



Girl Scouts - Illinois Crossroads Council

Girl Scouts.

VISTA 15 Field Trip Guide

This field trip guide has been developed by troops within VISTA 4. The following pages provide a number of field trip ideas with information such as what a trip has to offer, the cost, and any applicable badge work that can be completed while on the field trip. The trips range from local, day trips, and overnights. The guide begins where many troop leaders begin: planning a trip. An evaluation form is included with each field trip guide. Please take the time to complete and provide useful feedback. If you find additional field trips please share the information so it can be included in the annual update. We hope you find it to be a helpful and valuable resource.

Planning a Field Trip with your Troop

Taking trips beyond the troop meeting place puts adventure into your troop's program. A very important part of these trips is the planning process. A trip is not something planned for girls by adults, but something planned by girls with guidance from adults (for a refresher: review the girl/adult partnership section from the New Volunteer Orientation training and age-level Basic Leadership Training all volunteers are required to take). Learning how to plan a trip is a progressive experience for Girl Scouts. Trips require a specific purpose that the girls understand and their duration suitable for their age and maturity levels.

Questions to ask the girls when starting the planning process include:

- Why are we going?
- Where and when are we going?
- How will we get there?
- How much will it cost and where will the money come from?
- How do we get ready?
- What will we do when we get there and when we return?

During the planning process, Girl Scouts learn how to develop an overall plan, make arrangements, budget, handle money, and accept responsibility for personal conduct and safety. Afterwards, they evaluate the whole experience. The progression steps of the trip gives the girls confidence to handle the "glitches" that sometimes occur in planning and carrying out a program.

One of the benefits to trip planning is teaching girls how to budget money to cover all costs associated with their decision and the feeling of satisfaction which comes with knowing they earned the money to pay for the trip.

Deciding where to go is easier than most think. Important decisions to be made early in the planning process include:

- How much will the trip cost each girl and adult?
- How will the money be earned?
- How much will the troop pay?
- What happens if all girls can't afford their share?
- What is the due date for payment?

- What extra insurance must the troop purchase?
- What will you do if you don't have enough money? Plan a lesser expensive trip or postpone the current plans until all money has been earned?

As Girl Scouts gain more skill in planning, budgeting, and decision-making, their adventures will progress to more exciting ones farther from home.

Girl Scout trips provide opportunities for fun and adventure, but also serve to enrich ongoing troop program. The trip must have a clear purpose and requires parent/guardian support. Always remember: you are considered on a field trip any time you meet outside of the regular meeting place, date, and/or time. When on a field trip you **MUST** have the following:

- Signed permission slip for each participating girl
- Health History Card for each participating girl and adult
- An adult certified in First Aid and CPR
- First Aid Kit
- Insurance form(s)
- List of each girl for each driver/chaperone
- *Safety-Wise*

There are three types of trips a troop take. A **local trip** is no more than a 30 minute car ride from your community. If the troop goes on a local trip, the leaders must contact the Field Trip Manager (by phone or e-mail) and give them the following information:

- Leader name and troop number
- Date and time of your field trip
- Where you are going
- Name of your emergency contact person. **NOTE:** When you are going on a field trip, troops must have one person at home as the contact person. This individual must have all of the trip information as well as a copy of the Vehicle Assignment Form. In the event of an emergency, this person acts as the communication link between parents and girls. The emergency contact person's phone number must be on the Parent Permission form.
- Name of First Aid and CPR trained adult

A **Day Trip** is a trip with a distance more than a 30 minute car ride from your community. A Trip Application needs to be completed and submitted to the Field Trip Manager two weeks prior to this type of trip.

An **Overnight Trip** is as its title states, a trip where girls and leaders sleep overnight. A Trip Application needs to be completed and submitted to the Field Trip Manager one month prior to this type of trip. **NOTE:** Any type of overnight trip needs a Trip Application (i.e., Lock-Ins, Camping in Leader's backyard, Troop staying at a hotel, etc.).

Trip Adventure Ideas

Algonquin Woods Nature Trail

1841 S. River Road, Des Plaines, Illinois

The Algonquin Trail in Niles is a 5.5 mile hiking trail that follows the Cook County Forest Preserve trails along the Des Plaines River. The trail starts and ends at Izaak Walton League, Des Plaines Chapter #206 located at the address above. The trail is well marked and hikers will find numerous trees and wildlife along the way for nature studies. A patch is available for \$3.50 to those who hike the trail. Girl Scout troops/groups need to register two weeks in advance by calling Karl at 847-692-2065 or Pat at 847-577-1901.

American Academy of Gymnastics

280 W. Palatine Road, Wheeling, Illinois, 847-459-8883, www.aagymnastics.com

For \$7 per girl, your troop can spend 55 minutes in one of two gyms with an instructor covering safety issues, stretching, and basic tumbling. Girls will also have unstructured open gym time in the pits of foam, tunnels, and on trampolines. Use of other equipment can be requested. Group availability is offered Fridays-Sundays. Times and room arrangements vary. Call or visit their Web site for specific details and/or reservations.

American's Black Holocaust Museum

2233 N. 4th Street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, 414-264-2500, www.blackholocaustmuseum.org

This museum is open Tuesday-Saturday from 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. and on Sundays for groups of 20 or more by appointment only. The museum traces the history of discrimination and racial hatred in America. One of the goals of the museum is to prevent the mistakes that were made in the past from happening again in the future. The cost is \$3 for children and \$5 for adults. The museum also offers a 10% discount for groups of 10 or more. Call or visit their Web site for more information and/or reservations.

Anti-Cruelty Society

157 W. Grand Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, 312-644-8338, www.anticruelty.org

The education center hosts a variety of different programs. Field trips can be scheduled at The Anti-Cruelty Society year around from Monday-Friday between 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. A maximum of 120 students and chaperones can be accommodated per field trip. Their programs require at least one chaperone per each ten Girl Scouts. Most field trip programs last from 1 to 1 ½ hours and include a grade appropriate presentation. Following the program, girls will either tour the cat and dog adoption rooms or visit with animals in the auditorium. In addition to the regular programs, the following programs can be requested for field trip groups only.

- *Those Amazing Cats and Dogs* - Grades 3-5 for 2 hours
- *Safety around Animals* – Grades K-2 for 1 hour
- *Paws, Claws, Feathers, and Fins* – Grades 2-4 for 1 ½ hours
- *The Pact* – Grades 4-6 for 1 ½ hours
- *Animal Related Careers* – Grades 6-8 for 1 ½ hours

Call or visit their Web site for more information and/or reservations.

Aurora Regional Fire Museum

53 N. Broadway, Aurora, Illinois, 630-892-1572, www.auroraregionalfiremuseum.org

Enjoy a special guided tour for all ages. On average, tours last from 45 minutes to 1 hour and include a “hands-on” bucket brigade, cranking the siren, and watching a demonstration of a fire alarm system as a bell rings and a ticker tape notifies the station. The museum also offers the following activities/badge work:

- Daisy Girl Scouts: Come and tour the museum
- Brownie Girl Scouts: Building Art, Careers, Her Story, Hobbies, and Listening to the Past
- Junior Girl Scouts: Architecture, Careers, Celebrating People, Collecting Hobbies, My Community, My Heritage, Now and Then Stories from Around the World, Safety First, Science in Action, and Science in Everyday Life
- Cadette/Senior Girl Scouts: Architecture and Environmental Design, Collecting, Heritage Hunt, and Museum Discovery.

Museum admission is \$2 for girls and \$3 for adults. Call or visit their Web site for more information.



Badger Trails Hiking Opportunities

Milwaukee, Wisconsin, 414-777-3920, www.badgertrails.org

Badger Trails is a non-profit organization of volunteers that promotes and sponsors hiking opportunities annually on the historic trails of Wisconsin. Annual hiking events include:

- **Root River Trail:** A 12 mile hike route can be shortened depending on ability of the group. First 900 registered receive a patch.
- **Glacier Trail Hike:** Hike the Northern Kettle Moraine State Forest along the Ice Age Trail. Camping is available. The trail is approximately 18 miles in length.
- **Devils Lake Anniversary Hike:** Registration includes campsite, patch, record spin or dance depending on age of the girls.

Call or visit their Web site for maps, more information, and/or reservations.



Bass Pro Shops/Outdoor World

6112 Grand Avenue, Gurnee Mills Mall, Gurnee, Illinois, 847-856-1229, www.outdoor-world.com

This retail store offers many interesting visuals along with a wide range of outdoor equipment. Features of the store include a wooden bridge spanning a trout pond, a three story rock fireplace, a two story archery range, a 32,000 gallon fresh water aquarium, and Uncle Buck Lunker Lounge restaurant. Call or visit their Web site for more information on current events.



Blackberry Farm Pioneer Village

100 S. Barnes Road, Aurora, Illinois, 630-892-1550, www.foxvalleyparkdistrict.org

Blackberry Farm’s Pioneer Village is a living history museum situated on 54 scenic acres with a lake, ponds, and a meandering stream. The grounds contain an arboretum with over 200 varieties of trees and historic agricultural gardens. In the Village there are five large museum collections, including the Carriage House, the Farm Museum, the Early Streets Museum, and the Huntoon House. These contain an outstanding collection of late 19th century artifacts used in every facet of life. Many period craft demonstrations, such as blacksmithing, spinning, weaving, and pottery bring the village to life. Hours and rates vary depending on the time of year. Call or visit their Web site for more information.



Brookfield Zoo

3300 Golf Road, Brookfield, Illinois, 708-688-8000, www.brookfieldzoo.org

The Brookfield Zoo is open 365 days a year for your group to enjoy. The zoo offers the *Zoo World Patch* which is a self-guided program that enables groups to earn a special Brookfield Zoo patch by completing a series of fun and educational activities. The age-specific Zoo World Patch programs are divided into three sections, (1) Pre-Visit, (2) Zoo-Visit, (3) Post-Visit, each of which requires up to 1 ½ hours to complete. The activities are self-guided and designed to be completed as a group with your leader and adult chaperones. Program activities include games, creative projects, role-playing, and puzzles. Select the program that is appropriate for your group’s age range. Program choices are as follows:

- ***Petkeeper, Zookeeper, Earthkeeper*** for ages 6-9
- ***The Role of a Modern Zoo*** for ages 9-12

Registration must be received at the zoo at least four weeks in advance of your Zoo Field Trip. Call or visit their Web site for more information, program rates, and/or reservations.



Build A Bear Workshops

877-789-BEAR, www.buildabear.com

Book a troop party at Build A Bear. Troops receive a free collectible patch for each Girl Scout and a furry friend to take home. Rates start as low as \$10 a girl. Call or visit their Web site for more information and/or reservations.



Busse Flowers

320 E. Northwest Highway, Mount Prospect, Illinois, 847-259-2210, www.busseflowers.com

Busse Flowers offers an educational trip in which your troop can learn about different flowers, plants, and flower arrangements. The girls will make their own flower basket arrangement to take home. The cost is \$8 per girl and the maximum number of girls is 15. Call or visit their Web site for more information and/or reservations.



California Pizza Kitchen

3 S. Evergreen, Arlington Heights, Illinois, 847-590-0801, www.californiapizzakitchen.com

This California Pizza Kitchen location offers a tour, the history of pizza, and a lesson on how to make pizza. The girls will make their own pizza! Each girl receives a slice of pizza, a drink, and dessert free of charge. Call for more information.



Camp Saqawau

12545 W. 111th Street, Lemont, Illinois, 630-257-2045, www.fpdcc.com

Part of the Forest Preserve District of Cook County, the environmental education center promotes the study of nature in a relaxed setting open only for scheduled programs. The canyon is a unique area with unusual plants and rock formations. Visitation is permitted but some restrictions have been established to protect the ecology of this fragile site. Call or visit their Web site for more information and specific restrictions.



Cantigny First Division Museum

1 S. 151 Winfield Road, Wheaton, Illinois, 630-668-5185, www.firstdivisionmuseum.org

This museum portrays the history of the Big Red One, the 1st Infantry Division, of the U.S. Army. Exhibits include a WWI battle dugout, tanks, and outdoor artillery. Tours lasting 40-45 minutes are available for groups in 4th grade and older. The cost is \$7 per car for parking. Call the Curator of Education or visit their Web site for more information.

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Capannari's Ice Cream

10 S. Pine Street, Mount Prospect, Illinois, 847-392-2077; www.capannaris.com

Capannari's is open from March through October and offer a one hour field trip consisting of the history of the building and how they make ice cream. Afterwards, girls will pair off and make their own "ice cream in a bag" and enjoy a single scoop sundae. The cost of the trip is \$4 per girl (a minimum of 10 girls or a payment of \$40 is required). Call or visit their Web site for more information.

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Center for History

606 N. Main Street, Wheaton, Illinois, 630-682-9472, www.wheatonhistory.com

Formerly the Wheaton History Center, the Center for History provides unique and captivating educational programs and exhibits. The Center actively involves its participants by allowing them to experience history through hands-on activities, role playing, and participatory methods. This facility offers workshops customized for Girl Scouts of all age levels. The programs are one hour for Daisy Girl Scouts and 90 minutes for Brownie, Junior, Cadette, and Senior Girl Scouts. They offer three (3) programs for Daisy Girl Scouts, nine (9) programs for Brownie Girl Scouts, eight (8) programs for Junior Girl Scouts and one (1) program for Cadette and Senior Girl Scouts. Call or visit their Web site for program descriptions, fees, and/or reservations.

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Cernan Earth and Space Center

2000 5th Avenue, River Grove, Illinois, 708-583-3100, www.triton.edu

The Cernan Earth and Space Center of Triton College is a unique and exciting destination for Girl Scout groups. The modern facility houses a 100-seat dome theater and an exhibit area with displays about space exploration and astronomy. The dome theater is equipped to present a variety of innovative multimedia planetarium programs, and C-360 films. The Cernan Earth and Space Center is named for astronaut Eugene A. Cernan, a native of Illinois, who flew aboard the Gemini 9, Apollo 10 and Apollo 17 space missions. Captain Cernan was the last human to leave his footprints on the moon. Badge work programs are available for Brownie, Junior, Cadette, and Senior Girl Scouts. Fees are \$4 for girls ages 2-12 and \$8 for adults. Call or visit their Web site for program information, availability, and/or reservations.

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Chain O'Lakes State Park Horseback Riding

8916 Wilmot Road, Spring Grove, Illinois, 815-675-6532, www.dnr.state.il.us/lands/landmgt/parks

Located in the heart of Illinois' largest concentration of natural lakes, Chain O Lakes State Park is a water oriented recreation area with outstanding opportunities for boaters, anglers, and skiers. The park boasts nearly 6,500 acres of water and 488 miles of shoreline. The horse corral is located near the entrance of the park and guided tours cost \$25 per person. The ride takes you through wooded trails with some hills. Helmets are included. This is an Illinois Crossroads Council approved stable. Call or visit their Web site for more information and/or reservations for horse rental and trail rides

Chicago Botanic Garden

1000 Lake Cook Road, Glencoe, Illinois, 847-835-5440, www.chicago-botanic.org
Year-round, Girl Scouts can work towards their badges at the Chicago Botanic Garden. The prairie, the woods, and other gardens offer environments and activities for advancement and challenges. Workshops range from terrarium-making to prairie walks to special holiday programs and are available on scheduled dates. Workshop participants will receive a Chicago Botanic Garden activity patch. Pre-registration is required and groups may be combined to meet the minimum workshop capacity of 10 girls. Call or visit their Web site for more information, fees and/or reservations.



Chicago Children’s Museum

700 E. Grand Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, 312-527-1000, www.chchildrensmuseum.org
Located at Navy Pier, the Chicago Children’s Museum has fifteen permanent exhibits and programming spaces which provide innovative learning experiences for girls. The fifteen exhibits are *Artabounds Gallery, Big Backyard, Climbing Schnooner, Dinosaur Expedition, Inventing Lab, Kids on the Fly, Kids Town, Play it Safe, Tree House Trails, Under Construction, and Waterways*. The museum is open Sunday-Wednesday from 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. and Thursday and Saturday from 10:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. Admission is \$8 for children and adults. The first Monday of each month is free for children age 15 and younger and open until 8:00 p.m. Call or visit their Web site for more information.



Chicago History Museum

601 N. Clark Street, Chicago, Illionis, 312-642-4600, www.chicagohs.org
Galleries depict pioneer life, Chicago, and American history. Juliette Low’s grandfather was one of the founding members of the society and the building houses several artifacts from her family. The museum offers tours such as *Hear the Stories, Learn about the Legends, and Dispel the Myths, Exhibition Guided Tours, Highlights of Chicago, Transportation, Chicago’s World’s Fairs, and Quilts: a Patchwork History*. Call or visit their Web site for more information and fees.



Chicago Kids Company

4104 N. Nashville Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, 773-205-9600, www.chicagokidscompany.com
Chicago Kids Company productions are original musicals adapted from Fairy Tales. They feature professional actors, up-to-date references, sing-along songs, brightly colored costumes and sets, and some of the goofiest characters you’ll ever see on stage. All CKC productions are geared for children ages 2 to 12. Show times and locations vary. Call or visit their Web site for more information.



Clay Ground Art Studio

550 Business Center Drive, Mount Prospect Illinois, 847-342-6653
The Clay Ground offers groups a unique artistic experience (no experience necessary)! Tour the Clay Ground and learn about potters’ wheels, kilns, greenware, mold pouring, and freehand clay work. Experience hands-on potters wheel, slab rolling, coil building, pouring, cleaning, and painting. Each girl leaves with a piece of ceramic bisque that she painted. Pieces made freehand are left to be kiln and picked up a later date. The complete group experience takes 1 to 1 ½ hours. Fees are dependent upon the number of participants. Call for more information and to schedule your group outing.



Donnley Wild West Town

8512 S. Union Road, Union, Illinois, 815-923-9000, www.wildwesttown.com

Donnley operates April-October and offers western memorabilia, wild west show, gold panning demonstration, pony rides, train rides, roping lessons and more. Groups of 20 or more are \$12 per person. Call or visit their Web site for more information.



DuPage Children’s Museum

301 N. Washington Street, Naperville, Illinois, 630-637-8000, www.dupagechildrensmuseum.org

A Play Facilitator greets groups upon arrival and provides a quick orientation. Girls are free to explore the exhibits and daily activities. The Play Facilitators are available to answer questions and play along with all museum visitors. They will also be there to help gather group members for departure. Groups of 15 or more need to make reservations and will receive a group admission rate of \$5.25 for the 1 hour tour; or \$5.75 for the 1 ½ tour. Regular admission rate is \$7.50 per person. DuPage Children’s Museum provides facilitators and materials for Brownie and Junior Girl Scouts to work on badge requirements during a Museum visit. Call or visit their Web site for more information and/or reservations.



East Troy Electric Railroad Museum

200 Church Street, East Troy, Wisconsin, 262-642-3263, www.easttroyrr.org

The East Troy Electric Railroad Museum is a working museum. During the late spring, summer and early fall, the museum operates trolleys and trains along 10 miles of track. It also has a barn where visitors can view the trains being restored. They also host special events throughout the year. Admission is \$5 for girls and \$10 for adults. Call or visit their Web site for more information.



Eli’s Cheesecake Factory

6701 W. Forest Preserve Drive, Chicago, Illinois, 773-205-3800, www.elicheesecake.com

Eli’s Cheesecake World is the only place where you can see Chicago’s favorite dessert actually being made. It’s fun and educational to watch Eli’s bakers busy at work making a selection of more than 30 different flavors of cheesecake. Visit the 62,000 square foot state-of-the-art bakery and enjoy a slice of Eli’s rich, creamy Cheesecake! For additional fees, Eli’s offers programs which include *Sneak Peek Tours*, *Cheesecake Decorating*, *Taste of Eli’s*, *Lunch and Munch*, *“Be a Star” at Eli’s*, and *“The Ultimate Eli’s Experience.”* Call or visit their Web site for more information, fees, and/or reservations.



Elk Grove Park District Farmhouse Museum

399 Biesterfield Road, Elk Grove Village, Illinois, 847-690-1440, www.elkgroveparks.org

The Farmhouse Museum is available to help with history related badges and programs. Topics such as family history, local lore, heritage of the community, cemetery exploration, games of the past, and pioneer skills are offered. The cost is \$5 per person with a minimum of 10 participants and a maximum of 30 participants. Call or visit their Web site for more information and/or reservations.



Enchanted Castle

1103 S. Main Street, Lombard, Illinois, 630-953-7860, www.enchanted.com

The Enchanted Castle of Lombard is a 60,000 square foot family entertainment center mega-complex. Attractions include laser tag, miniature golf, indoor go-karts, bumper cars, a childrens soft play area, 250 games, and dining accommodations for 625 guests featuring karaoke, an animatronics stage show, and big screen entertainment center. Admission varies due to cost of food and number of tickets and rides. The castle is open Sunday-Thursday, 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 p.m. and Friday and Saturday 10:00 a.m. – Midnight. Call or visit their Web site for more information, fees, and/or reservations.

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Fermilab National Accelerator Laboratory

Wilson Kirks Road, Batavia, Illinois, 630-840-5588, www.fnal.gov

Take this opportunity to see an excellent scientific facility. Fermilab features an interpretive trail through a restored prairie. Operated for the US Department of Energy, Fermilab's site is open to the public every day of the week 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. from mid-October to mid-April and 8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. during the summer. Guided tours are available. Call or visit their Web site for more information, tour times, and/or reservations.

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Field Museum

1400 S. Lake Shore Drive, Chicago, Illinois, 312-665-7525, www.fieldmuseum.org

Imagine roaming The Field Museum at night! When the lights dim, explore the rituals of ancient Egyptian culture, prowl an African savannah with giraffes, hippos, and man-eating lions, or rub elbows with royalty in the Palace of Bamum, Africa. Overnights are a unique opportunity for Girl Scouts in grades 1-6. The evening begins with a workshop taught by an instructor and based upon a Field Museum exhibition. Afterwards, watch a performance, munch on a snack, enjoy late night activities, including *Inside Ancient Egypt* by flashlight. Overnights begins at 5:45 p.m. and end the following morning at 9:00 a.m. The cost is \$42 per person. Call or visit their Web site for more information and/or reservations.

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Fitzjoy Farm Horseback Riding and Badge Program

12211 S. LaGrange Road, Palos Park, Illinois, 708-361-7977, www.fitzjoyfarm.com

Fitzjoy Farm offers the opportunity for Girl Scouts to earn badges in grooming, safety, and basic horsemanship. Workshops are offered on Monday or Friday from 3:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. and costs \$40 per Girl Scouts. The instructor recommends keeping the group size to 6-8 Girl Scouts so everyone has a chance to participate. Call or visit their Web site for more information and/or reservations.

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Frances Willard Historical Association

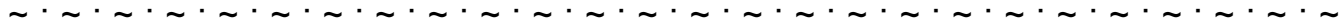
1730 Chicago Avenue, Evanston, Illinois, 847-328-7500, www.franceswillardhouse.org

The Frances Willard Historical Association offers Girl Scout badge programs for Brownie, Junior, and Cadette Girl Scouts. Each program features a special tour of the Frances Willard House and activities at the Visitor's Center. Activities are designed to meet the requirements of specific badges. Call or visit their Web site for more information, program descriptions, fees, and/or reservations.

Friendship Conservatory

395 W. Algonquin Road, Des Plaines, Illinois, 847-298-3500

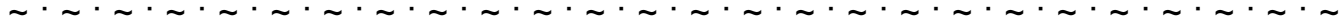
The conservatory offers a guided tour of the grounds and greenhouse as well as having the girls plant flowers. The cost is \$3 per girl. The best time for this trip is late summer through spring. Call for more information and/or reservations.



Goebbert's Pumpkin and Farm Market

40 W. Higgins Road, South Barrington, Illinois, 847-428-6727, www.pumpkinfarms.com

Attractions offered include a large petting zoo with pony and camel rides, a pumpkin patch, a cornstalk maze, a climbing train, fire engine, old shoe tunnel, and a live honey bee exhibit. A haunted house and hay rides are available in the fall. Special group rates are offered. Call or visit their Web site for more information, fees, and/or reservations.



Golden Rondelle, SC Johnson and Son, Incorporated

1525 Howe Street, Racine, Wisconsin, 262-631-4001, www.racinecounty.com/rondelle

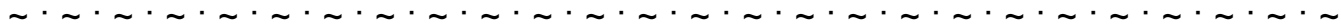
Begin a tour of the Johnson Wax Company at the Golden Rondelle Theater. The theater was originally used in New York as part of the Johnson Wax display at the 1964 World's Fair. The tour continues through the administration building, designed by Frank Lloyd Wright. Admission is free. Tours are held on Fridays only. Call or visit their Web site for more information and/or reservations.



Graceland Cemetery

4001 N. Clark Street, Chicago, Illinois, 773-525-1105, www.gracelandcemetery.org

Graceland is one of Chicago's best-known and most historic cemeteries. Juliette Gordon Low's great-grandfather, John Kinzie is buried here. Graceland's office is just inside the main gate at the southwest corner where free maps and pamphlets are available. Call or visit their Web site for more information.



Graue Mill and Museum

3800 S. York Road, Oak Brook, Illinois, 630-655-2090, www.grauemill.org

Built in 1852, the mill is one of 3 authentic underground railway stations in Illinois where runaway slaves found a haven. The museum is open April through mid-November. Special group rates are offered. A \$20 deposit two weeks before a trip is required. Qualified groups will be assigned a costumed docent at no charge who will lead the group through a brief walking tour of the mill grounds (weather permitting), a corn grinding demonstration, the Underground Railroad exhibit, and the upper two floors where there are period room settings of the Civil War era and volunteers dressed in costume demonstrating spinning and weaving techniques. Call or visit their Web site for more information and/or reservations.



Great American Popcorn Factory

311 S. Main Street, Galena, Illinois, 877-777-KORN, popcorn1@galenalink.com

It's just a small manufacturing operation but worth the stop to see and smell the chocolate, cheese, and caramel-flavored popcorn in wooden barrels. Tours include information on the history of popcorn, what makes it pop, and how flavored popcorn is made from the cookers to the coaters. Tours are free of charge, but reservations must be called in ahead of time for slot Monday-Sunday, 11:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. Call or e-mail for more information and/or reservations.



Grove, National Historic Landmark

1421 Milwaukee Avenue, Glenview, Illinois, 847-299-6096, www.glenviewparkdist.org

The Grove is happy to offer several different unique experiences for Girl Scouts. The Grove staff will work with troops to accommodate special requests or badge requirements. Programs that can be scheduled include *Sleepovers, Tales and Trails, To Catch a Dream, and One Hour Nature*. Rates and group sizes vary. Call or visit their Web site for more information, program descriptions, and/or reservations.

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Haeger Pottery Factory

Van Buren Street, East Dundee, Illinois, 847-783-5420, www.haegerpotteries.com

The Haeger factory outlet contains displays with many unique pieces from the past 132 years of Haeger craftsmanship. This is a visitor center, no factory tours and is free of charge. Visitor center hours are 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. on Mondays, Thursdays, and Fridays or 11:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. Call or visit their Web site for more information.

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Harris Banks Great Green Adventure

Booked through www.fieldtripfactory.com

The **Great Green Adventure** field trip is a hands-on program that introduces bank services and banking practices to children. At a local Harris Bank, this field trip offers Girl Scouts in grades K-4 an inside look at bank operations. The program will address money concepts and value, how banks work, careers in banking, and savings and interest. Trained tour leaders modify the field trips to be grade appropriate. The program is 1 hour and limited to 30 participants per tour – although this number may vary by location. Each girl will receive a goodie bag with souvenirs. Visit Field Trip Factory for more information and/or reservations.

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Hellenic Museum and Cultural Center

801 W. Adams Street, 4th Floor, Chicago, Illinois, 312-655-1234, www.hellenicmuseum.org

Located in the heart of Chicago's Historic Greektown, the Hellenic Museum and Cultural Center is the nation's premier institution, showcasing Hellenism and its contributions to the world. Come and explore the rotating and permanent galleries, hear the histories and stories of early Greek immigrants, learn about the colorful past of Greeks through education programming, and live the present with diverse contemporary exhibits. Group tours and rates apply. Museum hours are 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Tuesday-Friday and 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. on Saturday. Call or visit their Web site for more information and/or reservations.

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Home Depot

350 E. Kensington Road, Mount Prospect, Illinois, 847-342-1800, www.homedepot.com

Kids Workshops are free and designed for children ages 5-12. They are offered on the first Saturday of each month between 9:00 a.m. and noon at all Home Depot stores. Children accompanied by an adult construct projects from pre-fabricated kits. The kits are designed to be both educational and practical. The Home Depot's Kids Workshops offer useful projects including the creation of toolboxes, fire trucks, and mail organizers, as well as educational projects, such as a window birdhouse, bughouse or Declaration of Independence frame kit. The workshops teach children do-it-yourself skills and tool safety, while instilling a sense of accomplishment. In addition to the newly constructed project kit, each child receives a kid-sized orange apron, similar to The Home Depot associates, and an achievement pin. Call a local Home Depot for more information.

Illinois Railway Museum

7000 Olsen Road, Union, Illinois, 800-BIG-RAIL, www.irm.org

The railway museum demonstrates the vital role railroads have played in the growth of the Chicago area as well as the United States through the preservation and operation of railroad and mass transit rolling stock and the display of related artifacts in a realistic setting. The exhibits include both electric and steam engines which provide an interactive, educational experience for visitors of all ages. The museum offers special exhibits throughout the year. Admission for adults and children ages 12 and older is \$6.60 Monday-Friday and \$10 on Weekends, children ages 3-11 are \$4.50 Monday-Friday and \$8.50 on weekends. Call or visit their Web site for more information.

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Jane Addams Hull-House Museum

800 S. Halsted, Chicago, Illinois, 312-413-5353, www.uic.edu/jaddams/hull/newdesign/visiting

Jane Addams, a native of Illinois, co-founded the world famous social settlement Hull-House in Chicago in 1889. From Hull-House, where she lived and worked until her death, Jane Addams built her reputation as the country's most prominent woman through her writing, settlement work, and international efforts for peace. Hull-House still stands today on UIC Campus and is open for tours which chronicle the life of Jane Addams and the work she did for the West Side of the city during the late 1800's and early 1900's. Hull-House free tours, lasting 45-60 minutes, include the historical exhibits of ethnic settlements in Chicago, a slide show, and discussion. Museum hours are Tuesday-Friday from 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. and Sunday from Noon – 4:00 p.m. The Jane Addams Hull-House Museum is located on the campus of the University of Illinois at Chicago. Advance reservations for groups of 7 or more are required and may be made by calling the museum. Call or visit their Web site for additional information.

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Jelly Belly Candy Store and Tours

10100 Jelly Belly Lane, Pleasant Prairie, Wisconsin, 262-947-3800, www.jellybelly.com

Sweet sensations and a world of delight are at the Jelly Belly Center. It is designed for visitors to tour the warehouse and taste the magic of Jelly Belly, "the original gourmet jelly bean". The tour starts at the Jelly Belly Junction. Once aboard the Jelly Belly Express train, the tour continues inside the large warehouse and distribution center. The 30-minute ride stops at a variety of stations with large screen videos showing the company's century of candy-making and how candy corn, jelly beans, taffy, gummies and more are made. See a dancing chorus line of Jelly Belly characters and be surprised by "Candy Alley" with its six-foot giant jelly beans suspended from the ceiling. Thee large retail store offers hungry fans samples of the 100 candies made. Free warehouse tours operate Monday-Sunday, 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Call for visit their Web site for additional information.

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Kline Creek Farm

1N600 County Farm Road, Winfield, Illinois, 630-876-5900, www.dupageforest.com/education

Kline Creek Farm, within the Timber Ridge Forest Preserve in Winfield, is a living-history farm depicting farm life as it was in DuPage County in the 1890s. The Forest Preserve District of DuPage County has combined original structures, authentic re-creations, livestock, and historically accurate activities into a realistic 1890s DuPage County working farm. Kline Creek Farm offers a variety of seasonal programs and activities each year which reflect the daily life of a 19th-century farm family. Activities may include making sausage and butter, canning garden produce, making hay, harvesting, and preparing for social occasions such as weddings, funerals, and holidays. Kline Creek Farm is open Thursday-Monday, 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Call or visit their Web site for more information and activity listing.

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Lake County Discovery Museum

27277 N. Forest Preserve Road, Wauconda, Illinois, 847-968-3400, lc_museum@co.lake.il.us
The Lake County Discovery Museum is one of the ten most popular destination spots in Lake County. The Museum provides fun, well-rounded museum experiences. Hands-on interactive exhibits introduce the history of Lake County in a fun learning environment. The Museum also displays the nation’s largest permanent exhibition on the history and significance of postcards. Changing exhibits are designed to delight visitors of all ages and interests. A local artist gallery displays fine works of art from talented Chicagoland artists and a variety of programs and events for adults, families, and groups educate and entertain. Museum Educators offer history-based programs like *Listening to the Past*, *Collectors*, and more. Admission is \$2.50 for girls ages 4-17 and \$6 for adults. Gallery hours are 11:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Monday-Saturday and 1:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. on Sunday. Other attractions at the Lake County Forest Preserve include Bonner Farm, Ryerson Woods Welcome Center, and outdoor programs. Call or visit their Web site for more information.



Lamb’s Farms

14245 W. Rockland Road, Libertyville, Illinois, 847-990-3864, www.lambsfarm.org
Lamb’s Farm offers Girl Scout Field Trip options. Spend a day in the country-casual and friendly atmosphere. Red barn buildings, white fences, and friendly faces offer a warm welcome. Follow the paved walkways through the Farmyard, viewing farm animals of all varieties. Stop at the Small Animal Display for an up-close moment with a variety of animals. Learn interesting animal facts from their staff. The Discovery Center reveals farm secrets such as the difference between straw and hay, which one do the animals eat and which one do they sleep on? Visit the Petting Area and mingle with sheep, lambs, goats, and kids. Also enjoy the scenic ride past Lambs Lake on a Miniature Train. Call or visit their Web site for more information.



Lattof YMCA Adventure Center

300 E. Northwest Highway, Des Plaines, Illinois, 847-296-3376, www.lattofymca.org
Lattof YMCA offers overnight events, fun, action, and adventure. The Adventure Center is home to a climbing wall, a boulder cave, several pools, a maze, and basketball courts. The center provides breakfast in the morning for Girls Scout Troops. Overnight activities include swimming, rock wall, climbing, a giant maze, playground, and open gym. The cost is \$25 per girl with a minimum of 100 girls. Call or visit their Web site for more information and/or reservations.



Libby Lu Club

5 Woodfield Drive, Woodfield Mall, Schaumburg, Illinois, 847-413-1136, www.clublibbylu.com
Come and enjoy a *Style Experience* or a *Spa Day* at Libby Lu. Parties offered include *Secret Celebrity Libby Du*, *Libby Du #1-#4*, *Create Your Own Sparkle Spa*, or *Night In Spa Kits*. Participant fees vary. Call or visit their Web site for more information, fees, and/or reservations.



Lincoln Park Zoo

2001 N. Clark Street, Chicago Illinois, 312-742-2000, www.lpzoo.org
Daily tours are available at 10:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Group tours are available from mid-September through mid-April and costs \$5 per participant with a maximum of 40 participants per zoo tour. During the 30-45 minute tour, each group of 10 participants is provided with a zoo educator who facilitates observations. Tour topics include *Animals on the Move*, *Predators and Prey*, or *Endangered Species*. Call or visit their Web site for more information, topic descriptions, and/or reservations.



Little Red School House

9800 Willow Springs Road, Willow Springs, Illinois, 708-839-6897, www.fpdcc.com

The Little Red School House exhibit building is an 1886 one-room schoolhouse which displays natural history, including live native animals and is part of the Forest Preserve District of Cook County. Outside displays include a garden, waterfowl feeding area, wildflowers, prairie restoration, and an orchard. Nature trails are 15, 30, or 60 minutes in length. Call or visit their Web site for more information.



Living Sea Aquarium Tours and Presentations

811 W. Devon Avenue, Park Ridge, Illinois, 847-698-SALT, www.livingseaaquarium.com

The Living Sea Aquarium has been supplying Chicagoland with fish for almost 20 years and currently is one of the largest aquarium stores, specializing in freshwater, salt water, and reef aquariums. With over 8,000 gallons of water dedicated to marine livestock, Living Sea has the largest and most comprehensive selection of salt water fish and invertebrates in the Midwest. Living Sea's unique offerings include free shark and stingray feedings every Saturday and Sunday at 2:00 p.m., free stingray feedings every Monday-Friday at 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m., and tours and presentations. Tours include the *Self-Guided Tour*, *Guided Store Tour*, *Living Sea Aquarium Experience*, and the *Living Sea Aquarium World Tour*. To ensure availability, schedule group tours at least three (3) weeks in advance. Call or visit their Web site for more information, tour descriptions and duration, fees, and/or reservations.



Long Grove Confectionery

333 Lexington Drive, Buffalo Grove, Illinois, 888-459-3100, www.longgrove.com

See a 2,500 pound Chocolate Sculpture as the tour begins. Attention chocolate lovers, this chocolate factory tour shows how chocolate is processed and candy being made. Guests receive an end-of-the-tour treat. Tours are offered Monday-Thursday at 9:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., Noon, and 1:00 p.m. and costs \$2 person. Call or visit their Web site for more information and/or reservations.



Magic Waters Water Park

7820 Cherryvale N. Blvd, Cherry Valley, Illinois, 800-373-1679, www.magicwaterswaterpark.com

Magic Waters Water Park offers discounts to groups of 15 or more which include unlimited use of all rides, free troop leader admission and thank you gift, affordable meal deals, and discount on tube rentals. The water park offers amenities such as *The Abyss* dark tunnel tube slides, *Splash Blaster* raft ride including 30' and 35' drops, *Breaker Beach* wave pool, traditional body and tube water slides, *Splash Magic River*, and much more. On special Girl Scout days, each girl that brings a Girl Scout related item will receive \$5 off regular admission. Show your Girl Scout pride, enjoy *Waves of Fun* and earn a participation badge. Call or visit their Web site for more information.



Marriott Lincolnshire Theater

10 Marriott Drive, Lincolnshire, Illinois, 847-634-0100, www.marriotttheatre.com

Enjoy plays and musicals in the cozy theater in the round. A wide variety of musicals appropriate for different age levels are performed throughout the year. Many matinee and dinner shows are available as well. Call or visit their Web site for more information, performances, fees, and/or reservations.



Medieval Times Dinner and Tournament

2001 N. Roselle Road, Schaumburg, Illinois, 847-843-3900, www.medievaltimes.com

Medieval Times offers a number of Girl Scout Appreciation Days throughout the year. The shows are designed to be both educational and entertaining and will last almost two hours with lunch included. The beginning of each show offers a short seminar explaining life in a castle. After the show the girls can meet the Knights. Girl Scouts who attend will receive a complimentary Medieval Times patch. The cost is \$19.95 for Girl Scouts, leaders, and children ages 3-12, \$29.95 for additional family members. Call or visit their Web site for more information and/or reservations.



Meijer: Healthy Me! Tour

Booked through www.fieldtripfactory.com

Meijer's believes healthy children are better students! **A Healthy Me!** field trip is designed to help children learn how to lead a healthy lifestyle through nutrition and exercise. Local Meijer stores offer children a fun experience in a real life environment that will help them make healthy choices every day. This free field trip will help children in grades K-8 develop and enhance healthy lifestyles, nutrition, exercise, and career choices. Trained tour leaders modify the field trips to be grade appropriate. The program is 1 hour long and limited to 30 participants. Each girl will receive samples of healthy foods and a goodie bag with souvenirs from the trip. Visit the Field Trip Factory for more information and/or reservations.



Mexican Fine Arts Center

1852 W. 19th Street, Chicago, Illinois, 312-738-1503, www.nationalmuseumofmexicanart.org

The National Museum of Mexican Art is the largest Latino culture organization in the country and the only Latino museum accredited by the American Association of Museums. The museum offers free guided tours. Museum hours are 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Tuesday-Sunday. Call or visit their Web site for more information, exhibit descriptions, and/or reservations.



Mitchell Museum of the American Indian

3001 Central Street, Evanston, Illinois, 847-475-1030, www.mitchellmuseum.org

This museum has a number of exhibits and offers tours for Girl Scout Troops. The museum recommends a maximum of 20 girls with at least one chaperone per four (4) girls. A volunteer docent will describe displays, demonstrate American Indian games and explain the objects on the Museum's "touching tables". Reading aloud of a Native American story or viewing a video can also be included. Beaded key-chains, dream catchers and other crafts can be made for an additional \$1 per person. Allow 1 hour and 20 minutes to complete a tour and a craft project. Call or visit their Web site for more information, tour schedules, and/or reservations.



Morks Chocolate

1890 N. Rand Road, Palatine, Illinois, 847-359-3554

Morks offers a 45 minute class that gives the girls several different types of candy making options. The girls make different candies and molds and leave with more than one pound of candy each. The cost of the class is \$10 per person with a minimum of 10 people. Classes are offered Monday-Friday between 10:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. Call for more information and/or reservations.



Mount Prospect Historical Society

101 S. Maple, Mount Prospect, Illinois, 847-392-9006

The Historical Society offers tours of the 1906 Friedrich’s House Museum. Tours are offered Monday-Friday from Noon – 6:00 p.m. The fee is \$2 per person and the tours generally last for 30-45 minutes. Call for more information and/or reservations.



Mount Prospect Police Department

112 E. Northwest Highway, Mount Prospect, Illinois, 847-870-5656

The police department offers a variety of demonstrations and activities for Girl Scouts of all ages. The programs take about one hour and are hosted by Officer Friendly. The program is free. Call for more information and/or reservations.



Mount Prospect Tree Walk

Walk begins at the Mount Prospect Historical Society. Take a walking tour of Mount Prospect and learn about the trees that grow in the community. The Tree Walk is mainly in the historic Triangle neighborhood. The walk ends near Oberweis Dairy. The *Mount Prospect Tree Walk* booklet is available from the VISTA Library. Contact the VISTA Manager for check out information.



Mountain View Mine

510 E. Algonquin Road, Des Plaines, Illinois, 847-391-5700, www.desplainesparks.org/golfcenter

This outdoor miniature golf course features two courses. They have many hills and valleys and are themed to resemble a mining mountain. Located within Prairie Lakes Park, girls can also enjoy the walking path and park field. Admission is \$5 for children and \$6 for adults for residents of Des Plaines, or \$5 for children and \$7 for adults for nonresidents of Des Plaines. Call or visit their Web site for more information.



Museum of Science and Industry

5700 S .Lake Shore Drive, Chicago, Illinois, 773-684-9844, www.msichicago.org

What could be more fun than spending the night under a real 727, nestled near a fairy castle, or camped steps from a toy-making factory? Troops can enjoy a rare opportunity to visit the Museum after dark and explore the Museum’s one-of-a-kind exhibits, participate in science activities planned especially for your group, earn a one-of-a-kind Snoozeum Patch, and more! The admission fee includes overnight admission, activities, a Snoozeum patch, snack, and breakfast. Parking is not included. Call or visit their Web site for more information, availability, and/or reservations.



Naper Settlement

523 S. Webster Street, Naperville, Illinois, 630-420-4161, www.napersettlement.org

The Naper Settlement shows how life in Naperville was during the 19th century frontier settlement. They offer programs and overnights for Girl Scout troops that will take them back to the Naper Frontier. They also offer self-guided tours and a History Hunt. Also offered is Victorian Tea or Frontier Fun as well as themed overnights with the following themes: Pioneer, Printing and Stamping, Schoolhouse, or Victorian Spa. Call or visit their Web site for more information, group rates, and/or reservations.



Old World Wisconsin Living History Museum

S103W37890 Highway 67, Eagle, Wisconsin, 262-594-6300, www.wisconsinhistory.org

Nearly 600 acres of pristine prairie and lush woodland in the southern unit of Kettle Moraine State Forest provide Old World Wisconsin with an idyllic setting. The largest outdoor museum of rural life in America, Old World Wisconsin portrays the history of immigration and resettlement in late-19th- and early 20th-century Wisconsin. The Visitor Center's octagonal Clausing Barn includes a rustic cafeteria-style restaurant, and the Ramsey Barn contains an orientation theater and museum shop stocked with unique Wisconsin gift items. Once inside the museum, visitors can board a tram for an open-air ride to and from the museum's major thematic areas. Admission is \$8.50 for girls and \$14.50 for adults. The museum also offers a number of workshops from the Pioneer era. Call or visit their Web site for more information, workshop details, and/or reservations.

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Oriental Institute

1152 E. 58th Street, Chicago, Illinois, 773-702-9520, www.oi.uchicago.edu

The Oriental Institute Museum is a world-renowned showcase for the history, art, and archaeology of the ancient Near East. The museum displays objects recovered by Oriental Institute excavations in permanent galleries devoted to ancient Egypt, Nubia, Persia, Mesopotamia, Syria, Anatolia, and the ancient site of Megiddo, as well as rotating special exhibits. Admission is \$5 for adults and \$2 for girls 12 and under. Call or visit their Web site for more information.

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Patterson Glassworks

888 Tower Road, Mundelein, Illinois, 847-949-0013, www.pattersonglass.com

This glass studio is now open to the public and to Girl Scout troops. The studio assists girls in earning badges while at the same time, experiencing how hot glass art is produced. They offer several programs which can be tailored to your troop. Call or visit their Web site for more information, workshop times, fees, and/or reservations.

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Petco: Fur, Feathers, and Fins

Booked through www.fieldtripfactory.com

The **Fur, Feathers, and Fins** program allows children to learn about the characteristics and habitats of fish, reptiles, birds, and small animals. At local PETCO stores, lessons in science, math, and geography come to life through this hands-on field trip. As girls develop a respect for animals, they also develop a greater sense of responsibility. This free field trip helps girls in grades K-8 develop and enhance skills such as basic needs for animal care, animal habitats and characteristics, environmental issues and animal survival, animal respect, and reading and science. Trained tour leaders modify the field trips to be grade appropriate. The tours are 60-90 minutes in length and are limited to group sizes of **10-30 participants** per tour. Each girl receives a goodie bag with souvenirs from their field trip. Visit the Field Trip Factory for more information and/or reservations.

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Polish Museum of America

984 N. Milwaukee Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, 773-384-3352, www.pma.prcua.org

The museum shows the immigration of Polish immigrants to the Chicago area. It focuses on Polish history and culture. Admission is \$2 for girls and \$4 for adults. Tours are available. Call or visit their Web site for more information.

Putting Edge Indoor Glow-in-the Dark Mini Golf

Locations in Lincolnshire, Hoffman Estates and Norridge, www.putting-edge.com

Putting Edge offers many special group packages and is open at 10:00 a.m. on days when there is no school. Groups with the minimum of 20 guests are eligible for discounts. Group packages are available ranging from \$7 to \$10 per girl and include golfing and refreshments. Call or visit their Web site for more information and/or reservations. If girls are interested in patches, contact Amy Weteska; 847-255-9677, aweteska2000@wowway.com for more information.

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Randall Oaks Park and Barnyard Zoo

17N350 Randall Road, West Dundee, Illinois, 827-551-4310, www.dtpd.org

Randall Oaks is a beautiful 141 acre, fenced in park with picnic areas, a volleyball court, two playgrounds, the historic Centerville Schoolhouse, and a barnyard zoo. Inside the zoo, girls can feed and pet a variety of farm animals. Pony rides and hayrides are also available. Admission is \$2 per girl, \$2.75 per adult, and \$.75 per bag of feed for the animals. Weekend hours from Mid-April to Mid-October are 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Call or visit their Web site for more information.

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Raupp Memorial Museum

901 Dunham Lane, Buffalo Grove; Illinois, 847-459-2318, www.prairie.district96.k12.il.us/museum

The Raupp Memorial Museum assists with Girl Scout badge requirements through fun and exciting activities. Some badges can be earned completely in one visit to the museum! The museum programs help with the following Girl Scout badges:

- Brownie Girl Scouts: *Laura Ingalls Wilder Patch, Listening To The Past, and Wave The Flag*
- Junior Girl Scouts: *Citizenship, Folk Arts, Laura Ingalls Wilder Patch, Local Lore, Toymaker, and Yarn and Fabrics*
- Cadette and Senior Girl Scouts: *Archeology and History CSI*

Fees vary based on program and age level. Call or visit their Web site for more information, program scheduling, fees, and/or reservations.

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River Trails Nature Center

3120 Milwaukee Avenue, Northbrook, Illinois, 847-824-8360, www.fpdcc.com

As a part of the Forest Preserve District of Cook County, this nature center has exhibits of native mammals, fish, reptiles, and amphibians. Also at the museum are Indian displays, an organic garden, herb garden, honeybee colony, an orchard, and seasonal displays. Three ½ mile self-guided nature trails emphasize the ecology of local plant and animal communities. Annually they host a Sugar Maple Festival in March and Honey Festival in October. Call or visit their Web site for more information.

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Sand Ridge Nature Center

15890 Paxton Avenue, South Holland, Illinois, 708-868-0606, www.fpdcc.com

As part of the Forest Preserve District of Cook County this nature center emphasizes the natural history of the Calumet region and its relation to the geological past. Located on a ridge of what was once the shoreline of Lake Chicago. Pioneer exhibits show the physical, biological, social, and historical relationships of man and his environment. Call or visit their Web site for more information.

Saturn Dealership: Things you Auto Know

Booked through www.fieldtripfactory.com

The **Things You Auto Know** program is a fun and informative field trip to a local Saturn facility. Girls learn valuable life and skill lessons about auto safety, manufacturing, design, and maintenance. Saturn teaches auto safety through a hands-on learning experience that explores the showroom, views the interior structure of an automobile, explains the mechanical functions of a car, and observes the Saturn service crew in action. This field trip opportunity helps girls grades K-8 develop and enhance skills such as automobile safety features, safe passenger practices, responsible car ownership, basic road signs, environmental concerns associated with automobiles and the importance of teamwork in business. Trained tour leaders modify the field trips to be grade appropriate. The field trips are 60-90 minutes and are limited to 30 participants per tour. Each girl receives a goodie bag with souvenirs from the trip. Visit the Field Trip Factory for more information and/or reservations.



SciTech Interactive Science Center

18 W. Benton Street, Aurora, Illinois, 630-859-3434, www.scitech.mus.il.us

SciTech offers hands-on science exhibits for all ages Tuesday-Saturday Noon – 5:00 p.m. and until 8:00 p.m. on Thursdays. Additional hours are available for group field trips. The center offers the following badge programs for Girl Scouts:

- Daisy Girl Scouts – *Science by the Book*
- Brownie Girl Scouts – *Movers, Numbers and Shapes, Science in Action, Science Wonders, and Sounds of Music.*
- Junior Girl Scouts – *Making It Matter, Math Whiz, Science Discovery, Science Sleuth, and Weather Watch*
- *Girl Scout Scavenger Hunts* – Fulfill partial requirements for Brownie and Junior Girl Scout badges on any Sunday afternoon from Noon – 4:00 p.m. during the school year.

Rates and availability vary depending on the program and age level. Call or visit their Web site for more information, program descriptions, fees, availability, and/or reservations.



Shedd Aquarium

1200 S. Lake Shore Drive, Chicago, Illinois, 312-692-3224, www.sheddaquarium.org

Grab your sleeping bag and pillow for an overnight adventure. Shedd Aquarium's overnight programs are a fun and educational way for your group to learn about aquatic animals and their habitats. The \$55 per person fee includes admission into the aquarium, Oceanarium and Wild Reef, animal presentations, activities and crafts, dinner, bedtime snack, and continental breakfast. This “Asleep with the Fishes” overnighter is perfect for troops with girls in grades K-6. Call or visit their Web site for more information, availability, and/or reservations.



Simon Says Salon

Inside Macy’s at Old Orchard Mall, Skokie, Illinois, 847-329-2619, www.simonsayshair.com

Simon says has several packages to choose from, but the most popular is the \$15 package which allows the girls to choose 3 of the 5 following services: temporary hair color streaks, one beaded braid, make up application, manicure, or facial. Call or visit their Web site for more information.



Spertus Museum

618 S. Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, 312-322-1747, www.spertus.edu

The art and artifacts that comprise Spertus Museum’s world-class collection provide a critical platform for the ongoing examination of Jewish culture and the multifaceted Jewish experience. Through its innovative public programming, exhibitions, collections, research facilities, and degree programs, Spertus inspires learning, serves diverse communities and fosters understanding for Jews and people of all faiths. Call or visit their Web site for more information about admission and guided tour availability and/or reservations.



Spinning Top and Yo-Yo Museum

533 Milwaukee Avenue, Burlington, Wisconsin, 262-763-3946, www.topmuseum.org

The Spinning Top Museum is a famous attraction with 35+ hands-on spinning tops and top games, an exhibit of 2,000 tops, yo-yos, gyroscopes and much more. Here everyone is a kid again! The live presentation is a unique feature included in the fast 2 ½ hour visit/tour/program. Admission is \$11 per person. Call or visit their Web site for more information, availability, and/or reservations.



Spring Valley Nature Sanctuary and Volkening Heritage Farm

1111 E. Schaumburg Road, Schaumburg, Illinois, 847-985-2100, www.parkfun.com/dir/spv

Spring Valley provides an excellent setting for nature and science related Girl Scout activities. All workshops are hands-on, led by a trained staff member, and actively involve the girls and their leaders. Most sessions will spend a portion of the time outdoors therefore all participants need to dress for the weather. Programs usually last 1 ½ hours and are offered year round. Spring Valley offers the following activities:

- Daisy Girl Scouts – *Alphabet Hike, Mini Garden, Thumb Print Figures, Workgin with Clay, Tye-Dye Butterflies, Reading Poetry, and What’s in MY Bag*
- Brownie Girl Scouts – *Animals, Earth and Sky, Eco-Explorer, Plants, Watching Wildlife, and Water Everywhere*
- Junior Girl Scouts – *Earth Connection, Frosty Fun, Outdoor Creativity, Plants and Animals, Rocks Rock, Water Wonders, Weather Watch, Wildlife, and Your Outdoor Surroundings.*

Activity length and fee varies depending on age level. Call or visit their Web site for more information, availability, fees, and/or reservations.



Steel Beam Theatre

111 W. Main Street, St. Charles, Illinois, 630-587-8521, www.steelbeamtheatre.com

The theatre offers Girl Scout Workshops which are conducted by experienced theatre professionals and can be scheduled after school Monday-Friday. The programs that are available are:

- Brownie Girl Scouts – *Let’s Pretend Try-It*
- Junior Girl Scouts – *Theater Badge*
- Cadette and Senior Girl Scouts – *The Play’s The Thing Interest Project*

Troops can also book for one of the Children’s Stage shows. Steel Beam offers a full season of five shows, with performances on Saturdays at 10:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. Meet the cast and tour backstage after the show. Tickets are \$8 per girl and \$10 per adult. Call or visit their Web site for more information, program details, availability, fees, and/or reservations.



Swedish American Museum Center

5211 N. Clark Street, Chicago, Illinois, 773-728-8111, www.samac.org

In 1976, Kurt Mathiasson, one of the leaders of the Andersonville community and a Swedish immigrant, dreamed to preserve the Swedish-American heritage in Chicago. The first museum was a small storefront log cabin in which family histories were collected. Today, at its current location, permanent exhibits and a new Children’s Museum of Immigration have become an integral part of the museum. Admission is \$3 for girls and \$4 for adults. Group outing information is available. Call or visit their Web site for more information and/or reservations.



Tall Ship Windy

Navy Pier, Chicago, Illinois, 312-595-5555, www.tallshipwindy.com

Tall Ship Windy is sailing from Chicago’s Navy Pier. What better way to teach science and history than through hands-on learning. Educational cruises are offered to Girl Scouts. This program provides a variety of activities and discussions about maritime history, sailing, maritime arts, marine wildlife, group dynamics, and more. The general program can be easily modified to accommodate any particular focus for a given group. The trip lasts about 1 ½ hours and is typically offered in the morning and early afternoons of May, June, September, and early October. Call or visit their Web site for more information, fees, and/or reservations.



Tyrell Trailside Museum

738 Thatcher Avenue, River Forest, Illinois, 708-366-6530, www.fpdcc.com

Part of the Forest Preserve District of Cook County, this museum is suitable for short visits by small groups. There are no nature trails. Group reservations must be called in ahead of time. The museum is nestled in one of Cook County’s richest savannahs. The facility was built in 1874. In 1917, the Forest Preserve District of Cook County purchased the building and surrounding land to use as the general headquarters. In 1931 it was converted to its present use as Trailside Museum, the first of its kind in the Midwest. The house that was built for educational purposes continues to depict knowledge with displays of native flora and fauna and live animals of the Chicagoland area. Call or visit their Web site for more information.



Ultimate Response Security

1800 Nations Drive, Suite 117, Gurnee, Illinois, 847-627-0183, www.ultimateresponsesecurity.com

Ultimate Response, a Gurnee-based personal defense training company, announces the foundation for their fun and safe self-defense courses is “You don’t have to train like a martial arts expert or a combat soldier to empower yourself with the life skills necessary to escape dangerous situations. Train your brain and your body will follow!” Girl Scouts ages 13 and up can participate in adult curriculum, including *Compliance and Escort*, *Stun and Run*, and *HOM DO Combat Art* for a discounted rate of \$25 per girl. Local instructor Cliff Paul would love to hear from area Girl Scout troops/groups. Courses can be scheduled upon request and can be held at location in Gurnee, Buffalo Grove, or a location chosen by your troop/group. Call Cliff or visit the Web site for more information and a schedule of upcoming classes.



Vertical Endeavors

28141 Diehl Road, Warrenville, Illinois, 630-836-0122, www.verticalendeavors.com

Vertical Endeavors is an indoor rock climbing facility and offers programs Girl Scouts enjoy. Their badge work programs include a five hour class for Junior Girl Scouts that fulfills part of the *Sports Sampler* and *Adventure Sports* badges. The class for Cadette and Senior Girl Scouts works on the *High Adventure Interest Project*. The cost is \$39.99 per Girl Scout. Other group programs are also available for \$16 per person on weekdays and \$18 per person on weekends. Call or visit their Web site for more information and/or reservations.



Whole Foods

1331 N. Rand Road, Palatine, Illinois, 847-766-8080, www.wholefoodsmarket.com

Whole Foods store offers free tours, as well as, hands-on experience preparing simple dishes. This trip can fulfill requirements for both Brownie Girl Scout and Junior Girl Scout badge work. Most tours are held after school during the week. Call the store for more information and/or reservations.



WICKED- the new musical

Oriental Theater, 24 W. Randolph Street, Chicago, Illinois, 312-977-1710, www.oriental-theater.com

WICKED, at the Oriental Theater, is offering a special discount for Girl Scouts! Girl Scout groups of 20 or more can purchase tickets for as low as \$15.50 per ticket. The price of the ticket includes a special WICKED patch for each girl and a post show Q&A session. Study guides are also available for Girl Scout troop/group leaders to initiate discussion about the show. Call Jessica Simon, Girl Scout Coordinator, at the Group Sales office at 312-977-1710 for more information and/or reservations.



Wilderness Pursuit Horseback Adventure

N5773 Resewood Avenue, Neillsville, Wisconsin, 715-743-4484, www.wildernesspursuit.com

Wilderness Pursuit offers unique adventures ranging from 2 hour trail rides to 5 day youth camps in Clark County Forest's 133,000 acres in central Wisconsin. Wilderness Pursuit's flexible programs can be customized to fit any groups' needs, including earning Girls Scout badges. Call or visit their Web Site for more information and/or reservations.



Willowbrook Wildlife Center

525 S. Park Boulevard, Glen Ellyn, Illinois, 630-942-6200, www.dupageforest.com/education

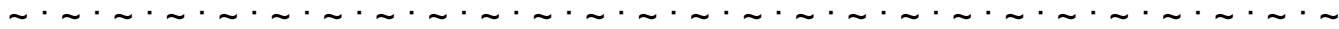
The Willowbrook Wildlife Center has self-guide tours and on-site programs for Girl Scouts. Self-guided groups are given a welcome and orientation upon arrival. On-site programs require an additional hour for exhibit exploration. Admission is \$1 per girl, plus \$20 for out-of-county residents. Adults are free. Program range from 45-90 minutes. On-site program offerings include *Animals*, *Civic Outreach-Our Wildlife Neighbors*, *Civic Outreach-Restoring Nature's Treasures*, *Intro to Birds of Prey*, *Living with Wildlife*, *Question and Answer Session*, *Survival*, *Tracking*, *WSI-Wildlife Scene Investigations*, *Young Explorers*. Call or visit their Web site for more information, program availability, and/or reservations.



Wilmette Theatre

1122 Central Avenue, Wilmette, Illinois, 847-251-7424, www.wilmettetheatre.com

The Wilmette Theatre presents loads of opportunities and group rate discounts to groups of 10 or more Girl Scouts. Call or visit their Web site for more information, performance schedule, fees, and/or reservations.

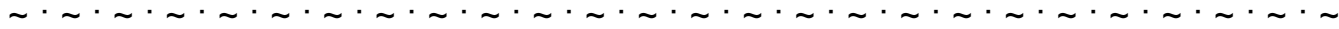


WTTW Studios

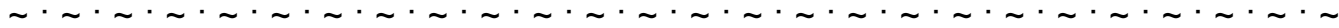
5400 N. St. Louis Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, 773-583-5000, www.wttw.com

WTTW is pleased to offer a very special evening of tours for girls involved in Girl Scouting. The studio is inviting girls in second grade and above and are involved in Girl Scouts the studios for a free, fun, and educational tour of the production facilities. This free educational event is being sponsored by Kim & Scott's Gourmet Pretzels. Kim & Scott's Gourmet Pretzels will also provide refreshments. This behind-the-scenes tour will include visits to the Digital Broadcast Operation Center (Broadcast Master Control), Studio A (production home of *Check, Please!* and many other local productions), the set and studio for the WTTW nightly local public affairs program, *Chicago Tonight*, the set and studio for the WTTW nationally produced musical program, *Soundstage*, and much more. Learn how WTTW11 broadcasts into homes. Girls will learn what it takes to produce and broadcast a program. Each Girl Scout will receive a WTTW Kids Scout Tour Day activity patch! Call or visit their Web site for more information.

ADVENTURES A LITTLE FURTHER FOR OLDER GIRLS



The following trips are ideas for older girls who want to be on the move. Most are within Illinois while some are in Iowa, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Missouri, and Georgia. These were suggestions from other troops and were designed for troops looking for bigger trips, adventures, and overnights.



Abraham Lincoln Library and Museum

212 N. Sixth Street, Springfield, Illinois, 217-558-8844, www.lincolnlibrary.info

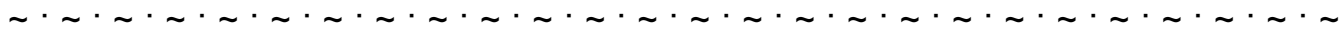
The library is open to the public and is free of charge. The museum admission is \$7.50 for person ages 16 and older and \$3.50 per persons ages 5-15. The museum immerses you in Lincoln's world from a rustic Indiana cabin to the Executive Mansion in the nation's capital, follow the fate of America's 16th president and share the joys and sorrows of a family and a nation. Permanent exhibits include *Union Theater-Lincoln's Eyes*, *Ghost of the Library*, *Treasures Gallery*, *Mrs. Lincoln's Attic*, and *The Illinois Gallery*. For hotels and other sites to see in Springfield, visit www.visitspringfieldillinois.com. For additional museum information, call or visit their Web site.



Antoinette's Haunted History Tours

Right Brain Activities, Alton, Illinois, www.hauntedalton.com

Known as the most haunted town in Illinois, Alton offers tours during Spring, Summer, and Fall. The Haunted History Tours of Alton-Ghost hunters board a trolley to visit sites of actual hauntings with a Paranormal Investigator as your guide. Tour-goers get hands-on opportunities to heighten their awareness of the Spirit World. Haunted History Tours are held in mainly September-November. Make reservations well in advance as tours sell out quickly. Private groups can be booked anytime throughout the year. No one under the age of 14 will be allowed on a tour. Tours range in price from \$25 to \$52. Visit their Web site for more information.



John Deere Pavilion

1400 River Drive, Moline, Illinois, 309-765-1000, e-mail jdpavilion@johndeere.com

The John Deere Pavilion was created as a celebrations of the past, present, and future of agribusiness. It has attracted guests from all corners of the globe and is recognized as the world’s most comprehensive agricultural exhibit. The visitor center is open Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Saturday, 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., and Sunday, Noon – 4:00 p.m. There is no fee for admission. A Radisson Hotel is located on the John Deere site and can be reached at 309-764-1000. Call or e-mail for more information.



Kampsville Ferry

Kampsville, Illinois, 618-653-4518

A free ferry that crosses the Illinois River at Kampsville, Illinois, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Call for more information.



Lewis and Clark Boat House and Nature Center

1050 Riverside Drive, St. Charles, Missouri, 636-947-3199, www.lewisandclark.net/boathouse

Girl Scouts can learn about Sacagawea (the Native American girl who went on the Lewis and Clark Expedition) and her life, struggles, and impact on our heritage and history. Fee is \$2 per Girl Scout. Call or visit their Web site for more information and/or reservations.



National Great Rivers Museum

1 Lock and Dam Way, East Alton, Illinois, 618-462-6976, www.greatriverroad.com

Free admission and open daily 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., closed Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Day. The natural ecosystem of the Mississippi River and how humans interact with it is one of the major themes of the museum. Displays include:

- A model of the bluffs and an aquarium, both showing the different life along and in the Mississippi River
- The mechanics of the river and how soil is made, erosion and how working models of the river help scientists make decisions
- Visitor estimations on how much fresh water their household uses in a day

Call or visit their Web site for more information.



National Mississippi River Museum and Aquarium

350 E. 3rd Street, Dubuque Iowa, 800-226-3369, www.mississippirivermuseum.com

The National Mississippi River Museum and Aquarium is accredited by the American Association of Museums, a distinction held by only 9% of American Museums. It was named an affiliate of the Smithsonian Institution in August 2002. The new river campus houses the William Woodward Discovery Center, the National Rivers Hall of Fame, the Fred W. Woodward Riverboat Museum, the Pfohl Boatyard, a wetland, and a refurbished train depot. Admission to the museum is \$9.95 for adults, \$7.50 for youths ages 7-17. Call or visit their Web site for more information.



