

A DAY OUT

A day out in Racine

Looking for an easy road trip for a one-day getaway? Look no further than our lakshore neighbor to the south.



Photo: Real Racine @ Reefpoint Brewhouse



By [Bobby Tanzilo](#) Senior Editor/Writer Published Oct 06, 2021 at 9:04 AM

Looking for an easy road trip for a one-day getaway? Look no further than our lakshore neighbor to the south.

Racine has lots of fun stuff to do, a beautiful lakefront, a lovely little downtown with historic buildings, good food and more.

Here are some great ways to populate your day out in Racine with good times and good food.

Things to do & see

SC Johnson Headquarters
1525 Howe St., (262) 260-2154
scjohnson.com



The research tower.

While this world-class Frank Lloyd Wright complex has temporarily paused its on-site tours due to coronavirus, you can still see the stunning exterior of the main building and the research tower. Also on the campus and visible from the street is the Sir Norman Foster-designed Fortaleza Hall.

For now, if you want to see inside, [check out this Urban Spelunking story](#).

Wingspread

33 E. 4 Mile Rd., (262) 681-3353

wrightinwisconsin.org/wingspread-wind-point



While you're in the area, be sure to stop at Wingspread, another Wright designed stunner, which is currently offering tours by appointment only. To get a sense of what it looks like inside, here's a sneak peek via [this soon-to-be-published Urban Spelunking article](#).

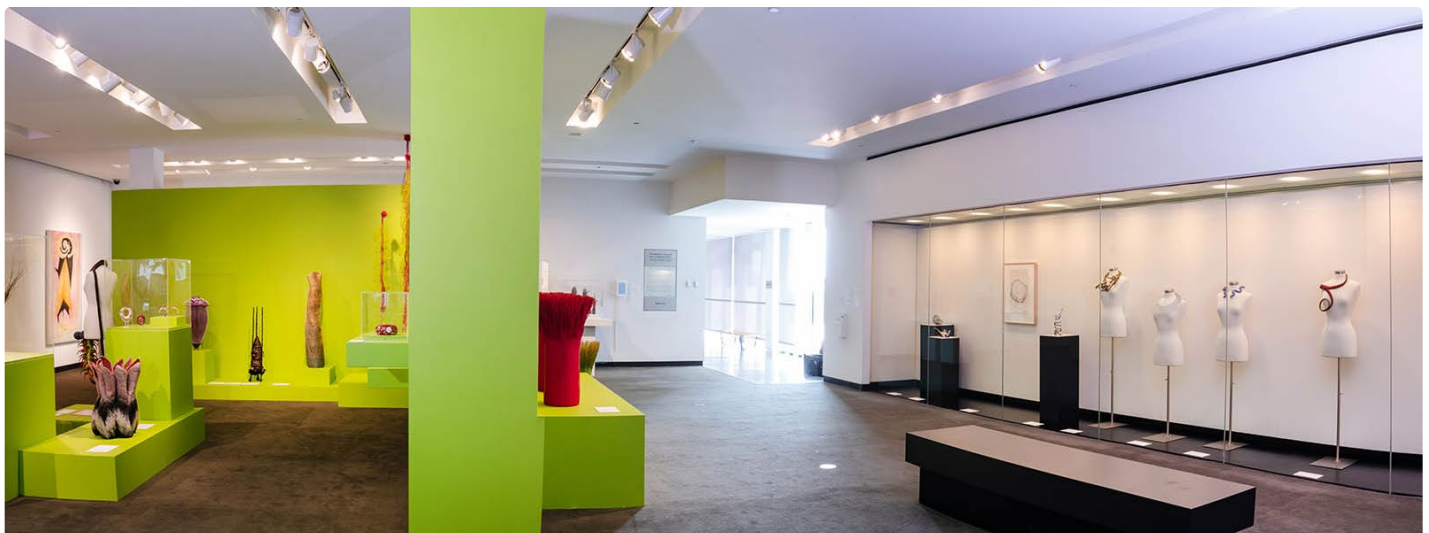
Wind Point Lighthouse
4725 Lighthouse Dr., (262) 639-3777
windpointlighthouse.org



The stairs to the top.

Built in 1880, the 108-foot Wind Point lighthouse is one of the tallest, but also one of the oldest still-active lights on the Great Lakes. This beautiful lighthouse – which was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1984 – is open seasonally for regular tours, but groups can also arrange tours in the off-season. Details are at the lighthouse web site, or by calling (262) 639-3777. Read more about the lighthouse and its history in [this Urban Spelunking story](#).

Racine Art Museum
441 Main St., (262) 638-8300
ramart.org



(PHOTO: Racine Art Museum)

Located in the heart of downtown, the Racine Art Museum has a fine collection of contemporary art housed in a striking and equally contemporary building. Exhibits change a few times a year and right now you can check out the fun “Alien Invasion: (Un)Familiar Forms in Contemporary Art.”

Racine Zoo

2131 N. Main St., (262) 636-9189

racinezoo.org



(PHOTO: Racine Zoo)

Opened in 1923, the Racine Zoo is home to a wide variety of species in a parklike setting that makes for a nice walk, in addition to an exploration of the animal kingdom. Fun for the entire family.

Schoolhouses

Various locations

onmilwaukee.com/articles/racine-spelunking-schoolhouses



Janes School.

If you geek out on cool old buildings like I do, pull up the article linked above on your phone and drive by five lovely 19th century cream city brick public schoolhouses

Where to eat

Breakfast: Kringle



(PHOTO: O&H Bakery)

Of course, you need a Danish kringle and since you're in Racine you probably ought to try one each from [O&H](#) (which has four Racine-area locations), [Bendtsen's](#), 3200 Washington Ave., and [Larsen's](#), 3311 Washington Ave. ... you know, in the interest of research. At latter, you can actually see into the kitchen where the kringle is made.

Lunch: Kewpee Lunch
520 Wisconsin Ave., (262) 634-9601
[facebook.com/Kewpee-Lunch-226801137258](https://www.facebook.com/Kewpee-Lunch-226801137258)



(PHOTO: Lori Fredrich)

Racine has one of the last few locations of the Flint, Michigan-founded Kewpee Burgers chain and it's a blast from the past, with amazing burgers. Check out [Molly Snyder's story about it here](#).

Dinner: The Hobnob
277 Sheridan Rd., (262) 552-8008
thehobnob.com



(PHOTO: The Hobnob)

With a view of Lake Michigan, The Hobnob, founded in 1954, offers the classic Wisconsin supper club experience. It's like being way up north, but is only slightly down south. Prime rib, steaks, seafood and a great Friday fish fry. Check out [a full story about this dining landmark here](#).

Where to get a beer

Littleport Brewing
214 3rd St., (262) 633-8239
[facebook.com/LittleportBrew](https://www.facebook.com/LittleportBrew)



[Read my story](#) about this long-in-the-works but only recently opened brewery in an old stables building in downtown. While you're there, stop in at the awesome 1849 mill (now a pet and garden and essential oils store) across the street, also owned by the brewery's Chris and Mark Flynn.

1 of Us Brewing
8100 Washington Ave., Mt. Pleasant, (262)
[1ofusbrewing.com](https://www.1ofusbrewing.com)



(PHOTO: 1 of Us)

Located out toward I-94 in Mount Pleasant, 1 of Us Brewing [opened earlier this year](#) and is making some great beer.

Best Place for a Selfie

While I'd say a selfie in front of the research tower or Golden Rondelle at the SC Johnson HQ would make the perfect selfie, I also got a pro tip from Jessica Zalewski of the Racine Art Museum, who suggested, "with the Abraham Lincoln and Mary Todd Lincoln statute in the park in front of Gateway College at about 11th and Main Streets." So, your choice: famous architecture or famous Americans ... or both!

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