

NORMANDY FARMS FAMILY CAMPING RESORT

Foxborough, Massachusetts

NESTLED DEEP IN THE WOODS BETWEEN BOSTON AND CAPE COD, NORMANDY FARMS HAS been many a family's tradition for more than 30 years. Open year-round, amenities include a recreation lodge with an arcade, an outdoor cafe, a pastry and gourmet coffee cart, three outdoor pools and a spa, a camp store, two softball fields, an outdoor volleyball court, a full-size basketball court, an 18-hole Frisbee-golf course and an extensive activities schedule. The newly remodeled indoor pool complex features two whirlpool baths, a three-way sauna, a fitness center, a creative arts center and a heated pool. In case your holiday plans are already booked, Normandy Farms also offers tours departing from June to October on a daily basis for area attractions (including Boston, Newport, Cape Cod and Plymouth).

But it's the holiday season at Normandy Farms that is so special. December 10-12 is the Christmas party weekend, where you can get into the spirit with carolling, a visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus and refreshments. Be sure and take in the pancake breakfast, a movie and bingo. Ring in the New Year with a catered dinner and dance, complete with party favors.

Normandy Farms Family Camping Resort, 72 West Street, Foxborough, Massachusetts 02035; (508) 543-7600, normandyfarms.com.

CHRISTMAS AIRSTREAM PARK

Christmas, Florida

WITH STREET NAMES SUCH AS JINGLE BELL, CANDY CANE, NORTH Pole and Frosty Lane, and buildings named Holly and Santa Halls, you'll know it's Christmas year-round in this Florida park. Amenities include large, shaded sites with full hook-ups; a meeting hall with a fully equipped professional chef's kitchen; a swimming pool heated through a series of solar panels for the occasional days when the temperature drops a little; and lots of friendly folks.

The park is convenient to many major attractions such as the Kennedy Space Center and the Walt Disney World Resort, and deep-sea fishing, ocean cruises and beaches are nearby.

Christmas Airstream Park, 25525 East Colonial Drive, Christmas, Florida 32709; (407) 568-5207, christmas.reallyrules.com/airstream.html.

BATON ROUGE KOA EAST

Denham Springs, Louisiana

THIS IS A QUIET, COOL AND BEAUTIFULLY SHADED PARK. WITH A 50-foot heated pool, a hot tub and concrete pull-throughs, you'll be very happy to hang your stocking here. Nearby are majestic plantation homes, swamp tours, outstanding Cajun restaurants, riverboat gaming, the *USS Kidd*, shopping malls, golf courses and tennis courts.

But the main scene in December is the Bonfires on the River. These are elaborate structures created on the Mississippi River between Baton Rouge and New Orleans, sometimes taking months to build. The bonfires are lit on Christmas Eve to light the way for Papa Noël (Santa Claus) and his reindeer. They burn throughout the night, creating a unique festive atmosphere. It's a spectacular sight, and one not to miss if you find yourself in the Pelican State during the holiday season.

Many people view the fires from their vehicles as they creep along in the traffic on River Road, but to truly enjoy this event, you should walk along the top of the levee from one fire to the next. Spectators meander all over the levee, standing in front of bonfire after bonfire. Often, friends and family of a particular bonfire builder have set up chairs or sofas around the bonfire. As you pass by, there just might be offers of gumbo being cooked up on the spot over a butane flame. For more information, call (800) 367-7852, or visit festivalofthebonfires.org.

Baton Rouge KOA East, 7628 Vincent Road, Denham Springs, Louisiana 70726; (800) 562-5673, koa.com.

NEWPORT DUNES WATERFRONT RESORT

Newport Beach, California

TUCKED AWAY ON A LAGOON IN NEWPORT BEACH, ABOUT AN HOUR SOUTH OF DOWNTOWN LOS Angeles, this gated RV resort houses more than 400 RV sites on 100 acres of lush, landscaped grounds.



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