



Cabin Fever

If winter has you feeling **restless**, maybe it's time to hit the road. Escape to one of these Midwest cities for a day trip or quick weekend to help you **survive 'til spring**.

Omaha

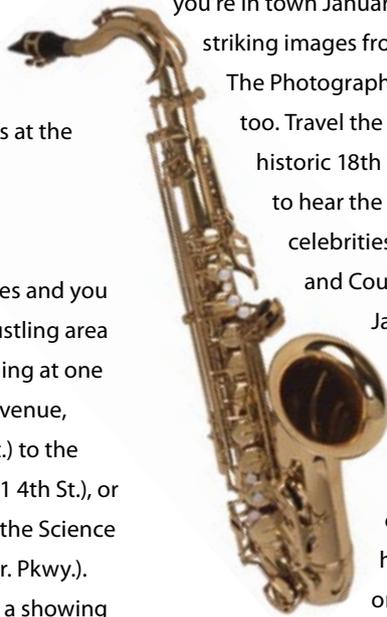
It's easy to spend the better part of a day in Omaha's Old Market (1000 Howard St.), but if you're short on time, just hit the highlights of the arts & entertainment district. View local art at the Artists' Cooperative Gallery (405 S. 11th St.) or sample handcrafted beer at Upstream Brewing Company (514 S. 11th St.). Walk a few blocks to see "The Headstrong Daughter," a romantic, humorous ballet at The Rose Theatre (2001 Farnam St.) from February 14–24. Or browse the many indoor exhibits at the Henry Doorly Zoo (3701 S. 10th St.).



of "Roving Mars," starting February 15 at the IMAX theater. Then cross the river (it's an easy walk if it's warm enough) and wander through the East Village, where you can find fanciful furnishings at Sticks (521 E. Locust St.) or warm up with a tasty cup of Ancient Happiness at Gong Fu Tea (414 E. Sixth St.).

Kansas City

Get lost in the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art (4525 Oak St.) while you gaze at paintings by Thomas Hart Benton—a Kansas City legend. If you're in town January 26 to April 6, you'll see striking images from "American Horizons: The Photographs of Art Sinsabaugh" too. Travel the short distance to the historic 18th and Vine Jazz District to hear the legacies of more local celebrities, such as Charlie Parker and Count Basie, at the American Jazz Museum (1616 E. 18th St.). Make your own art at Kaleidoscope (2500 McGee St.), Hallmark's kid-friendly craft center. If you're hungry, visit another KC original, Gates Bar-B-Q



(3205 Main St.). Don't forget to take home a bottle of their signature sauce.

Chicago

With so much to see and do in the Windy City, narrow your options by sticking to the Magnificent Mile. From these eight blocks on North Michigan Avenue, you can see a survivor of the Great Fire, the Old Water Tower (806 N. Michigan Ave.). Shop at Water Tower Place (835 N. Michigan Ave.) or check out the view from the John Hancock Center's observatory (875 N. Michigan Ave.). Stop by one of the many museums, including the Chicago Children's Museum (700 E. Grand Ave.). Younger visitors will enjoy creating products using real factory machines and tools during the "How People Make Things" exhibit from January 26 to May 11. Of course, you can't leave Chicago without tasting pizza. Try Giordano's (730 N. Rush St.).



Des Moines

Walk through downtown Des Moines and you might forget you're in Iowa. This bustling area has lots to offer, whether you're dining at one of the many restaurants on Court Avenue, from upscale Azalea (400 Walnut St.) to the decidedly German Hessen Haus (101 4th St.), or exploring the hands-on exhibits at the Science Center (401 W. Martin Luther King Jr. Pkwy.). Stick around the Science Center for a showing



Winter Driving Tip: Avoid Cruise Control

Whether you're cruising around town or taking a weekend road trip, winter driving can be dangerous. To help stay accident-free during hazardous weather conditions like freezing rain, ice, or snow, avoid using your cruise control. The short touch of your brakes to disengage the system adds fractions of a second—very valuable time—to your ability to respond. Manually controlling your vehicle allows you to react more quickly to sudden changes.

Minneapolis

Stay warm as you venture through the city by sticking to the skyways, which offer 69 blocks of temperature-controlled comfort. Take in the latest show at the Guthrie Theater (818 S. 2nd St.) or participate in an interactive tour of the historical flour mill at the Mill City Museum (704 S. 2nd St.). Every Thursday evening through February 28, watch baking demonstrations and enjoy samples. After your tour, stroll over to the Walker Art Center (1750 Hennepin Ave.). Or explore Uptown's eclectic shops and restaurants and grab a cup of coffee and the Brownie Enormous at Wuollet Bakery (2447 Hennepin Ave. S.).