

Visit Effingham: A Midwestern Getaway

· AN ITINERARY FOR THE FAMILY ·

FRIDAY - ARRIVE + JUMP INTO THE WEEKEND!

3 p.m. - Check in to the hotel or Airbnb of your choosing...

Complimentary breakfast, downtown views, indoors pools, a buzzing business center... Whatever your needs, we've got options. Drop off your luggage, freshen up and let's play!

3:30 p.m. - Let the Energy Fly!

Head to The Arena Trampoline Park and let the kids jump, climb and burn off any pent-up energy. It's the perfect first stop to shake off the car ride and start the weekend on a high note.

6 p.m. - Dinner + Games at Gopher's Grill

Grab dinner at Gopher's Grill, where great food meets built-in entertainment. With simulators and arcade games, it's an easy, fun win for the whole family - no extra stops required.

SATURDAY - EXPLORE, TASTE + ADVENTURE

8:30 a.m. - Coffee, Breakfast + Downtown Vibes

Start your morning at Joe Sippers Cafe in Downtown Effingham. From freshly-brewed coffee to satisfying breakfast options, this Illinois Maker understands what fuels families on-the-go.

10 a.m. - Shop, Stroll + Discover

Take your time exploring Downtown Effingham's locally loved shops, public art and charm. Try a self-guided sculpture tour or pop into the Effingham County Courthouse Museum for a little added history and culture.

Rainy day tip: This is the perfect time to linger a little longer indoors or stop by the nearby library to play.

12 p.m. - Lakeside Lunch

Head out to Pinky's at Lake Sara for a laid-back lunch with a view! Enjoy open-air, waterfront seating, live music in the summer and coastal fare. Pinky's offers covered seating for rainy days and cozy domes in cooler seasons.

2 p.m. - Afternoon Adventure Mode

Let the kids explore the pirate ship playground and ninja obstacle course at Lake Sara Forever Beach - a go-to spot for active, outdoor fun!

Rainy day alternative: Catch a family-friendly movie at RMC Cinemas and enjoy a little downtime.

5:30 p.m. - A Dinner Worth Slowing Down For...

Unwind at Firefly Grill, a true farm-to-table gem overlooking Lake Kristie. Wander the grounds, feed the koi fish and enjoy a meal that feels both elevated and completely welcoming to families. **Reservations are recommended!*

7 p.m. - Your Night, Your Way

Keep things flexible - take a peaceful walk along the TREC Trail, enjoy a swim back at the hotel or treat everyone to ice cream from Homewood Grill. However you spend it, this is your time to relax and soak it all in.

SUNDAY - A MEMORABLE SEND-OFF

9 a.m. - A Hearty, Homestyle Breakfast

Enjoy a delicious, made-from-scratch breakfast at Niemerg's Steakhouse. It's the kind of place where everyone finds something they love... and maybe a sweet treat for the road.

10:30 a.m. - An Iconic View

Before heading home, visit the Cross at the Crossroads, just a short drive from Niemerg's. Stretch your legs, snap a few photos and enjoy one last quiet moment together to wrap up the weekend.

Rainy day tip: Take this opportunity to visit the Welcome Center and watch a short film about the Cross' construction!