

## **Kissimmee, Florida is the Family Friendly Gateway to Fun**

KISSIMMEE, Fla. – Imagine a place where thrills are plenty, luxuries are many and there is an abundance of ways to explore nature and all that a Florida vacation has to offer. Imagine Kissimmee. Ideally located in Central Florida, Kissimmee’s lodging properties are an idyllic place to return to after a day of soaking up the fun and thrills of world famous theme parks. In addition, a spectrum of man-made and nature-based attractions and an impressive array of shopping and dining options combine to create a spectacular vacation and have made Kissimmee the #1 family destination in the world. Staying in Kissimmee gives visitors access to:

### **World-Famous Attractions**

Walt Disney World Resort, SeaWorld Orlando, Discovery Cove and Universal Orlando Resort are just minutes from Kissimmee, offering plenty of amusement with family-friendly rides, adrenaline pumping roller coasters, beloved characters and animal encounters. Just a short drive away along convenient roadways, visitors will find even more excitement at Kennedy Space Center Visitor Complex, LEGOLAND Florida and Busch Gardens. Other Kissimmee-based attractions include the classic car cruise at Old Town, Fun Spot USA’s pulsating rides for thrill seekers, indoor surfing at Fantasy Surf, or the chance to satiate your senses at Chocolate Kingdom: a factory adventure tour. Gatorland’s up-close encounters with Florida’s famous cold-blooded residents are among the unforgettable attractions that lay within Kissimmee’s reach.

### **Convenient, Spacious Accommodations**

With more than 50,000 accommodations, there’s something to suit every traveler’s needs and budgets, from luxury resorts, well-known hotel properties and time-share units to vacation home rentals, campgrounds and national chain hotels and motels all just minutes from Walt Disney World Resort.

### **Legendary Golf Getaways**

Spend a day on the greens at courses designed by some of the game’s legends including Jack Nicklaus at Grand Cypress Golf Club, Johnny Miller at Harmony Golf Preserve, Tom Watson and Arnold Palmer at Reunion Resort and Greg Norman at ChampionsGate Golf Resort. Kissimmee offers public and resort experiences at Mystic Dunes, Falcon’s Fire Golf Club and Celebration Golf Club. Kissimmee has 397 holes of golf among a more than a dozen courses.

### **Natural Attractions**

Kissimmee’s carefully preserved natural environment and various outdoor attractions offer visitors a chance to reconnect with nature. Take a zipline through the treetops at Florida EcoSafaris at Forever Florida and Zip Orlando or over alligators at Gatorland. Have an up-close animal encounter at Green Meadows Petting Farm and Horse World Riding Stables. Speed through the wetlands and depths of pristine lakes on an airboat tour with Boggy Creek Airboat Rides, Wild Florida and Marsh Landing Adventures. Hunt or hike through one of Kissimmee’s nature preserves. In addition, year-round access to the best fishing is every angler’s dream on the Kissimmee Chain of Lakes, including Lake Tohopekaliga, famous around the world for its record-setting bass catches.

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### **History and Culture**

Experience a taste of authentic Florida culture and history within the historic downtown districts of Kissimmee and St. Cloud, or take a stroll down the trendy, brick-lined streets of Celebration. A variety of local museums provide hands-on, educational fun. Pay your respects to Veterans at the Museum of Military History; take a step back in time at Warbird Adventures and Air Museum. Also visit the Welcome Center and History Museum for a look at the area's past. Before it was a dream vacation destination, Kissimmee was a town where Cracker Cowboys tended to herds of cattle on large ranches. Through that cowboy heritage grew the largest rodeo east of the Mississippi River, the annual Silver Spurs Rodeo. The twice-yearly rodeo is a longtime favorite for locals and visitors alike.

### **First-Class Entertainment**

Concerts, sporting events, dinner shows, theatrical performances and live music are all offered in Kissimmee. The Silver Spurs Arena at Osceola Heritage Park (OHP) hosts a variety of entertainment acts from headliners and comedy shows to championship sports tournaments and equestrian events. OHP also hosts exciting professional and amateur sporting events throughout year. Catch a game of baseball during spring training at nearby Osceola County Stadium, home of the Houston Astros or ESPN Wide World of Sports Complex, home to the Atlanta Braves. For more excitement, enjoy a dinner show where visitors can cheer for their favorite knight at Medieval Times Dinner & Tournament, take in the speakeasy sounds and sights at Capone's Dinner and Show.

### **Exceptional Shopping**

Great deals on designer apparel, shoes and accessories, as well as one-of-a-kind antiques are available throughout the Kissimmee area. Kissimmee's shopping, dining and entertainment center, The Loop and The Loop West, offer more than 400,000-square-foot of retail options in pedestrian-friendly, open-air atmospheres. Outlet shopping is also available at Lake Buena Vista Factory Stores and Orlando Premium Outlets and more treasures can be discovered at boutiques along the downtown streets of Kissimmee, St. Cloud and Celebration. The Florida Mall and the Mall at Millenia, just minutes away, also offer a mix of familiar favorites and high-end shops.

Visitors interested in adding more family fun to their getaway should make Kissimmee their home base, choosing from its more than 50,000 total accommodations. Kissimmee offers easy access to world famous Orlando theme parks and a variety of nature-based, eco-friendly activities. For more information on places to stay, things to do and discount offers in the Kissimmee area, visit [www.ExperienceKissimmee.com](http://www.ExperienceKissimmee.com)

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