

ILLINOIS 3-DAY GETAWAYS!

Grab your golf clubs and get ready to swing. Southern Illinois is known for its great golf courses that are open all year round (yes, it stays that warm!). And once you've called it a day, you'll find plenty to do off the course.

Day One

The 18-hole [Hickory Ridge Public Golf Center](#) in Carbondale earned four stars from *Golf Digest*. Inside tip: the course offers rock-bottom twilight rates for unlimited play. Head for the [Stone Creek Golf Club and Resort](#) to chip along dense forests on one of the most scenic courses in Southern Illinois. Eleven rustic cabins allow a stay-and-play option, with greens fees that are surprisingly reasonable. The non-golfers in the group can spend the day sampling wine along the [Shawnee Hills Wine Trail](#), made up of nine award-winning wineries located in picturesque Jackson and Union counties. Catch a live performance in the evening at Southern Illinois University's [Shryock Auditorium](#), a 1,200-seat theater located in the historic "old campus."

Day Two

Tee off in Marion at the [Kokopelli Golf Club](#), named by Golf Week Magazine as number 3 in Illinois in its' 2006 publication, "American's Best Places You Can Play". The 18-hole course was designed by renowned golf architect Steve Smyers, and its Clubhouse Restaurant is one of the finest eateries in the area. Or hop in the car and cruise over to the [Rend Lake Golf Course](#) in Whittington, rated one of the best public courses in the Midwest by *Golf Digest*. The outstanding 27-hole complex, with some fairways overlooking scenic Rend Lake, was designed by Chicago architect Lawrence Packard. The luxe [Seasons Lodge and Fairway Suites](#) offer golf packages that let you stay close to the action. Significant others with shopping on their minds should head over to the [Southern Illinois Artisans Shop and Visitors Center](#) at Rend Lake, where fine artwork and traditional crafts made by Illinois artists are sold.

Day Three

Get away from it all at the [Gambit Golf Club](#) in Vienna, featuring a par 71 championship course that snakes through rolling meadows and woodlands. The Richard Osborne-designed course was created to challenge golfers of all playing levels. Or play at the semi-private [Crab Orchard Golf Club](#) in Carterville (between Carbondale and Marion), where the par 70 course features a large Zoysia practice area with target greens. Squeeze in some sightseeing at the [Makanda Boardwalk](#), a tiny village populated with local artists' shops and galleries that features an actual boardwalk. Then take a break at the charming [Ms. Froggy's Fudge Factory](#) in Alto Pass, which serves up homemade soup, sandwiches, ice cream and fudge (including a wine variety), in addition to selling handcrafted jewelry and woven baskets.

Visit enjoyillinois.com to plan or book your
Magnificent 3-Day Getaway.

