

“24 Hours in Akron and Westfield”

Spending 24 hours in two small rural areas, Akron and Westfield, Iowa.

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Akron, Iowa, and Westfield, Iowa, are great places to visit because they have activities for all ages. There are certain activities meant for a certain age but there are some meant for families. Lots of people enjoy visiting a small town like Akron because people are friendly, and you can get to know them very quickly. There are also fun activities during winter, fall, and spring, but this article is going to focus on the activities that a teenager can do while visiting in the summer.

Friday

1) 3 p.m. Akron Health Club

The Akron Health Club is a great place to exercise or spend some time with some friends. There is exercise equipment and a basketball and volleyball court where you play ball or practice dance. You have to have a membership to go, but if you have a friend or relative who has a membership you can go with them and it just costs a few dollars. There is also a wrestling mat if you like to wrestle, or you can use it as a tumbling mat if you like to tumble. The Akron Health Club is a place to spend a cooler afternoon in the summer to get some great exercise.

2) 5:30 p.m. Hummers

If you like to socialize, then Hummers is a great place to go. At Hummers, they offer the kids pop, water, and juices, as well as pizza, wings, fries, and chicken. They have a game room in the back and if you don't want to sit inside, they have a patio in the back. They also host birthday parties and let you pick what shows on the tv you want to watch.



At Hummers, you can order a variety of foods.

3) 8 p.m. the 4th of July fireworks

On the 4th of July, there are fireworks held at the Akron Golf Course. You can grab a fried snack there too like cheese balls or fries and watch the fireworks show while hanging out with friends and family. They have a wide variety of Coke and Pepsi products. While at the firework show, it is a great place to get pictures with loved ones and get together with some of the Akron townspeople.

Saturday

4) 8 a.m. Jo's Cafe

Jo's cafe serves breakfast, lunch, and dinner. They offer soups, sandwiches, and of course chicken strips. Unlike most cafe's, they offer breakfast at any time, and the whole menu does not have a specific time you can order it. They have TVs inside to keep you updated on the news. You can either eat with your family or bring your friends with you.



At Akron Jo's Cafe, there are many different kinds of foods you can choose from for breakfast, lunch, or dinner.

5) 10 a.m. Dunham Prairie

If you like hiking and nature, then Dunham Prairie is a perfect spot for you to hike. It's calming and is mildly challenging. Hiking tends to calm your nerves when you take a walk through nature. Also, you could take your family for a hike and bond together. While walking through this trail, you can see butterflies, all types of flowers, and birds. You may encounter snakes if you go near the tree lines, so watch out!

6) 12 p.m. Chubs

If you need a quick lunch, supper, or breakfast Chubs is a great place to find that. When you go to Chub's there are many different kinds of foods from which to choose. There is also some candy, drinks for kids and adults, and other kinds of little treats. In the back of Chubs, there is a seating area inside and outside, depending on the weather that day. Near the seating area, you can find bathrooms for men and women.

7) 1 p.m. Akron Public Pool

The Akron Public Pool would be a great place to spend your Saturday afternoon. At the pool, you can swim and every 50 minutes there is a 10-minute break so the lifeguards can cool off. There is also a concession stand where you can purchase a variety of drinks and snacks such as Powerade, water, candy bars, ice cream, and other little treats. The Akron Public Pool is an amazing place to spend a summer afternoon with either your friends or family. The pool also has tables that you can sit at and enjoy your treats or drinks. If you have younger siblings six or younger, there is a pool that is shallower for them so they can still touch.

8) 3 p.m. Thorsons and Gold and Silver

Thorson's would be a wonderful place to stop and take a look because they have clothes, snacks, and prescription drugs. Thorsons is right downtown where it's easy to find. It's even fun just to take a look inside even if you don't want to purchase anything. Gold and Silver is another place that is great just to take a peek inside. They have wonderful antiques and jewelry to purchase. Both places are downtown.

9) 4 p.m. Westfield Park

Westfield Park is a great place to spend a summer afternoon. There are slides, swings, and a jungle gym. There is also a sheltered area with tables so you can eat or just sit and talk with friends. Even if the day is cool, the park is still a great place to spend your day. If you're new to the area, there might be kids your age there who you can become friends with.

10) 6 p.m. Lazy Lanes

The Lazy Lanes is a great place to eat on a Saturday afternoon. Before or after you eat you can bowl with friends or family. If you also have a summer birthday, you can eat there then bowl for your birthday. If you want to go outside to eat or hang out with

friends/family, there is a private sitting area outside with music to add to the atmosphere.

Lodging

- Lazy H. Campground- If you like camping, pontoon rentals, and campfires, then the Lazy H is a great place to go. Behind cabins, there is a speed limit of 15 mph to beware of children at play. In the near future, Lazy H will expand the lake adding another campsite to the public. You can also drive your golf cart around to say hello to the other fellow campers. Also, the campsite is very private, with the rules of only allowing family members of the existing campers. For swimming, they have a diving board and Maui mats.



At the Lazy H Campground, you can rent a cabin unless you have a spot for your tent or camper.

- Akron City Park Campground would be a great place to stay because if you have younger siblings they can play at the park. Also, if you have your own camper or tent, you can bring either one to stay with all of your own items. There is also

some shelters that you can have birthday parties, family get-togethers, or just a group of friends wanting to sit and talk. In the summer, the Akron City Park Campground is a great place to camp because there is a public pool that is a little ways away that is easy to walk to. Next to each campsite, there is a fire pit to enjoy a fire.

- River's Bend Campground would also be another great place to stay because if you like fishing there is a pond at the campground where you can fish. You can also bring a tent or camper of your own while you camp. There are also some tables and a restroom at the campground. At each campsite, there is a fire pit so you can also enjoy the fire, roast marshmallows, or cook some food.