

A FOOD LOVER'S PARADISE

Madison, Wisconsin

By Margaret Word Burnside and Aaron R. Fodiman
Photography by Noraa



WE BEGAN OUR TOUR OF Madison, Wisconsin at the Menona Terrace Community and Convention center that stands between the majestic State Capitol and the shore of Lake Monona. The building was originally designed by Wisconsin native Frank Lloyd Wright in 1938, but wasn't built until 1997. From there, we walked up to the State Capitol, that was built in 1917 and features the only granite dome in the United States. The interior of the 284-foot-high edifice was built with 43 varieties of stone from around the world. On Saturday mornings, the square around the Capitol becomes the Dane County Farmers' Market, which draws 18,000 people who stroll around purchasing fresh produce, plants, cheeses, baked goods and other delicacies from over 300 local vendors. From there, it is a short walk down State Street to the Madison Museum of Contemporary Art. Its permanent collection of over 5,000 works of art includes sculptures, paintings, photographs, drawings and prints. ▶

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The majestic Wisconsin State Capitol, which was completed in 1917, features the only granite dome in the country.



Carr Valley Cheese turns milk into specialty and American blend cheeses that win awards for both quality and originality.

The interior of the State Capitol is an artistic masterpiece.



The Dane County Farmers' Market is held each Saturday morning on the Capitol Square.





Friday Night Fish Fries are a Madison tradition.

The Menona Terrace Community and Convention Center was originally designed by Wisconsin native Frank Lloyd Wright in 1938, but wasn't built until 1997



The Wine Tour and Tasting at Wollersheim Winery in Sauk City included the cellars, where these wines are being aged in oak for four generations.



The Madison Museum of Contemporary Art has a rooftop restaurant and sculpture garden.

You can't visit Madison on a Friday night and not go to a Fish Fry. Since we wanted to dine traditionally, we chose to go to Kavanaugh's Esquire Supper Club on Sherman Avenue, where Fish Fries have been a staple since 1947. The giant portions of local fish were accompanied by standards such as coleslaw and corn on the cob.

While there are many fine restaurants, such as Sardine and the Capitol Chophouse, which are both located on the shore of Lake Monona, and Graze on the Capitol Square, Madison also has food shops, such as Fromagination, which offers more than sixty handcrafted cheeses, and the Chocolate Shoppe that makes 110 all natural flavors of ice cream and ices. There are also foodies like Gail Ambrosius, a chocolatier who specializes in natural, richly flavored chocolates, and Madison Sourdough, where they sell breads and pastries that are made with slow fermentation and expert techniques. This is truly a food lover's paradise and more. ■■■

EDITOR'S NOTE: For more information about Madison, contact the Greater Madison Convention and Visitors Bureau at 615 East Washington Avenue, (800) 373-6376 or (608) 255-2537.