# South Haven Family Fun Guide

Family Friendly Things To Do In VanBuren County





#### Why Be Active?

Being physically active is good for you. Whether you like to move indoors or outdoors, being active can lead to:

- Better health
- Clearer thinking
- Less stress
- More happiness
- Fewer aches and pains
- Better sleep

Play hard in South Haven. You'll be glad you did!

BRONSON

# Apple, Cherry, Pumpkin Picking

Picking fruits and vegetables is a good way to have fun and be active at the same time. Visit:

- Overhiser Orchards: 6405 109th Ave., South Haven (269) 236-6312 overhiserorchards.com
- Dutch Farm Market: 6967 109th Ave., South Haven (269) 637-8334 dutchfarmmarket.com/index.html
- Crane Orchards: 6054 124th Ave, Fennville (269) 561-8651 craneorchards.com





# **AYSO Soccer**

If your child is interested in playing soccer for the American Youth Soccer Organization (AYSO) in South Haven, some things you should know are:

- Signups for soccer are in the spring for the following season.
- Soccer in South Haven is a fall/spring sport. You only need to sign up once in the spring to play the following spring/fall.
- There are a limited number of playership grants for families needing financial assistance. Visit the website for details.

ayso669sr@gmail.com ayso669.org/region669



#### Basketball at the Park

All you need is a ball and you can play basketball for free at the following parks:

- Elkenburg Park: 309 Elkenburg St., South Haven
- Optimist Tot Lot: 191 Bailey Ave., South Haven
- Stanley Johnston Park: 202 Dyckman Ave., South Haven

Contact the city of South Haven for more information:

(269) 637-5252 southhaven.org/experience/parks

#### **Beach Party**

Pack water and sunscreen and head to the beach for a fun activity, such as building sandcastles, playing volleyball or walking in the sand.

Beaches in and near South Haven (\$10 parking fee):

- Dyckman Beach: 75 North Shore Dr., South Haven
- North Beach: 45 Lakeshore Dr., South Haven

Beaches in and near South Haven (free parking):

- Pilgrim Haven: 18th Ave., South Haven
- Deerlick Creek: 76750 13th Ave., South Haven



# **Berry Picking**

Picking berries is hard work but the reward is worth it! Pick your own berries at the following locations:

- DeGrandchamp Farms: 76241 14th Ave., South Haven (269) 637-3915 degrandchamps.com
- Riverbend Farms: 44 72nd St., South Haven (269) 350-9529 facebook.com/Riverbend-Farms-178621722192864/
- Bumbleberry Acres: 6785 Baseline Rd., South Haven (269) 637-4824 bumbleberryacres.com





# Camping

Camping is a fun way to enjoy the outdoors. While you camp you can go for a hike in the woods or gaze at the stars in the night sky.

- Van Buren State Park (\$28-32/night): 23960 Ruggles Rd., South Haven (269) 637-2788 dnr.state.mi.us/parksandtrails
- Dune Lake Campground (\$30-35/night): 80855 C.R. 376 Coloma (269) 764-8941 dunelakecampground.com

# Day Camps

Try a day camp where you will be active, have fun and learn new skills. No boredom allowed!

- Van Buren Youth Camp: (269)-521-3855 vbyc.org
- SHPS Athletic Dept. Sports Camps: (269) 637-0508 shps.org



# Festivals

Festivals are an awesome way to explore the many interests you and your family share. They are often free too! Some popular festivals in South Haven include:

- The Blueberry Festival
- Merfest International Mermaid Festival
- South Haven Jazz Festival

Visit South Haven's Visitor's Bureau to see which festivals are taking place at different times throughout the year.

(269) 637-5252 southhaven.org/events





# Food and Local Eats

Walk around South Haven and enjoy some local eats. There are so many different foods and drinks to taste. For more information:

(269) 637-5252 southhaven.org/experience/south-haven-restaurants

Try new food when you visit. You'll be glad you did!

# Get Paddling on Water Trails

Michigan summers can get hot! Cruise the water sitting, standing, rowing or paddling on the Black River in South Haven. It's the perfect place to bring your paddle board, kayak or canoe to explore the waters. Rentals are available if you don't have one. For more information:

(269) 637-5252 southhaven.org/experience/on-water-experiences

\*Always remember to wear a life jacket.





#### Golf and Mini Golf

Golf and mini-golf are fun to play, and playing often helps you develop hand-eye coordination. Places to golf and mini-golf in South Haven include:

- Beeches Golf Club (\$12-14/person): 09601 68th St., South Haven (269) 637-2600 beechesgolfclub.com
- Lakeside Entertainment Center (\$4-5/person): 09921 Blue Star Memorial Hwy., South Haven (269) 637-6500 lakesidebowl.com/Miniature-Golf

# Help Out in the Community

Offer your time and talents to help places such as food pantries, at community events and/or animal shelters. Contact for volunteer opportunities:

- South Haven We Care Food Pantry: 651 Phoenix St., South Haven (269) 637-3804 wecare-inc.org
- South Haven Center for the Arts: 600 Phoenix St., South Haven (269) 637-1041 southhavenarts.org/volunteer
- Al-Van Humane Society: 07591 Blue Star Hwy., South Haven (269) 637-5062 al-van.org





# Ice Skating

Ice-skating is great exercise. Skating strengthens your whole body, especially your legs and heart. It gets cold on the rink. Be sure to bundle up and bring a helmet!

South Haven Ice Skate (\$3 to rent skates, \$8 to skate):
546 Phoenix Rd., South Haven (269) 639-1113

michigan.org/property/south-haven-ice-rink

# Jump, Climb and Swing!

Visit a floating obstacle course where you can have fun while being active.

 Arvesta Sport Complex (\$10-\$20): 06464 Arvesta Dr., South Haven (269) 637-6464 lakearvestafarms.com





#### Kal-Haven Trail

The Kal-Haven trail is one of the most beautiful trails in the state. You can get on the trail behind the Moose Lodge, off N. Bailey Avenue in South Haven. If you're up for it you can walk (or bike) 33 miles to Kalamazoo! Trail information:

- There are bathrooms along the trail.
- Bring a healthy snack and some water with you.
- No motorized vehicles are allowed on the trail.
- Don't disturb animals or pick flowers on the trail.

(269) 637-2788 michigan.org/property/kal-haven-trail-state-park



#### Michigan Maritime Museum

South Haven's Michigan Maritime Museum features hands-on exhibits on the history of the Great Lakes. General admission is \$5-8 and children under 4 are free.

260 Dyckman Ave., South Haven (269) 637-8078 michiganmaritimemuseum.org

#### Parks

There are many fun activities you can do at South Haven's many parks, such as having a picnic, playing yard games or taking a stroll around the park.

For a list of parks, visit South Haven's Visitor's Bureau.

(269) 637-5252 southhaven.org/experience/parks





#### **Play Structures**

Find a play structure in a number of South Haven parks to see how high you can swing or how many monkey bars you can get through without dropping to the ground.

Play Structures in South Haven:

- Kid's Corner: 563 Monroe Blvd., South Haven
- **Optimist's Tot Lot**: 191 Bailey Ave., South Haven
- Friends Good Will Splashpad: 60 Water St., South Haven



# Sledding

Sledding is fun and it helps your heart and legs get stronger when you pull your sled up the hill. You can sled for free at the following places:

- Coast Guard Hill:
- Corner of Michigan Ave. and Maple Ave. in South Haven
- Behind Central Lofts: 460 Broadway St., South Haven

\*Sledding can be dangerous, so be sure to practice safety. Dress in warm clothes, wear a helmet and watch out for other people sledding.

# Track and Field

Visit the South Haven Public Schools high school track when school is not in session. See who can run around the track the fastest or see how many times you can walk around the track in an hour.

600 Elkenburg St., South Haven





# Visit the Skate Park

If you have a skateboard or rollerblades, you can skate for free at South Haven Skate Park. Make sure to wear a helmet and safety pads and never skate alone.

901 East Wells St., South Haven

\*The skate park is maintained by the city. If you have questions or concerns about the skate park, call (269) 637-0700.

\*The park closes at dusk. There is no adult supervision at the park.

#### Walk the Downtown Strip

South Haven is home to many local shops, restaurants and cafes. Take a few minutes out of your day to window shop and enjoy all the local businesses.





#### Wellness Classes

Bronson Wellness Center offers great information about health and wellness. Join for information regarding healthy eating, exercise classes that fit you, community events, cooking classes, a swimming pool and more! Scholarship applications are also offered!

950 S. Bailey Ave., South Haven (269) 639-2949 bronsonhealth.com/locations/bronson-wellness-center

#### Visit bronsonhealth.com/bronsoneats

for more nutrition and physical activity ideas.

This project was funded in whole or in part by the USDA Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education through the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services and the Michigan Fitness Foundation. This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

