

SUMMER
2021

RCI

M A G A Z I N E

**Best Backpacks
& Crossbodies**
FOR CITY STROLLING,
PARK HOPPING &
TAILGATING

**A Weekend
In Anaheim**
BREWS, BEACHES
& KNOTT'S
BERRY FARM

PARKS & RECREATION



A breath of fresh air in **Branson** / pg. 16



OZARK KEEPSAKES

Though you aren't allowed to remove anything from the state parks themselves, there are still plenty of ways to take a piece of Branson home with you. Find the perfect keepsake to remind you of your adventure in the Ozarks. **BY KATE BUSTILLOS**

Crack-Your-Own Geode

Visit the Rock & Gift Shop at Talking Rocks Cavern to take home your own natural wonder. At first glance, this souvenir just looks like an ordinary rock. But once you break it open, a treasure of glittering quartz crystals awaits. Geodes come in all sizes — from pocket-sized to cave-sized — and can take thousands of years or more to form. Location and natural conditions determine which minerals form the hidden crystals within, making each geode a surprise.

Cedar Creek Dulcimer

Bring home the music of the Ozarks with a handcrafted dulcimer, a stringed instrument that has been a Branson tradition for generations. The strings of a mountain dulcimer are plucked by hand, while the strings of a hammered dulcimer are struck with small mallets or hammers. Whichever type you choose, Cedar Creek's friendly staff can teach you to play before you go with an easy play-by-numbers guide.

Glass Butterfly Feeder

Create your own miniature butterfly sanctuary with a hanging butterfly feeder from The Butterfly Palace & Rainforest Adventure. The feeder comes with a brightly colored sponge to attract butterflies. The sponge provides a convenient way for hungry butterflies to drink up the sugary nutrients using their straw-like proboscis. Just soak the sponge in butterfly nectar and wait for your winged friends to arrive.

