Forest Park Adventure Challenge

Forest Park is the crowning jewel in a collection of over 200 parks located in and around St. Louis. With more than 1300 acres of park to explore and amazing attractions to experience, you can enjoy endless activities to spark your curiosity and sense of adventure.

The Forest Park Adventure Challenge is sponsored by the Missouri Historical Society, which operates the Missouri History Museum in Forest Park, The Library and Research Center, adjacent to the Park and Soldiers Memorial Military Museum in downtown St. Louis. With innovative exhibitions, engaging programs, and tours, Missouri Historical Society makes history meaningful, accessible, and fun!

Forest Park Adventure Challenge ... Visit at least 10 sites, including the Missouri History Museum. Remember: Missouri Explorers must be registered in the program, and they are responsible for checking hours and availability of sites. Upload your verification photographs using the online submission form at missouri2021.org/missouri-explorers/ to receive your merit badge button.

Remember, Missouri Explorers, you are responsible for checking hours and availability of sites before arriving.

Missouri History Museum
5700 Lindell Boulevard
St. Louis, Missouri
314-746-4599

The Missouri History Museum looks at the history of St. Louis from its founding in 1764 up to the present day. Explore baseball history from the Browns to the Cardinals, marvel at the magnitude of the 1904 World’s Fair and more! Special exhibits include Beyond the Ballot: St. Louis and Suffrage. Reservations are required. Snap your photograph in front of the Thomas Jefferson statue located in the loggia on the north side.

www.mohistory.org/museum

Boathouse at Forest Park $
6101 Government Drive
St. Louis, Missouri
314-366-1555

The Boathouse is an American restaurant in the heart of Forest Park overlooking Post-Dispatch Lake. The patio is pet friendly and offers a schedule of live music. Big Muddy Adventures at the Boathouse rents paddle boats, kayaks, and paddle boards, providing a way to explore 22 acres of waterways. Snap your photograph at Post-Dispatch Lake.

www.boathousestl.com/

Dennis and Judith Jones Visitor and Education Center and Variety Wonderland Playground
5595 Grand Drive
St. Louis, Missouri
314-367-7275

Originally built in 1892 as the Lindell Pavilion Streetcar shelter, the Center is a historically significant component of the extensive restoration of Forest Park. With its distinctive Spanish architecture and clock tower, the Visitor Center serves as a central hub for visitor information with access to restrooms, free Wi-Fi and outdoor patios. Located just west of the Visitor Center is a half-acre playground designed for children of all abilities. Snap your photograph at the clocktower.

www.forestparkmap.org/dennis-judith-jones-visitor-and-education-center
Dwight Davis Memorial Tennis Center $  
5620 Grand Drive  
St. Louis, Missouri  
314-361-0177  

Dwight Davis Tennis Center is a state-of-the-art facility with 18 lighted tennis courts and a Stadium Court that seats 1,700 spectators. It is named after Dwight F. Davis, a native St. Louisian and the donor of the famed Davis Cup. Born in 1879, he spent his life working for and with people to make tennis in public parks available to all. As Director of Parks in St. Louis, he removed "Keep Off the Grass" signs that filled the city’s parks. Snap your photograph on one of the tennis courts.

Emerson Grand Basin  
Lagoon Drive – below Art Hill  
St. Louis, Missouri  

During the 1904 World’s Fair, the Grand Basin and adjoining plaza provided the central scenic panorama for the event’s 20 million attendees. On either side stood a dozen temporary, yet grand, palaces built of plaster and wood. The only permanent structure remaining from this area is the Cass Gilbert-designed Palace of Fine Arts, now the St. Louis Art Museum. The entire Grand Basin was restored in 2003, with eight beautifully lit fountains running year-round. Today the Emerson Grand Basin is one of the most popular sites in St. Louis for special occasion photos and a gathering location for Park visitors. Snap your photograph in front of the fountains and Art Hill.

Forest Park Golf Course (Norman K. Probstein Golf Course) $  
6141 Lagoon Drive  
St. Louis, Missouri  
314-367-1337  

The Norman K. Probstein Golf Course’s three nine-hole layouts, exceptional event amenities, delicious dining and impeccable service have distinguished it as the "Best City Golf Course in Mid-America." Snap your photograph across from the Grand Basin, on the other side of Dogwood 5 green.

Jewel Box $  
McKinley and Wells Drives  
St. Louis, Missouri  
314-531-0080  

When the Jewel Box was dedicated in 1936, crowds flocked to experience its magnificent Art Deco design. The structure’s unique construction of cantilevered glass supported by arched steel beams also proved a groundbreaking technical achievement. A $3.5 million renovation in 2002 transformed the interior into an open, sunlit space for the plant collection and a location for weddings and special events. The Flora Conservancy of Forest Park works with the City of St. Louis to maintain the beautiful gardens that surround the conservatory. Snap your photograph at the water lily pond in front of the Jewel Box.

Joie de Vivre and Chess Table Plaza  
Just north of Steinberg Skating Rink, located at 400 Jefferson Drive  
St. Louis, Missouri
Joie de Vivre was created by the artist Jacques Lipchitz in 1927. The sculpture on view in Forest Park is one of seven casts. The artwork was a gift of Mrs. Mark C. Steinberg, who had previously donated the funds for Steinberg Skating Rink, where the sculpture has been displayed since 1932. The nearby plaza features four concrete chess tables, bench seating, a newly opened year-round restroom and drinking fountains with bottle filler. The chess tables were donated by the Chess Club and Scholastic Center of Saint Louis. Snap your photograph at a chess table with the statue in the background.

www.forestparkmap.org/joie-de-vivre

www.forestparkmap.org/chess-tables

Metro Transit $  
Forest Park Parkway at DeBaliviere Boulevard  
St. Louis, Missouri  
314-231-2345

Metro Transit operates the St. Louis region’s public transportation system which includes 68 MetroBus routes in eastern Missouri and southwestern Illinois. Metro also operates MetroLink light rail vehicles on 46 miles of track serving 38 stations in Missouri and Illinois. The possibilities are endless when riding Metro Transit to St. Louis area attractions, restaurants and other destinations. Snap your photograph with the vibrant Vehicle. Destination. Imagination. mural on the platform at the Forest Park-DeBaliviere MetroLink Station. You’ll spot it arriving on either the Blue Line or the Red Line.

www.metrostlouis.org/system-maps/

The Muny $  
One Theatre Drive  
St. Louis, Missouri  
314-361-1900

The Muny is a cultural treasure that has dazzled eyes and made hearts soar for over 100 years. The Muny’s history is one of perseverance and passion, bringing Broadway-style theatre to the St. Louis community. The Muny is more than a stage. It is a celebration of stories to be shared and memories to be made. Snap your photograph in front of the iconic Muny Box Office.

www.muny.org

Pagoda Circle and Nathan Frank Bandstand  
Cricket, Theatre, McKinley and Government Drives at Pagoda Circle  
St. Louis, Missouri

Dedicated in 1925 and built with white marble and concrete with bronze rails and a copper roof, today’s Nathan Frank Bandstand — restored in 2000 — is a Forest Park and St. Louis icon and popular photo spot and location for picnicking before Muny performances. Snap your photograph on the pedestrian bridge with the bandstand in the background.

www.forestparkmap.org/pagoda-circle-and-the-nathan-frank-bandstand

Saint Louis Art Museum  
One Fine Arts Drive  
St. Louis, Missouri  
314-289-4400

The Saint Louis Art Museum is one of the nation’s leading comprehensive art museums with collections that include works of art from virtually every culture and time period. As the sole surviving building from the 1904 World’s Fair, the Museum is itself an important piece of Missouri history. Inside its galleries, visitors can find works of art closely tied to the history of the state and region, from ceramic works made by Mississippian artists to one of the finest collections of paintings by Missouri’s most celebrated artist, George Caleb Bingham. Panorama of the Monumental Grandeur of the Mississippi Valley is a 350-foot long, scrolled painting that tells the history of the Mississippi River valley in 25 scenes. Snap your photograph outside the museum or with your favorite piece of art.

www.slam.org

Saint Louis Science Center  
5050 Oakland Avenue
St. Louis, Missouri
314-289-4400

The St. Louis Science Center combines experimentation, creativity and play to help people discover a passion for science and technology. Visitors can explore 700-plus exhibits, the OMNIMAX® Theater, James S. McDonnell Planetarium, special traveling exhibitions and more. Snap your photograph at the Case IH Combine in the GROW Gallery, an outdoor gallery and pavilion showcasing agriculture, technologies, and food's journey from farm to table.

www.slsc.org

Saint Louis Zoo
One Government Drive
St. Louis, Missouri
314-781-0900

Home to more than 18,000 exotic animals, many of them rare and endangered. These 700 species represent the major continents and biomes of the world. Set in the rolling hills, lakes and glades of Forest Park, the Saint Louis Zoo is always a great place to be. It is considered among the Top Ten Zoos in the nation and is noted for its naturalistic animal habitats. Admission is free, however, there are fees for some attractions ranging from $3 to $8 per person. Masks are required for everyone age 9 and older. Reservations required. Snap your photograph in or next to the historic 1904 World's Fair Flight Cage, which came to the Fair as the Smithsonian’s exhibit and was purchased by the city and later became a cornerstone of the Zoo.

https://www.stlzoo.org/

World's Fair Pavilion
Concourse and Washington Drives
St. Louis, Missouri

Built in 1909 with proceeds from the 1904 World’s Fair, this open-air structure sits atop a high point in Forest Park with beautiful vistas of the landscapes and water features on Government Hill, Post-Dispatch Lake, Picnic and Wildlife Islands and the Emerson Grand Basin in the distance. The pavilion is one of the region’s special sites for wedding receptions, fundraisers and community events. On a warm day stop by to take advantage of the cool breeze. Snap your photograph from the World’s Fair Pavilion lower plaza overlooking Government Hill.

www.forestparkmap.org/world-s-fair-pavilion

Turtle Playground
Tamm and Oakland Avenues
St. Louis, Missouri

Opened in 1996, Turtle Playground is a magnet for children of all ages. Represented in concrete are a snapping turtle, a soft-shelled turtle, a red-eared slider, a Mississippi map, three box turtles and a stinkpot turtle. In addition, there are seven oversized turtle eggs, three of which include hatching baby turtles, and a long sinuous snake that appears to be taking a bite out of the Tamm Avenue overpass. The sculptures were created by Bob Cassilly, founder of the unique and quirky City Museum. Snap your photograph on top of, or next to, the largest turtle.

Victorian Footbridge
Dual Path – northwest of Round Lake
St. Louis, Missouri

This footbridge was built in the late 1880s to provide a pedestrian route into Forest Park from the nearby streetcar stop once located near Kingshighway Boulevard and Laclede Avenue. Nestled in the Park’s far northeast corner, the bridge is a connector to the Park’s path system. Snap your photograph on the footbridge.

www.forestparkmap.org/victorian-footbridge