

On Your Own in the Hudson, WI area

Feel like striking out on your own on Wednesday, Thursday or Friday? Here are a few ideas.

Shopping (treats are at the end of the list☺)

- Historic Downtown Hudson, starting on Second Street: Browse through unique, independently owned shops and enjoy the foodie fun.
- Downtown River Falls: If second-hand stores with everything from clothes to antiques is your thing, try Main Street in River Falls.
- Stillwater, MN: Take a leisurely stroll down Main Street in Downtown Stillwater for local, independent shops.

Wineries, Breweries & Distilleries

- Wineries within a 10-mile radius:
 - 65 Vines Winery, Roberts
 - Belle Vinez Vineyard & Winery, River Falls
 - Cracked Barrel Winery, Hudson
 - Madison Avenue Wine & Spirits, Hudson
- Craft breweries:
 - Barley John's Brewing Co, New Richmond
 - Bobtown Brewhouse & Grill, Roberts
 - Hop & Barrel in Hudson
 - Pitchfork Brewing, Hudson
 - Rush River Brewing, River Falls
 - Swinging Bridge Brewing Co., River Falls
- Distilleries:
 - 45th Parallel Spirits, LLC, New Richmond
 - St. Croix Spirits, New Richmond

For the active

- **Bike trails and rentals**

Stillwater offers three connecting trails: St. Croix Loop Trail over the new bridge to Wisconsin, Brown's Creek Trail along the old rail line north of downtown Stillwater, and the Gateway State Bike Trail that connects to St. Paul, Minnesota. Bring your own bike or rent either a standard pedal bike or an electric pedal-assist cycle.

Try the Hudson to Lakeland/Afton Trail, a 1.6-mile asphalt and concrete trail for biking, skating or walking. It starts at Buckeye St & Second St. S. in Hudson.

Bike Rental Options in Stillwater

[Mike's Electric Bikes](#), 224 Chestnut St. E. Stillwater, MN

[Big River LTD](#), 225 2nd St. N (behind Hotel Crosby) Stillwater, MN

[DIRO Outdoors](#), 101 Water St. S., self-rental station for regular bikes

[Gateway Trailside](#), 9760 Lansing Ave N./Off Gateway State Bike Trail

- **Kayak the Kinni (Kinnickinnic) River**

Looking for a little excitement or perhaps an easy float? Rent a kayak and enjoy the Kinnickinnic River with its scenic bluff, oak savanna, original prairie, farmland, white pine forest, wooded coulees, sedge meadows, rare and endangered plant species, and scenic vistas.

- Kinni Creek Lodge & Outfitters: http://www.kinnicreek.com/Kayak_Kinni.html
- River Guide Kayaks: <http://www.riverguidekayaks.com/>
- Willow Kayaks: <https://willowkayaks.com/> - also does other rivers most notably the Willow

- **Tree Trek**

Download the map and take this self-guided Tree Identification Trail in Hudson's urban woodlands. <https://www.hudsonwi.gov/DocumentCenter/View/2915/Tree-Trek-Brochure-updated-9-2018?bidId=>

- **Kinnickinnic State Park, River Falls**

Just outside of River Falls, this state park sits at the mouth of the Kinnickinnic River. Walk one of its eight trails, including the new trail to Hidden Falls.

- **Birkmose Park, Hudson**

Not a park for playing, this is a park for relaxing and enjoying a great view of the St. Croix River.

- **Historic Walking Tour of Hudson**

http://discoverhudsonwi.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/Historic_Walking_Tour.pdf

Print this PDF for a self-guided tour of Hudson's historic district.

- **Homestead Park** is located northeast of Hudson, south of Somerset. It's a neat little park centered on Perch Lake, a small picturesque lake with exceptional water quality.

- **Carpenter Nature Center** has two campuses – one near Hastings MN and the other just south of Hudson along the St. Croix. The WI campus includes a visitor center and hiking trails through St. Croix bluffs and prairie restoration tracts.

- **William O'Brien State Park** is located on the MN side of the river north of Stillwater at Marine on St. Croix. This park has camping facilities, trails, and a visitor/interpretive center.

- **Glen Hills County Park** is located north of I-94 and just west of Glenwood City. This park includes camping, hiking, golf, and a lake.

Golf

- Badlands Golf Course, Roberts
- Clifton Hollow Golf Course, River Falls
- Kilkarney Hills, River Falls
- River Falls Golf Club
- Troy Burne Golf Club, Hudson
- White Eagle Golf Course, Hudson

Arts & Outdoor

- Art Bench Trail, Hudson
- Carpenter Nature Center, Hastings MN
- Historic Octagon House Museum, Hudson
- Phipps Center for the Arts, Hudson
- Hudson Trolley Company Tours

<https://www.hudsonrolley.com/>

Leave the driving and itinerary to the professionals by joining one of the Hudson Trolley Company tours: Winery, Brewery & Distillers; Scenic Hudson; Painting Party and more

- New Richmond Heritage Center

This museum's three-acre site encompasses 11 historic buildings filled with artifacts that help you see and feel how early citizens lived, farmed and worked in our past.

TREATS FOR EVERYONE

Got a sweet tooth or a hankering for squeaky free cheese curds?

Ellsworth Dairy Cooperative, 232 N Wallace St., Ellsworth, WI

Great stop for world-famous, fresh cheese curds available daily beginning at 11 a.m., seven days a week, and locally made ice cream and other treats.

Nelson's Dairy Store, 920 Olive St W, Stillwater, MN

This historic gem is loved by people from all walks of life.

Selma's Ice Cream Parlor, 3419 St Croix Trail S., Afton, MN

Tucked away in historic downtown Afton, Selma's is Minnesota's oldest ice cream shop.

Knoke's Chocolates & Nuts, 220 Locust St., Hudson, WI

Just two blocks from the St. Croix River in downtown Hudson, Knoke's offers handcrafted confections, nuts and ice cream in their family-owned shop.