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# Crossings

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# MAKE A SPLASH DOWNTOWN

The **Scioto Mile** features an amazing 15,000 square-foot interactive fountain.



*Columbus ranked "Highest in  
Visitor Satisfaction in the Midwest"*



When it comes to family fun, we encourage jumping in with both feet — especially along the Scioto Mile, where a network of parks, boulevards, bikeways and pedestrian paths connect downtown to a winding riverfront park. Filled with fountains, complimentary Wi-Fi, a riverfront café and the country's largest free outdoor climbing wall, it's only natural that weekends are Made in Cbus.

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Columbus, OH received the highest numerical score among 8 cities in the Midwest in the J.D. Power 2016 Destination Experience Satisfaction Study, based on 26,124 total responses, measuring the experiences and perceptions of travelers who visited a top 50 U.S. destination, surveyed February-July 2016. Your experiences may vary. Visit [jdpower.com](http://jdpower.com).



# Play it Cool in Ohio

Mill Creek Metro Parks, Youngstown.

**S**ummers in Ohio are undeniably beautiful, with lush green forests, sparkling lakes and endless hills. Bordered by a sparkling Great Lake and a great river Ohio's sheer diversity makes it ideal for a leisurely vacation or weekend getaways.

## Sandusky County

Northern Ohio comes alive during the summer and fall months with unique festivals and events. Lake Erie is a perfect backdrop for many of the festivities and events.

Take a ferry to the Kelleys Island for *Island Fest*. This top-pick festival runs from July 14-16 and features lots of family fun, including the Kelleys Island parade, crafters, live entertainment, street dances, games, fireworks, food vendors and a beer tent. You won't want to miss the island's biggest and best celebration of the summer season. You'll also discover why Kelleys Island's white sand beaches, Glacial Grooves and lake waters capture the hearts of so many visitors.

Do ghouls and haunting interest you? If so, then you must schedule a weekend away to Cedar Point's *HalloWeekends*, which runs from Sept. 15 - Oct. 29. Explore Cedar Point during the autumn weekends for fun by day, and fright by

night! Roller coaster thrills combine with spooktacular thrills for the young and old alike!

The *Great Pumpkin Fest* is perfect for children (and kids at heart) who are looking for some daytime Halloween fun. Once dusk descends, beware of monsters, ghouls and terror that lurks

Car shows are a summer tradition in Ohio like this one in Bowling Green.



BY RENU SAGGAR

around every corner!

Regardless of why you come to the Lake Region of Ohio, once your day is done, you will want to get away from the expensive hotels on the lake and drive a short distance to Sandusky County Ohio for your night's lodging. Fremont's hotels are a short 15 minute drive from downtown Port Clinton and the Put-In-Bay boat dock and only 30 minutes from city of Sandusky. You'll save approximately 40 percent off hotel prices in Port Clinton and Sandusky when you stay in Sandusky County. Visit [sanduskycounty.org](http://sanduskycounty.org) for more information.

## Bowling Green

Falling in love with Bowling Green this summer is so easy to do! On July 8th BG hosts over 400 classic cars line main street downtown during their *Classics on Main Car Show*. Come join them to find your favorite. On August 17-18 BG hosts the 51st *National Tractor Pull Championships*, the biggest show of tractor pulling with attendees and participants from across the nation.

BG will celebrate the 25th year for the *Black Swamp Arts Festival* on September 8-10. Held downtown, the show features

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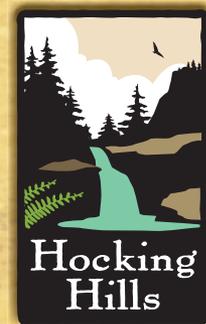


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# Ohio Summer

juried art and musical entertainment. It's considered one of the best arts festivals in the state and the nation!

While visiting BG dine and shop in many of the locally owned restaurants and boutiques in the historic downtown. Stop at the Wood County Historical Center to visit a one of a kind *WWI Anniversary Exhibit* that is a must see during your stay. Located just off I-75, 25 miles south of Toledo, there are so many reasons to fall in love with BG, Ohio. Visit their website at [VisitBGOHio.com](http://VisitBGOHio.com) for all of the info on the events, sites and where to stay during your visit #ilovethistown.

## Medina County

Medina County offers small town atmosphere with big city flavor. With so much to offer, they have something for everyone. There are many unique shops in each of their wonderful communities. Outlet shopping at Hollo's Papercraft and Ohio Station Outlets, which has over 60 shops and where you can take a train ride around the center.

Spring and summer means golfing for

many. There are fun and challenging courses for golfers at all levels. Visit their web site for golf packages.

Medina County is also host to many great fun festivals and events all year long. July has Brunswick Summer Celebration, Art-in-the-Park (Arts Week) and the Lodi Sweet Corn Festival. August welcomes the County Fair, Valley City Frog Jump Festival and the International Fest. In September the Johnny Appleseed Festival takes place at Mapleside Farms. These are just a sampling.

Of course, Castle Noel is open weekends all year long and six days a week during the holidays, a fantastic Christmas entertainment complex. Mark Klaus has collected New York City Department Store Christmas window displays, props and set pieces from many Christmas movies. For example, Cindy Lou Who's bedroom set, Will Ferrell's Elf costume, the Naughty Nice Globe from The Santa Clause, Cousin Eddie's RV and so much more.

June through September brings the Buckin' Ohio rodeo's one Saturday each month at Creek Bend Farm, with bull riding, barrel racing, music, good food and family fun. Medina County also offers great hotels and dining at many locally

owned restaurants.

Medina County is located just 35 miles south of Cleveland, and 24 miles west of Akron. Visit [www.visitmedinacounty.com](http://www.visitmedinacounty.com).

## Greater Akron

Blurring the lines between metropolis and scenic haven, visitors to Greater Akron, Ohio can get swept up in the rush of the little big city that is downtown Akron or escape to the breathtaking views of Ohio's only national park.

Cities offer visitors the thrill of rich culture found in various major metropolitan areas. Art enthusiasts can explore the Akron Art Museum and galleries like Summit Artspace or Akrona which feature local and touring exhibits. Those looking to catch a performance have a variety of playhouses and concert venues from which to choose including the Akron Civic Theatre, one of five remaining atmospheric theaters in the nation. Guests who still haven't had their fill can look into Greater Akron's past at Hale Farm & Village, Perkins Stone Mansion, and Stan Hywet Hall & Gardens. The former estate of F.A. Seiberling, co-founder of The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company,

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the 65-room Tudor Revival Manor House, is the nation's 6th largest historic home open to the public. The estate includes five historic buildings and eight historic gardens spread over 70 acres.

Iconic events happen all year long, including: World Golf Championships Bridgestone Invitational, FirstEnergy All-American Soap Box Derby, International Twins Days Festival, National Hamburger Festival, Ohio Mart, Akron Marathon Race Series and Akron Zoo's Boo at the Zoo to name only a few.

Visitors can wander off the beaten path to Cuyahoga Valley National Park (CVNP) by using the Ohio Erie & Canalway Towpath Trail, which runs through the heart of downtown Akron, or by hopping on the Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad. The 12th most-visited national park in the U.S. in 2016, CVNP boasts 33,000 acres of unimaginably beautiful areas to play, rest and recharge.

A visit to Greater Akron also offers novices to pros a chance to hit the links on more than a dozen manicured public courses. Not a golfer? Spend your time shopping area favorites, Don Drumm Studios & Gallery, Akron Glass Works, Mustard Seed Market & Café or any of

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# Ohio Summer

the myriad shops and boutiques scattered throughout our communities. Diverse dining options offer flavors from authentic Nepalese to modern Mexican and from Swensons Drive-in's car-side service to an iconic Akron steak house. New for 2017, the Summit Brew Path (only the second of its kind in Ohio) features fourteen breweries' eclectic libations – a can't miss regardless if you complete the official path or not!

Sights, sounds and special experiences await. Plan a visit that will be your very own. For more information please go to [visitakron-summit.com](http://visitakron-summit.com).

## Trumbull County

Spending a day or weekend in Trumbull County in northeastern Ohio can be educational, entertaining and fun. Family-friendly attractions, museums, galleries and outdoor activities offer a variety of experiences that can easily fill a day or more.

And during the summer, events in the area take center stage beginning with the *River Rock at the Amp Concerts* which take place nearly every Saturday night from

May 27 through Labor Day. Held rain or shine at the outdoor Warren Community Amphitheatre, classic rock and tribute bands perform live for thousands. There's tiered seating and plenty of room for lawn chairs and blankets. On July 15, take in "Wish You Were Here" a Pink Floyd tribute act.

Antique car buffs will want to cruise through the 28th *Annual Packard Legacy Weekend* June 30-July 2 at the National Packard Museum. This annual event features the state-of-the-art engineering of the Packard Automobile and the industrial legacy left by the Packard family. Lectures, exhibits, demonstrations and music are featured throughout the three days. On Sunday "Cruise in the Park" showcases classic cars.

Come celebrate the creation of the hot dog on July 2 during the *Harry Stevens Hot Dog Day!* Stevens, who was born in England but later resided in Niles, is reportedly credited with inventing the hot dog. His other creations included the baseball scorecard and drinking straw. Events include a 4th of July Parade; a hot dog eating contest; wiener dog races; and live musical entertainment.

The *Trumbull County Fair* – July 11-16,

is a traditional county fair with locally-raised livestock and home-produced items. Agricultural displays, 4-H and youth activities, livestock and horse shows, entertainment, amusement rides, games and food.

Cultural heritage plays an important role in the area. St. Demetrios Church holds its annual *Grecian Festival* July 19-23, which is one of the largest in the state of Ohio. This year marks the 50th year that the church has held this festival which features plenty of Greek food and pastries, music and dancing.

A full day of activities is planned to celebrate *Trumbull Art Gallery's 60th Anniversary* on July 22. Pottery demonstrations and exhibits will be featured during "Pots in the Park" on Courthouse Square beginning at 10:00 am.

Spend Sunday afternoon among antique airplanes and classic cars on August 6th at the Ernie Hall Aviation Museum's 5th Annual *Wings-n-Wheels*.

From August 10-13, the 33rd *Annual Warren Italian-American Festival* takes over Courthouse Square in downtown Warren and showcases Italian food, heritage displays, cultural exhibits, music, a bocce tournament, and pasta sauce and

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wine-tasting competitions.

Set sail for a weekend filled with pirate activities at the *8th Annual Miskito Pirate Fest* in Cortland, August 11-13.

Tractor buffs of all ages will enjoy the 23rd Annual Summer Antique Tractor show in Vienna. It features a large variety of antique farm equipment and this year's featured tractor is John Deere.

Baseball fans, especially those who love to watch minor league play, will enjoy spending time at Eastwood Field in Niles watching the Mahoning Valley Scrappers. This Class-A Cleveland Indians affiliate team, which plays in the short season New York-Penn League, features many up-and-coming stars of professional baseball. These boys of summer take to the field mid-June through September 7.

For more information please visit [www.exploretrumbullcounty.com](http://www.exploretrumbullcounty.com).

### Youngstown

Kids of all ages will love "the happiest place in Youngtown". OH WOW! Children's Center for Science and Technology will delight your entire family. Several new exhibits enhance the fun at this facility where you can explore and play in an environment that fosters learning

through hands-on, interactive exhibits rooted in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM).

Be sure to allow a full day to explore Mill Creek MetroParks. Unplug and enjoy over 4,400 acres of natural beauty, including miles of hike and bike trails. Find hidden waterfalls, rent a kayak and enjoy wetland and wildlife areas. Stroll through lovely Fellows Riverside Gardens, one of the finest public gardens in the U.S. Go back to the 19th century by visiting Lanterman's Mill and Covered Bridge. Be sure to visit the Mill Creek MetroParks Farm, a 402-acre working farm that offers a tractor and wagon ride and visit with the animals.

If the kid's still need to burn off some energy, try Extreme Air Trampoline Park, Sports World, or cool off at The Ice Zone for some indoor skating. A stop at Handel's Homemade Ice Cream & Yogurt is a MUST! National Geographic rated Handel's Ice Cream #1 in "The Ten Best of Everything."

During the summer months, there are festivals almost every weekend. July features Youngstown State University's *Annual Summer Festival of the Arts*, a 2-day juried showcase of the best in regional art (July 8-9). This weekend also includes the

*Summer Festival of the Arts Music Series*—outdoor concerts featuring great artists in the heart of Downtown Youngstown.

For three weekends in August, the *Shaker Woods Festival* takes you back to a simpler time, with crafters demonstrating and selling their wares, live entertainment and delicious food. The end of summer is marked each year by the *Canfield Fair*. Now in its 171st year, the Canfield Fair (Aug. 30-Sept. 4) is Ohio's largest County Fair, featuring agriculture, arts, rides, games, delicious food, and top-name entertainment. John Mellencamp will be the headline act with Carlene Carter, appearing on September 3, 2017.

Visit Youngstown! For more information, please contact the Mahoning County Convention & Visitors Bureau at [www.youngstownlive.com](http://www.youngstownlive.com).

### Wayne County Ohio

Are you looking for a great place to vacation with your family this summer? Does a stress-free trip where you don't have to wait in long lines or spend a fortune sound good to you? Then you might want to check out the fun family adventures Wayne County, Ohio has to offer. Enjoy a visit to an old fashioned

# Wayne County, Ohio

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If your family is partial to outdoor activities, Wayne County is home to many recreation areas such as Johnson Woods State Nature Preserve, Secrest Arboretum and Gardens, Shreve Wildlife Area, Wilderness Center and Rails to Trails Bike Paths.

Which youngster wouldn't love the excitement of swash buckling pirates and knights in shining armor? Treat your family to an afternoon or evening of live musical theater with The Ohio Light Opera, who calls The College of Wooster home during their summer festival season. The 2017 bill of shows includes "The Music Man" and "HMS Pinafore." Children's ticket prices are just \$10.00.

Your family might enjoy train history and a track car ride at the Orrville Railroad Heritage Society or a tour of the Wayne County Historical Society Campus complete with a one-room school house and a turn of the century firehouse, complete with a haunted pumper.

Local restaurants feature home-made foods from local produce, great ice cream fresh from the dairy, Amish family style restaurants, bakeries and cafes.

Spend a night or two without breaking the bank! Our family friendly hotels offer indoor and outdoor pools and spas, free Wifi, and great breakfast buffets.

So, if you thought the family vacation was out of reach this summer, think again. The Wayne County Convention & Visitors Bureau invites you to visit their website, [www.wccvb.com](http://www.wccvb.com) for more great cost effective vacation ideas.

### Columbus

Summer is well underway in Columbus and with so many great activities taking place it's hard to pick a favorite.

Festival season began Memorial Day Weekend and continues through Labor Day Weekend, with at least one festival taking place every weekend in between. Ohio's largest fireworks display can be seen each Independence Day at Columbus' *Red, White and BOOM!* The fourth weekend in July brings with it the *Jazz and Rib Festival*, during which the air

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Follow our social media to find out why we love BG!

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#ilovethistown

# Ohio Summer

downtown is filled with hot ribs and cool jazz. The *Ohio State Fair* brings July to a close with agricultural exhibitions, a midway full of rides and a blockbuster lineup of musical performances.

This year, the *Dublin Irish Festival* celebrates its 30th anniversary the first weekend of August. As the world's second largest three-day Irish festival, the event entertains more than 100,000 guests with more than 65 acts and 535 performers on 7 stages. Visit in mid-August to sample delicious food from more than 70 Ohio food trucks at the *Columbus Food Truck Festival* which will also move to the Scioto Mile for the first time this year. Finally, from souvlaki and baklava to traditional singing and dancing, the *Columbus Greek Festival* closes out the summer festival season by bringing the best of Greek culture to Columbus.

Aside from hosting a slew of festivals throughout the summer, the Scioto Mile recently created 33 new acres of parkland in downtown Columbus, bringing the grand total to 175 acres available for public enjoyment along the river. With miles

of multi-use trails, this is a great spot to take a stroll and enjoy the juxtaposition of the city and nature. The country's largest free outdoor climbing wall, located at the Scioto Audubon Metro Park, is accessible by taking paths along the river. Bicentennial Park, also along the Scioto Mile, as well as the nearby Columbus Commons, hosts numerous free concerts and events throughout the summer.

Sports-lovers rejoice as there is plenty to do in the city named "#1 Sports Town in the U.S." by Scarborough Sports Marketing, thanks to its top-notch sports teams and facilities. Check out the baseball stars of tomorrow playing for The Columbus Clippers (Triple-A baseball affiliate of the Cleveland Indians), whose home stadium, Huntington Park, was named "Ballpark of the Year" four times in its first six years of operation, beating out the new Yankee Stadium and Citi Field in its first year.

For more information visit them at [www.experiencecolumbus.com](http://www.experiencecolumbus.com).

## Fairfield County

Fairfield County is a great place to enjoy the summer. Festival season is in full swing with the *Lancaster Festival* taking center stage. This 11-day celebration of music

and the arts takes place the last week of July and features over 60 events. Headline artists for 2017 are The Mavericks and The Beach Boys. Or "buzz" in for Ohio's only honey festival, the *Lithopolis Honeyfest* in September. There are many other festivals, concerts, car shows and more in Fairfield County all summer long.

Spend time in the many museums which feature history, glassblowing, historical aircraft, motorcycling and even a hands-on children's museum. You'll also find great shopping, unique dining, and eclectic wineries and breweries. Fairfield County is home to 17 authentic covered bridges, more than anywhere else in Ohio. If you just want to get away from it all, relax in over 8,000 acres of parks and nature preserves.

For more details on all there is to see and do, visit their website at [www.VisitFairfieldCounty.org](http://www.VisitFairfieldCounty.org).

## Hocking Hills

New adventures are waiting in Ohio's Hocking Hills. In May the Hocking Hills State Park opened two new hiking trails, the biggest addition to the Park's trail system in more than fifty years. The trailhead for the one mile long Hemlock



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Bridge Trail is located near the site of the Hocking Hills Dining Lodge and Hocking Hills State Park Cabins. The trail connects with the Grandma Gateway Trail, providing easy access to nearby Old Man's Cave, Cedar Falls and Ash Cave trails.

The highlight is a suspension bridge that crosses Salt Creek. The new bridge now connects the new trails to the older more established gorge trails at the confluence of Old Man's Creek and Queer Creek, which form the Salt Creek.

The Whispering Cave Trail, a 0.2 mile spur off of Hemlock Bridge Trail, takes hikers to the newly accessible cave. The cave is 275 feet across and 105 feet high and has been dubbed Whispering Cave for its uncommon acoustics. One person can whisper at one end of the cave and another person can hear the whisper hundreds of feet away.

The Hocking Hills State Park features six non-contiguous parks; Ash Cave, Cantwell Cliffs, Cedar Falls, Conkle's Hollow, Old Man's Cave and Rock House. The prehistoric sandstone caves feature waterfalls, gorges, rock outcroppings and cliff top vistas. The parks are Ohio's undisputed natural crown jewels.

The new trails took years of planning and plenty of earth moving. If you've always wanted to try your hand at moving a little earth or playing in an adult sandbox with the same equipment the pros use, check out the newest man-made attraction in Hocking Hills, Hocking Hills Sandbox. Here's your chance to play with a bulldozer, excavator, track loader and high lift. Now's your chance to be "Bob the Builder".

In addition to adventures galore the Hocking Hills offers unique lodging from Tipis to Treehouses and Gypsy Wagons to Luxury Lodges all nicely tucked into the natural landscape. Begin your adventure at [ExploreHockingHills.com](http://ExploreHockingHills.com).

## Carroll County

Located at the foothills of the Appalachian Mountains in East Central Ohio, Carroll County offers small-town charm and those windy, rural routes that draw motorcycle and sports car enthusiasts.

The public square of Carrollton is surrounded by small shops, including four antique stores that invite you to explore the past Wednesday through Saturday. Shop Bud's Farm Toys, Dotty's Craft Center, Ashton's 5- & 10-Cent Store and the Carroll County Arts Center for some unique gift items.

Downtown, make a point to stop at the



## Armstrong Air & Space Museum



*As space exploration has evolved, so have the exhibits at the museum. But the focus has remained the same: to stand not only as a repository of Ohio's aeronautical history and a monument to Ohio's contribution to aviation and space exploration, but also as a tribute to Ohioan Neil Armstrong, whose "one small step for a man" was indeed a "giant leap for mankind."*

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Located at exit 111 on I-75 in Ohio

**Phone: 800-860-0142 [www.armstrongmuseum.org](http://www.armstrongmuseum.org)**

# Ohio Summer

area's oldest bakery, Betty Kay Bakery and pick up its delicious brownies. Take some time to visit Carrollton's three museums – Ashton House Museum, McCook House Civil War Museum and Susie's Museum of Childhood.

Summer is incredibly busy in Carroll County with unique festivals planned nearly every weekend. On July 13-16 in Malvern, *Flite Fest East 2017* brings beginners and experts together to share a passion for radio-controlled aircraft.

With three stages, the music will be non-stop at this year's *ALIVE Music and Outreach Festival*, planned July 19-22 at Atwood Lake Park.

The *Great Trail Festival* in Malvern spans two weekends, Aug. 26-27 and Sept. 2-4, and features primitive arts, a rendezvous and folk music.

On Sept. 30, Carrollton's Square is decorated with scarecrows designed by area organizations and individuals. That same day in nearby Minerva is the *Stockers and Streeters' On the Bricks Car Show and Oktoberfest*.

The *Atwood Area Fall Festival*, slated

for Oct. 6-8, celebrates autumn with a car show, pow-wow, music, and living-history demonstrations. Walk through history at the *Algonquin Mill Fall Festival* Oct. 13-15 with its music, demonstrations and homemade sauerkraut.

Visit Carroll County at [www.carroll-countyohio.com](http://www.carroll-countyohio.com) and see where natural beauty combines with a rich history.

## Great Grand Lake Region

Summertime is fun time in the Greater Grand Lake Visitors Region. Ohio's largest Lake, Grand Lake St. Marys, is a popular destination for boating, fishing, camping, picnicking, bird watching, tubing and skiing. Families also find it a great time to explore Fort Recovery, the Armstrong Air & Space Museum and the Bicycle Museum of America. Summer and early fall is also prime time to enjoy the many festivals and celebrations that take place throughout the area.

*Summer Moon Festival* — July 19-23, 2017. The festival activities take place in two locations, Downtown Wapakoneta, on Auglaize Street, and at the Armstrong Museum, honoring the first man to walk on the Moon – Wapakoneta native, Neil Armstrong. There will also be a very

special appearance made by a NASA Astronaut Buzz Aldrin during Saturday's 5K-10K Run to the Moon. Enjoy great food, and terrific live music.

*Celina Lake Festival* — July 28-30, 2017. Enjoy festival activities centered around beautiful Grand Lake St. Marys — Ohio's Largest Inland Lake! A spectacular fireworks display over the Lake as well as the International Amphicar Convention are just some of the events. Add to that rides, a classic car show, a huge parade, festival foods, craft show, 5K run, and live music. And we sure can't forget the sidewalk sales and all the children's activities!

*The World's Longest Yard Sale* — August 3-6, 2017. The sale runs along US 127 from southern Michigan down along the west side of Ohio and continues into Alabama. Vendors congregate along the highway and bargain hunters from all over the country travel the route looking for treasures. Hope to see you in Celina, Ohio along beautiful Grand Lake St. Marys, or maybe at Niekamp Farm Market where there are always goodies waiting to be found at the 127 Garage Sale.

For more information check out [www.GreaterGrandLakeRegion.com](http://www.GreaterGrandLakeRegion.com).

# Festivals are just cooler in Carroll County, Ohio



*Flite Fest East - Malvern*  
July 13-16, 2017  
\*\*\*\*\*

*Great Trail Festival*  
Malvern  
Aug. 26-27, Sept. 2-4



*ALIVE Music & Outreach Festival*  
Mineral City - July 19-22, 2017



*Atwood Area Fall Fest*  
Mineral City - Oct. 6-8, 2017



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# Ohio Summer

## Armstrong Museum

It was an event that drew the attention of the entire nation – an achievement that astounded the world – and you can see what led up to those first steps onto the surface of the moon, at the *Armstrong Air & Space Museum* in Wapakoneta, Ohio.

Named in honor of Wapakoneta native Neil Armstrong, this museum chronicles Ohio's contributions to the history of space flight.

Among the items on display are the Gemini VIII spacecraft, an F5D Skylancer,

Apollo 11 artifacts and a moon rock. You can also view artifacts from Armstrong's childhood and see how a young man from small town America went on to become the first man to walk on the moon.

In the Museum's Astro Theater, a multimedia presentation of the sights and sounds of space unfold against a starry background while the Infinity Room will deceive your senses.

Other exhibits feature space food, the shuttles, the Soviet space program and technology derived from the space program. There are numerous interactive exhibits and simulators that make the museum a fun and enlightening stop for the

entire family. For more information, visit them at [www.armstrongmuseum.org](http://www.armstrongmuseum.org).

## Warren County

Record-breaking roller coasters, wild and winding water slides and an awesome array of family-friendly festivals are just the beginning of the summer excitement awaiting travelers this year in Ohio's Largest Playground—Warren County! Conveniently located off Interstates 71 and 75, and just a short drive north of Cincinnati, this Southwest Ohio hotspot has all of the makings of an easily accessible, unforgettable, summer escape.

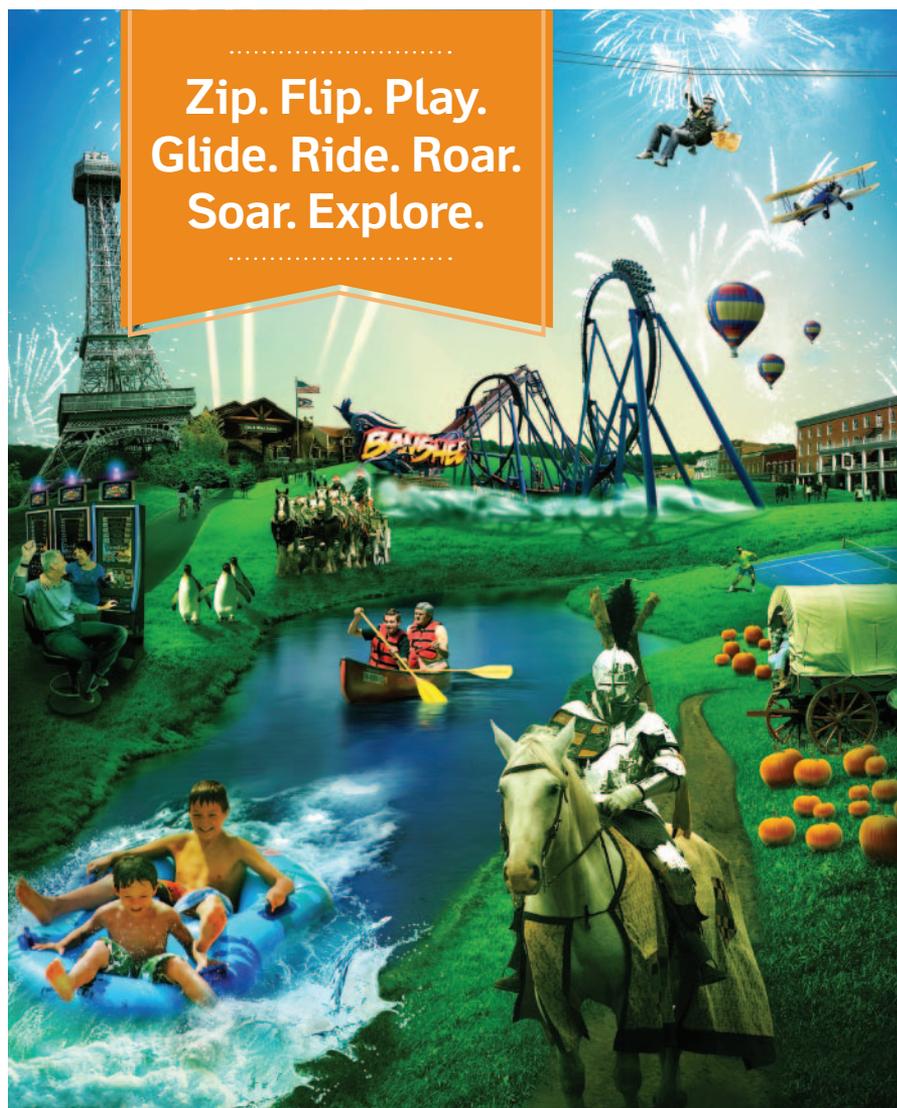
Want to instill some thrill into your summer plans? Kings Island is one of the largest amusement and water parks in the United States. Home to an incredible collection of record-breaking rides, including the world's longest wooden and inverted roller coasters and the all new Mystic Timbers, the summertime staple is also the site of a kids' area named 'Best in the World' 16 years and running! Included in the price of admission, Kings Island's accompanying waterpark, Soak City, features more than 50 water rides and attractions, including Tropical Plunge, a sky-scraping complex of six different water slides towering nearly seven stories.

The water park fun doesn't stop there! Just around the corner thrill seekers can conquer The Cliff, an iconic 5-story slide at The Beach Waterpark, or lead their packs to Great Wolf Lodge to swim, splash and slide their way through an enormous, wildness-themed indoor waterpark where it's 84-degrees all year long!

Traveling with a sports fan or nature lover? Get up close and personal with the biggest and brightest stars in professional tennis each August at the legendary Western & Southern Open. Then kayak, canoe, raft or tube the beautiful Little Miami Scenic River, or fly high above it at Ozone Zipline Adventures, one of the largest treetop canopy zip tours in the entire Midwest!

What's a vacation without some awesome eats? Sip award-winning wines and micro-brews at Valley Vineyards, Ohio's second largest vineyard or come back in the fall for more tantalizing treats at the Ohio Sauerkraut Festival, Ohio Renaissance Festival or Country AppleFest.

No matter your idea of summer fun, your ideal escape awaits in Warren County! Order your free 2017 Ohio's Largest Playground Visitors Guide, or view a digital version and book your stay at [OhiosLargestPlayground.com](http://OhiosLargestPlayground.com)! 📖



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BY RENU SAGGAR

to upscale dining to our famous Coney dogs. Nearly 100 new restaurants, breweries, distilleries and coffee houses have opened here in the last three years. No wonder National Geographic recently named Detroit one of its “6 Unexpected Cities for the Food Lover.”

Metro Detroit’s growing hotel scene offers some 36,000 total rooms, with about 5,000 of those located downtown. Of special note are the recently renovated Detroit Marriott at the Renaissance Center, the Aloft Detroit boutique hotel, Crowne Plaza Detroit Downtown Riverfront Hotel, the Detroit Foundation Hotel and the hip Trumbull & Porter near historic Corktown. There are lodging options for every style and budget, including new choices coming soon.

The new QLine modern streetcar system is now operational. It connects downtown with key neighborhoods and attractions. The District Detroit opens in the fall, featuring Little Caesars Arena, new home of the Detroit Red Wings and Detroit Pistons. That puts all four of the city’s professional sports teams in walking distance to each other. When complete, The District will also include a mix of housing, retail, restaurants, office space and a hotel all in a contiguous, 50-block, walkable area.

The city’s mobility evolution continues with MoGo, the city’s first public bike sharing option. It’s now operating, with 420 rental bikes at 42 stations.

Now is the time to discover Detroit, America’s great comeback city. For more information visit [detroit.com](http://detroit.com). 



Hart Plaza.

## Summer is Sizzling in Detroit

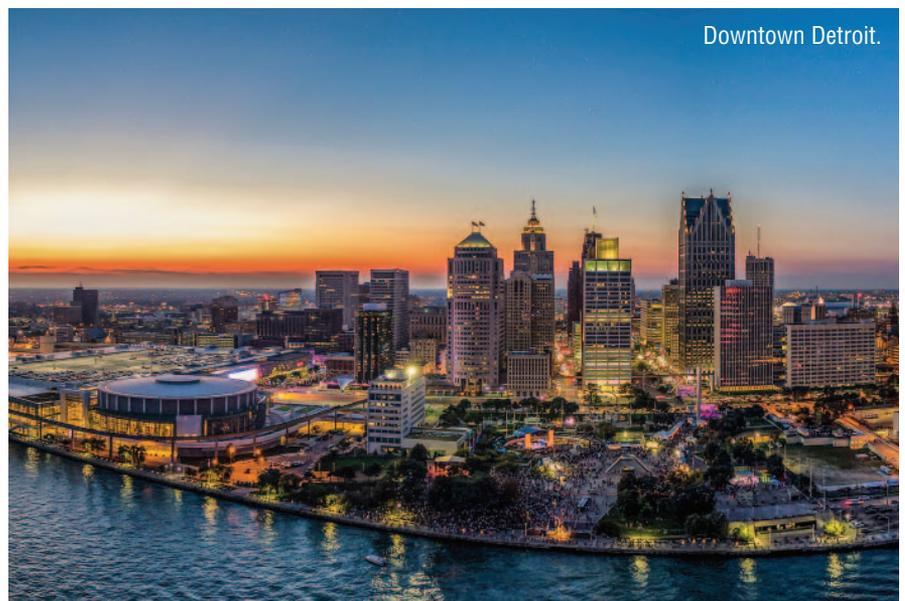
### The comeback city hustles from the heart

**A**live with a new vibe and energy, Detroit is turning a lot of heads lately. There are new restaurants, hotels, residential developments, retail and thriving local businesses. So much is happening in America’s great comeback city, The New York Times listed Detroit #9 of “52 Places to Go in 2017.”

It starts with shopping. Along with many eclectic and independent boutiques, downtown is home to national retailers Carhartt, Shinola, Nike, John Varvatos and Under Armour. Detroit also has world-class cultural attractions such as the Detroit Institute of Arts, Henry Ford Museum of American Innovation and Motown Museum.

The RiverWalk offers a great way to get outside and get moving. The four-mile paved biking and walking path connects parks, pavilions and green spaces along the Detroit River with views of Detroit’s international neighbor Windsor, Ontario, Canada.

All that activity works up an appetite and Detroit knows how to dish it out. Downtown is a growing foodie hotspot, with everything from unique ethnic fare



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BY KETAN SAGGAR

The Ann Arbor Art Fair is four festivals in one.

## You've Got to Have Art in Ann Arbor Area has a rich palette of summer festivals

**A**rt-inspired summer festivals and events in the Ann Arbor area are as iconic as Wolverine football is in the fall. From grass roots events to one of Michigan's finest summer traditions, be inspired in Ann Arbor!

Spanning 30 city blocks with a thousand national and international artists participating, the *Ann Arbor Art Fair* is one of the largest outdoor art fairs in the country. The city streets will transform from Thursday, July 20 – Sunday, July 23 when hundreds of thousands of art lovers, from seasoned enthusiasts to novice collectors, will discover that the art fair has something perfect just for them.

Providing an alternative experience in nearby Ypsilanti is the *Michigan ElvisFest* (July 7-8) a two-day celebration of music featuring several Elvis tribute artists, as well as The Blues Brothers, James Brown,, and Tom Jones tribute artists. Add a Classic Car Show, Free Kids Activities, Great food & merchandise vendors.

*DIYpsi*, a curated indie art fair featuring local artists from the Ypsilanti and Detroit metro areas. Hosted at the Ann Arbor Brewing Company Microbrewery (still affectionately called Corner Brewery by locals), the summer 2017 event will

take place Saturday, August 5 – Sunday, August 6.

Another great art-inspired event is *First Fridays Ypsilanti*. This monthly art walk spanning Downtown Ypsilanti and Depot Town connects area artists with local restaurants, galleries and boutiques. Perfect for a date night, be sure to include a great dinner at an Ypsilanti iconic restaurant like Sidetrack or Haab's, or check out one of the newer dining destinations like Ollie or Ma Lou's Fried Chicken.

Possibly one of the most tranquil festivals within the Ann Arbor area, the *Paint Dexter Plein Air Festival*, from Monday, August 14 – Sunday, August 20. Artists embrace this opportunity to leave the four walls of their studios behind and paint landscapes in the open air while curious spectators can watch blank canvases transform before their eyes. Paint Dexter culminates with a three-day exhibit and art sale of all competition work.

For more information about these and other events, go to [VisitAnnArbor.org](http://VisitAnnArbor.org).

### Weber's Ann Arbor

Weber's has been named a 2016 Best of +VIP Access Hotel by Expedia.com. Chosen from a worldwide, curated collection of more than 3,000 +VIP Access

hotels, the Ann Arbor Landmark is one of only 139 hotels and resorts in the United States to be honored. The winners must earn the highest guest satisfaction ranking and must be top market performers to be considered for the award.

"Expedia is proud to congratulate the 2016 Best of +VIP Access hotel winners, representing hotel partners that exceed guest expectations at every level," said Yasmine Bratt, Vice President, Customer Marketing of Expedia. "Guest reviews are a critical piece of our service delivery, and when a property exceeds expectations, we want to celebrate that and do our part to recognize the hotels that make the guest experience their top priority every day."

"As 2017 marks Weber's 80th anniversary, we are proud to once again be recognized as a Best of +VIP Access Hotel by Expedia," noted Weber's President Ken Weber. "This honor is truly a testament to our staff who has continued to provide our guests with exemplary customer service. Creating a seamless and remarkable experience for our clientele is our goal and is the reason why we continue to remain a destination location in the ever-thriving City of Ann Arbor."

*Weber's Restaurant and Boutique Hotel* is located in Ann Arbor's beautiful west side just moments from downtown and the University of Michigan's Central Campus. The award-winning restaurant and boutique hotel merges traditional architecture and hospitality with contemporary style. Its classic American dining experience makes it an Ann Arbor mainstay, featuring modern charms like *The Habitat Lounge*, which boasts live entertainment and dancing seven-nights-a-week. Whether visiting from out of town or locally, patrons are sure to enjoy the outdoor terrace, award-winning wines and the area's finest food. They specialize in classic, made from scratch American dinners with entrées like prime Rib, London Broil, Jumbo Lump Crab Cakes, and Lake Erie Walleye and Perch.

Other notable winners of the Best of +VIP Access Hotel by Expedia.com include Hotel Bel-Air in Los Angeles, and The Lodge at Vail.

"I have recently had a first-hand experience at Weber's Restaurant, having had the opportunity to experience top notch cuisines in many parts of the world, I feel this is the best "Beef Dip" sandwich I have eaten. Weber's Restaurant beats everyone hands down." Visit them at [www.webersannarbor.com](http://www.webersannarbor.com). 

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BY RENU SAGGAR

training. Shoe Carnival recently opened and offers a variety of brands for the whole family.

Opening this fall at Great Lakes Crossing Outlets is Michigan's first Round 1 Bowling and Amusement Center. It will offer a variety of family- and youth-friendly fun including bowling, karaoke, billiards, darts, ping-pong and arcade games. It will also feature some exclusive Japanese video games.

The 59,071 sq. ft. attraction will join SEA LIFE Michigan Aquarium, the LEGOLAND Discovery Center Michigan and AMC Star Great Lakes, a 25-screen theater megaplex.

Out-of-town guests traveling 50 or more miles receive an exclusive Passport to Shopping with discounts and special offers from over 100 retailers and restaurants. Groups of 10 or more people may register in advance to receive a complimentary Great Lakes Crossing Outlets shopping bag and Passport to Shopping for each member, and the group leader receives a special gift. There are plenty of nearby accommodations for traveling guests, click on [greatlakescrossingoutlets.com/hotels](http://greatlakescrossingoutlets.com/hotels) for special overnight shopping package offers. Shoppers who receive the Passport to Shopping discount book and who spend \$200 or more in one day will receive a free Great Lakes Crossing

## This Summer in Michigan

**C**onsidering a Michigan vacation getaway? The choices are almost endless. There is so much to see and do in the state that you can take your pick, whether it's the sandy shores of Lake Michigan, or a casual weekend festival.

### Great Lakes Crossing Outlets

For an unparalleled shopping, dining and entertainment experience, explore Great Lakes Crossing Outlets, Michigan's largest indoor outlet mall. Easily accessible from the state's busiest freeway (I-75), the shopping outlet is home to 185 stores, restaurants and entertainment options, including more than 30 unique to Michigan.

Great Lakes Crossing Outlets' newest retailers include the state's first Vans Outlet, offering men's and women's active, performance footwear, apparel and accessories. The first Shinola Outlet in Michigan opened last fall and features a wide selection of watches, leather goods and journals of the highest possible quality. MEX Restaurant is the center's newest dining option offering fresh authentic Mexican cuisine and craft cocktails. The

space also features an expansive patio for outdoor dining during the summer months. Shoppers can also dress their feet for athletic success with the New Balance Factory Store that features specifically designed footwear for the entire family, designed for running, walking, tennis and



Michigan Challenge Balloon Fest in Howell.

Outlets tote bag (stop by guest services for details).

For a complete list of stores, restaurants and attractions as well as hours of operation and information on current promotions, visit [www.greatlakescrossingoutlets.com](http://www.greatlakescrossingoutlets.com)

Follow them on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/greatlakescrossingoutlets](http://www.facebook.com/greatlakescrossingoutlets).

## Birmingham

With charming tree-lined neighborhoods Birmingham has a reputation as an upscale urban area that still has the feel of a small town. Birmingham has a lively, pedestrian-friendly downtown with a wonderfully diverse assortment of fashion boutiques, restaurants, gift stores, jewelers, salons, spas, antique shops and art galleries. Movie theatres and a centrally located park highlight the city center.

Birmingham shines in the summer and fall, with events every week from May through October. The *Birmingham Farmers Market* is held Sundays, from 9-2 in Public Parking Lot 6, North Old Woodward north of Harmon Street. Now in its 15th season, the market brims with produce, flowers, crafts, live music, hands-on fun & more. Special events include the Corn Festival,

August 13; Harvest Festival, September 17; and the End of Season Celebration is October 29.

Other great summer events include outdoor *Birmingham Movie Nights* in July and August in Booth Park, and Day On The Town sidewalk sale July 22. Dozens of deals await at various shops; a bike parade for kids kicks off the day at 8:30 a.m.

The *Birmingham Cruise Event* takes place on Saturday, August 19, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Whether you are a classic-car buff or not, this annual ode to the automobile is a must-see. Visit [www.bhamgov.org](http://www.bhamgov.org).

## FastLane Parking

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Like airports across the country, the Detroit Airport is extraordinarily busy. They understand how important it is for

their clients to get through airport security with plenty of time to catch their plane. With FastLane's convenient Detroit parking service, you can quickly park your car and leave it in our capable hands as you shuttle to the airport.

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## Blue Water Area

Eastern Michigan summers bring people to the water's edge to bask in the sunshine, splash in the fresh lake water and to view an incredible horizon line. Who knew you'd also get free concerts, great theater, vintage shows and the best sand sculpting competition in the state?

The Greater Port Huron Area and its blue shores meander along Lake Huron and the St. Clair River and pack the summer days with fun and excitement for the whole family.

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# Michigan

Free waterfront concert series take place in nearly every shoreline community in the Greater Port Huron Area. The concerts usually occur on the same day every week and the days vary by town. Music genres range from current hits and songwriters to oldies but goodies, jazz, country and more. Bring your own lawn chair or blanket and be ready to enjoy the water view and the moving rhythm.

Unexpectedly, delightful theater has also ripened in the Greater Port Huron Area. *Lexington Village Theatre* brings rocking musical acts, comedians and fun entertainment to the stage in Lexington. Grab dinner in town then a play or musical at two venues in Marine City: the *River Bank Theatre* and *Snug Theatre*. The *Citadel Stage* conveys an intimate ambiance to Port Huron's theater scene while the *McMorran Place Theater* presents a grand stage. The *Barn Theater of Port Sanilac* is indeed a barn, however its rousing talent brings brilliant performances to the stage and the crowd to their feet.

Awesome festivals also take place

along these eastern shores. *Blue Water Sand Fest*, occurring July 14-16 in Port Huron is a master sand-sculpting competition and the only one of its kind in Michigan. Master sculptors from around the country compete to create the greatest sculptures from sand and therefore present an incredible display for public viewing. Quick sculpting contests as well as amateur contests are also part of the fantastic festivities that take place.

Harbor Beach's *Maritime Festival* is happening July 6-9 and brings a great weekend of entertainment to the shores of Lake Huron. Live music all day and all weekend, tasty eats, friendly competitions like frog jumping, hotdog-eating, bocce ball (reportedly Michigan's biggest bocce ball tournament) and even an invitational jet ski race takes place right on the beach. What says summer-fun more than that?

Antique car shows, vintage boat shows, impressive art shows and even kayaking events will take place this summer in the Greater Port Huron Area amongst an array of other adventures to partake in. For more details on these events and other things to do on the blue eastern shores of Michigan, please visit [www.bluewater.org](http://www.bluewater.org).

## Livingston County

Just a short drive from Windsor, Livingston County Michigan hosts a variety of exciting attractions and events.

Visitors can bike or hike the paved, scenic 8 mile loop through 4,481 acres at Kensington Metropark. Rent a kayak, canoe, rowboat, paddle boards (SUP) or paddle boat, or take a guided lake tour on a 25 passenger pontoon boat, the *Island Queen II*.

Immerse yourself in the cool, serene water of Kent Lake adjacent to the Splash & Blast outdoor waterpark. With two, 250-foot twisted waterslides, water cannons, palm trees, and spraying sea-serpents, the waterpark will keep the kids busy all day.

The *Brighton Fine Arts & Acoustic Music Festival*, takes place August 4-6 in downtown Brighton. On August 18-20, the *57th Annual Howell Melon Festival*, rolls into downtown Howell. Nominated as a USA Today's 10 Best Main Streets, historic downtown Howell is a showcase of turn of the century architecture that houses an eclectic mix of shops and restaurants. Here the Sunday Farmers Market reminds visitors of a simpler time when everyone knew their neighbor and small towns were

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TO EXPLORE

PURE MICHIGAN

# Michigan

the gathering place for family and friends.

By contrast, downtown Brighton's tranquil Millpond setting has a youthful vibe of boutique shops and all kinds of restaurants and bars.

In September, *Brighton's Smokin' Jazz & Barbecue Blues Festival* fills the downtown with hot barbecue cool jazz. The fragrance of savory barbecue, the sight of people dancing and swaying to legendary Jazz entertainers mellow music create a memorable experience. All this, in a setting of the tranquil millpond, unique boutiques, bars and restaurants will make you want to spend the whole weekend here.

Celebrate autumn all through October. Over 20 fall themed festivals, events and attractions are why this area is known as "The Fall capital of Michigan." Cider mills, corn mazes, indoor and outdoor haunted attractions, festivals, hayrides, bonfires and the one and only Hell in Michigan are just a few seasonal highlights. Send for or download the brochure

that has the scoop at [lccvb.org](http://lccvb.org).

## Traverse City

With more than 150 inland lakes and hundreds of miles of Lake Michigan shoreline (including the majestic Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore) Traverse City is a summer playground. There are almost limitless opportunities for boating, sailing, paddling, swimming and beachcombing. There are miles of hiking and cycling trails, four blue-ribbon trout streams and 18 championship golf courses with heart-stopping views and world-class designs.

Long known as America's Cherry Capital, the July 1-8 *National Cherry Festival* is Traverse City's eight-day party featuring over 150 family activities: air shows, fireworks, parades, games, races, midway rides, demonstrations, nightly outdoor concerts and lots of chances to taste delicious cherry products. Traverse City's oldest and biggest festival, draws as many as 500,000 visitors from around the country. Everything is located conveniently within walking distance, and since almost all the events are free, it offers more than a week of affordable family fun.

Come out to Flintfields Horse Park Wednesdays in July and August for the *Great Lakes Equestrian Festival*. Watch as riders from around the globe compete in the fast paced and heart stopping sport of Show Jumping.

If movies are more your style, the Traverse City Film Festival (July 25-30) brings some of the world's best new independent, foreign, and documentary films to Traverse City for a week of premieres, parties and free family movies each night at an outdoor screen at the Open Space Park on the shore of West Bay.

*Boats on the Boardwalk* (Aug. 5) is a free, judged boat show along the Boardman River boardwalk in Traverse City. Approximately 50, circa 1900 through current wooden classics will be on display including high-powered mahogany runabouts, hydroplanes, outboards, vintage engines, powered launches, wooden canoes and rowboats.

Lovers of craft beer can belly up to the *Traverse City Summer Microbrew & Music Festival* – an outdoor celebration of craft brews (Aug. 11-12) with beers and ales from around the Midwest and entertainment by nationally known musical acts.

Friday nights in August, the city shuts



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# Michigan

down its main downtown thoroughfare for Friday Night Live, an evening street fair with music, food, and family fun. To learn more, visit [www.traversacity.com](http://www.traversacity.com).

Long known as the cherry capital of the world, Traverse City is now an increasingly famous wine-producing region with nearly 40 wineries. *The Vineyard to Bay Run* (Aug. 27) features a full 25k, a 2-person 15k/10k relay or a 5k run/walk. It starts at a vineyard, and ends near the beach. Along the way, runners experience the gorgeous scenery of the Wine Trail of the Leelanau Peninsula as they pass six vineyards.

*Harvest Stompede* (Sept. 9-10) is a spectacular race through vineyards followed by a self-guided wine tour along the Leelanau Peninsula Wine Trail. It features world class wines and culinary delights that reflect the season's bounty. For more information visit [www.TraverseCity.com](http://www.TraverseCity.com).

Make the most of your trip to Traverse City at the award-winning Cambria Hotel & Suites Traverse City near Grand Traverse

Bay. Awarded hotel of the year for 7 years in a row and they have only been open for 8 years. Upscale but never uptight, you'll enjoy the personal attention and plentiful amenities.

## Lansing

The Greater Lansing area is known as Michigan's Festival Capital for a good reason. Make that over 60 reasons. This mid-Michigan destination boasts over 60 festivals and events throughout the year with the majority occurring in the upcoming summer season. It's a great idea to pick a festival that suits your taste and schedule a long weekend around it.

Summer in Lansing brings the 18th annual *Common Ground Music Festival* (July 6-9). See some of the best rock, pop, country and hip-hop stars in the world take the stage for four days in downtown Lansing along the Grand River in a setting unlike any other. The 23rd annual *Lansing JazzFest* (August 4-5) presents local favorites, regional and national acts, against a backdrop of the Capital City's art galleries and unique retail stores and grand architecture of the Old Town district.

Another music festival option is the

*Great Lakes Folk Festival* (August 11-13) in downtown East Lansing where you can enjoy musical artists celebrating culture and creativity from all across the country.

Love cars? Bring your own, or just stroll and admire a vast array of classic and antique cars from all eras will compete in over 60 classes at *Lansing's Car Capital Auto and Bike Show* (July 29).

The region's surrounding communities also have their own celebrations as well including quirky ones like Bath Days Festival in the small town of Bath complete with, you guessed it — bath tub races. There's also the St. Johns Mint Festival, the DeWitt Ox Roast and Mason's Sun-Dried Music Festival.

Head north to Lansing's trendy Old Town for a plethora of festivals like Art-Feast, the Renegade Theater Festival, the Michigan BluesFest and Scrapfest (July 14-15). Teams have two weeks to create art out of recycled materials that will be displayed during event.

These will keep your toes tapping, your fingers snapping and your taste buds tantalized.

For information on all Greater Lansing festivals visit: <http://www.lansing.org/events/festivals>.

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## Sloan\*Longway Flint

Regional history, historic automobiles and hands-on science are all on display at Sloan\*Longway in Flint. Sloan\*Longway is comprised of three unique facilities, the Buick Automotive Gallery, Longway Planetarium and Sloan Museum.

*Titanic: The Artifact Exhibition* has been held over at the Sloan Museum through September 3rd, due to popular demand. See priceless artifacts conserved from the ship's debris field are showcased, offering visitors a poignant look at this iconic ship and its passengers.

Visitors are quickly drawn back in time to 1912 upon entrance, as each receives a replica boarding pass of an actual passenger aboard Titanic. They then begin their chronological journey through the life of the Titanic, moving through the ship's construction, to life on board, to the ill-fated sinking and amazing artifact rescue efforts. They will marvel at the re-created rooms, and press their palms against an iceberg while learning of countless stories of heroism and humanity. In the *Memorial Gallery*, guests will take their boarding pass to the memorial wall and discover whether their passenger and traveling companions survived or perished.

Take a step back in history and enjoy selections of the RMS Titanic's Tea Menu served in the beautiful Sloan Museum Courtyard July 22nd. Listen to the tales of passengers aboard the Titanic. Each ticket includes entrance to Titanic: The Artifact Exhibition.

*The Adventures of Clifford the Big Red Dog* will run from September 16 to December 30. Climb aboard the ferry and listen to seagulls as you approach Birdwell Island. Upon arrival, visitors are greeted by a colossal nine-foot high Clifford with a tail to slide down. While visiting, children can work together to fill Clifford's big dog bowl and gain self-confidence on stage with Clifford and his pals. Little ones will love to crawl through the tunnel in Cleo's Backyard or look for buried treasure on T-Bone's beach. Visit [www.SloanMuseum.org](http://www.SloanMuseum.org).

## Holland

Holland, Michigan is your place for summer fun! An award-winning downtown, features over 100 specialty shops, cafes, microbreweries and eateries come alive with street performers every Thursday evening. Musicians, magicians, aerial acrobats, jugglers, balloon twisters and

more perform for free, and on Tuesday and Friday evenings through August 25 there are free waterfront concerts in Kollen Park, just blocks from downtown.

Wednesdays and Saturdays head to their bustling Farmer's Market for the area's freshest produce and flowers. Wednesday mornings feature special kids' activities and Saturday mornings chefs provide cooking demonstrations using local market fare.

Immerse yourself in Holland's Latino culture through art, music, dance and food at the *Tulipanes Latino Art & Film Festival* – September 21 -24 taking place throughout downtown.

Then celebrate autumn and join in the family fun at *Fall Fest*, October 13-14 in downtown Holland.

You can climb to the fifth floor of a 260-year-old working windmill at *Windmill Island Gardens*. Imported from the Netherlands more than 50 years ago, "DeZwaan" is surrounded by spectacular gardens and features an Amsterdam street organ and Dutch carousel. Windmill Island Gardens hosts the *Macatawa Water Festival*, July 15, with friendly activities focusing on the importance of one of our most valuable resources.



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# Michigan

For good old fashioned fun, a midway, entertainment, carnival food, a flower show, and grandstand events check out the *Ottawa County Fair* (July 24-29) at the Ottawa County Fairgrounds.

*Art in the Park* (August 5) in Centennial Park, is the largest juried art fair in West Michigan.

Enjoy wooden boats and vintage watercraft at the *Vintage Boat Show*, August 26 at the Holland Museum.

Step back in time at *Nelis' Dutch Village*, a re-creation of an 1800's Netherlands village, complete with shops, street organs, an imported carousel and a Dutch Ferris wheel. You can even take home a pair of wooden shoes!

No summer visit to Holland is complete without a day at the beach! *Holland State Park* is one of Michigan's most popular parks, and "Big Red", Michigan's most photographed lighthouse, stands guard just across the channel where you'll see boats coming and going all day.

And if you're lucky, you might even see an ocean-going freighter or cruise

ship coming in to port! If you're up for it, climb the 230-step wooden staircase to the top of Mt. Pisgah, a towering sand dune, where you'll find breathtaking views of both Lake Michigan and Lake Macatawa. Be sure to head back to the beach in the evening for a spectacular Lake Michigan sunset!

No matter what your age or interest, there's no place like Holland, Michigan this summer! For more information visit them at [www.holland.org](http://www.holland.org).

## Grand Haven

Lose the shoes, forego the salt and skip the shark. When you are in Grand Haven you are never more than a few minutes away from Lake Michigan and miles of accessible soft-sand shoreline and rolling dunes. The water is always fresh and free of aquatic man-eaters. That's a bonus. There are plenty of spots along the shore for blanket picnics and stellar sunsets. Which is nice. And did we mention their beaches are award winning and recognized globally? It's true.

This year, they were named "Happiest Seaside Town in America" by Coastal Living. They've also been placed on Travel+Leisure magazine's list of the "Best

Secret Beaches On Earth" and on CNN Travel's list of "Can't Miss U.S. Beaches". Besides the beach their area offers over 100 miles of bike trails, countless parks, trolley rides, famous lighthouses and the fabulous Musical Fountain.

There are plenty of events to keep everyone entertained. The *Grand Haven Coast Guard Festival* (July 28-August 6) is one of the nation's premier military festivals. The 10-day event features parades, waterfront entertainment, and fireworks, and more.

The *Grand Haven Sand Sculpture Contest*, August 12, is held annually at Grand Haven City Beach. Teams, families and individuals are judged and awarded prizes after two hours of constructing unique sculptures along the Lake Michigan shoreline.

*Walk the Beat* on August 19, will host 30 bands and 30 singer-songwriters in one day at 30 different venues.

The *Grand Haven Salmon Festival* takes place September 15-17. The three-day festival celebrates the fall harvest season and salmon migration. Events include a Gourmet Salmon Cook-Off, an Art Fair, a Wine & Beer Tasting Pavilion, and a Kidz Zone.

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No matter how long the stay, the Grand Haven Area is the perfect spot for the family vacation, the romantic getaway or the long-awaited escape with friends. Build your own itineraries, explore tour options and travel tips, plus download their visitors guide at [visitgrandhaven.com](http://visitgrandhaven.com)

### Coldwater Country

Step back in time to when life was a slower pace, things less complicated, and find yourself in Coldwater Country. Make family memories as you discover the must-see and do adventures in the quaint communities of Coldwater, Bronson, Quincy and Union City. Conveniently located in south-central Michigan, at exit 13 off I-69, Coldwater Country has many adventures waiting to be explored.

The *Tibbits Opera House* is known and loved for its historic setting and quality theatrical offerings. The Professional Summer Theatre runs from June to September, drawing large crowds with production of *Damn Yankees* and *Footloose*, while the Popcorn Theatre will entertain with *Little Red Riding Hood* and *Puss In Boots* to name a few. Rounding out the year, many events, programs and shows also grace the Tibbits stage.

The annual *Polish Festival*, July 20-22, kicks off annually with fireworks and the crowning of Polish Royalty. Authentic Polish food and music, a parade, a Polish wedding reception, crafts, talent show, car show, pancake breakfast and more fill this weekend with events for the whole family.

There's magic in the streets, magic in the restaurants, magic in the shops and magic on stage — magic everywhere at the annual *80th Annual Magic Get Together*, August 2-5. The 80th Get-Together includes lectures, junior/senior talent contests, close-up shows, ladies events, craft show and a Magic Minister's Session.

Mark your calendar for *Michigan's Longest Antiques, Collectibles and Treasures Sale*, August 11-13. This annual event runs all 212 miles of U.S. 12 Heritage Trail, from New Buffalo to Detroit. Each year this event draws more and more as collectors and families discover all the wonderful treasures.

Motor in to the *Coldwater Motor Tour*, August 22-23. This annual tour begins in Coldwater on August 22, and ends in Cheboygan on August 26. Rev up your engines, in Coldwater, on Tuesday evening at the annual Car Show.

If you like apples, you'll love the

AppleFest on, September 16. In addition to baked goods, apples, cider, kids area and crafts, you're bound to enjoy the people watching and the fabulous historic downtown shops and restaurants.

Don't forget to check the website for additional information on events taking place all year round. There's always a reason to celebrate in Coldwater Country. Visit [www.ColdwaterCountry.com](http://www.ColdwaterCountry.com).

### Lakewood Shores Resort

Lakewood Shores Resort in Oscoda, not only offers great golf, but wonderful accommodations, meeting facilities and excellent cuisine. Nestled among northern Michigan hardwoods, the 152 rooms offer an excellent view along with a patio overlooking the courses. Rooms range in style from new hotel units to spacious one and two-bedroom suites, many with in room Jacuzzi's.

Lakewood Shores features three championship golf courses. Designed by Kevin Aldridge, *The Gables* recreates the look and feel of classic Scottish Links with large double greens, meandering berms, sod faced pot bunkers and long fescue grasses. Considered one of the most authentic Scottish seaside layouts in North America,

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Oscoda Michigan

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# Michigan

it's rated 4 1/2 stars by Golf Digest. Golf Week named The Gailes as Michigan's highest-rated resort course in 2016.

*Blackshire*, also designed by Kevin Aldridge, recreates the look and feel of the famous Pine Valley C.C. Although not a replica of Pine Valley, it offers a similar rugged feel with hardwoods, large sand waste areas, and undulating greens. Encompassing less than 200 acres, Blackshire has a classic turn of the century feel, and with short walks from green to tees, also provides a classical walking experience if desired.

*The Serradella*, designed by Bruce Matthews, offers the perfect compliment to the other championship courses. It's a classic parkland design with minimal hazards, wide fairways and large greens. With over 50,000 annual and perennials showcased throughout the Serradella and resort, the floral gardens will have you stopping to smell the flowers.

The *Wee Links* gives golfers the opportunity to fine tune their short game as well as giving junior golfers a fun and enjoyable round of golf. The Wee Links features short pitch and putt holes ranging from 50 yards to 105 yards, with small greens, bunkers and few water hazards.

It is perfect for junior golfers, golf group competitions, or just to practice your short wedge shots. But best of all, it's use is free of charge for resort guests.

The resort attracts a large number of Midwestern and Canadian golfers with some very competitive package deals. Their *July Savings Golf Package* includes 2 nights accommodations/ 3 rounds unlimited golf and cart, weekdays starting at \$189.00 per person plus taxes and resort fees. Visit lakewoodshores.com for more information.

## Petoskey Area

The Petoskey Area of northern Michigan is where summer really comes alive. The stunning natural beauty found in the lakeside resort communities of Petoskey, Harbor Springs, Bay Harbor and Boyne City is the perfect backdrop for events and activities the entire family will enjoy. The region is also home to a variety of summer festivals, and events. Check out the calendar, pick your favorites, and make plans to vacation in an area that's been called a Michigan treasure.

The Village at Bay Harbor will celebrate its 18th annual *Bay Harbor Fine Arts & Fine*

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*Craft Festival*, July 28-29. The festival attracts art lovers and buyers to Bay Harbor's breathtaking Lake Michigan waterfront.

Hosted by the Little Traverse Yacht Club, the July 28-30 *Ugotta Regatta* brings together some of the best sailboat racing in the country on Little Traverse Bay.

Bring your polka shoes and plan on having a blast at the August 3-6 *Polish Festival* in Boyne Falls. In addition to great food and music, there's also a carnival, horse and tractor pulls, an oldies night, parades and more.

*The Alanson Riverfest*, August 11-13 is a celebration of the inland water route with lots of music, food and activities for the whole family.

*Festival on the Bay*, August 18-19 in Petoskey features live music, vendors, fun on the water, arts & crafts show, and more.

*The Little Traverse Half Marathon*, September 30, takes runners from Bay Harbor to Harbor Springs. Run a mapped out trail around the bay, on the Little Traverse Wheelway.

*Hemingway Weekend*, October 6-8, features speakers, exhibits, and tours of northern Michigan sites where the author spent his boyhood summers. For more information visit [PetoskeyArea.com](http://PetoskeyArea.com).

## Cadillac

Cadillac is the ultimate summer recreation destination. They offer over 300 miles of multi-terrain trails, perfect for hikers, bikers, and walkers. The trail system is combined with over 500,000 acres of state and national forest, and three major rivers with two large lakes offering world-record fishing and hunting. Mix that in with some mouth watering cuisine, appealing attractions, and unique shopping opportunities and a vibrant sense of community and this is a place where memories are made.

Add these attractions to a full line-up of summer festivals and events in the greater Cadillac area.

*Leroy Razzasque Days* (July 7-8) features a kid's parade a Grand Parade, Chicken BBQ, Miss LeRoy Contest, beer tent, and food vendors.

*Cadillac Festival of the Arts* (July 21- 22) includes more than 80 artists' booths, live music, local foods and the "Sherilyn Lindberg Kid's Art."

*The Northern District Fair* (August 14-19) features livestock exhibits, a midway, grandstand entertainment, tractor pulls and a demolition derby.

Just 15 minutes north of Cadillac the *Buckley Old Engine Show* (August 17-20) draws thousands of visitors each year. A variety of events and demonstrations include over 1,000 antique tractors, antique cars & trucks, antique gas, oil and steam engines, a working 1906 cider mill, authentic old time music and a huge flea market.

The *Cadillac Festival of Races* (September 2) features the longest continually running 10K in Michigan. The "festival" will also include vendors and live music.

The *Lake City Festival of the Pines* (September 7-10) is a time honored celebration of area Christmas tree growers and lumbering industries. Located 15 minutes East of Cadillac events include Lumberjack contests and more.

The *Cadillac Craft Beer Festival* (September 23) offers best in local libations, food & music with Michigan beer and cider along with the annual Homebrew Competition.

Go to [www.cadillacmichigan.com](http://www.cadillacmichigan.com), or check out their blog at [www.exploreCadillac.org](http://www.exploreCadillac.org).

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# Michigan

Peninsula you're never far from a Kewadin Casino. Locations include Sault Ste. Marie, St. Ignace, Manistique, Christmas, and Hessel. Kewadin offers a variety of on-site amenities, entertainment venues, dining options, convention facilities, and exciting Las Vegas style gaming action, including more than 2000 slots, and your favorite table games, including Poker, Keno, Craps, Blackjack, and Roulette.

In Sault Ste. Marie, an onsite 319-room hotel includes an indoor pool, spa and fitness center. Valet parking, free parking, a hotel shuttle, and the 260 seat Dream Catchers Restaurant are just a few of the amenities. Dream Catchers offers a full menu along with a salad bar and buffet. Be sure to try one of their tasty specials.

The 1,500-seat *DreamMaker's Theatre* hosts some of the biggest acts in the industry. Get ready for rock legends Starship featuring Mickey Thomas on July 14. On July 28, it's Engelbert Humperdinck, The 50th Anniversary Tour.

Multi-platinum MCA Nashville recording artist Josh Turner takes the stage in St.

Ignace on August 18, with special guest William Michael Morgan.

## Marquette

Marquette County is located in the heart of Michigan's Upper Peninsula. The rugged Huron Mountain range and Lake Superior shoreline define the landscape, making it the perfect place to enjoy outdoor activities and festivals.

And with over 50 events on our calendar, there's plenty of awesome opportunities to take advantage of the longer days and warmer nights here in Marquette County. Since we can't describe all of them in detail, here's a few to start you off.

We all know the best long weekend of summer is indubitably Independence Day, and where better to celebrate than Mattson Lower Harbor? Plus, July 2-4 is Marquette's *International Food Festival*. So c'mon up to Marquette for your Fourth-of-July-fill of food, fireworks, and craft beer.

This year *Art on the Rocks* will be celebrating their 59th annual fine art and crafts festival in Mattson Lower Harbor Park July 29-30. Come for the art, stay for the atmosphere (and food).

*Outback Art Fair* will also be held the same weekend in late July, on the Shores

of Lake Superior in Shiras Park/ Picnic Rocks Marquette, Mi.

Marquette County is a haven for mountain biking and was named one of the Top 25 Best Places to Travel by Gear Patrol Adventure List.

The *Singletrack Celebration*, July 21-22, in Ishpeming, features The Beast a 32 mile mountain bike race, as well as 20-mile and 12-mile races. There is also a Half Marathon and 5k Trail Run, plus entertainment, and beer and food trucks on-site Friday night and all day Saturday.

One of the most anticipated events of summer, the *Ore to Shore Mountain Bike Epic*, is scheduled for August 12, which means you should register and prepare sooner than later. This 48-mile race is not for the faint of heart, but luckily they offer Soft Rock (28miles), and Shore Rock (10 miles) races as well.

Now part of the NUE (National Ultra Endurance) Race Series, the *Marji Gesick* September 22-23 in Ishpeming, is 100 miles (or slightly more) rocks, roots, jump lines flow trails, and 13,000 feet of vertical gain. Mountain bikers will find the descents are as hard as the climbs.

Find out more at [TravelMarquetteMichigan.com/events](http://TravelMarquetteMichigan.com/events). 📍

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## JULY

7/2-4 International Food Fest

7/4 Fireworks Celebrations

7/21-23 Hiawatha Music Festival

7/28 Blueberry Festival

7/28-29 Art on the Rocks

## AUGUST

8/12 Ore to Shore Mountain Bike  
Epic

8/19 Marquette Trail 50  
Ultramarathon

8/25-27 Harborfest

## SEPTEMBER

9/1-3 Blues Fest

9/2 Marquette Marathon & Half  
Marathon

9/3-9 Craft Beer Week

9/16 Xterra Lake Superior Shore Run

9/22-23 Marji Gesick 100

9/30 Marquette Mountain Bike  
Enduro

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Zehnder's Restaurant served its first 312 chicken dinners on Mother's Day in 1929 and now serves over one million patrons a year in its 1500-seat restaurant offering a full-service menu that features all-you-can-eat family style chicken dinners, seafood, steaks, fresh baked goods and European desserts. During an average year Zehnder's guests consume 900,000 pounds of chicken.

Zehnder's Splash Village Hotel and Waterpark offers 178 deluxe accommodations including 74 suites and 22 rooms with panoramic views of the waterpark. A towering 26-foot tree with a large gas fireplace built into the trunk is the focal point of the hotel lobby. Waterpark passes are included with your overnight stay.

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is one of the few waterpark hotels in the Midwest with two distinct aquatic adventures with a retractable roof, offering something for the entire family. Enjoy over 50,000 sq. feet of aquatic fun indoors with a six-story family raft ride and super loop body slide. It's a 4-story straight drop through a 273 foot long, 360 degree loop all the way to the bottom.

There's also a zero-entry pool with water geysers, action river, dumping bucket, four-story tube slides, lazy river, hot tub and private family cabanas.

Visit the 2500 square foot arcade with games for the entire family, or take a break and enjoy dining in the Mushroom Grille

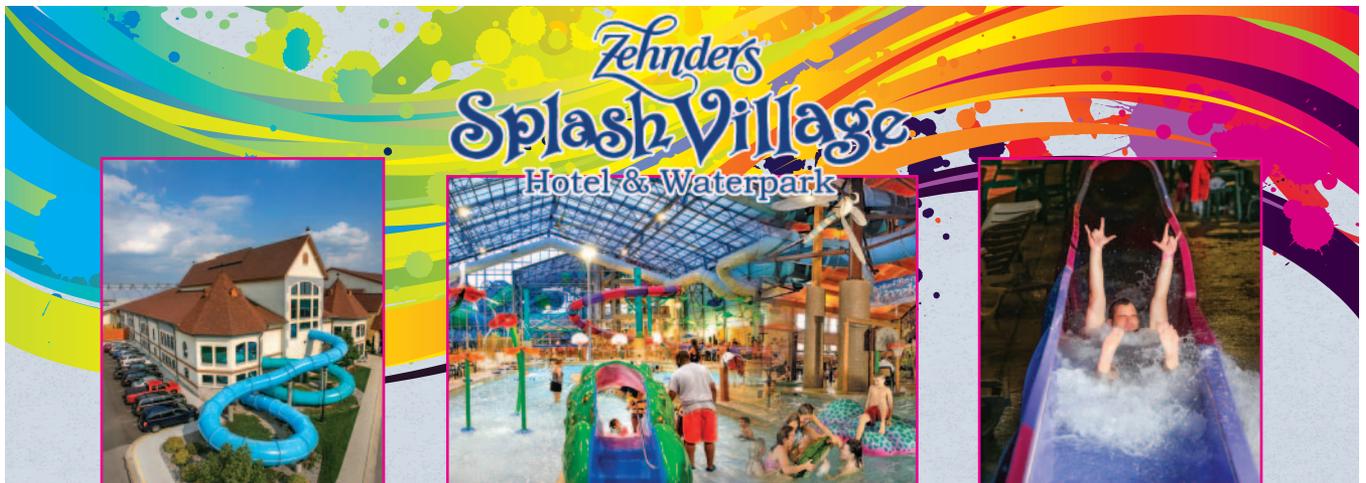
or Elf Hollow Café' and for the summer take advantage of the outdoor family pool area.

If you're a golfer, make a tee time at The Fortress which offers 6800 yards of formidable play on this 18-hole, par -72 course. The terrain reflects golf's early Scottish origins with fescue-covered mounds reveal well-guarded sectioned greens. Bent-grass tees, greens and fairways surround 75 bunkers. Each of the huge greens average 7,500 square feet.

Course amenities include electric covered golf carts, putting green, driving range along with full service bar and deli and Pro Shop that carries a full line of quality golf merchandise.

The Fortress has been recognized as one of the top 450 public golf courses to play in the United States, Canada, Mexico and the Caribbean by Golf Digest.

Zehnder's is all about families. So whether you're dining, shopping, golfing or playing in the water Zehnder's provides families the place and opportunity to spend time together. Visit [zehnders.com](http://zehnders.com) and make your reservation today. 📞



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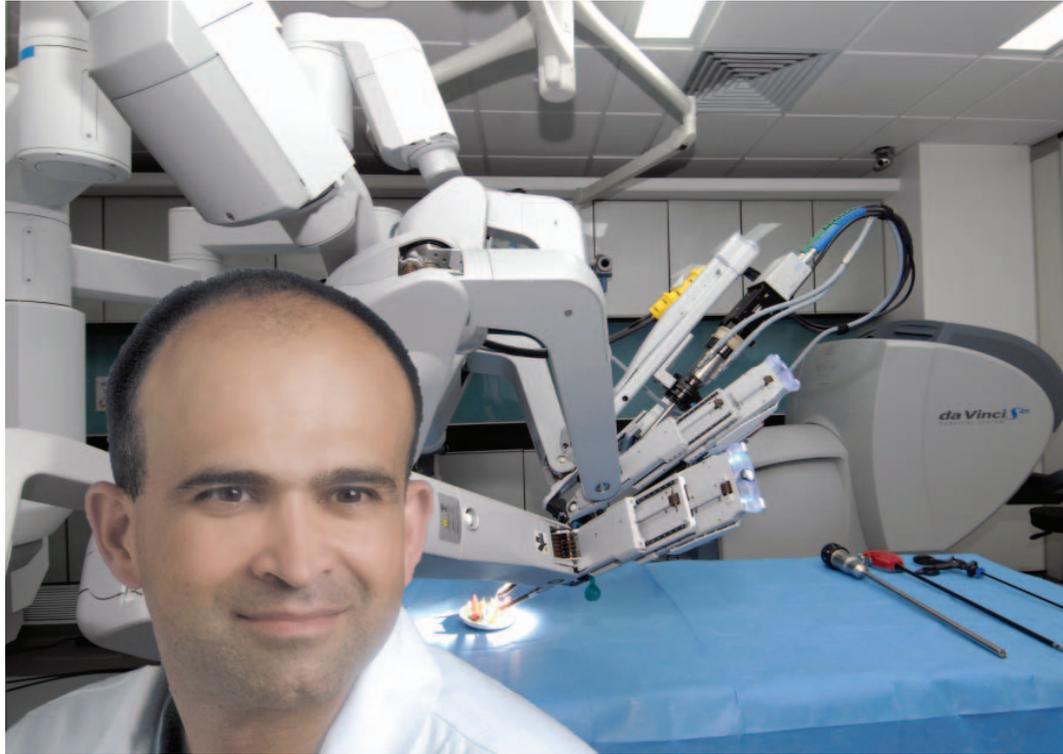
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# London Health Sciences Centre

## A history of innovation and patient care



Dr. Kiaii and the DaVinci surgical robot.

BY DR. SAPNA SAGGAR

Dr. Klein and Dr. Guiraudon developed the arrhythmia program at the University hospital and in 1981, Dr. Guiraudon performed the world's first heart operation to correct life-threatening heart rhythm irregularity.

Canada's first irregular heart rhythm monitoring unit was opened at University Hospital in 1989. The same year the world's first pacemaker cardioverter defibrillator (PCD) was implanted at University Hospital and Canada's first heart stent insertion was performed at Victoria Hospital. Dr. Ian Penn and Dr. Robert Brown were the first in Canada to use the rotablator to unplug the heart arteries of a patient at Victoria Hospital in 1991.

**T**he London Health Sciences Centre (LHSC) was formed in 1995 with the merger of University Hospital and Victoria Hospital. But the story began much earlier. Victoria Hospital opened in 1899, commemorating the 60th anniversary of Queen Victoria's accession to the throne. University Hospital opened in 1972 and quickly established a reputation for medical advances in fields such as neurosurgery, cardiac surgery and transplantation. Dr. Charles Drake achieved international recognition for his innovative surgery for brain aneurysms, which attracted patients and surgeons from around the world.

Dr. Drake recruited Dr. Heimbecker to open the hospital's Cardiac Surgery division. In 1976 Dr. F.N. McKenzie was recruited by Dr. Heimbecker at University Hospital. Victoria Hospital's Pediatric Cardiac surgery began the same year with the recruitment of Dr. Goldbach.

Dr. Cal Stiller introduced Cyclosporine, a potent immunosuppressive drug to London and in April 1981 Dr. McKenzie and a transplant team that included Dr. Kostuk and Mr. Jim MacDonald, performed the city's first heart transplant. University Hospital became the Canadian Centre for Transplant Studies, and by the 30th anniversary of the first one in 2011, over 600 transplants had been performed.

University Hospital has also been responsible for some notable achievements in heart rhythm disorder.

The late Dr. Thomas Starzl, considered by many as the "father of modern transplantation" once said "What was inconceivable yesterday, and barely achievable today will become commonplace tomorrow."

Dr. D. Boyd and Tony Dagnone were visionaries in seeing the future of robotic surgery, and in 1998 the LHSC Heart team was the first in Canada to perform voice-activated robotic-assisted minimally invasive cardiac bypass surgery.

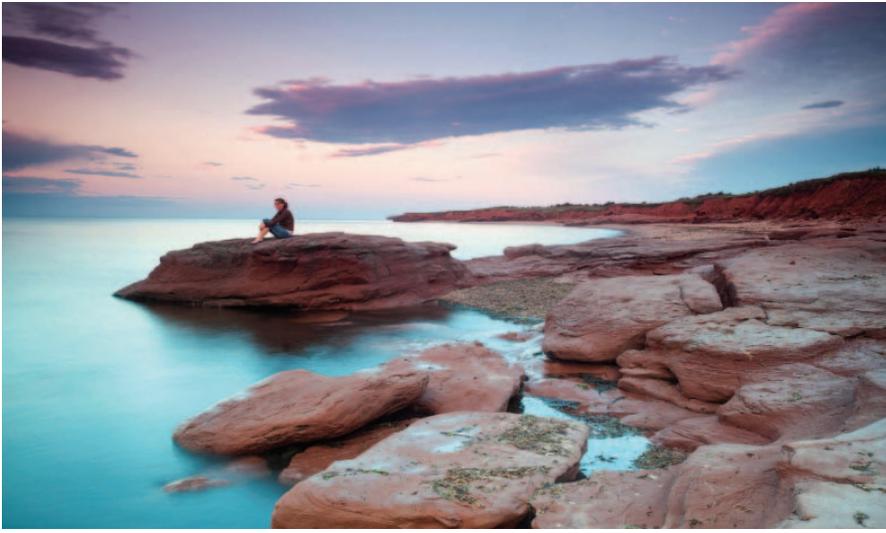
In 2011 LHSC's cardiac surgery team successfully performed an emergency surgery to repair a hole in a patient's heart caused by a pacemaker complication using the DaVinci robot.

To date the Cardiac Care Program has cared for over 21,000 inpatients, performed more than 1,400 heart surgeries, 18-20 Heart Transplants with assisted devices, 110,000 diagnostic tests and over 3,500 cardiac catheterizations. The Arrhythmia program inserted more than 800 pacemakers and ICDs.

Procedures in the Hybrid OR include about 100 Transcatheter valve implantations per year, and approximately 50 to 60 hybrid coronary procedures.

Someone once said, a building alone doesn't make a hospital. The building and its equipment are essential working tools, but the heart, mind and conscience of a hospital is its entire staff which gives it life.

*Information for this article was courtesy of Dr. Bob Kiaii Chair/Chief of Cardiac Surgery London Health Sciences Centre. *



BY GAIL MERO-O'NEIL

the land and sea meld with a vibrant Acadian culture. This year is Canada's 150th birthday and Province House, a restored Georgian building is where the "Fathers of Confederation" first met in 1864, to discuss the union of British North America.

Green Gables — the island's best-known attraction — is located in nearby *Cavendish*, where Lucy Maude Montgomery was inspired to create the beloved tale of a red-haired orphan while living at her uncle's farm. Thousands of people visit *Green Gables Heritage Place* each year, and the home's period furnishings reflect the novel's late 1800s setting. Visitors can stroll the well-manicured grounds, including Lover's Lane, the Haunted Woods and Balsam Hollow trails.

The Site of Lucy Maud Montgomery's Cavendish Home once included Montgomery's grandparents' farmhouse, where she lived from 1876 to 1911. The house and outbuildings are no longer standing but you can still see why an impressionable Montgomery was captivated by her surroundings. Walk the enchanted grounds and enjoy the gardens, fields and lanes where she spent many happy years.



## Prince Edward Island Time

**N**estled in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, Prince Edward Island has the easy ebb and flow of a place locked in the embrace of the sea. Winding country roads lead past small farming communities, quaint fishing villages and lonely stretches of sand warmed by the Gulfstream.

The Mi'kmaq knew it as *Abegweit* or "cradle on the waves." According to legend, the Great Spirit fashioned a piece of red clay into his most beautiful creation. The island's brick red soil is due to high levels of iron oxide.

Measuring just 139-miles-long, and with no place farther than 10 miles from the sea, Canada's smallest province offers everything from Aboriginal forest walks, to tonging oysters in Malpeque Bay. You can still travel down a scenic heritage road, pull over by a quiet stream and fish for speckled trout or salmon.

The 170-mile-long *Confederation Trail* offers hikers and cyclists a memorable route through the undulating green hills

dotted with the purple flowers of fireweed and picturesque seascapes.

Charlottetown, the capital, is where



Green Gables.

Along with Green Gables Heritage Place, this makes up Lucy Maud Montgomery's Cavendish National Historic Site.

*Avonlea Village* features replicas of the town and characters made famous in Anne of Green Gables books. Several of the buildings are the actual structures described in the books, including the schoolhouse where Montgomery taught and the church she attended.

Sometimes referred to as the "Span of Green Gables" the Confederation Bridge links the island with the mainland. The 8-mile-long bridge opened in 1997, and its graceful curves were deliberately engineered to ensure drivers remain attentive.

The big difference between golf on Prince Edward Island and golf in the rest of the world is the way golf looks. From the air, Prince Edward Island appears to be one giant golf course with rolling greens, sand and water traps alternating with woodlots. Virtually every one of the more than 25 immaculate courses offers spectacular ocean views. On most courses, you'll be playing right alongside the Northumberland Strait or the Gulf of St. Lawrence.

Ranked in Top 50 as best conditioned courses in North America, *Crowbush Cove*,

situated around the dunes of the north shore, offers a unique seaside setting and proximity to the dunes. The creative instincts of course designer Thomas McBroom are evident in the undulating fairways, pot bunkers and challenging greens.

Rated as one the of "Best Places to Play" by Golf Digest, *Glen Afton Golf Course* is set amid the gently rolling hills of Nine Mile Creek. Many of the holes overlook the beautiful Northumberland Strait, you can enjoy a day on the coast and play golf at the same time!

Acadian culture thrives in the Mont-Carmel region, and the *North Cape Coastal Drive* is filled with classic Island scenery. Naturally sifted white and red sand beaches, towering red sandstone capes and a necklace of essential coastal stops like North Cape. Discover almost 300 years of Acadian history on the Island at the Acadian Museum of Prince Edward Island in Miscouche.

Nicknamed The Canadian Oyster Coast, Western PEI is a smorgasbord of ocean-fresh delicacies like Island mussels, snow crab and lobster. In fact, some community lobster suppers have become so popular, that special halls have been

built just to accommodate the crowds.

Prince Edward Island is famous for its red foxes. They can be found not only in the countryside, but in urban areas of Charlottetown where they have been known to steal shoes and toys to chew on.

The island traditions of the land and sea are very strong as evidenced by the many festivals celebrating the heritage of the province. Whether it's a potato, lobster, oyster, or a blueberry, you'll find a festival almost every summer weekend. Festivals include the Tyne Valley Oyster Festival, the Clammin' N' Jammin' culinary and music festival in Abram-Village and the Summerside Lobster Carnival. The PEI Shellfish Festival in September is known as the "Biggest Kitchen Party in Atlantic Canada."

Islanders put on a great party and there's always someone with a yarn to spin, or a tune to play. As soon as people pick up their fiddles, bagpipes and guitars, you'll be dancing with friends who were complete strangers moments before.

An evening by the campfire will most likely be preceded by a big feed of fresh seafood at one of the Island's famous lobster suppers, or a pot of Island blue mussels steamed over the fire. 🍷



Cape Egmont Lighthouse.



The Marvin Joe Curry Pow Wow.

BY ADELINA IRVINE

## Summer in the Enchanted Mountains

### Cattaraugus County is all-natural New York

**C**attaraugus County, New York, is a peaceful oasis for people who enjoy nature. The name comes from a Seneca Indian word meaning “bad smelling banks,” referring to the odor of natural gas which leaked from seams in rock formations.

Located in Western New York along the Pennsylvania border, Cattaraugus County is home to Salamanca the only city in the nation on Native American lands. The Seneca Indian Nation, a branch of the Iroquois, has a proud history which is on view at the Seneca-Iroquois National Museum. Tour the museum or come to one of the Seneca Nation’s many cultural events like the *Marvin Joe Curry Pow Wow* July 14-16.

The southern part of the county is the only area of western New York that was not covered by the last ice age and the terrain is noticeably more rugged than neighboring areas, which had their mountains rounded by the glaciers.

With 65,000 acres, *Allegany State Park* is the largest park in the New York State Park System. Open year-round the park offers 18 hiking trails, some of which have been developed as self-guided nature trails. Visitors can cycle along the 5.6

miles of paved trails, which includes 3.1 miles around Red House Lake.

On July 21st it’s “Rock the Park” a full day of music and fun. On August 18th grab the craziest Hawaiian shirt you can hula your way to Red House Beach for their *Annual Family Beach Party!*

Another not to be missed event is *Onofest*, held July 22nd at the beautifully pristine Onoville Marina. It features live music, food/craft vendors, RVs, boats, exhibits, children’s activities and fireworks.

Onoville Marina also offers 91 miles of pristine, shoreline, with great fishing opportunities.

The summer’s biggest event is the *Cattaraugus County Fair*. Held in Little Valley, this week long event runs July 31-August 6. It features a Monster Truck Rally, Truck and Tractor Pull, Demolition Derbies and great live concerts including Joe Nichols on August 3rd.

In August the historic Ray Evans Seneca Theater in Salamanca, presents *Grease*, the rollicking musical that takes you back to duck-tails, poodle skirts and Rydell High’s senior class of 1959.

Pick your special pumpkin from the thousands at *Pumpkinville*. Open from September 16th to October 31st, enjoy hayrides, the Pumpkinville Express Train, a 6 acre corn maze and more.

Allegany’s Main Street comes alive at *Annual Bonagany Festival*, September 23rd. It features fine art, interactive art, homemade crafts and a variety of children’s activities, including inflatables and wagon rides, and balloon man.

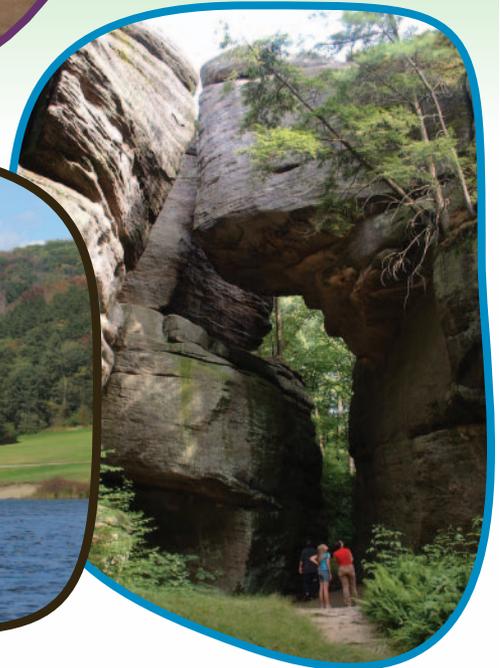
WILMA (We Invite Local Manufacturers and Artisans) takes place October 21-22. If you are looking for a distinctive gift for the upcoming holiday season, you are sure to find it there.

Discover if Gowanda’s Historic Hollywood Theater is really haunted in late October. Make your way through the old Theater full of creatures of the night and scary passages throughout.

Located just a short distance from Niagara Falls and Buffalo New York, Cattaraugus County is “Naturally Yours to Enjoy.” Visit them at [EnchantedMountains.com](http://EnchantedMountains.com), or download the Enchanted Mountains App. 📱



Pumpkinville.



## Naturally Yours in the #EnchantedMountains

Take photos and touch sculptures at one of the largest sculpture parks in the world at **Griffis Sculpture Park**.

Learn about Native American Culture & History and view a longhouse and artifacts at the **Seneca-Iroquois National Museum**.

Challenge yourself on zip lines and obstacles at **Sky High Adventure Park** the 3rd largest in the USA.

Go for an adventure at NY's largest State Park ... **Allegany State Park**. Hike or mountain bike on some of the best trails in Western NY.

View a map of **where to paddle away** with friends at **EMFun.us/Paddle**.

Hike amongst the largest outcropping of quartz conglomerate in the world at **Rock City Park**.

View photos, maps, apps and more at **EnchantedMountains.com** or call us at 1-800-331-0543.





BY RENU SAGGAR

Masked reveller at the Brige of Sighs.

# The Bride of the Sea

## The streets are made of water in Venice

**I**taly is like a Renaissance painting come to life. Olive groves meander up gentle hillsides, while centuries old towns huddle together under red tile roofs. Traveling in the sun washed countryside, you can easily understand how Henry James felt when he remarked on his first visit: “At last, for the first time, I live.”

Where else could three millennia of history and culture coexist so easily? Or where the elemental pleasures of enjoying good food and wine acquire the unmistakable cachet of *la dolce vita*?

With its marble palazzi, gilded mosaics and shimmering liquid streets. Venice is the Adriatic’s “Bride of the Sea.” Ride a vaporetto through the canals to the Byzantine Basilica, the Doge’s Palace and St. Mark’s Square. Napoleon called the Piazza San Marco “the finest drawing room in Europe.” The imposing St. Mark’s Basilica is home to more than 43,000 square feet of mosaics—each one handmade with 24-karat gold and colored glass. The Pala d’Oro, a magnificent golden altarpiece,

is adorned with nearly 2,000 precious stones.

Climb to the top of the Belltower of St.

Mark’s to the spot where Galileo demonstrated his telescope for the Doge in 1609. The current tower was erected in 1912 and is an exact replica of its 1,000-year-old predecessor, which collapsed in 1902.

The “Bridge of Sighs” spans the Rio di Palazzo and was erected in 1600. It connected the Doge’s prisons with the Inquisitor’s chambers and was immortalized by Lord Byron. Legend has it that the name was inspired by the sighs of the condemned prisoners. The dank cells of the Prigioni, is where Casanova made his famous escape.

One of Venice’s major attractions, the pink and white colonnades of the Doge’s Palace frame this masterpiece of Gothic Architecture. The former residence of the ruler of the Republic of Venice, it opened as a museum in 1923.

Unlike most museums, the fabulous artworks were created to decorate the palace, not added later. The magnificent Scala d’Oro, or Stairs of Gold, were named for their lavish gold decoration.

The Sala del Collegio is considered by many to be the most beautiful room in the entire palace. Designed by Andrea Palladio, the ceiling and frescoes are by Tintoretto, with paintings by Titian and Tiepolo.

The Porta della Carta, the palace’s spectacular main entrance, links the palace with St. Mark’s Basilica.

Gondolas float silently down the Grand Canal past the architectural triumphs like the Casa d’Oro, one of Venice’s loveliest palaces. Built in the early 15th century,



the exterior's delicate filigree seems to be made from lace instead of marble. The palazzo is now used as an art museum.

The Grand Canal functions as Venice's main street, winding through the city in a sweeping S-curve. Only four bridges cross the canal, including the Rialto Bridge constructed in 1588. The monumental Santa Maria della Salute with its massive dome is one of Venice's most iconic sights. San Stae an abbreviation for Saint Eustachius, is a church in central Venice.

Murano is a series of islands linked by bridges in the Venetian Lagoon. It lies about 1.5 kilometres north of Venice and is famous for its glass making. The artisans of Murano still employ their centuries-old techniques, crafting everything from contemporary art glass and glass jewelry to Murano glass chandeliers. The Museo del Vetro, or Murano Glass Museum in the Palazzo Giustinian, displays artifacts chronicling the entire history of glass-making, as well as precious glass objects ranging from Egyptian times through the present day.

Venice has a food culture unlike anywhere else in Italy, relying heavily on fish and vegetables. Baccala mantecato or creamed dried cod, is sublime fish-based

antipasto spread on slices of fresh bread or grilled white polenta.

Risotto al nero di seppia is a seafood-based risotto that uses squid ink to turn the rice jet black in color.

Cicchetti are Venice's answer to Milan's aperitivo and to Spain's tapas. They're small plates of food, usually nibbled over glasses of wine and among friends in the evening or at lunchtime.

Carnival in Venice, takes place in the days leading up to Lent. According to tradition, Venice's Carnival began in 1162, when the townspeople celebrated a victory over the Patriarch of Aquileia. By the time of the Renaissance, masks were a fixture of Carnival celebrations. Today, about 3 million people a year travel to Venice for the festivities.

While many events—particularly the opulent masquerade balls—have steep ticket prices, many others, like the candlelit parade of boats, and street performances, are free and open to the public.

While tourists jam the streets between Rialto & St. Mark's Basilica, Cannaregio is where locals congregate. Historically the Jewish Ghetto, it's one of the most historic parts of the city. Back alleys and hidden waterways creep through the crumbling

beauty of this ancient world built upon the water. Venice is also sinking. Between it's dissolving foundation and the rising sea level, the Italian government faces a daunting challenge in the coming century, to keep one of the most romantic and beloved cities in Europe from becoming an underwater attraction.

While gondolas may be more romantic, there's no better way to get an eyeful of Venice than onboard a vaporetto or waterbus. It's an economical way to admire all the palaces, monuments and bridges overlooking the Grand Canal and Lagoon.

Every Gondola in Venice is exactly 35 feet 6 inches long and 4 feet 6 inches wide. Each has one side 10 inches longer than the other. The longer side helps balance the weight of the gondolier. The six prongs sticking out from the prow represent Venice's six sestieri, or districts. The prong that's facing backwards symbolizes Giudecca, an island just south of the main Venetian island.

Gondoliers traditionally sing very little and when they do, it's usually not "O Sole Mio". You may however, find yourself treated to a spine tingling barcarole that seems to drift over the calm bosom of the sea. 





## The Leader of the Pack Toyota Revs Up its RAV4 Crossover

BY PARKER ZONE

The RAV4 gets a mild makeover for 2017.

Looking at the expansive crossover landscape today, Toyota's RAV4 can rightfully claim to have pioneered the segment two decades ago. The RAV4 was a new kind of vehicle that combined SUV versatility with car-like handling, ride comfort and fuel economy. Best of all, it did it without all the bulk and the expense of the full size SUVs of the time. What began as a niche has exploded into a category, with the RAV4 remaining one of its leaders.

Today, the RAV4 is a no compromise vehicle aimed at active couples who put versatility and style at the top of a priority list that also includes utility, fuel economy, safety and handling.

The 2017 RAV4 line retains much of the exterior styling introduced with the fourth generation model, lending the vehicle a sleeker, more dynamic stance. A bolder looking front fascia now lights up with an available LED combo of headlights, daytime running lights and Hi-Lo Headlights. New rocker panels sharpen the sides and tie restyled front and rear bumpers into a flowing profile. Available LED taillights add a premium touch.

Even though it has bulked up considerably since its introduction 20 years ago, RAV4 still gets down the road with authority thanks to a 2.5-liter direct-injection four-cylinder engine. It puts out 176 horsepower at 6,000 rpm and 172

lb.-ft. of torque at 4,100 rpm and is mated with a standard six-speed automatic transmission. The combination yields EPA-estimated fuel economy ratings of 24 mpg city / 31 mpg highway/26 mpg combined, placing it in the middle of the pack with other vehicles in its class.

Toyota's RAV4 comes with driver-selectable operating modes usually seen on much more expensive vehicles. Select Eco mode and the RAV4 optimizes powertrain operation to maximize fuel economy. Switch to Sport mode, and

you'll experience sharper shift timing, throttle response and steering feel. Downshifting will "blip" the throttle, as the driver would with a stick-shift. On RAV4 models with Dynamic Torque Control All-Wheel Drive, Sport mode also alters torque distribution to enhance agility.

A revised gauge cluster houses an available 4.2-inch TFT multi-information display, and a 7-inch touch-sensitive display audio touch screen is also available. Among new conveniences are a 12V power outlet added to the rear area, and a revised cup holder design to hold tall mugs with handles. There's even a holder for your shades.

The easy-to-manuever, easy-to-park RAV4 takes up little space outside, but offers expansive space inside. There's ample room for five adults, and with the 60/40 split rear seats folded, storage expands to a cavernous 73.4 cu. ft.

RAV4 offers a full suite of technologies to bolster convenience, entertainment and information. Available front and rear parking sonar, helps make parking easy and safe, and now the RAV4 offers the ultimate technology for that purpose, a new Bird's Eye View Camera with Perimeter Scan. The Toyota Safety Sense™ P active safety package, offers a bevy of standard-issue safety technologies and RAV4 is the only vehicle in its (class/segment) to have a standard pre-collision system with pedestrian detection.

With more than 20 years under its belt, Toyota's popular RAV4 continues to be a leader in the compact sport-utility segment, bringing high doses of value, style, and safety to discerning drivers.



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BY RENU SAGGAR Myka Jewellery at Studio Style.

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### Port Stanley Festival Theatre

Following up on its most successful season ever, the *Port Stanley Festival Theatre* is excited to announce on July 5th they will be presenting “Buying The Moose,” a new comedy by, London playwright, Michael G. Wilmot. Rob and Betty, and Greg and Cheryl have been friends forever, but then something happens that changes everything. Or does it? “Tube tops and inflatable dolls, car chases and ice cream, tattoos and true love ... life just gets complicated sometimes.”

July 26th brings the world premiere of “Five Alarm” by Krista Da Silva. Ava Rose has tried to win the Wayne Rose Memorial Chili Cook Off for 16 years, but this year it’s going to be different! With an iron will, an assistant who knows nothing, and a five-time champion as a bitter rival, Ava Rose strives for triumph in this zany comedy as sweet as it is spicy.

Closing out the season on Aug 16th comes “Midnight Madness” by award-winning playwright, Dave Carley. Bloom’s Furniture is closing its doors, but first? Midnight Madness! A chance meeting between old high school friends triggers romance among the waterbeds.

With a varied season of quality productions, the Port Stanley Festival Theatre looks forward to providing another season of top quality entertainment in 2017. For more information please visit their website at [www.portstanleytheatre.ca](http://www.portstanleytheatre.ca).

## Choose Your Style in Port Stanley

The lakefront village of Port Stanley, sits on a beautiful natural harbor, Thousands come every year to enjoy the warm summer waves, walk the shoreline and catch the sunsets over the lake. In addition to what nature has to offer Port Stanley or “Port” as the locals like to say, has attractions galore. Live theatre, watersports, and charming shops and boutiques are just some of its many charms.

### Studio Style Ladies Apparel

Whether you’re into serious fashion or just want to look your best *Studio Style Ladies Apparel & Accessories* is definitely worth a visit. Located on Main Street beside Kettle Creek Inn, their fashion sense is current yet classic, chic and unique with every line they carry.

Make sure to check out the Canadian-designed jewellery by Myka Jewellery. Maja & Michael Bremer’s unique, contemporary and bohemian inspired designs come in rhodium, rose gold, gold and antiqued metals, and are set with Swarovski crystals and semi-precious beads.

The Myka ‘Detachable Collection’ features Interchangeable pendants, multi-function necklaces, chains, leather, pearls and stunning bracelets. Earrings are a Myka specialty and if you are looking for a collection that offers a large assortment of beautiful crystal earrings, then look no further.

Studio Style also features number of fresh Canadian collections by Robert Kitchen, Spanner Inspired Style, Simon Chang, Neon Buddha, Fresh FX, Parkhurst, Lola Jeans, Eric Alexandre and more. European clothing lines include designs by Sandwich—a Dutch line — known for great fabrics, simplicity in design and

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Kim Ariesen  
Proprietor

# Let's Rock in Windsor and Essex County this Summer

BY RENU SAGGAR

**S**ummer in Southwestern Ontario means days spent at the beach, fun family road trips and loads of summer fairs and festivals to fill up on music, culture and food! Farmers' markets and roadside stands are bursting up with fresh, local produce while shopping and dining opportunities abound. No matter what your passion Windsor and Essex County have a summer for you.

## Windsor Crossing Premium Outlets

Windsor Crossing Premium Outlets offers more than just the best deals and latest trends at up to 65% off. The only outlet



Windsor Crossing Premium Outlets.

mall in the area with off-price retailers it houses a collection of popular brand names tailored to designer fashion, athletic apparel, shoes and home accessories. It features the hottest fashions on clothing, footwear & accessories for women, men and kids and unbelievable deals on home decor too. Retailers include Banana Republic Factory Store, Coach Factory, Gap Factory Store and

Bridal Outlet. New this year is *Maurices* with a rich, 85-year history of celebrating and serving local communities we call home. They are inclusive, diverse and ageless, offer sizes 1-24 to fit all shapes and sizes. Their style is flowy and flattering and celebrates being feminine. They outfit their customers lives with versatile pieces to take her from workday to weekend. They dress people who are happy in who they are and think fashion is fun.

Windsor Crossing Premium Outlets is open 7 days a week, 363 days a year, closed Christmas Day and New Year's Day. Open every other day of the year including all holidays. They are located 15 minutes from the US/Canada border and offer a visitors savings voucher for guests from the US or residents living more than 60km away. Visit [www.windsorcrossing.com](http://www.windsorcrossing.com) and stayed tuned for more exciting events and new store openings.

## Mezzo Ristorante & Lounge

Whatever the occasion, Filip Rocca and the friendly, professional staff at Mezzo will cater to your every need. This not-to-be-missed dining experience at Mezzo Ristorante & Lounge goes far beyond the



Pasta at Mezzo.

innovative, award-winning cuisine. A cool blend of an eclectic contemporary atmosphere, extensive wine list, specialty cocktails and live entertainment are the ingredients for one of Windsor's most appealing destinations. Located in the heart of Windsor's Little Italy, it's like taking a mini vacation to the *Bel Paese* and that's what sets it apart.

Mezzo offers both indoor and patio dining. Their renovated private room can hold 35 - 40 people making it the perfect place to hold corporate functions, weddings, private parties, fashion shows, bridal showers etc. The private space is equipped with a state of the art sound system and a projection screen. Lets not forget, Mezzo is an excellent choice when it comes to a girls night out and the not to be missed date night!

Mezzo is an intimate yet lively gathering places where the area's best cuisine may be enjoyed in a relaxed atmosphere.

They can also customize a menu to suit your specific needs and budget and catering for any occasion. Valet parking is available. You can also give the gift of great taste with a Gift Certificate. For more information visit [mezzo.ca](http://mezzo.ca).

## Angileri Designer Fashions

Located in the heart of Windsor's Little Italy, Angileri Designer Fashions is an exclusive designer boutique. Inside you'll find the hottest new designers from Europe, Toronto, and New York for both men and women.



Melissa Nepton at Angileri.

Canadian designer collections this year include Mélissa Nepton. Montreal fashion designer Mélissa Nepton specializes in modern, ready-to-wear couture that targets the urban career woman. Hers is a vision that emanates from tailoring mastery and practicality, reflecting both her personality and view of fashion. Nepton has perfected the art of creating sophisticated, yet relaxed designs and silhouettes for women

of all sizes.

Angileri's specialize in exceptional personal service to fit your individual style, your body type and your professional needs. In addition to the unique pieces you will find here, their services also include custom clothing designs and alterations performed on the premises. Franco shops the latest collections from the most popular designers to offer you that personal shopping experience! Visit them at [www.angileridesigns.com](http://www.angileridesigns.com).

## Shoe Box

*Athleisure* is one of the fastest growing trends in women's fashion, with fashion icons frequently seen in fashionable, sporty outfits. Koral Activewear was founded by artist lana Kugeand fashion industry expert Peter Koral, and is popular among celebrities, like Olivia Palermo, Gigi Hadid, Kourtney

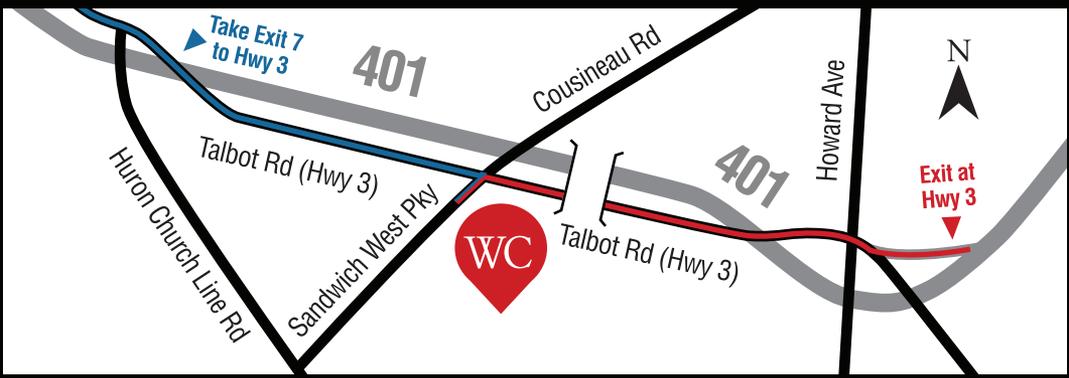
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## Southwest Ontario

Kardashian, and Victoria's Secret supermodel Romee Strijd. Koral offers high performance design and exceptional quality, while still looking stylish. It can be worn any where from the gym or going out for lunch. And now you don't have to go to Somerset Mall for Koral Activewear. It's exclusive to Shoe Box. Crafted with the latest technology and signature moisture-wicking fabrics, the performance separates in Koral Activewear clothing are perfect for hitting the gym in style. And you can go straight from the gym for an evening out.



Shoe Box owner Claudine Thibodeau.

The Coco Chanel inspired boutique in the Tecumseh Towne Centre is known for classy and trendy fashions! Shoe Box is also known for having highest quality shoes and handbags within the industry. Brands include Aquitalia, Ugg, Kendall + Kylie, Frye, hOgl, Hispanitas, Kenneth Cole and many more. Italian-made boots by Aquitalia are a personal favorite of Kate Middleton. Frye boots are benchcrafted in the USA from the finest full grain leather uppers. Visit [shooboxcanada.ca](http://shooboxcanada.ca) for

more information.

### Sushi Bar

Whether you are an avid sushi fan or new to this culinary trend, Sushi Bar offers authentic Japanese cuisine, including the freshest sashimi, nigiri, and sushi rolls, as well as sushi platters for sharing. Located at 486 Advance Boulevard, Suite 130 in Tecumseh, eating healthy never tasted this good with natural ingredients at the peak of their freshness and flavor. Start with small plates like *Beef Negimaki*—local beef sirloin wrapped asparagus, grilled & topped with teriyaki sauce. *Edamame* is steamed Japanese soy beans with sea salt.



Treat yourself at Sushi Bar.

Specialty and large rolls include *Golden Dragon* a "Best Seller" made with shrimp tempura, cream cheese, cucumber, topped with tempura sweet potato & house sauces. The popular *Rock n Roll* features smoked salmon, crab BBQ eel & cream cheese fully deep fried. *Crispy Calamari* is tempura calamari & cucumber with garlic spicy sauce.

The *Sushi Boat For Two* features 2-Miso Soups, 2-Koi salads, 2-pc Tuna Nigiri, 2 pc Salmon Nigiri, 2-pc Crab Nigiri California Roll, Asparagus Roll and Spicy Tuna Roll. Try a Tempura

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## Southwest Ontario

Twinkie, Green Tea Ice Cream or Tempura Banana with Vanilla Ice Cream for dessert.

Having a party or getting together with some friends and don't want to cook? They will build you a custom platter that is sure to be a hit at your event. Whether it's appetizers or the main dish, sushi is never a bad choice. Visit them online at [www.sushibarlakeshore.com](http://www.sushibarlakeshore.com).

### A La Mode

Fashion is their passion and at A La Mode, it's all about making the shopping experience comfortable, personable and affordable. They can dress you from head to toe with accessories like handbags, shoes and jewelry.

Clothing lines include fashion forward labels like *Joseph Ribkoff*. This Canadian designer always delights with his figure flattering styles, and unique details!

You'll always stand

Desigual at A La Mode.



out when you're dressed in *Desigual*! Headquartered in Barcelona, Catalonia, Spain, *Desigual* is notable for its trendy patchwork designs, intense prints, graffiti art, asymmetrical designs and flamboyant splashes of colour. They also carry *Desigual* accessories like, shoes, scarves and purses.

*Dolcezza* is a line known for their made in Europe contemporary separates and knitwear. The *Sandwich* collection is fashion to be worn every day, without being everyday. *Sandwich* offers countless combination possibilities with a finely balanced composition of styles, colours, patterns, materials and silhouettes.

*Bella by Cassie* is synonymous with elegance and movement. *Bella by Cassie* dresses all kinds of women in silk, wool and cashmere, all natural fibers from Italy.

*Sacha London* shoes are inspired by women, built for women, and loved by women worldwide. They combine Spanish designs and quality materials to make fashionable shoes that are sassy, sexy and most importantly, comfortable.

You can make an appointment with A La Mode's professional staff, who can help you mix, match and coordinate your pieces.

A La Mode is located at 52 Richmond St. in Amherstburg. They also have a second location at 3869 Dougall Ave. in Windsor and a brand new location at 578 Notre Dame Street, Belle River. Alterations are done on site at the Amherstburg location. Visit their website at [www.alamodefashions.ca](http://www.alamodefashions.ca).

Don't forget their Fashion Show on September 24 at Sprucewood Winery. Cocktails are at 5 p.m. followed by a five course dinner at 6 p.m. with the fashion show to follow. Proceeds from the silent auction will go toward the restoration of *Belle Vue Conservancy*, a National Historic Site in Amherstburg. You can call A La Mode at 519-736-1475 to reserve your table. ☞



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# Fleur De Lis is a taste of France in Amherstburg

BY RENU SAGGAR

**M**atthew Johnston's passion is food. For him the plate is a canvas that he uses to display his creativity. At the age of 16 he started working his way up, through the ranks of the kitchen, honing his skills and taking every opportunity to learn.

As he perfected his craft, Matthew nurtured a dream of one-day opening an outstanding, French-themed, fine dining establishment. He envisioned a reservations only restaurant with a dress code, an exclusively French wine and dinner menu, and upscale amenities like complimentary valet parking.

After all, *haute cuisine* is not exclusively about what's on the plate. Elaborately choreographed service, the depth of the wine cellar and sumptuous surroundings — these are the elements that distinguish a meal from a culinary event.

Just one not-so-small problem stood in his way. Where could you find such a space in Essex County, and only open one day a week, and still be successful?

After about two decades in the business, Matthew decided to open *Artisan Grill*,



a premium casual restaurant located in a heritage building on Dalhousie St. in historic downtown Amherstburg.

Business was good, customers were happy and *Artisan Grill* was getting great reviews. After a few years Matthew decided to buy the building the restaurant was housed in. Then, he was able to acquire the almost 200 year-old apartment located directly above the restaurant.

All of a sudden his dream of having a small, exclusively French restaurant on the riverfront began to seem like a real possibility. "This space has so much character," says Matthew. "I could just visualize intimate, elegant dinners in a

gorgeous dining room with crystal chandeliers. This place is about me as a chef being able to cook for people personally, using my creativity and craftsmanship. The romance and intimacy created in this heritage building is just amazing."

The restaurant will be called *Fleur De Lis by Matthew Johnston* and will open, appropriately enough, on Bastille Day, July 14, 2017. The entire building, including *The Artisan*, will be transformed into an elegant dining room for the event, with white glove service, live music and superb French cooking.

Matthew says, this will be a ticketed event and will feature tours of the upstairs dining room. Reservation for *Fleur De Lis* will commence on July 16th and Matthew is very excited about personally looking after his guests.

The space will also be available for private parties and Matthew plans to do Celebrity Chef dinners with local and world-renowned chefs. This will not just be another restaurant. With classic French service *Fleur De Lis* is going to be an important culinary destination! 🍷

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# Amherstburg Celebrates All Summer Long

BY ADELINA IRVINE

**C**anada 150 is a once in a lifetime opportunity to celebrate a milestone in Canada's history! It's creating memories of family, fun, unity and what makes living in Canada so special. Canadians love to celebrate good times and Canada 150 is a great reason to do just that in one of the oldest and prettiest towns in Ontario!

## Amherstburg's Canada Day & Ice Cream Festival

(July 1, 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.) Enjoy the free activities and entertainment throughout the day and a fireworks finale along the Detroit River! This traditional event is the best in the region. The annual Ice Cream Festival is right next door!

## Rotary Ribfest

(July 7 & 8) A fun-filled 3-day weekend, with ribbers, bloomin' onion, sweet corn, ice cream and more food choices! Live entertainment all weekend and many craft vendors. Free parking, free admission. Come out and support the Amherstburg Rotary Club.

## Garden Walking Tour of the King's Navy Yard Park

(July 16) Enjoy a free walking tour of this spectacular garden. Members of the Parks Department Team will share their knowledge of various plant species and gardening tips to create your very own Garden of Eden. Don't forget your camera!

## Amherstburg's Gone Car Crazy Show

(July 30) Classic cars on the beautiful downtown streets of Amherstburg and at the Toddy Jones Park. Free admission to the public spectators. Shops and restaurants are open.

## Canuck it Up! Festival Canadiana

(August 5 & 6) See the World's Largest Rubber Duck that weighs 1250 lbs and is 61 feet high! Take Tall Ship Appledore V deck tours. Watch "The West Coast Lumberjack Show" and Rhythm of the Nation, a multi-cultural musical mosaic. A "just ducky" Kids Zone entertains the kiddies while a Farmers Market, Downtown restaurants and a Food Court are gearing up to serve Canadian eat treats! Wrap the day with a "big band" concert at Kings Navy Yard Park. The fun continues at Fort Malden NHS with foot and ship battle re-enactments and period activities. [amherstburg.ca/canuckitup](http://amherstburg.ca/canuckitup).

## Woofa~Roo Pet Fest

(August 12 & 13) Woofa~Roo Pet Fest is the place to be for crazy fun with dock diving, dog agility, lure coursing, disc dog and more. As always, friendly dogs are welcome to bring their responsible owners!

## Art by the River

(August 26 to 27) Love art? Join over 160 topnotch artists and artisans in Amherstburg along the waterfront. Essex County's original arts and crafts festival. An olde town, end of summer tradition since 1967!

## Culture Days; Voyageur and Fur Trader Rendezvous!

(September 30 & October 1) Experience early French-Canadian and Aboriginal culture in the 18th century. Period cooking, crafts, presentations, and demos relating to the iconic fur trade.

For detailed schedule of all events, visit [amherstburg.ca](http://amherstburg.ca) or [facebook.com/AmherstburgConnection](https://www.facebook.com/AmherstburgConnection).

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Canada Day July 1

Canuck it UP! Festival Canadiana  
August 5 & 6

Culture Days Rendezvous  
Sept. 30 - Oct. 1

CANADA 150

# Kingville Parks Your Summer Destination

BY RENU SAGGAR

If warm climate and friendly hospitality is what you are looking for Kingville fits the bill! Conveniently located 30km from Windsor and the US border with access to the 401 and highway number 3, this is the perfect place to spend the day, weekend or a seasonal getaway. Kingville has much to offer in ways of award winning wineries, unique shops, local restaurants, championship courses, numerous parks and beaches.

The *Kingville Downtown Market Crawl* takes place every 1st and 3rd Thursday during July and August. Wander through your favourite shops, eateries and watering holes, all providing entertainment, awesome eats, arts and culture and exclusive market specials.

*Lakeside Park* is set on the shores of Lake Erie and boasts a secluded beach and beautifully manicured gardens, walking paths, gazebo's and a large indoor pavilion. This park is perfect place to host family picnics, reunions, festivals, wedding ceremonies and receptions.

*Cedar Beach* and *Cedar Island Beach* are popular sandy spots for swimming,



sunbathing and relaxing. July 27 is *Beach Day* at Cedar Island Beach and visitors can try volleyball, beach Yoga or stand up paddle boarding all for free. Then stick around for *Outdoor Movie Night*. Bring your marshmallows and a blanket for a bonfire on the beach and a big screen movie presentation. Outdoor Movie Night will also return on August 24.

On July 29-30 it's *Explore the Shore*. This weekend festival celebrates the unique, local businesses that line historic County Rd. 50 – Canada's southernmost drive! Activities include a BBQ, a paddle boarding excursion, or just take in the beautiful beach at one of your stops along the way.

*The OnPoint Beach Volleyball Camp*

runs July 31-August 4, August 21-25, and August 28-September 1. The camps include training, rotational activities, game play, stand up paddle boarding and a nutritious lunch. Camps are sanctioned by the Ontario Volleyball Association.

*The Music Moves Kids Camp*, August 14-18 & 21-25 at Kingsville Arena, features a fun-filled week of Star Wars themed activities.

Kingsville's *48th Annual Migration Festival* runs from October 19-22, and celebrates the legacy of acclaimed conservationist Jack Miner. Visitors can bring the family to Lakeside Park for children's activities including pony rides, miniature train rides, falconry shows and much more.

Located on the North Shore of Lake Erie *Mettawas Park* plays a particularly significant role in Kingville's rich history. Much of the property was once owned by Hiram Walker and Sons (1891) and was the location of a grand hotel known as the *Mettawas Hotel*. The Mettawas name lives on in the planned \$3.5M waterfront redevelopment project currently being undertaken by the Town of Kingville.

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- Explore the Shore July 29-30
- Folk Festival August 11-13
- Migration Festival October 20-22





[MyKingsville.ca](http://MyKingsville.ca)

# Tony's Mediterranean a Kingsville Classic

BY RENU SAGGAR

**T**ony's Mediterranean celebrates their second anniversary on July 1, 2017 along with Canada Day. A retired executive from Montreal, Tony Golia fell in love with the Kingsville area while visiting friends in Leamington. He decided to open his restaurant in Kingsville's historic downtown.

Originally called *Tony's Panini*, they served authentic Italian panini sandwiches like the *Eggplant Parmigiana Panini*, or *Braciola* with slow cooked pork tenderloin, provolone cheese, roasted peppers on a delicious, grilled panini bun. The panini bread comes in from Joliette (Quebec) and is grilled lightly over true charcoal.

Now called *Tony's Mediterranean*, Tony delivers the complete package—warm atmosphere, gracious hospitality, and an expanded menu with great food!

He makes you feel like you're dining with family, with rustic Italian fare, home-made that day with fresh ingredients and prepared with care. His passion for his craft is evident in every bite. Everything tastes like it came straight from Nonna's



kitchen.

Not surprisingly, the menu is heavy with pasta dishes served with a choice of home made marinara sauce and a side of *Braciola* or meatballs.

The *Pasta Primavera*, which translates to "Spring Pasta" is a classic dish that uses a mixture of bright green vegetables mixed with pasta, and shrimp or sausage. Specials include home-roasted and wine-seared leg of lamb, accompanied by oven baked baby potatoes and mixed vegetables, or rabbit glazed in a white wine sauce with polenta; vegetarian lasagna; or baked stuffed eggplant.

Add an Italian favourite Arancini Balls,

three Italian rice balls served on a bed of Marinara Sauce. Pair it with a glass of local or imported wine.

You'll also get a taste of what nature offers from our lakes. Fresh caught pan fired perch served with mixed vegetables and glazed baby potatoes has become a personal favourite for many customers. Try a piece of *Tiramisu*, the Italian custard dessert made of ladyfingers dipped in coffee, or the tasty home-made Biscotti.

The music served up at Tony's is nothing if not serendipitous. On Fridays and Saturdays Kingsville now has it's own little Cabaret where everyone can enjoy an evening of dining and entertainment.

I bet Tony's Mediterranean will soon become a hot spot with events like the *Pyjama Party* taking place July 22, at 7 p.m. exclusively for women in support of Kingsville District High School Breakfast for Learning Program, and the Kingsville Food Bank

Call Lorraine Dal Bello for more information at 705-793-3760 or email her at [lorraineangelo.dalbello@gmail.com](mailto:lorraineangelo.dalbello@gmail.com). Get ready for a night of fun with great food and great girl friends! 

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# The Kingsville Folk Music Festival

BY ADELIN IRVINE

Canada's "Southernmost Town" is the perfect weekend or seasonal getaway. Nestled along the north shore of Lake Erie, people are drawn by the Victorian architecture, magnificent outdoors and laid back lifestyle.

Lakeside Park is set on the shores of Lake Erie and boasts a quiet beach and meticulously maintained gardens.



The Cowboy Junkies.

It's also the home of the 4th annual Kingsville Folk Music Festival, which takes place on August 11-13, 2017. During this 3-day celebration of acoustic, folk and world music. Lakeside Park will be transformed with 5 stages featuring over 30 performers, including the Cowboy Junkies, Sylvia Tyson and Jimmy Rankin.

Formed in Toronto in 1985 by Margo Timmins (vocalist), Michael Timmins (songwriter, guitarist), Peter Timmins (drummer) and Alan Anton (bassist), the Cowboy Junkies fame spread with their second album, *The Trinity Session*, a mix of blues, country, folk, rock and jazz. The Los Angeles Times named the recording as one of the ten best albums of 1988.

Sylvia Tyson is best known as half of the Canadian folk duo Ian & Sylvia, and country rock band Great Speckled Bird.

She also composed "You Were on My Mind" a hit single for the band We Five in the mid sixties. A member of the Order of Canada, she has been nominated for a Juno Award seven times. In 2015 Rolling Stone called their 1968 album 'Nashville,' country rock's Great Lost Album.

As one of Canada's most beloved singer-songwriters and hit makers, Jimmy Rankin has platinum albums and pretty much every award the nation hands out. A member of The Rankin Family, he has released six albums as a solo artist including his newest "Back Road Paradise".

The roster of talented performers also includes Madison Violet, Christine Lavin, Turbo Street Funk, So Long Seven and Durham County Poets. You could also discover a new or local artist, that you may have never heard of but who will bring you away.

The Kingsville Folk Music Festival, which runs rain or shine, will also feature the best of juried artisans, workshops, food and craft vendors, Lonsbery beer and Pelee Island wines. Celebrate Family with Splash N' Boots, face painting,

Jangles the Clown, and Todd Crowley's Traveling Musical Petting Zoo. From accordion to zither, The Zoo is a fully interactive, hands-on exhibition for musicians, young and old.

Kingsville is located 3 hours west of Toronto and 40 minutes from the Detroit/Windsor border. Single Day Passes for the event are \$40 to \$60 and Weekend Passes are \$85 to \$95. Children 16 years of age and under are admitted free.

For more information visit [www.kingsvillefolkfest.org](http://www.kingsvillefolkfest.org).

**COWBOY JUNKIES**

**SYLVIA TYSON**

**JIMMY RANKIN**

**KINGSVILLE FOLK MUSIC FESTIVAL**  
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BY RENU SAGGAR

### Corks, Kegs and Culinary

Chatham-Kent offers dining opportunities to satisfy the appetite of even the most sophisticated culinary connoisseur. Waterfront bistros, steak houses, and authentic ethnic eateries, Chatham-Kent's restaurants add flare to fresh fish caught from surrounding lakes and prepare decadent dishes from local produce. While you're here, visit their exceptional craft breweries and sprawling vineyards.

### Art, Culture, and More

Nowhere else in Ontario will you find such a unique combination of arts, culture, and entertainment. The *Chatham Capitol Theatre* offers Chatham-Kent residents and out-of-town guests an outstanding experience as they enjoy world class entertainment. The theatre first opened as a movie house in 1930, and has been magically transformed into a first-rate live entertainment venue. The theatre features art deco detailing throughout with gilded décor, opera boxes and an ornate ceiling.

Shoppers will find an eclectic mix of boutiques and galleries in Historic Downtown Chatham. The quaint turn of the century setting welcomes visitors with a rich bounty of Victorian architecture, cultural treasures, delightful specialty shops and culinary delights.

Chatham-Kent's captivating past is preserved in the 11 interactive museums throughout the region, including the Chatham-Kent Black Mecca Museum and the Thames Art Gallery. 📖

Start planning your trip online at [VisitCK.ca](http://VisitCK.ca).

## Living History in Chatham-Kent

**R**ich heritage and unique stories, beaches, fine dining, distinct bustling urban centres and gorgeous scenery, Chatham-Kent truly has something for everyone! Located less than an hour's drive from either the Ambassador Bridge or the Blue Water Bridge, Chatham-Kent is closer than you think.

### The Underground Railroad

Considered the destination for freedom seekers, this area was home to some of the most successful Black settlements in Canadian history. Once known as the "Black Mecca," the region became a haven for runaway slaves. Today, Chatham-Kent serves as windows into the past, allowing visitors to touch, feel, see and hear the stories of those who took the heroic journey to freedom. Prominent area sites include the BME Freedom Park, Uncle Tom's Cabin Historic Site, and the Buxton National Historic Site & Museum.

### Fun on the Water

Situated between Lake St. Clair and Lake Erie, you're never far from the beach in Chatham-Kent. Swimmers, beachgoers, and boaters are all drawn to the warm waters and kilometers of sandy beaches. Chatham-Kent's many fishing spots are sure to keep you hooked. Anglers come from miles around to test their skills on

the world's most productive freshwater lakes. Beachcombers can relax on secluded Erieau Beach, or enjoy a walk along the narrow pier toward the lighthouse. *Rondeau Provincial Park* boasts the region's longest beach with 14 kilometres (8 miles) of sand along Lake Erie.

The warm and shallow waters of *Mitchell's Bay* make it a popular beach destination. Visitors can extend their time in Mitchell's Bay with an overnight stay at a cottage, campground, or motel and local restaurants serve the day's catch.



Chatham Kent has a variety of sandy beaches.

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# Taking it Slow in St. Jacobs Country

**T**he Village of St. Jacobs beckons with quiet charm. Steeped in history and set in a charming location along the Conestoga River, this intimate community is known for original arts and crafts and a myriad of stores featuring home decor, clothing, jewellery, accessories, toys, gourmet foods, and gifts.

St. Jacobs is renowned among savvy shoppers as a place that blends the pleasures of a pastoral setting with a truly remarkable shopping experience! Merchants are friendly, independent business owners, crafters and artists. Be sure to visit Hamel Brooms, Xclusive Elements, La Crème, Ashfields, Lizzy R, Rhumba, Jewelry Secrets, A Touch of Scotland and the Village Silos.

Discover St. Jacobs' connection to the birth of hydro-electric power at the *History of Electricity Museum*. See the original turbine that helped power the Mill and village lights, plus vintage artifacts and rare historic photos. The *Maple Syrup Museum*, in the Mill basement features a miniature panorama of St. Jacobs complete with an H0-scale model railway.



The Village of St. Jacobs.

The Mennonite Story multi-media interpretive center is a must for anyone interested in learning more about Mennonites. See informative photos, artifacts and displays that describe the history, culture and religion of the Mennonites — locally and around the world.

Enjoy world-class theatre at two locations in St. Jacobs Country with performances by award-winning Drayton Entertainment: *St. Jacobs Country Playhouse* in the Market District, and *St. Jacobs Schoolhouse Theatre* in St. Jacobs.

Diners can start their day with a hearty

homestyle breakfast at *Stone Crock Restaurant and Bakery*. Enjoy a late lunch at *Jacob's Grill*, or sample locally brewed craft beer and tastings at Block 3 Brewery.

Railway buffs can check out the *St. Jacobs & Aberfoyle Model Railway*. One of North America's finest "O" Scale layouts is open on weekends and showcases Southern Ontario during the 1950's.

Take a heritage railway ride between the Village of St. Jacobs and St. Jacobs Farmers' Market. The *Waterloo Central Railway* runs between the St. Jacobs Farmers' Market, the Village of St. Jacobs, and the town of Elmira.

Every week, hundreds of vendors bring you Ontario's farm-fresh foods, crafts, imported goods and most things imaginable at Canada's Largest Year-Round Farmers' Market. Choose from the many vendors' offerings of delicious cheeses, breads, grass-fed beef, lamb from down the road, and so much more. And don't forget Waterloo Region staples — summer sausage and maple syrup! 🍁

For more information on St. Jacobs Country visit their website at [stjacobs.com](http://stjacobs.com).



## Discover *St. Jacobs* Country



- Visit Canada's largest year-round Farmers' Market
- Shop at One-of-a-kind Shops & Craft Studios
- Enjoy Restaurants, Professional Theatre
- Visit The Mennonite Story Interpretive Centre
- See North America's finest O-scale Model Railway
- Experience fine Accommodations & Getaways



One of Ontario's Favourite Rural Destinations

St. Jacobs Village Shops & Restaurants

St. Jacobs Farmers' Market  
Thurs & Sat all year;  
Tues in summer too

[www.stjacobs.com](http://www.stjacobs.com)

1 800 265 3353

Located 1 hr west of Toronto;  
North of Waterloo, Ontario, Canada

The poster features a vibrant blue background with orange and white paint splatters. At the top right, there is a white silhouette of a sun with rays. In the bottom right corner, there is a yellow sun with orange rays. The text is arranged in a clear, bold hierarchy. The main title is in large yellow letters with a blue outline. Below it, the event details are in white with blue outlines. The dates are in large yellow letters with a blue outline. The times are in white with blue outlines. At the bottom, there is a solid orange banner with white and black text. In the center of the poster, there are four 3D block letters: 'ANNA ARBOR ART FAIR'. The 'ANNA' part is on a red block, 'ARBOR' is on an orange block, 'ART' is on a black block, and 'FAIR' is on a yellow block. The background behind the blocks is a blurred outdoor scene with a building and trees under a blue sky.

# Summer's Biggest Event!

Original works of art, street performances,  
culinary treats and sidewalk sales!

**July 20-23, 2017**

Thursday, Friday, Saturday, 10am-9pm  
And Sunday, Noon-6pm

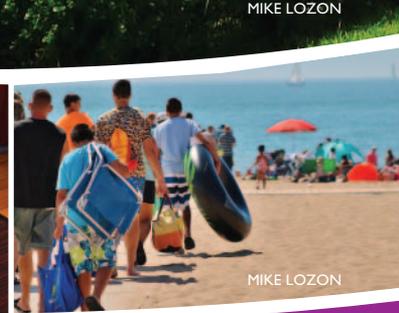


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