

The Ultimate Guide to Enjoying the Outdoors with Kids in Philadelphia: Unforgettable Adventures Await!

Welcome to the vibrant city of Philadelphia, where history, culture, and natural beauty come together to create the perfect playground for outdoor enthusiasts. While the city is known for its famous landmarks and iconic architecture, it also offers endless opportunities for families to explore the great outdoors with their children. From picturesque parks and scenic trails to hands-on educational experiences, Philadelphia has it all. So pack your bags, put on your walking shoes, and get ready for an unforgettable adventure outdoors with kids in Philadelphia!

1. Discover the Wonders of Fairmount Park

Spanning over 2,000 acres, Fairmount Park is one of the largest urban parks in the United States and offers a plethora of activities for families to enjoy. Start your adventure by visiting the Philadelphia Zoo, America's first chartered zoo, located within the park. Take your kids on a wild safari, spot exotic animals, and learn about wildlife conservation.

Next, head to Smith Memorial Playground and Playhouse, a beloved destination for families with young children. This expansive playground features over six acres of fun, including a 16,000-square-foot playhouse, giant wooden slide, and various climbing structures that will keep your little ones entertained for hours.

Outdoors with Kids Philadelphia: 100 Fun Places to Explore In and Around the City (AMC's Outdoors with Kids) by Susan Charkes (Kindle Edition)



★★★★★ 5 out of 5

Language	: English
File size	: 5785 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 289 pages
Lending	: Enabled
Paperback	: 224 pages
Item Weight	: 0.952 ounces
Dimensions	: 6 x 0.5 x 9 inches



If you're looking to cool off during the summer months, make a splash at the Fairmount Park Water Works. This historic landmark offers a unique water-play area where kids can wade through shallow pools, splash in fountains, and learn about the importance of water conservation.

2. Journey Through the Magical Horticultural Delights

A visit to Philadelphia would be incomplete without exploring the enchanting Longwood Gardens. Located just outside the city, this 1,077-acre oasis will transport you and your children to a world of botanical wonders. Explore the four-acre Children's Corner, which is filled with interactive exhibits, a charming playhouse, and a picturesque treehouse that offers panoramic views of the gardens.

For a more immersive experience, take your kids on a journey through the indoor Conservatory, where they can marvel at thousands of exotic plants, colorful flowers, and stunning displays. Don't forget to visit the outdoor gardens, featuring

a meadow maze, a serene lake, and whimsical sculptures that will capture your child's imagination.

3. Step Back in Time at the Independence National Historical Park

Philadelphia is steeped in history, and what better way to teach your kids about the birth of our nation than by exploring the Independence National Historical Park? Start your journey at the Liberty Bell Center, where you can view the iconic Liberty Bell and learn about its historic significance.

Continue your adventure by visiting Independence Hall, where both the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution were signed. Take a guided tour to gain insight into the lives of the founding fathers and experience the birthplace of American democracy.

Make sure to save some time to explore the adjacent Franklin Square, which offers a unique combination of history and entertainment. Your children will love riding the carousel, playing mini-golf, and indulging in delicious treats from the SquareBurger.

4. Embark on an Outdoor Art Adventure

Philadelphia is known for its vibrant art scene, and there's no shortage of outdoor art installations for families to discover. Start your art adventure at the Philadelphia Museum of Art, where you can marvel at its iconic steps made famous by the film "Rocky." Explore the museum's Sculpture Garden, featuring a diverse collection of sculptures amid beautifully landscaped grounds.

Next, head to the Mural Mile, a stretch of the city where you can admire over 50 stunning murals. Take a walking tour or rent bikes to explore this outdoor art

gallery, which showcases the city's rich history and culture through thought-provoking murals.

If you're looking for a more interactive art experience, visit the Seger Playground, where you'll find a unique playground adorned with mosaic art created by local artists. Let your children's imagination run wild as they climb, slide, and play amidst these colorful masterpieces.

5. Hike, Bike, and Explore the Scenic Trails

Philadelphia offers a wide array of scenic trails for families who enjoy hiking, biking, or simply exploring nature. The Schuylkill River Trail is a must-visit destination, extending over 30 miles along the picturesque Schuylkill River. Rent bicycles, rollerblades, or scooters to enjoy a leisurely ride along the river, or pack a picnic and stop at one of the many scenic viewpoints.

If you're seeking a more immersive hiking experience, head to the Wissahickon Valley Park, located just outside the city. This vast park offers over 50 miles of trails, showcasing stunning waterfalls, lush greenery, and breathtaking views. Take the opportunity to teach your children about the importance of preserving natural habitats and enjoy a scenic family hike amidst the serenity of the park.

Philadelphia is a city that truly offers a diverse range of outdoor activities for families with kids. Whether you're seeking adventure, education, or simply a chance to unwind amidst nature, Philadelphia has something for everyone. So, grab your kids, embrace the spirit of exploration, and embark on an unforgettable outdoor adventure in the City of Brotherly Love!

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Getting the whole family outside and active close to home is easy. This new, user-friendly guide from the outdoor experts at the Appalachian Mountain Club features 100 of the best outdoor experiences in and around Philadelphia, where families can hike, bike, paddle, swim, camp, or simply play. *Outdoors with Kids Philadelphia* offers tips and tricks, safety and planning information, and activity ideas, including the ever-important “Plan B” for when the weather—or the kids—won’t cooperate.

Join the community at kids.outdoors.org to find local events, trip ideas, deals and discounts, and more tips and advice from the outdoor experts.

Susan Charkes is a native of southeastern Pennsylvania where she writes about nature, outdoor recreation, the environment, and sustainability. She is a hike leader with the AMC and the author of AMC’s *Best Day Hikes Near Philadelphia*.

INSIDE YOU’LL FIND

- 100 Outdoor Destinations for families
- At-a-Glance Trip Planner to help you find the trip that’s right for you

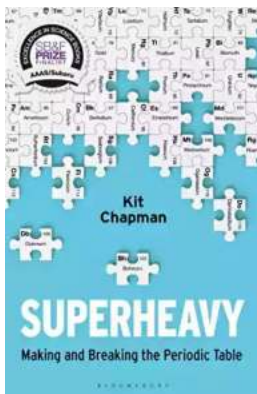
- Detailed Maps showing restrooms, parking areas, and highlights
- GPS Coordinates and public transportation directions
- Trip Planning and Safety Tips, including advice on keeping kids excited and engaged
- Icons that tell you which destinations are good for swimming, camping, and biking
- Fun Activity Ideas and Educational Essays

“This is a great resource for families eager to spend quality time with their kids in nature. I’ve lived in Philadelphia for 20 years, but many of the destinations profiled were new to me. The information provided makes planning a visit a breeze.”— Meg Wise, Executive Director, Smith Memorial Playground & Playhouse



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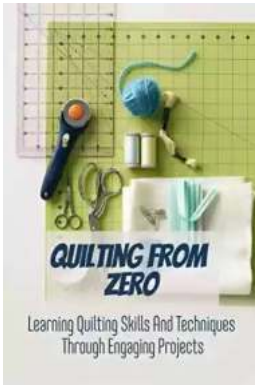
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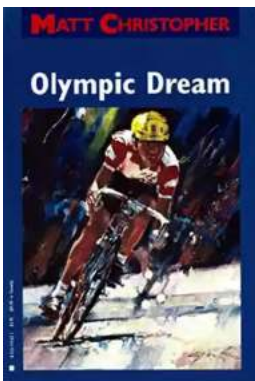
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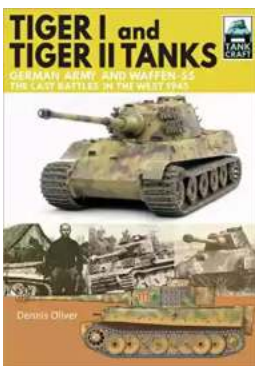
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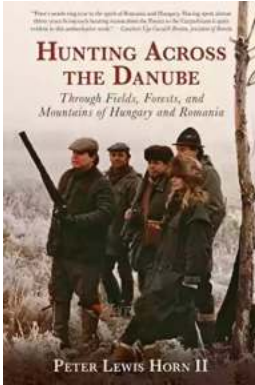
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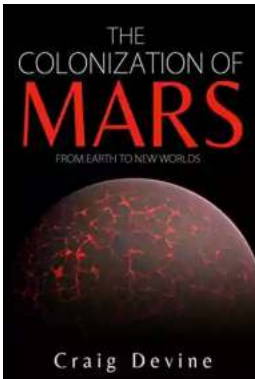
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