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meetings

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OUT of the BOX

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Six sustainable standouts

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Western mountain locales raise the bar

MEETINGSTODAY.COM



MidAmerica Winners

Which properties in the Midwest are the ones our meeting planner readers like best? We recently polled them to get their input on the region's most outstanding choices for meetings. Below are their favorites, selected using the following criteria: quality of meeting space; guest rooms; guest services and amenities; food and beverage service; the efficiency and helpfulness of staff; the availability of technical equipment; recreational facilities and activities; and overall value and experience.

Congratulations to those selected!

MINNESOTA

- 1 **Bloomington:** Radisson Blu Mall of America
- 2 **Minneapolis:** Hilton Minneapolis; Hyatt Regency Minneapolis

WISCONSIN

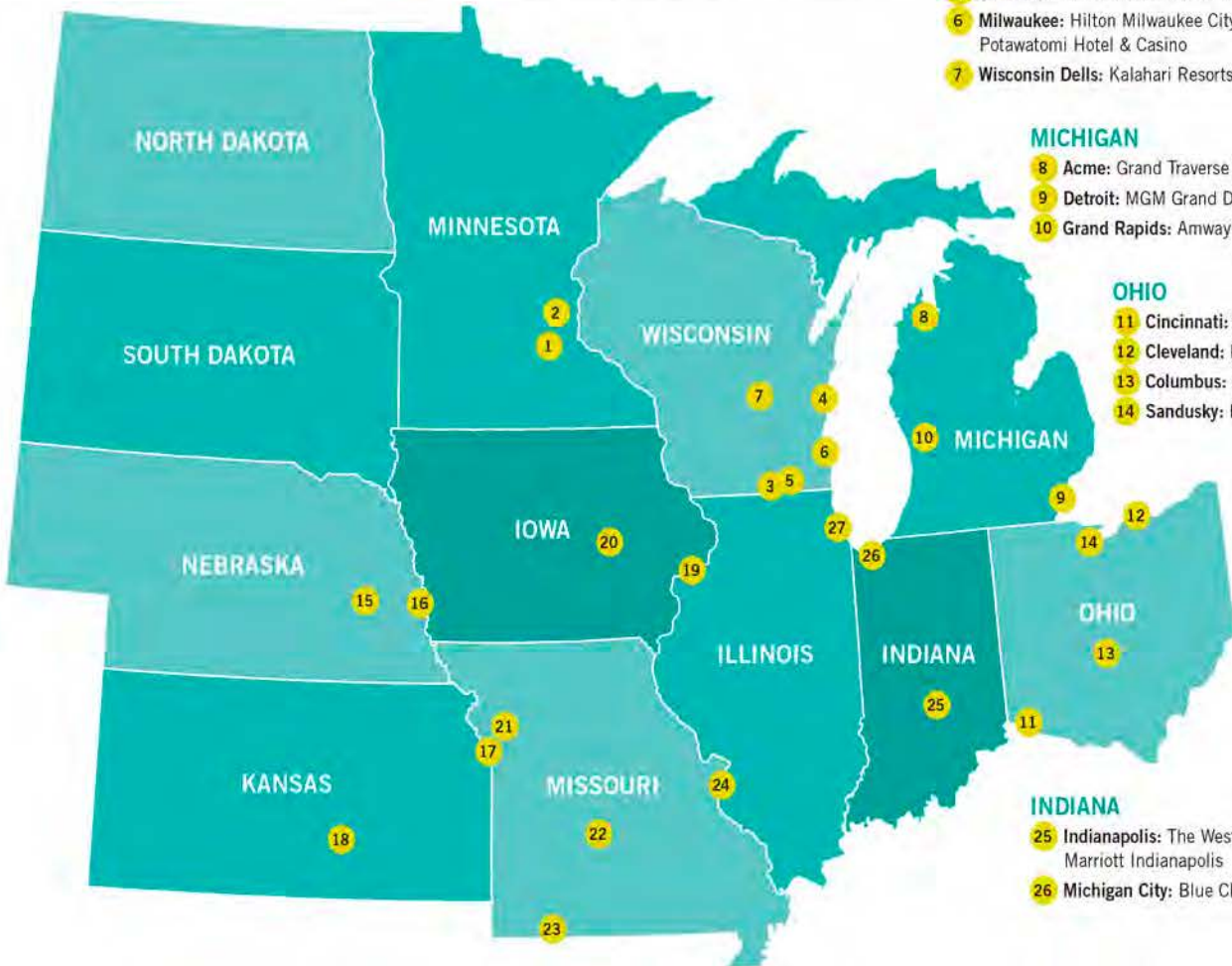
- 3 **Fontana:** The Abbey Resort and Avani Spa
- 4 **Kohler:** The American Club Resort Hotel
- 5 **Lake Geneva:** Grand Geneva Resort & Spa
- 6 **Milwaukee:** Hilton Milwaukee City Center; The Pfister Hotel; Potawatomi Hotel & Casino
- 7 **Wisconsin Dells:** Kalahari Resorts & Conventions

MICHIGAN

- 8 **Acme:** Grand Traverse Resort & Spa
- 9 **Detroit:** MGM Grand Detroit; MotorCity Casino Hotel
- 10 **Grand Rapids:** Amway Grand Plaza

OHIO

- 11 **Cincinnati:** Hilton Cincinnati Netherland Plaza
- 12 **Cleveland:** Renaissance Cleveland Hotel
- 13 **Columbus:** Hilton Columbus Downtown
- 14 **Sandusky:** Kalahari Resorts & Conventions



NEBRASKA

- 15 **Lincoln:** The Cornhusker, a Marriott Hotel
- 16 **Nebraska City:** Lied Lodge & Conference Center

KANSAS

- 17 **Kansas City:** Great Wolf Lodge Kansas City
- 18 **Wichita:** Hyatt Regency Wichita

IOWA

- 19 **Davenport:** Hotel Blackhawk
- 20 **Cedar Rapids:** DoubleTree by Hilton Cedar Rapids Convention Complex

MISSOURI

- 21 **Kansas City:** Hilton President Kansas City; Kansas City Marriott Downtown
- 22 **Lake Ozark:** Lodge of Four Seasons Lake Ozark
- 23 **Ridgedale:** Big Cedar Lodge
- 24 **St. Louis:** Chase Park Plaza; Hilton St. Louis at the Ballpark; The Ritz-Carlton, St. Louis

INDIANA

- 25 **Indianapolis:** The Westin Indianapolis; JW Marriott Indianapolis
- 26 **Michigan City:** Blue Chip Casino Hotel & Spa

ILLINOIS

- 27 **Chicago:** The Palmer House Hilton; Park Hyatt Chicago; Radisson Blu Aqua Hotel Chicago; Fairmont Chicago; Millennium Park; Hilton Chicago Oak Brook Hills Resort; Hyatt Regency Chicago; JW Marriott Chicago; Sheraton Chicago Hotel & Towers; Trump International Hotel & Tower Chicago; W Chicago Lakeshore; Waldorf Astoria Chicago



Big Cedar Lodge



Located in the Missouri Ozark Mountains is a world-class destination, filled with beautiful accommodations, over 20,000 square feet of meeting space and unbelievable team building activities. Recently named the #1 Resort in the Midwest by *Travel + Leisure Magazine*, Big Cedar Lodge offers the perfect getaway for groups of all types. Its heartland location positions it within a day's drive for over half of the U.S., and it is located near two Missouri airports, Springfield and Branson.

Big Cedar Lodge offers some of the country's most unique meeting spaces for your group. The Grandview Conference Center is adorned in rustic elegance and features stunning lake views, all while accommodating up to 1,000 guests theater-style. For a less conventional meeting space, you can host your guests on a 62-foot luxury yacht or at an outdoor chuckwagon site at the property's 10,000-acre nature park, Dogwood Canyon.

Teambuilding activities are what really distinguish this resort for group gatherings. Big Cedar is home to multiple attractions, each offering a unique opportunity for your team to grow closer together. With two golf courses home to the PGA TOUR Champions event, the Bass Pro Shops Legends of Golf, Top of the Rock and Buffalo Ridge are the perfect places to engage in a little friendly competition.

For an outdoor exploration, you can set out on a horseback riding adventure at Dogwood Canyon Nature Park or learn to be a sharpshooter at the Bass Pro Shops Shooting Academy. You can even reward your team with an afternoon of relaxation at the 18,000-square-foot Cedar Creek Spa. Big Cedar's newest attraction is a 50,000-square-foot activity center that features an underwater themed, 16-lane bowling alley, a ropes course, NASCAR-themed flip and spin bumper cars, an arcade and a restaurant.

Whether you are planning a corporate meeting, a grand celebration or a teambuilding adventure, the experienced meeting planners at Big Cedar Lodge can help create a truly custom experience for your group. Call or visit the website to start planning a getaway your guests will never forget!

GUEST ROOMS: 260
MTG ROOMS: 15
INDOOR MTG. SPACE: 21,308
LARGEST MTG. SPACE: 10,974
THEATER CAP.: 1,000
BANQUET CAP.: 600
CLASSROOM CAP.: 504



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