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KOA Introduces New KOAs To Visit

by Dennis Gaub, for KOA Kompass

Has the approach of yearend holidays made visions of 2004 camping vacations dance in your head?

Then here's an idea: visit any of the 11 new campgrounds added to the KOA system this year. You'll get to sample new scenery and fresh historical and cultural attractions in the process.

Eight of the campgrounds lie in the U.S., in Georgia, Maine, Pennsylvania, Michigan, Illinois, North Carolina, Florida and New Mexico. Canadian campgrounds, in Alberta and Nova Scotia, complete the roster.

Here is an overview of the newest members of the 457 KOA Kampground organization:

- Jacksonville N/Kingsland, Georgia Nestled in a Georgia pine grove, the campground
 offers mini-golf, a large pool, playground, recreation room, volleyball and
 horseshoes. Nearby attractions include a casino cruise and championship 18-hole golf
 course. New owners James True and Robert Herring have completely renovated the
 buildings, grounds and pool/pavilion.
- Freeport/Durham, Maine The campground presents a contrast: nature paths and woodlands on a 47-acre park-like site that is near much of what Maine is noted for. Those amenities include lighthouses, beaches, cruises, fishing, golf, hiking, biking, kayaking, seafood festivals, summer concerts and LL Bean. Freeport's visitor appeal includes more than 170 upscale outlets, designer shops, boutiques, B&B's, hotels and a variety of restaurants and cafes. Group services are offered.
- <u>Hinton / Jasper, Alberta</u> The campground lies at the foot of the Rocky Mountains and is bordered by three creeks. Historic highlights include the Bar-F Ranch and the homestead of John James Gregg, a Seventh Cavalry scout for George Armstrong Custer. Nearby attractions include the Jasper ski area, Miette Hot Springs, trail rides, hiking, golf, rafting and fishing.
- <u>Pine Grove, Pennsylvania</u> Attractions include Swatara State Park, Appalachian trails, and state game lands nearby. Hiking, biking, hunting, planned activities, train, hayrides and amusements are available. The campground is open all year.
- <u>Seal Island/N Sydney, Nova Scotia</u> Visitors are drawn to this family campground by beachfront sites, all offering scenic views of the bridge and lighthouse. It's 15 minutes to the ferry. Visitors don't need a license to fish on the campground.
- <u>Emmett, Michigan</u> This 40-acre facility features large wooded sites, a family atmosphere, and Kamping Kabins on the lake. Activities abound for all ages including bike rentals, planned activities for the kids, fishing, and mini-golf.
- Rock Island/Quad Cities, Illinois Visitors will find shaded sites (many next to the lake) plus a heated pool and spa, water playground for the kids, game room, fishing with no license required and boat rentals. It's a short distance to dining, entertainment, shops and casino boats. Group services are available
- <u>Shallotte</u>, <u>North Carolina</u> This year-round campground, in the South Brunswick Islands, has thrown down the welcome mat to beach bums, golfers, wine

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connoisseurs and seafood lovers. Both Sunset and Ocean Isle Beach are only five miles away. Competitive types can try their skills at more than 35 championship golf courses; three are located across the street from the campground. The Silver Coast Winery is another attraction. Group services are available.

- ZolfoSprings/Wauchula, Florida This Florida country campground, open all year, allows visitors to relax under Spanish moss live oaks and palm trees. Guests can canoe, fish or search for prehistoric shark teeth along the Peace River, then unwind in a heated pool or a hot tub. Area attractions include Pioneer Park, with its museum and zoo, Solomon's Castle, the Royal Lipizzan Stallions, Dinosaur World and the Cypress and Bok Tower botanical gardens. Group services are offered.
- <u>Carlsbad</u>, <u>New Mexico</u> You're advised to plan more than a day to enjoy Carlsbad Caverns, the Living Desert, Sitting Bull Falls, two national parks and other attractions. And, it's a one-hour drive to Roswell's UFO Museum. The campground is open all year and offers group services.
- <u>Las Vegas Circus Circus</u>, <u>Nevada</u> There's now a KOA on the world famous Las Vegas Strip. KOA has joined together with Circus Circus to operate the Circusland RV Park which features 400 full hook-up sites, a swimming pool, large convenience store, video arcade, playground, pool tables and a large meeting room for group functions and rallies.

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