hiking trails are at Henning State Forest, Table Rock State Park, and throughout the area. See the Hiking Trails link for additional information.

Biking trails are at the Busiek State Forest and Table Rock State Oark near the Table Rock Dam. Nearby rivers to float and kayak are the James River, the Finley River, and across the Arkansas state line, the Buffalo River.

Free Sunday Shows: Several of the Branson theaters open their doors Sunday mornings for some good old gospel get-togethers, Ozark style. Hear some of your favorite Branson entertainers and musicians doing traditional gospel music.

You'll mix informally with other tourists, Branson locals, and you'll spot Branson celebrities both on stage and in the audience, although often unannounced. Several enjoy taking to the stage and sharing a word about their faith. Some theaters host worship services complete with preaching and testimonies.

Bass Pro Shop (45 minutes away in Springfield): See live ducks, a stuffed grizzly bear, and a huge aquarium or do some target practice, all with McDonald's on site! A great place for a rainy day. Events and Map

Inexpensive Activities

Dogwood Canyon Nature Park Bicycle Tour: Take a self guided bicycle tour on 10,000 acres of a private wilderness refuge, crystal clear streams, herds of elk, bison & Texas longhorns. Rental bikes available or bring your own.

Fishing: Fishing available on Table Rock, Taneycomo, or Bull Shoals Lakes, with required Missouri fishing permits and/or trout stamp. For more information contact the Missouri Conservation Department.

IMAX Entertainment Complex: Discovery Films such as, Caves, Alaska & Ozarks Legacy & Legends (a Branson exclusive!), and more, upon availability. Also at the complex is shopping, eateries, & the elite cinema.

Worlds Largest Antique Toy Museum: Toys from the 1800's thru Today

Veterans Memorial Museum/Branson: Contains over 12,000 sq ft of hundreds of art, murals, & exhibits progressing through the wars fought in the 20th Century including WWI, WWII, Korea, Vietnam, and the Persian Gulf.