WislerB041-176 Rewrite – Suggested Title: **Fun Day Trip Destinations**

When we think about family trips, we often think about taking days at a time or going far away. But sometimes the best trips are spontaneous, and they might only last one day. If you’re near Franklin County or Roanoke County, here are some great day trip destinations where you can have lots of fun.

Franklin County lies between two lakes: Smith Mountain Lake and Philpott Lake. Smith Mountain Lake State Park is on the Bedford side of Smith Mountain Lake. It has a lot of fun activities like hiking, fishing, swimming, and volleyball. There’s even a beach café. It’s a fun destination for family to go and spend the day together. It’s very well-kept and nice to visit, especially during the summer months.

The Peaks of Otter is great for hiking, and you’ll get an awesome view at Shark Top (one of the three mountain peaks overlooking Bedford). This is a trip that will take most of the day. It might be a good idea to pack a lunch to give you an energy boost on the way up. If there’s anyone that wants to join you but isn’t able to make the hike, there’s a bus that goes right to the top. That way, elderly family members can still join everyone else and take part in the fun.

In Roanoke, the Mill Mountain Zoo is great, especially for young children. This is where the Mill Mountain Star is located, so it’s very cool to go and watch it at night when everything is lit up. Even though the zoo is very small, it does have some interesting animals (but nothing very exotic). You can take it all in after a just a few hours, so it’s not somewhere you’ll go to every week/month. However, it’s a nice little outing, especially when you go out to the Star overlooking the Roanoke valley.

Downtown Roanoke is packed with history, and it’s another really fun location to visit. The science museum is great for children, and it has dinosaurs, gadgets, and lots of learning activities. The Transportation Museum has a selection of cars, trains, and buses, so it’s another fun attraction for kids. In the early days of the Roanoke valley, the area was known for its railroad. The art museum was also added in the past five years or so, and it’s really cool to check out if you’re more into art.

I’d really like to make a day trip to one of these places with my family in the near future. Of course, you have to make time for the things that are important, and family time together is definitely one of the things that matter most in our lives. If you’re in the area and you have any questions or suggestions about your family day trip, or if you have any questions about Wisler Plumbing, [contact us online](http://www.wislerplumbing.com/contact-wisler-plumbing/) or give us a call at 540-483-9382.

WislerB041-176 Transcription

**Shayla:** You are listening to the Wisler Plumbing Podcast and I’m talking with James Wisler. James, what are some of the best day trips that you think every family should take from around your area?

**James:** That’s a really great question and, you know, the family trips, sometimes we think that we have to take off days at a time and take significant trips to really mean something, but sometimes the best trips are those that are spontaneous and that may be just a short day in length so you know, as I’ve thought about some of those things, Franklin County itself lays in between two lakes, Smith Mountain Lake and Philpott Lake but there is a, Smith Mountain Lake State Park which is on the Bedford side of the Smith Mountain Lake. It has a lot to do. You can hike, you can fish, you can swim, you can play volleyball, there’s even a beach café there at the beach area and it can be really fun for a family to go and just spend the day. Obviously it’s probably best in the summer months to be around the lake but it’s a really awesome experience and they keep it up very well. One of the other areas that we’ve been to is the Peaks of Otter and that’s just strictly hiking. It’s an awesome view at Sharp Top is the actual peak’s name and if you take a day and go up there, you’ll need most of the day. You can pack a lunch and if there’s anyone that isn’t able to hike to the top, then you can take a bus to the top and meet if it’s a whole family going and, you know, somebody elderly may not be able to hike, they can take the bus to the top and meet the other people that do hike up at the top and still get that experience at the top of the mountain. So that can be really fun. One of the other areas is in Roanoke, Mill Mountain Zoo and then that’s where the Mill Mountain Star is and the star can be really cool at night when it’s lit up. But Mill Mountain Zoo, it’s just a very small zoo but especially young children and it’s not somewhere that you’d want to go every week or, you know, every month because you can pretty much take it all in in just several hours, so, but they have some interesting animals. Nothing very exotic, but it’s just a nice little outing and then to be able to go out to the star and look over the Roanoke valley, that’s really cool as well. And then downtown Roanoke, downtown Roanoke has a lot of stuff in it. It has a lot of history and that can be really fun. The science museum is really cool for children. It’s just fun, dinosaurs, gadgets, and just a lot of learning can go on there. The Transportation Museum, Roanoke is known for the railroad that was here very, in the early stages of the Roanoke valley and so they have a lot of cars and trains and buses and stuff like that that is in that museum and that can be fun for kids to, you know, get on and to see and then also recently in the last five or so years they added the art museum and so if you are more into art, that’s a very significant exhibit in the art museum there that can be really cool and fun as well.

**Shayla:** We were talking before you recorded that you were awfully busy over there, so do you think you’re gonna get a day off anytime soon to do any of this stuff?

**James:** Well, it probably depends on whether you ask my wife or me, but I, we definitely, you have to make time for the things that are important and family trips and time together is obviously really what matters.

**Shayla:** All right, so if you are in the Wisler Plumbing service area or around Roanoke or Franklin County, make sure you check out some of these day trips that James mentioned today. If you have any more questions about what they do at Wisler Plumbing, reach out to them at 540-483-9382.