



# OH WOW, CHECK OUT THESE WISCONSIN BIRTHDAYS IN 2017!



## SUMMERFEST IS 50, CAMP RANDALL TURNS 100, LEINIE'S MAKES IT TO 150

While it's mere supposition (or not) that Wisconsinites celebrate at the drop of a hat, there is undeniable truth to the claim that the state likes to make a big deal out of major anniversaries. Everyone's invited to join in the revelry as the state marks these notable milestones in 2017.

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# MADISON

**Camp Randall Stadium** turns 100. While the iconic home of the University of Wisconsin-Madison Badgers football team will commemorate 100 years as a stadium, its significance in Wisconsin history includes a role as a Civil War prisoner of war camp.

**The Wisconsin State Capitol** marks its 100th year in the current building with a special Wisconsin Historical Society exhibit called “A Century of Stories.” On July 5, there will be a special edition of Concerts on the Square to celebrate the centennial. Interesting facts: A state law prevents any building within one mile to be taller than this landmark on the city’s isthmus. Murals decorate the interior dome of the rotunda, the only granite dome in the United States. Free tours are offered nearly every day of the year.



Wisconsin State Capitol



Dane County Farmers' Market

## **When in Madison:**

Pick up some produce at the Dane County Farmers' Market, which sets up around the Capitol building and is the largest producer-only farmers' market in the country. Nearby is The Old Fashioned, where the classic cocktail by the same name is made to perfection. If you're heading to Camp Randall for a football game, build in some time for a monster-sized sit-down breakfast at Mickies Dairy Bar and some shopping at the artsy boutiques along Monroe Street.

## KENOSHA

**Bristol Renaissance Faire**, regularly voted the top Renaissance Faire in the nation, celebrates its 30th season, which starts in July.

**The Washington Park Velodrome** marks its 90th anniversary this year along with the distinction of being the oldest operating track of its kind in the country. In the last two years, this unique 333-meter banked bicycle track underwent a complete reconstruction and reopens in May for the 2017 cycling season. Since 1927, Velodrome races have produced countless national, world and Olympic champions.



Bristol Renaissance Faire



Mars Cheese Castle  
Photo Courtesy of Mars Cheese Castle

### **When in Kenosha:**

After watching riders at the track, take a ride on the vintage electric streetcar system in the city. Visit the Dinosaur Discovery Museum, the only museum to focus on the link between meat-eating dinosaurs and birds, where the exhibits are huge both literally and figuratively. Have lunch at Franks Diner, a registered historic landmark that happens to be the oldest continuously operating lunch car diner in the U.S. Stop at Mars Cheese Castle to stock up on cheese curds for the ride home.

# MILWAUKEE

**Summerfest**, the world's largest music festival with some 800 acts performing over 11 days on 11 stages, turns 50 this year. Dates are June 28-July 2 and July 4-9. Headliners this year include Tom Petty & the Heartbreakers (celebrating their 40th anniversary tour), Red Hot Chili Peppers, Pink and the Zac Brown Band.

**The Milwaukee County Zoo** is 125 years old. To mark the milestone, zoo staffers are busy planning a giant cake featuring some of the Zoo's most iconic animals, a historic timeline and special price rollback.



Summerfest  
Photo Courtesy of Summerfest



Milwaukee County Zoo  
Photo Courtesy of John Nienhuis



Harley-Davidson Museum



Milwaukee Art Museum  
Photo Courtesy of VISIT Milwaukee

## **When in Milwaukee:**

Visit the Harley-Davidson Museum for some full-throttle fun, with more than 450 motorcycles and artifacts on display in a building located on the Milwaukee River with views of the city skyline. And on that skyline is the Milwaukee Art Museum with its moveable wings architecture and collection of 30,000 works of art. Visit a microbrewery or two or twenty.

## DOOR COUNTY



Cana Island Lighthouse  
Photo Courtesy of Door County Visitor Bureau

**The Peninsula Music Festival** enters its 65th season in 2017. Professional musicians from all over the nation travel to Door County for three weeks every August to put on a series of nine orchestra concerts at the Door Community Auditorium in Fish Creek.

**The Ridges Sanctuary** celebrates 80 years of protecting some of Door County's most ecologically diverse lands. Located in Bailey's Harbor, it is the state's oldest private nature preserve.

**Shipwrecked Brewery** in Egg Harbor celebrates its 20th anniversary, making it Door County's oldest microbrewery. This brewery serves both year-round and seasonal hand-crafted Door County beers to the tune of 1,100 barrels per year. Interesting side note, the building housing the brewery is said to be haunted by multiple spirits, and we're not talking distilled spirits.



Door County Shoreline



The Peninsula Music Festival  
Photo Courtesy of The Peninsula Music Festival

### **When in Door County:**

Tour the Cana Island Lighthouse, perhaps the most iconic and photographed of all the lighthouses in the county. Ride the ferry to Washington Island and spend the afternoon on the beach. Try a Door County fish boil and save room for cherry pie - this peninsula is home to some 50 cherry orchards.

## CHIPPEWA FALLS

**150th Anniversary of Jacob Leinenkugel Brewing Company** The Jacob Leinenkugel Brewing Company has made it to its sesquicentennial and will celebrate the milestone with a community event at the Northern Wisconsin State Fairgrounds August 11-12. Jake Leinenkugel founded the brewery back in 1867, and to honor the family's roots and mark the 150th, Leinie's is creating a collaborative anniversary lager with the historic German brewery Hofbräu München. A special anniversary book uncovering interesting tidbits about the family brewing dynasty, now in its sixth generation, is available at the brewery's Leinie's Lodge.



Jacob Leinenkugel Brewing Company  
Photos Courtesy of Paul Bialas



Irvine Park and Zoo  
Photos Courtesy of Chippewa Falls Parks, Recreation and Forestry Dept.

### **When in Chippewa Falls:**

With more than 450 lakes and streams of all sizes and depths, a paddling experience is in order, be it kayaking, canoeing, or stand up paddleboarding. The Irvine Park and Zoo is free, so stop in to see the cougars, bears, tigers and bison. The High Shores Supper Club on Lake Wissota is a fine example of what a Wisconsin supper club should be, with the Friday fish fry always a favorite, thanks in part to the Leinenkugel's beer used in the fry batter.

# STEVENS POINT

**160th Anniversary of Stevens Point Brewery** At 10 years the senior of Leinenkugel's, the Stevens Point Brewery celebrates its 160th anniversary in 2017. It is one of the oldest continuously operating breweries in the United States, having provided soldiers with beer during the Civil War and survived prohibition by brewing sodas and near beers. The location hasn't changed since the beginning, although there have been several expansions over the years. Schedule a tour of the brew and bottling houses, then stop in the hospitality room for samplings.



Stevens Point Brewery  
Photo Courtesy of Olivia Locascio Film & Photo



Stevens Point Sculpture Park  
Photo Courtesy of Steve Reddell



Green Circle Trail  
Photo Courtesy of Jim Buchholz

## When in Stevens Point:

Work up a thirst hiking the Green Circle Trail and Ice Age Trail. There's also the Stevens Point Sculpture Park, a 20-acre scenic trail with art installations along the way that make the connection between nature and art. The state's oldest farmers' market is here and runs every day of the week May through October.

# ONALASKA

**10th Anniversary of Three Rivers Roleo, July 8** This started as an amateur event 10 years ago and has grown into a nationally televised log rolling tournament. Athletes include home-town favorites as well as pros. The event is free and takes place at the Great River Landing, a historic logging site on the Black River in far western Wisconsin near the mighty Mississippi.



Log Rolling  
Photo Courtesy of Aperture by Steve Davis and Darlene Prois



Biking on the Great River State Trail

### **When in Onalaska:**

The city is the trailhead for the Great River State Trail, so bring your bike for 100 miles of non-stop biking. Stay at Rainbow Ridge Farms B&B and pitch in with morning chores like collecting eggs for your lumberjack-worthy breakfast.

## PEPIN

**150th anniversary of beloved children's author Laura Ingalls Wilder** Born in Pepin, Laura Ingalls Wilder's first book, "Little House in the Big Woods," is set in Pepin County and it's the story of her pioneer childhood in Wisconsin. The residents of the area paid tribute to their most famous daughter with a reconstruction of the log house "Pa" Ingalls built in 1863. There is also a Pepin Historical Laura Ingalls Wilder Museum and annual Laura Ingalls Wilder Days festival, set for September 9-10 that attracts fans from around the world. A birthday party was held at the cabin on Saturday, February 4 in advance of Laura's actual birth date of February 7.



Lake Pepin Marina  
Photo Courtesy of Travel Wisconsin

### **When in Pepin County:**

Enjoy Lake Pepin, the widest naturally occurring part of the Mississippi River, for boating, fishing, sailing and windsurfing. Take a Lake Pepin cruise aboard a 31-foot sloop or sign up for sailing instruction at Sail Pepin. Head to the Tiffany Wildlife Area, a lush hardwood forest covering 13,000 acres, for silent sports and nature study, and be sure to take a tour aboard the antique train there, too. Finish up at Villa Bellezza Winery & Vineyards, a Mediterranean-style winery with piazza located on the Great River Road along the Mississippi, and it's dog-friendly.



Tiffany Wildlife Area  
Photo Courtesy of RJ and Linda Miller



Birthsite of Laura Ingalls Wilder  
Photo Courtesy of Travel Wisconsin

# SHEBOYGAN

**50th anniversary of the John Michael Kohler Arts Center** To commemorate the anniversary of this arts center known worldwide for its innovative exploration of contemporary American art, the museum is showcasing a yearlong series of 15 exhibitions called “Road Less Traveled” dedicated to artist-built environments with the artwork heavily influenced by the artist’s own physical surroundings. Admission is always free.



“Road Less Traveled” Exhibition  
Photo Courtesy of John Michael Kohler Arts Center



Inside the John Michael Kohler Arts Center  
Photo Courtesy of John Michael Kohler Arts Center



Catching a wave in Lake Michigan  
Photo Courtesy of Dairyland Surf Classic



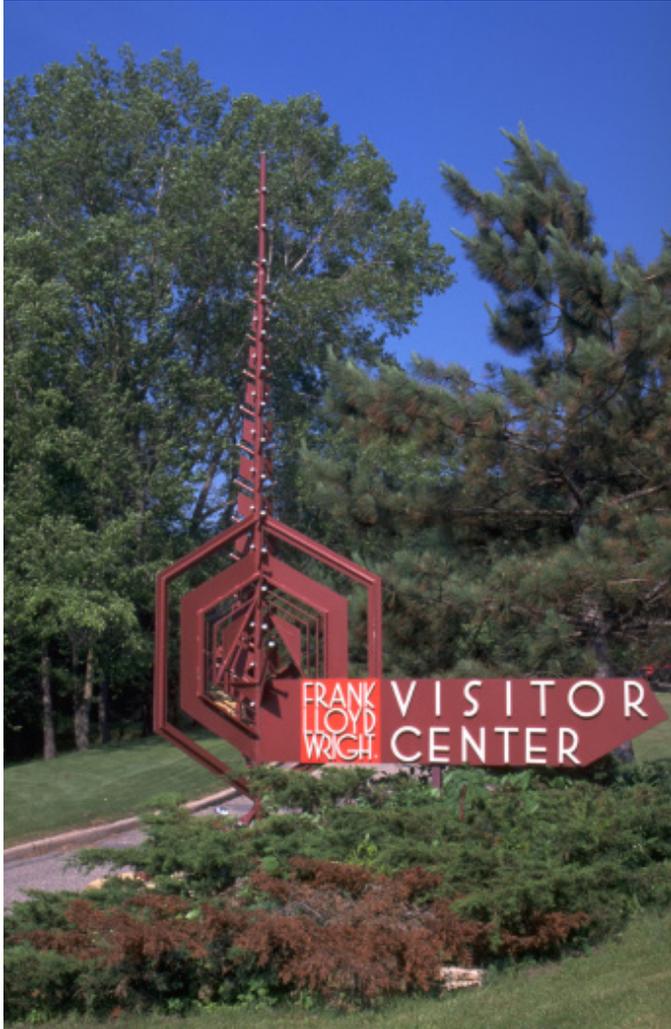
Enjoying the beach in Sheboygan

## **When in Sheboygan:**

Stroll the Lake Michigan shoreline and you may spot surfers - Sheboygan is considered the “freshwater surf capital.” Stay at Blue Harbor Resort & Spa where sandy beach is literally the resort’s back yard. In Sheboygan you’ll find some of the finest farm-to-table cuisine of anywhere in the country at bistros including Trattoria Stefano, Field to Fork Café, and Il Ritrovo. For families, bookmark the Bookworm Gardens, an artful and fun botanic garden inspired by children’s literature.

## FRANK LLOYD WRIGHT

150th anniversary of the birth of Wisconsin native son and America's best known architect, Frank Lloyd Wright Wisconsin is home to 41 Wright-designed buildings, dotting locations throughout the state, making this the greatest collection of Frank Lloyd Wright sites open to the public in the world. The newly christened Frank Lloyd Wright Trail takes travelers on a self-guided architectural adventure to iconic buildings from private houses to public buildings in nine counties. Trail markers guide visitors along the approximately 200-mile route in southern Wisconsin.



Spring Green Visitor Center  
Photo Courtesy of Andy Kraushaar



Monona Terrace Community and Convention Center in Madison  
Photo Courtesy of Chris Maddox



Inside Taliesin in Spring Green

### When in Wisconsin:

Included on the FLW Trail route is the Monona Terrace Community and Convention Center in Madison, celebrating 20 years in business this year. Wright first proposed design of this building he called the "dream civic center" in 1938 but it took until 1997 for Monona Terrace to be built. Visit the Frank Lloyd Wright exhibit "Buildings for the Prairie" at the Milwaukee Art Museum July 28-October 15 featuring early portfolio designs as well as furniture, stained glass and textiles. Register for the Tour du Taliesin cycling event, May 21, with all rides starting at the Frank Lloyd Wright Visitor Center, part of Taliesin near Spring Green, the famed home, studio, school and agricultural estate of Frank Lloyd Wright.