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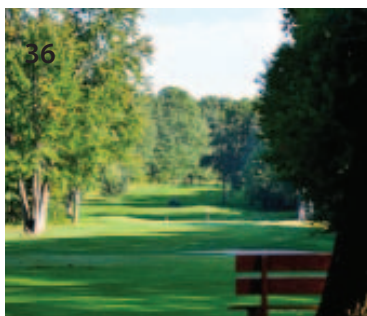
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Cover: Holland Michigan Tulip Festival. Photo: Hayley Moore.

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

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TREES PLANTED

An aerial photograph of a lush green forest. A large, multi-span bridge with a wooden deck and metal railings crosses a river. Several cyclists are riding on a paved path that runs alongside the river, below the bridge. The scene is captured from a high angle, looking down at the bridge and the cyclists.

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BY RENU SAGGAR



The East Lansing Arts Festival.

Spring Forward in Michigan

This is where it happens every Spring

Springtime in Michigan is amazing. There's no better place to get in tune with nature, indulge in diverse dining, or take part in a packed lineup of festivals and events. From blooming flowers and longer days, to countless rounds of golf, bike rides, leisurely walks and more, spring in Michigan means something special to everyone.

Detroit

The transformation of Downtown Detroit continues with hotel properties like the Trumbull and Porter, the Foundation and Aloft at the David Whitney. The newly opened *Shinola Hotel* embodies the pride and ingenuity of Detroit with unparalleled design, a timeless sense of style, approachable service and an obsession with quality craftsmanship. The luxury watchmaker/retailer partnered with other Michigan companies to incorporate locally-made furniture, wall coverings and furniture for the 129 room property, which opened in January, following two years of renovations. Dining choices include *San Morello*, helmed by James Beard Award-winning chef Andrew Carmellini, and featuring a seasonal menu inspired by the seaside towns of southern Italy.

River Crab Restaurant & Blue Water Inn

No matter what time of year you visit you will enjoy the beauty of the St. Clair River at the picturesque River Crab Restaurant & Blue Water Inn — a perfect destination for a relaxing meal, or restful getaway. With magnificent views of the river and unmatched amenities, the *Blue Water Inn* is ready to become your home

away from home.

The 21 newly-renovated rooms each offer a scenic view of the river. Every room is beautifully furnished and amenities include in-room coffee makers, complimentary Wi-Fi, cable television, plush robes, continental breakfast and a seasonal outdoor pool.

Experience dining right on the water's edge at *The River Crab* seafood restaurant. Dock your boat at the restaurant, or at the St. Clair Boat Harbor and climb aboard their complementary shuttle.

River Crab is operated by Landry's, a leader in the casual seafood restaurant category. The menu is full of fresh seafood, tender steaks and pastas, with so many choices it won't be an easy decision. Join them for Happy Hour with discounted drinks and appetizers.

An unforgettable evening overlooking the river begins with a crisp Martha's Vineyard salad, or a bowl of New England Clam Chowder, and ends with their succulent desserts. Entrees include Snapper Hemmingway and Planked Salmon.

If spur of the moment decisions aren't your style, you can easily make a reservation online. No matter how you arrive, the end result is the same—fresh seafood and unmatched views in a casual, fine dining atmosphere. Please be on the lookout for any private events and promotions they may be offering on their website. *For more information visit them at www.rivercrabbluewaterinn.com.*

Lansing

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Michigan

gan's capital city. With over 60 festivals and events throughout the year, it's no wonder Lansing is known as Michigan's festival capital and provides the perfect reason to visit. This Spring find *Mighty Uke Day 9*, the largest ukulele festival in the Midwest, the East Lansing Art Festival and adjacent MSU Arts and Crafts Show, Margarita Festival and Beerfest at the Ballpark. Speaking of ballparks, Spring ushers in some minor league baseball (the Lansing Lugnuts are a Toronto Blue Jays affiliate) or even some professional soccer with the newly-formed Lansing Ignite, Michigan's only professional soccer team.

While in town, take advantage of Lansing's walkable downtown and visit five awesome attractions within a five block radius. Take a tour of the State Capitol Building, the Michigan History Center, the R.E. Olds Transportation Museum and discover the fun side of science at Impression 5 Science Center. And if you still have time and energy, take in the 15 mile long Lansing River Trail for a stroll, a bike ride or rent a kayak.

Whether it's a vibrant festival, delightful patio dining, a little boutique shopping in Old Town, or the terrific golf options that bring you to Greater Lansing, you're sure to find that everyone is entertained and is already planning another road trip back to Michigan's capital region.

Make it a Michigan capital getaway! For everything you need to know visit lansing.org.

Binder Park Zoo

Binder Park Zoo in southwest Michigan is unlike any other zoo experience! Set on 433 spectacular acres, the zoo is home to more than 500 exotic and native animal species. Thoughtful exhibit design blends spacious animal habitats into the surrounding landscape — a 40 year hallmark of the zoo that inspires awe and commands respect for these amazing creatures.

In the East Zoo, paths wind around spaces where kangaroos bound, a snow leopard prowls and black bears wrestle. Drop into the *Adventure Station* to peek in on the sloths, amphibians and reptiles. Hear the whistle blow as you board the Z.O. & O. vintage train at the station to ride the rails past animal exhibits and into the beyond.

At the International Depot, board the zebra-striped Wilderness Tram to Wild Africa and Zuri National Park. Elevated boardwalks zigzag under a canopy of tall trees leading you to the savanna's edge where herds of addax, bontebok and waterbuck roam with marabou storks, ostriches and giraffes. A visit to *Twiga Overlook* is de rigueur for guests to come face to face with the giraffes and feed them snacks of lettuce — a singularly memorable experience! Continue past the cheetahs towards the newest exhibits at the zoo — African painted dogs; where a pack of eleven young pups romp and their neighbors the majestic African lions lounge. Both exhibits feature multiple viewings including glass walls allowing

you to be as close up to these magnificent creatures as you'll ever be!

A 600lb. Aldabra giant tortoise, Monkey Valley, exotic birds, Red River hogs and domestic African farm animals still lie ahead on your route before completing the loop back to the tram station.

A full schedule of Education Programs including group and family overnights in an authentic African tented camp — the only one in the Midwest — teach the importance of conservation through creative and fun experiences and an exciting roster of unique fund-raising events (like the Cheetah Chase 5K, Corks for Conservation wine festival and others) engage zoo-lovers and party-goers alike.

It's wilder at Binder Park Zoo in Battle Creek, MI, three miles south of exit #100 on I-94. Find everything you need to know to plan your visit at www.binderparkzoo.org and follow them on Facebook and Instagram for the latest zoo news.

Choice Hotels Michigan

When you're ready to book the perfect Michigan getaway, finding comfortable and affordable accommodations near all the best destinations is one of your first priorities. With over 100 Choice Hotels in Michigan to choose from, Choice Hotels can be the perfect place to create the vacation of your dreams. Brands include Comfort Inn, Comfort Suites, Sleep Inn, Quality Inn, Clarion & the one-of-a-kind, upscale Ascend hotels, combining the amenities of a luxury resort, with the intimacy of a bed and breakfast.

Choice Hotels has locations in Lansing, Grand Rapids, Traverse City and more. They've got the amenities to make your stay enjoyable, whether you're taking a business trip, or planning a family vacation. These may include hot or Continental breakfast, pools, business centers and pet friendly properties.

Clarion locations feature restaurants, bars and event space, where you can meet for business, celebrate special occasions or visit with friends.

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Paddle Boarding at Wetmore Landing. Photo: Aaron Peterson for Travel Marquette.



VISIT & DISCOVER

PHOTO CREDIT: TED MILLER

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Michigan

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Hit the links in Coldwater Country and take advantage of the more than 300 holes of golf on nearly two dozen courses, featuring all the hallmarks of great golf. The variety of courses will challenge even the best players, while the natural beauty and incredible views will make for a memorable golf getaway.

In addition to great golf, this south-central Michigan area has many adventures waiting to be explored. Kick back on one of more than 100 lakes, including two chains of lakes. Coldwater Country is a haven for relaxation on the water. Rent a pontoon or kayak for a water adventure. Anglers will find a hot spot for reeling in the catch of the day.

The area is also home to an abundance of things to see and do — experience laser tag, virtual reality games, go-carts or riding the rails on a steam train. In the evening, catch a movie at an 'All-American' drive-in with new HD projectors, or head

to the local Opera House for a Professional Summer Theatre performance.

Shop 'til you drop in the many boutiques and shops throughout the area. Dubbed Michigan's Antique Capital, Allen has one of the largest concentrations of antique dealers. Head to Colon to learn magic tricks and how to entertain a crowd. Home of 3 magic shops, countless activities and events, there's always something happening in the *Magic Capital of the World*.

Don't forget to check the website for additional information on the exciting events including food festivals to cars, boat parades and magic taking place all year round. At the end of a day on the course and an exciting night on the town, check into one of the many Coldwater Country hotels.

Located just minutes from the course, downtown and attractions, you'll find the perfect place to stay.

This summer, get away to Coldwater Country and discover the great golf in the quaint communities of Coldwater, Bronson, Quincy and Union City, all conveniently located at exit 13 off I-69.

For more information visit ColdwaterCountry.com.

Southwestern Michigan

Few places in Michigan are more beautiful in the spring than Southwest Michigan. Miles upon miles of blossoming orchards and vineyards paint the landscape in pastel colors and drench the air with sweet fragrances. Roll down your vehicle windows and take a deep breath as you tour the countryside, stopping along the way to taste the liquid artistry of their award-winning wineries, breweries and distilleries.

Fresh breezes also waft across Lake Michigan's sandy beaches and towering sand dunes. Spring is one of the best seasons to search for wave-smoothed beach glass, crinoid fossils and driftwood treasures along the shore. Or charter a fishing boat to reel in trophy brown trout or Coho salmon. While you are here, tour St. Joseph's historic lighthouses, open Memorial Day Weekend to Labor Day Weekend.

By mid-April, the golf courses offer terrain that makes the game a pleasure for beginners to national champions. And in late-May-June, farmers begin welcoming you to pick your own, or stop by their markets to gather the sweetest strawberries, crispiest asparagus and juiciest cherries.



{ GET OUT }

Southwest Michigan is gorgeous in spring. Blossoming orchards and vineyards drench the air with sweet fragrances. Lake Michigan sparkles along sandy beaches and below towering dunes. Come now to fish, tour historic lighthouses, challenge your golf game or sip craft beers and wines. By mid-May, you can find locally grown flowers, fruits and vegetables. This is a beautiful time to get out and relax here a while.

**Southwest
MICHIGAN**
IN & AROUND ST. JOSEPH
SWMICHIGAN.ORG

Festivals fill spring with music, food and laughter. Don't miss this year's 100+-year-old Blossomtime Festival April 20-May 4, BBQ Blues & Bluegrass Festival May 18 and the Makers Trail Festival June 8.

For more reasons to get out this spring in Southwest Michigan, visit swmichigan.org.

Grand Haven

Lake Michigan washes over Grand Haven's golden beaches, part of an unbroken strand extending 500 miles along the state's western shore. Two lighthouses have watched over the harbor for more than a century. With miles of rolling dunes there are plenty of spots for watching the sunset. There are over 100 miles of bike trails, countless parks, trolley rides, and the fabulous *Musical Fountain*.

Visit them in April and take advantage of the sunshine by strolling along the boardwalk leading straight to our historic lighthouse. After you've worked up an appetite, head over to Grub & Brew Fest on April 27.

See incredible giant inflatable kites, and beautifully flown choreographed musical routines at the Kite Festival in Grand Haven, May 18-19.

Celebrate Memorial Day, May 27 in Coast Guard City, USA with parades in

both Grand Haven and Spring Lake.

June is sure to bring fun with the warmer weather. Visit the Village of Spring Lake during the Antique & Classic Boat Show on June 1, or the Spring Lake Heritage Festival June 10-15.

Spring is also the perfect time to start planning your summer vacation. The Grand Haven Area is a premier beach town with fantastic shopping and dining all within walking distance. July and August are bustling with events including the Fourth of July parade and fireworks and the famous Coast Guard Festival, July 26-August 4.

For travel information about the Grand Haven Area, explore VisitGrandHaven.com.

Clare County

Clare County is "Where the North Begins" in Michigan. Located in the center of the lower peninsula it makes a great destination to base your golfing vacations. *Firefly* is Clare County's oldest golf course and one of the most in demand in the area. Exacting greens, water on 13 holes and fairways built through gently rolling woodlands make *Firefly* a challenge whatever your handicap.

Snow Snake's beauty originates from the natural rolling terrain, tree lined

fairways carved out of a hardwood forest and undulating bent grass greens. Golf Digest rates it Four Stars in their "Places to Play." Here are more reasons to pack your clubs.

- Surrounded by an abundance of resources including numerous forests, sparkling lakes and rivers, and gently rolling farmland, which provide a panoramic scene of the area.
 - Downtown Clare boasts of extraordinary downtown shopping and friendly, hospitable community.
 - Many events and activities can be found to entertain.
 - Four top-level golf courses in Clare County and another 10 courses nearby, will provide a great golf vacation.
 - Golf packages can be found at several Clare County hotels. Accommodations include a range of options including a 1924, fourth generation family-owned historic hotel, lakefront lodging, and chain properties.
- Plan your next golf trip in Clare County, Michigan by visiting golf.clarecounty.com. Your golfing vacation is sure to be a memorable one!

Visit www.clarecounty.com to learn more.



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Marquette County

Recognized as the Best Small Town for Adventure by USA Today's 10 Best Reader's Poll, Marquette County is located in the heart of Michigan's Upper Peninsula. The largest city in the U.P. may be classified as a small town, but visitors find it the perfect blend of big city pleasures set amid a pristine wilderness.

Outdoor opportunities abound within minutes of any location. Nature lovers can be fishing, kayaking, hiking, geocaching, exploring waterfalls, or mountain biking only to end their adventure with a burger and award-winning microbrew or a top shelf martini and tenderloin.

Other local dining options feature fresh-caught whitefish, farm-to-table trends, and even a selection of locally roasted coffees or handcrafted cocktails.

While hibernating through winter doesn't happen in Marquette County, when spring is in the air, new opportunities for activities and adventures abound. Some highlights include:

- When the snow melts, their waterfalls are at their best. Hike to any of the 12 most popular falls for a natural rush. Call 800-544-4321 to request your free Marquette County Waterfall Map.
- Bring or rent a bike to ride along 47 miles of the Iron Ore Heritage Trail, a paved route that stretches throughout the county.
- Experience amazing vistas from the peaks of Sugarloaf, Hogback and Top-of-the-World mountains. Park and go from well-marked trailheads.

A variety of events fill the calendar with fun activities, great food and treasured memories. The Angry Bear Festival at the Ore Dock Brewery is a celebration of the thaw that takes over aptly named Spring Street on April 13, the new Way Up Music Festival is May 24-25, the family-friendly Marquette Trails Festival is the weekend of June 21-23 and Art Week kicks off on June 24, along with the Downtown Farmer's Market each Saturday at the Marquette Commons.

Strolling the streets of downtown Marquette, one can easily sense the rich history of this community built primarily on the development of the mining industry, with architectural reminders from subtle train truss benches to the enormous Ore Dock, along with the centurion businesses that are still operating. 🦋

Exploration in Marquette County comes in many forms, plan your adventure at TravelMarquetteMichigan.com.

Explore Clare County



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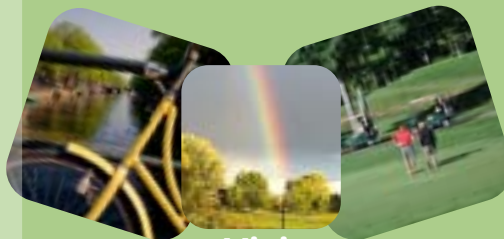
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Meandering Around Monroe County

Located on the Western shores of Lake Erie between Metro Detroit and Toledo, Monroe County Michigan is fast becoming a destination for travelers. Lured by its rural landscape and historic small town appeal, the county offers easy access to all of the near by attractions via two major highways.

One of the oldest counties in Michigan, Monroe Co. played a significant role of the War of 1812 conflict. The *River Raisin Battlefield* was the site of one of America's bloodiest defeats by Tecumseh's American Indian Confederation, and British and Canadian forces. The Site is one of four National Battlefields in America and is located in Monroe, Michigan. The *River Raisin Heritage Trail* connects the River Raisin Battlefield National Park to sprawling Sterling State Park. Visitors are drawn to the park's mile-long Lake Erie beach and back waterways filled with Lotus flowers in the late summer. The county is considered the *Lotus Capital of Michigan*.

The Huron River marks the northern border of the county and is a favorite for canoeing and kayaking. The river flows into lake Erie and passes through part of the *Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge* and *Pointe Mouille State Game Area*.



The Old Mill Museum.

The city of Monroe's downtown exhibits a great example of mid-19th century to early 20th century architecture. Shopping, restaurants and cafes are easily walkable and parking is free. The *Monroe County Historical Museum* features an extensive collection of artifacts from General George A. Custer, who made Monroe his home. The *River Raisin Jazz Festival* takes place the 2nd weekend of August and has featured world class artists such as Kenny G and Chuck Mangione.

The Village of Dundee features great eats, shopping and the *Old Mill Museum*, which offers ghost hunts and paranormal investigations. Dundee is also home to Michigan's first *Cabela's World Foremost Outdoor* store. The gigantic 225,000-sq.-ft. showroom is packed with outdoor equipment and experienced Outfitters who are ready to help you get the most out of your next adventure. It also has the world's largest wildlife bronze sculpture just outside it's front door.

Luna Pier has one of the hideouts for notorious depression era criminal *Pretty Boy Floyd*. It's beautiful beach, lighthouse and wonderful dining make it a great place for summer relaxing. It is a short distance from there to *Lambertville* for a camel ride at the *Indian Creek Zoo*. 🐪



HanGOut



Photo courtesy of Rock Ventures

Wander through The Belt, a repurposed, continuously evolving art-filled alley showcasing work from some of the finest local and world artists. Feast at funky food carts, move to live music, test your luck at a custom arcade and sip one-of-a-kind cocktails. It's just one reason Detroit needs to be on your itinerary. It's GO time.

It's **GO** time™
DETROIT



visit**detroit**.com

BY RENU SAGGAR



Tiptoe Through the Tulips Going Dutch in Holland Michigan

Recently named “The Prettiest Town in Michigan” by Architectural Digest, Holland is a Pure Michigan delight! Join us this spring as we “paint the town orange” (with tulips) in celebration of the 90th Anniversary of the Tulip Time Festival May 4 – 12, 2019.

Millions of tulips line the streets, burst forth in Holland Michigan’s city parks and growing fields, and surround our beloved 260 year-old working windmill, DeZwaan, the only original Dutch windmill in the US. Three parades, hundreds of costumed “klompen” dancers wearing wooden shoes, and headline entertainment round out the fun.

If you can’t make it for the festival, there is still plenty of springtime fun! Dutch attractions like Windmill Island Gardens, Veldheer Gardens & DeKlomp Wooden Shoe & Delft Factory, and Nelis’ Dutch Village, are all open until early fall.

The award-winning downtown, features cobblestone sidewalks, Victorian streetlights, bronze statues, and over 100 independently-owned shops, galleries, eateries and brew pubs comes live on Thursday evenings with street performers of all genres – musicians, magicians, mimes and aerial acrobats beginning in June.

Holland’s downtown-area Farmer’s Market boasts over 90 vendors on Wednesdays and Saturdays and features locally-sourced produce, flowers, meats, cheeses and breads.

If hiking is more your style, head to Mt Pisgah, a towering sand dune overlooking Lake Michigan, Lake Macatawa, and the famous “Big Red” Lighthouse. Climb the 237 steps to the top; on a clear day you

can see 14 miles across Lake Michigan’s blue waters. As the crow flies, Holland is 90 miles from Milwaukee, so you won’t see the other side! Or hike the beautiful wooded dunes at Sanctuary Woods.

Biking your thing? The greater Holland area has over 150 miles of paved bike paths, including a 20-mile ride between Holland State Park and Grand Haven State Park, our neighbor to the north. If you don’t want to bring your bike, you can rent regular or electric bikes after you arrive.

Be sure to stop by the Holland Area Visitors Bureau (open 7 days a week) in downtown Holland for your Handcrafted Passport, featuring breweries, distilleries, wineries and cideries in the greater Holland area. Fill your passport with stamps from participating establishments and you’ll receive a locally-made handcrafted bar blade.

For family fun, be sure to stop at BAM!, voted the Best Family Entertainment Center in West Michigan. Featuring two-story laser tag, monster bowling, escape rooms, arcade, and a high ropes course for the kids, plus a restaurant and brew pub for adults, there truly is something for everyone. Holland is also home to a world-class Aquatic Center with an Olympic-size pool, 150-foot water slide, a water playground with water cannons, and a spa for relaxing. With over 1,750 hotel rooms, you’re sure to find a room to fit your budget. For more info, visit www.holland.

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Battle Creek

Quality Inn
Quality Inn & Suites
Next to the Casino

Benton Harbor

Comfort Suites

Big Rapids

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Birch Run

Comfort Inn

Boyer Falls

Ascend

Canton

Comfort Suites

Charlotte

Comfort Inn

Chelsea

Comfort Inn

Coldwater

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Comfort Suites
Grand Rapids North

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Escanaba

Comfort Suites
Quality Inn

Farmington Hills

Comfort Inn

Flat Rock

Sleep Inn

Flint

Quality Inn
Quality Inn & Suites
Airport

Gaylord

Quality Inn

Grand Blanc

Comfort Inn

Grand Rapids

Clarion
Comfort Suites South
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Quality Inn University
Quality Suites

Livonia

Comfort Inn

Manistique

Comfort Inn

Marquette

Comfort Suites

Marshall

Comfort Inn

Midland

Sleep Inn

Milan

Sleep Inn & Suites

Monroe

Quality Inn

Mount Pleasant

Comfort Inn & Suites
and Conference Center

Muskegon

Ascend
Comfort Inn

New Buffalo
Comfort Inn

Newberry

Comfort Inn

Niles

Quality Inn & Suites

Okemos

Comfort Inn
Okemos - East Lansing

Paw Paw

Comfort Inn & Suites

Petoskey

Comfort Inn

Plainwell

Comfort Inn

Plymouth

Comfort Inn

Port Huron

Quality Inn & Suites
Comfort Inn

Romulus

Clarion Hotel Detroit
Metro Airport
Quality Inn & Suites
Comfort Inn
Metro Airport

Saginaw

Comfort Suites

Saint Ignace

Quality Inn
Quality Inn Lakefront

Sault Sainte Marie

Comfort Inn

South Haven

Comfort Suites

Southfield

Comfort Suites
Quality Inn

Southgate

Comfort Suites

Stevensville

Comfort Suites
Stevensville - St. Joseph

Taylor

Comfort Inn & Suites

Traverse City

Quality Inn By the Bay
Comfort Inn
Traverse City

Utica

Comfort Inn

Warren

Comfort Inn
Quality Inn

Waterford

Comfort Inn

West Branch

Quality Inn

Wixom

Comfort Suites

Advance reservations required. Advance Purchase rate offer only available online and cannot be combined with any other discount or offer. Subject to availability at participating hotels throughout Kansas. ©2016 Choice Hotels International. All rights reserved.



The 7th hole at Coyote Preserve.

BY RENU SAGGAR

spend a few exciting days in Flint & Genesee: Grab a Pro-Am ticket, a day-pass or weekend pass for the main event, or even get an all-access clubhouse pass. The hospitality and food options at this tournament will not be out matched by any professional golf event, so this is a must-see. More information is available at theallychallenge.com.

For the +1s and other non-golfers, Flint & Genesee offers an array of indoor and outdoor activities. For a taste of arts and culture, visit the *Flint Cultural Center*, home to the state's second-largest art museum, the nation's most technologically advanced planetarium, and the internationally recognized *Sloan Museum*. Those who like live performance can also catch a show at the beautiful, historic *Capitol Theatre*, which was originally built in 1928 and re-opened in 2017 after a \$32-million renovation. Those who like the outdoors can kayak up to 142 miles on the Flint River, or visit For-Mar Nature Preserve and Arboretum for hiking, birdwatching and more.

For more information, please visit www.flintandgenesee.org/golf.

The Whiting

Located on the Flint Cultural Center campus, The Whiting hosts the Flint Symphony Orchestra, performances presented by Flint Youth Theatre, and *The Whiting Presents* a series of Broadway hits, touring musical and dance groups and guest artists from around the world. The 2,043 seat theater combines the charm and grace of old European theaters with

Flint & Genesee County

Take a swing on one of golf's hidden gems

Michigan is a great state for a spring or summertime visit and a widely known destination for golf. However, golf in Flint & Genesee remains somewhat of a hidden treasure to many golf lovers, spectators and players alike who visit the region.

Those who like to spend a few days on the links have their choice of fourteen different courses all in or near Genesee County. Courses are easily accessible from our two major interstates and are only a few minutes' drive from the beautiful Bishop International Airport (which boasts the lowest average airfare in the state).

Golfers can easily put a fun-filled weekend together with over twenty-four unique lodging experiences, as well as dozens of fine dining offerings, craft beverage venues and vibrant nightlife options.

Some of our more notable courses include Captain's Club at Woodfield (Grand Blanc), Coyote Preserve Golf Club (Fenton), Fenton Farms Golf Club, and Sugarbush Club (Davison), each offering differing levels of difficulty. The Flint & Genesee Convention and Visitors Bureau is happy to assist golfers in putting together unique, discounted packages for any travel budget.

For those interested in taking in a professional golf event, Flint & Genesee is proud to once again be host to a major PGA event. Returning for its second year, *The Ally Challenge* presented by McLaren kicks off September 9th at Warwick Hills Country Club in Grand Blanc. During this PGA TOUR Champions event, spectators can see some of their favorite golf champions at reasonable rates for any budget! This family-friendly event provides free admission for all children 17 and under, as well as a concert experience. Come



The Capitol Theatre.



Fenton's Open Book



For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum



Ma Mang



Captain's Club at Woodfield

Championship Courses • Discount Golf Packages • Historic Attractions • Unique Festivals & Events



The Capitol Theatre



Historic Applewood Estate

GENESEE
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See what's possible at flintandgenesee.org

modern technology. On Thursday, April 25th, The Reduced Shakespeare Company presents *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare* at 7:30 p.m. This irreverent, fast-paced romp through the Bard's plays (abridged) was London's longest-running comedy and will leave you breathless and helpless with laughter.

They were just four guys from Jersey, until they sang their very first note. The Whiting presents *Jersey Boys*, the smash Tony Award-winning Broadway hit musical biography of the Four Seasons, on May 14th, at 7:30 p.m.

Capitol Theatre

The lights are back on in Flint's Capitol Theatre. Now operated by nonprofits The Whiting and Uptown Reinvestment Corp. it showcases live music, touring Broadway shows, ballet and modern dance, and award-winning family shows. This season's lineup includes *Black Violin*, April 26-27. Back in Flint by overwhelming demand, their unique blend of classical and hip-hop music, is often described as "classical boom," overcoming stereotypes and breaking down cultural barriers.

For tickets and more information on upcoming shows visit thewhiting.com.

Longway Planetarium

Fly through the solar system, investigate the mysteries of deep space, and even go 85 million years into the past. The all new Longway Planetarium has been radically updated with new seats, new dome, new 7.1 surround sound system, new cove lights and a new cutting edge projection system, the first of its kind in the United States.

Michigan's largest planetarium is located on the beautiful Flint Cultural Center campus. Visit Longway Planetarium to enjoy a variety of state-of-the-art shows on space and science topics. Beginning April 5, celebrate the 50th anniversary of the lunar landing with a spectacular new show called *Journey to Space*, showing daily at 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. Thursday, Friday & Saturday.

Journey to Space is the story of the ongoing legacy of humanity's mission to the Moon: future missions to Mars and beyond. Take a behind-the-scenes tour of the international effort to send astronauts to Mars within the next 20 years and experience a virtual voyage to the red planet.

Meet the next generation of machines

that will propel us to Mars—Orion, Olympus, and SLS rockets—the spacecraft, habitats, landers and vehicles necessary to achieve interplanetary travel, touchdown and colonization.

Journey To Space also pays a fitting tribute to the *Space Shuttle Program* and the 355 astronauts who flew on the 135 Shuttle missions. This historical chapter in the film describes how the Shuttle took many of the big steps that helped us understand how to live and operate in space. In fact, it's the lessons learned during those many steps that will enable the future missions covered in the film.

The film concludes with a fascinating, realistic scenario about how astronauts will actually get to Mars, live there for long duration and then return home after a two-and-a-half-year mission.

Mars will be the next chapter of space exploration. It's the next step in what will be an unending human odyssey to explore the cosmos. It is time to take the next great leap into space. It is time for our species, in the words of Carl Sagan, to "set sail across the cosmic ocean."

View the complete show schedule and plan your visit at Longway.org. 📅

LONGWAY PLANETARIUM

Visit Michigan's largest planetarium, located in the beautiful Flint Cultural Center



Longway Planetarium | 1310 E. Kearsley St. Flint, MI 48503 | 810-237-3400 | Longway.org

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IMPOSSIBLE

TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE

TO INTERVIEW • 2019



THE CAPITOL THEATRE


FRIDAY, APRIL 26 @ 8PM

SATURDAY, APRIL 27 @ 2PM



THE WHITING

THE CAPITOL THEATRE
140 EAST SECOND ST.
FLINT, MICHIGAN 48502

THEWHITING.COM   



Biking in Traverse City amid the cherry blossoms.

Going Green in Traverse City

Wherever you golf, it should be in a pretty great place. It's a place where the green is just half the story, and where the game only gets better after the 18th hole.

When you find yourself in Traverse City, Michigan, you'll find yourself in a pretty great place. Views from the 16th floor of a resort compete with 450-foot bluffs hovering Lake Michigan. It is a place where ancient glaciers left their mark in clear lakes and dramatic hills, today giving their 20 golf courses a natural, breathtaking setting. But then again, the finishing touches added by the modern powerhouses didn't hurt either. Jack Nicklaus, Arnold Palmer, Gary Player, Jerry Matthews and Tom Weiskopf all left traces on their respective stomping grounds.

On a single morning, you can finish a round, wander a magnificent beach and amble through the shops and stores of a friendly lakeside village. You could cast your line into one of America's most famous trout streams, paddle the shores of a forest lake, search for delectable morel mushrooms on the wooded hillsides, or just take a drive through the most gor-

geous display of spring wildflowers you'll see anywhere.

Shoppers love the shady, pedestrian-friendly downtown with its quirky boutiques, restaurants, coffee shops and galleries, and the *Grand Traverse Commons* — a former mental asylum — offers some shopping and dining adventures of its own. And when that summer sun finally goes down, there's still plenty to

do. Nightlife in Traverse City can be an evening of acoustic folk in a dim brewpub, pulsating electronic in a Union Street bistro, or some gaming fun in a local casino.

And for the record, they grow some pretty great cherries. Officially, they are the cherry capital of the world, but they're adding more to that resumé every day. That same land that's ideal for cherries is also a famous wine-producing region with nearly 40 wineries as well as a fast-growing hops and craft brew scene. And you won't go hungry, either. Traverse City's many restaurants have earned a national reputation for their fresh, innovative regional cuisine.

Black Star Farms Harvest Dinner on April 13th, serves creative farmstead cuisine. These monthly dinners are inspired by locally sourced ingredients, expertly paired with Black Star Farms wines. This month, hoop houses are featured.

Traverse City Uncorked in May, is a whole month of wine dinners, tastings, lodging discounts and events throughout the Traverse Wine Coast.

Sample local award-winning wines from 16 Leelanau Peninsula wineries, at the *Leland Wine & Food Festival*, June 8th. Taste specialties from local restaurants and vendors at the Leland Harbor venue.

Find yourself in a pretty great place at traversecity.com. 🍷


The 15th and 16th holes of The Bear golf course at Grand Traverse Resort.





TRAVERSE
city

FRESH MORNINGS + TOASTY NIGHTS



It's where everything just comes together. Where you'll find as many adventures as corner booths for savoring. And where every moment you're sure that you're in a pretty great place.

Park Place Hotel

The elegant downtown Park Place Hotel, is the only hotel and conference facility located in the heart of downtown Traverse City. It's just steps from downtown shops and restaurants, or an easy stroll to the bay and beach.

Traverse City's historic, full Service landmark hotel has come to occupy a prominent and cherished role in the area. Completed in 1930, the hotel's 10-story tower made it the tallest building in Traverse City.

Over the years, the Park Place has hosted luminaries from the world of entertainment, business, politics, and the arts. The gracious accommodations, memorable views, thoughtful amenities and comprehensive services make this a very special place.

Each of 140 tastefully decorated guest rooms and suites are carefully appointed and feature exceptionally comfortable beds. They offer lovely views of Boardman Lake and Grand Traverse Bay, coffee maker, mini refrigerator, microwave and complimentary Wi-Fi.

The Park Place Hotel & Conference Center also has a brand new Conference Center. It's a classically modern facility

customized to accommodate a variety of groups.

The newly-renovated Tower Rooms, blend contemporary design and amenities with a historic location, and a new indoor pool facility, complete with whirlpool, splash pad and fitness room.

Minervas Restaurant & Bar on the lobby level, offers upscale but comfortable atmosphere, and is open for breakfast, lunch and dinner with a full menu of steaks, chops, pasta, seafood and more.

Minervas also features happy hour food and drink specials.

The Beacon Lounge on the 10th floor provides a very memorable setting, overlooking Traverse City and Grand Traverse Bay and serves a full range of cocktails, appetizers, pizzas and desserts.

Come experience the Park Place Hotel and Conference Center, in beautiful Traverse City, Michigan!

Start planning your visit now by visiting www.park-place-hotel.com.



The Park Place Indoor Pool, Whirlpool and Splash Pad.

NEW CONFERENCE CENTER NOW OPEN!

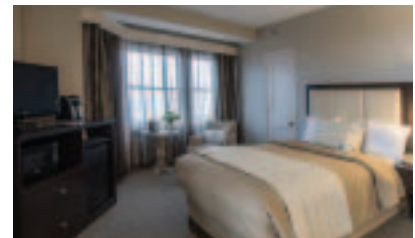


traverse city

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TRAVERSE CITY, MI | 800-748-0133 | PARK-PLACE-HOTEL.COM

Fripp Island Golf & Beach Resort

With two championship golf courses and 3 1/2 miles of uncrowded, unspoiled beaches, *Fripp Island Golf & Beach Resort* offers a vacation and golf experience you'll always remember.

The comfortable, well-equipped vacation rentals range from one to eight bedrooms, with a fine selection of quality rental homes and villas, ranging from oceanfront, to scenic and golf views. You'll fall in love with the hospitality, and quiet splendor of the South Carolina lowcountry.

Named one of the "100 Best Golf Resorts in North America" by *Links Magazine*, *Fripp Island Golf & Beach Resort* boasts two of the most spectacular golf courses in America. *Ocean Point*, designed by the renowned George Cobb, offers dramatic views of the Atlantic and the rare chance to play an authentic links-style course. This seaside masterpiece features beautifully manicured fairways and well-bunkered greens that place a premium on accurate iron play. Ocean breezes require careful club selection and both the front and back nine finish against a backdrop of the Atlantic Ocean.

Ocean Creek was golf great Davis Love III's first signature course.



Fripp Island's Ocean Point golf course at sunset.

Four distinct rolling dune lines and ridges climb as high as 15 feet as they corkscrew across the fairways, so you'll need to bring your "A" game.

Golfers can also take advantage of special *Stay & Play* golf packages, which include, nightly accommodations daily 18 holes of golf with cart at Ocean Creek or Ocean Point and complimentary range balls. See their website for more details.

Even if you don't golf, there is plenty to do. With eight fast-dry and two hard courts, tennis and pickleball are year round sports at Fripp as well. The *Nature and Activity Center* is run by knowledgeable staff, who can both entertain and educate you while exploring the island by bike, trail or kayak. As a Certified Wildlife Habitat and an Audubon Important Area, you'll find an abundance of wildlife here. Deer roam freely, dolphins frolic in the inlet, and Fripp Island is also home to over 100 species of birds.

Diners can enjoy lowcountry favorites like She Crab Soup or Shrimp & Grits at the Bonito Boathouse, while watching the sunset over the Marina and marsh.

Visit them online at frippislandresort.com. 🦞

Southern Hospitality at its finest. The weather's not bad either.



On South Carolina's most beautiful barrier island is a great family friendly spot for your summer vacation. With two championship golf courses, tennis, fishing, biking, swimming, Camp Fripp for kids, unspoiled beaches and more, Fripp Island will turn a weeklong vacation into memories that will last a lifetime.

855-256-1766 FrippIslandResort.com



MetLife Stadium in East Rutherford.

BY RENU SAGGAR

Newark

Newark has a lot to offer: New Jersey Devils hockey games and more at the Prudential Center, concerts and shows at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center and Newark International Airport, among America's 20 busiest airports.

Newark Penn Station is also just 20 minutes from Manhattan via PATH, NJ Transit or Amtrak trains. That makes Newark a viable lodging option for visitors to New York City. Downtown Newark hotels include the historic *Robert Treat*, which has hosted four U.S. presidents and the *Hilton at Newark Penn Station*.

A 10-minute walk from Newark Penn Station is *Newark Museum*. Collections include Ballantine House, an 1885 mansion, a room of paintings by Joseph Stella and impressive collections of Native American and African-American art. The Tibetan collection is revered as one of the world's finest and includes a Buddhist altar consecrated by the Dalai Lama himself.

Just steps from Newark Penn Station. *The Ironbound* exudes old world style. A picturesque place on the banks of the Passaic River, the district is renowned for its Portuguese, Spanish and Brazilian fare and the place to be seen once the sun sets.

The *GRAMMY Museum Experience* at Prudential Center allow guests to get hands-on learning, while also exploring what it takes to become a GRAMMY winner.

Learn about the many artists who put New Jersey music on the map, from Frank Sinatra and Whitney Houston, to Bruce Springsteen.

Play with fire at *GlassRoots* and learn the art of glassblowing.

Shoppers can check out *The Mills at Jersey Gardens* and stock up on their favorite designer brands. NJ's largest premium outlet mall has over 200 brands including Coach, Neiman Marcus, Brooks Brothers, and Saks Fifth Avenue.

With the majestic *Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart* as a backdrop *Branch Brook Park* is an American treasure! With over 5,300 cherry trees...that's 1000 more than Washington DC, but who's counting. It was designed by famed landscape architect Frederick Law Olmstead in 1900,

Crossing the Hudson to New Jersey

Things to see & do in the Garden State

Spring is eco-tourism season in New Jersey's Meadowlands. Birders and nature lovers can spot some of the more than 285 species that have been identified across the 8,400 acres of wetlands and riverbanks in 14 Bergen and Hudson County towns. Take a pontoon boat ride along the Hackensack River, while spotting a sharp shinned hawk and herons in the marsh. Even the mighty Bald Eagle can be spotted nesting along the way. Millions of birds will be migrating through the Meadowlands on the Atlantic Flyway this spring. You can also take a nature walk at the Meadowlands Environment Center and spend the night stargazing at the William D. McDowell Observatory.

As the fastest-growing museum in the nation, Liberty Science Center offers its own unique, quirky take on fun, with the aim of getting everyone excited about science and technology. Set near the Statue of Liberty in Jersey City's Liberty State Park, more than 700,000 people come to LSC each year to explore 12 exhibit galleries. Visitors can try hands-on laboratory science experiments, see massive aquarium tanks filled with fish, visit a mini zoo brimming with strange and exotic animals, and take a cosmic voyage in the Western Hemisphere's biggest planetarium.

The MetLife Stadium in East Rutherford, opened its doors in 2010, as the new home to the New York Jets and New York Giants. The facility also plays host to world-class concerts, college football, international soccer and events like WrestleMania 35 which is coming on April 7th. On June 13th and 17th the Rolling Stones bring their No Filter Tour to the stadium.

Medieval Times Dinner & Tournament in Lyndhurst is North America's most popular dinner attraction. Heroic knights on spirited steeds perform astounding feats of jousting and swordplay, while guests enjoy a "hands-on" feast.

The Meadowlands region is also evolving with a much anticipated and exciting addition, American Dream opens fall 2019. This new to market concept will showcase entertainment and retail as a destination experience with 450+ retailers, dining and amenities complemented by over 18 acres of indoor entertainment; Nickelodeon Universe, DreamWorks Water Park, Big Snow - North America's first indoor ski hill, a live Performing Arts Theater, 285 foot tall Observation Wheel, Sea Life Aquarium, a Lego Discovery Center and a NHL-size Ice Rink and much more.

Visit meadowlandslive.com for more information.



THE MEADOWLANDS IS FOR THE BIRDS



Visit the Meadowlands and explore our
21 parks, 8 miles of walking trails, and
285 species of birds



MLCVB received funding through a grant from the NJ Dept. of State Division of Travel and Tourism

Contact line: 877-MLCVB-US



meadowlandslive.com

who also designed NYC's Central Park. The park is also home to a large lake and "Monarch Meadow," a newly established butterfly garden. The annual Cherry Blossom Festival takes place April 4 to 14.

Military Park is home to some of New Jersey's most famous monuments and historical points of interest. "Wars of America" a monument created by Gutzon Borglum, the sculptor of Mount Rushmore, attracts visitors from near and far. Recently revitalized, the park now plays host to great concerts, farmers markets, a place for yoga and tai chi.

The *Dodge Poetry Festival* is the biggest of its kind in North America. It attracts an audience of 14,000-17,000, as well as prominent poets, including Nobel Laureates, state and US Poet Laureates and Pulitzer Prize winners.

Visit www.newarkhappening.com for more information.

Princeton & Mercer County

Some of the world's best minds have been visiting and meeting in Princeton, New Jersey for more than 200 years. Minds like F. Scott Fitzgerald, Albert Einstein and John F. Kennedy, and more recently Jeff Bezos and Michelle Obama. It's an idyl-

lic part of the world filled with history, leafy boulevards and historic buildings. The town is most famous for Princeton University, founded in 1746.

On Sundays visitors can enjoy a 1.9-mile, two-hour guided walk around beautiful downtown Princeton and the Princeton University campus. Learn about the region's historical significance, and the architectural history behind prominent buildings and landmarks. University Chapel's Collegiate Gothic architecture makes it one of the most beautiful buildings on campus. With twenty-six inch thick walls, Nassau Hall withstood two years of occupation during the Revolution by British and American troops.

While wandering the downtown's pleasant streets check out the local bookstores, boutiques, and galleries. Palmer Square boasts a unique collection of shopping and dining that is not to be missed. You'll find the best in apparel, shoes, jewelry, gifts and more.

A few blocks away *Morven Museum & Garden* was once the home of William Penn and five New Jersey governors. Today, Morven houses a collection of fine and decorative arts and a second floor exhibit space. There are five acres of

gardens, including a formal lawn dotted with majestic trees, beds of heirloom annuals from the 18th and 19th centuries.

Diners can choose from a variety of bistros, cafe's and restaurants like the Triumph Brewing Company, Alchemist & Barrister Restaurant & Pub, and Yankee Doodle Taproom, which has been serving patrons for more than 75 years. It's also home to Norman Rockwell's oldest and largest mural. And don't forget to sip away through the region's local award winning wineries.

Nature lovers will revel in the many beautiful parks and outdoor spaces throughout the region. Scenic *Mercer County Park* encompasses more than 2,500 acres that includes an athletic complex, golf, tennis courts, a Bark Park and Grandparents Grove, a secluded lakeside area. *Princeton Battlefield State Park* is the site of Washington's victory over British forces in 1777. *Grounds For Sculpture* is a 42-acre public sculpture garden located in Hamilton.

Golfers can tee off at half a dozen area courses that include Mountain View and Mercer Oaks Golf Club.

For information go to visitprinceton.org.

visit New Jersey



VISIT PRINCETON-MERCER

www.VisitPrinceton.org/Canada



dine

explore

play

meet



Photo: Davis Howarth for dmhphotographer



Photo: Zach Teris for dmhphotographer



New Jersey
visitprinceton.org

Under the Boardwalk in the Wildwoods

The Wildwoods, New Jersey is one of the best values for family vacations at the Jersey shore! Vacation your way in the Wildwoods with 160 special events annually, a Boardwalk with over 100 rides, attractions, shopping, arcades, games, over 300 eateries, an award-winning beach and a family-friendly atmosphere.



The Wildwood Boardwalk. Photo: Craig Terry.

The Wildwoods free beaches are the perfect spot for swimming and soaking up the sun. The beaches are ideal for surfing, boogie boarding, power boating, jet skiing, sailing, kayaking and paddle-boarding. You can even bring your pooch along to enjoy the designated dog-friendly beach on Poplar Avenue.

One of the liveliest two-mile stretches of fun and excitement on the East Coast, the Wildwoods Boardwalk offers a sensory overload of sights, sounds and smells, with amusement piers featuring world-class roller coasters, wet and wild Waterparks, carnival-style midway games, arcades and retail shops and eateries.

The historic yellow Tramcar, which began service in 1949, takes passengers along the two-mile long boardwalk, running from Cresse Avenue, to 16th Avenue in North Wildwood.

A fishing pier on the Intracoastal Waterway is a popular fishing spot, and there are beaches along Hereford Inlet in North Wildwood where fishing enthusiasts gather to surf fish. Crabbing is another beloved shore activity commonplace along the tidal marsh areas.

Take advantage of the Wildwoods 'Bike-ability.' Bike along the 12-mile round-trip bike path for a leisurely or athletic ride throughout the Wildwoods.

The Wildwoods events include The New Jersey State Bar-be-que Championships and Angelsea Blues Festival, Vintage

Antique Car and Motorcycle Beach Drag Races, Monster Truck Races, Parades, Ultimate Frisbee Championships, Beach Soccer and Lacrosse Tournaments, festivals, beach concerts, the Harlem Globetrotters, WWE Live, collectibles shows, craft shows, motorcycle rallies, classic car shows, free fireworks every Friday night in the summer, and free outdoor concerts four nights each week throughout the summer season.

The Wildwoods Shore Resort Historic District, or Doo Wop Motel District, is

home to over 200 motels, built during the 1950s and 1960s. While the term "Doo Wop" may be more familiar as a style of music, it was coined to describe the space-age, Sputnik-inspired architectural style of the 1950s, with bright colors and overhanging roofs also known as Googie or Populuxe style.

Whatever you're looking for in a family vacation, you'll find it right there in the Wildwoods!

For more information visit www.WildwoodsNJ.com. 📞



Chill or Thrill... Lazy or Crazy... Mild or Wild

In the Wildwoods, you can do as much, or as little, as you like so you can always have "Your Vacation, Your Way!" From FREE award-winning beaches and a world-famous boardwalk to great restaurants, amusements and shops, everything you could ever want in a family vacation is right here in the Wildwoods.

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WildwoodsNJ.com | 800.992.9732



You'll take Manhattan at the Holland Hotel

New York is the world's biggest stage and everyone is a part of the show. Dazzling neon lights and electronic signs twinkle in Times Square at 42nd and Seventh Avenue. Catch a performance at Carnegie Hall and give your regards to Broadway by taking in a hit play or musical.

The best time to be in the Big Apple is in the springtime when flowers begin to bloom in Central Park. Spanning more than 800 acres in the heart of Manhattan, Central Park is filled with rolling fields, walking trails and tranquil waterways.

The stretch of Fifth Avenue from 82nd to 105th Streets bordering Central Park



is known as the *Museum Mile*. Among the 150 museums is the Frank Lloyd Wright designed Guggenheim and the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

Best of all New York doesn't have to be expensive, especially, when there are comfortable, value-priced options like *Holland Hotel*. Located in Jersey City's Newport Center, it's seconds away from The Holland Tunnel and PATH trains, making access to New York City a breeze.

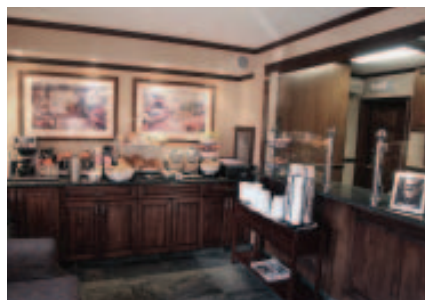
With 71 newly renovated rooms, the AAA Diamond rated property is an ideal destination for anyone visiting NYC, but who do not want to pay Manhattan prices. Amenities include cable TV, mini fridge,

microwave, alarm clock and electronic safe. Hop on the train or take a ferry to the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island.

Fifth Avenue from 50th to 59th Street is New York City's must-see shopping district with stores like Tiffany & Co. and attractions like Rockefeller Center and St. Patrick's Cathedral.

The Holland is also great for those who want to experience Jersey City, Hoboken and other fun destinations on the New Jersey side of the river. It's a 5-minute walk from Newport Centre Mall and a 7-minute drive to Liberty National Golf Course. It's also within minutes of Newark International Airport and the Cape Liberty Cruise Port.

The Holland goes out of its way to make each and every guest as comfortable and "at-home" as possible. Complimentary breakfast is served every morning and coffee, tea and hot chocolate are available free 24 hours a day in the lobby. Wi-Fi is free and so is parking. No matter what you want to do, the location is ideal and at a price that will leave more of your budget for your New York City adventures. 



A GREAT LOCATION AT AN EXCELLENT VALUE



The Holland Hotel is conveniently located at the entrance of the Holland Tunnel and a quick walk to the PATH trains, making it the most convenient and affordable option for your visit to New York City! Minutes away from Downtown NYC, Newark International Airport and Cape Liberty Cruise Port, the Holland Hotel features 71 newly renovated rooms and offers complimentary breakfast, free Wi-Fi and free parking for both cars and tour buses. Our friendly staff is ready to make your stay a comfortable and memorable one! Looking to catch a show at Prudential Center or watch a game at MetLife Stadium? The Holland Hotel's proximity to several entertainment and sporting venues gives our guests the ability to see it all!



The Holland Hotel



TheHollandHotel.com | 175 12th Street, Jersey City, New Jersey 07310 | (201) 963-6200

MENTION CROSSINGS MAGAZINE WHEN YOU BOOK DIRECT AT OUR HOTEL & RECEIVE A SPECIAL RATE

Newark
Happening



REVEALS IT

Newark is a happening place, just eight short miles from Manhattan. This thriving city offers first class entertainment, an array of dining options, and a thriving arts and sports scene. From the largest collection of cherry blossoms in the nation, to one of the country's highest grossing arenas, Newark provides access that is unparalleled to any destination on the East Coast.

NewarkHappening.com





BY RENU SAGGAR

Here you'll find Florida at its most natural, complete with graceful sand dunes, coastal scrub forest, pine hammocks, and an inland lake.

Visitors can take a shuttle over to nearby *Shell Island*. This 700-acre wildlife sanctuary is home to a number of wild bird species, including pelicans, sandpipers, and snowy plovers. Dazzling tropical fish, sea turtles and other aquatic life also call the area around Shell Island home. Legend has it that pirates once buried their booty on the island's *Spanish Shanty Point*. The abundant sea is one of the most densely populated bottle-nosed dolphins habitats in the world.

Divers can explore historic wrecks, including a 441-foot World War II ship, a coastal freighter, several tugboats and the Gulf of Mexico's most famous wreck, the 465-foot *Empire Mica*.

For panoramic views, take a ride on *Panhandle Helicopters*. Their popular Miracle Strip tour takes you along the beach, allowing you to see both city and county piers, over the Shipwreck Waterpark and all of the hotels and beach life in between. Dolphins, stingrays and sea turtles are common viewing on this tour so be sure to bring your video camera!

Explore multiple attractions, odd

Surf's up at Panama City Beach

Panama City Florida has been called "the best beach this side of paradise." Home to 27 miles of pristine beach the talcum-like sand is attributed to quartz crystals washing down from the Appalachian Mountains centuries ago. Along the way, the crystals were bleached, ground, smoothed and polished. The surf and tides of the Gulf of Mexico are responsible for depositing millions of grains of sugar-white sand on the shore.

This laid back slice of Florida's Gulf Coast is actually closer in distance and demeanor to Dixie, than to its flashy Florida siblings. Visitors will find more than 16,500 rooms, ranging from resorts, hotels, town homes, condos and villas, many at affordable rates.

St. Andrew's State Recreation Area is famous for its jade green waters and the park's 1,260-acres of sand dunes are fringed by woodlands on one side and the ocean on the other. It's a perennial

pick as one of Florida's Best Beaches by Dr. Stephen P. Leatherman, better known as Dr. Beach.



exhibits, and hands-on interactives at *Ripley's Panama City Beach*. The *Odditorium* is filled with shrunken heads, car-part sculptures, and an authentic vampire killing kit. Other attractions include the 7D Moving Theater, Impossible Laser and the Mirror Maze.

Away from the beach visitors will find unique family attractions. *Pier Park* is located in the heart of town across from City Pier. The largest shopping/dining/entertainment venue in Northwest Florida, it features a colorful mix of popular national chains and favorite local boutiques and eateries and something completely different — a collection of vintage rides from the now closed *Miracle Strip Amusement Park*. The recently launched *Décor By The Shore Trail*, boasts a vast selection of stores and shops specializing in coastal-themed antiques, furniture, gifts and accessories.

Known as the “Seafood Capital of the South,” Panama City Beach offers diners dozens of choices. Stop in for breakfast at *Andy's Flour Power Bakery and Cafe* for the best breakfasts in town. Choose from fluffy rolled omelets cooked to perfection, Belgian waffles, cheese grits, biscuits and gravy, a veggie frittata and eggs, any way you want them. Come back for lunch for

some New York deli-style sandwiches served on freshly baked bread. Every meal is made fresh using only the freshest ingredients.

Finn's Island Style Grub specializes in fish tacos, burritos, quesadillas, wraps and ceviche's, in funky, eclectic setting. Breakfast items are also available “most of the time,” according to the menu. Black beans and rice and fresh fruit smoothies are local favorites.

With sunsets overlooking Grand Lagoon, The *Grand Marlin* offers a tranquil, relaxed atmosphere, paired with the area's best selection of fresh seafood. The restaurant boasts the area's best-stocked, oyster bar where oysters, from Apalachicola and East Bay are shucked to order. Try one of their signature cocktails like a Blue Marlin Martini, or a Ginger Rum Cooler, while sitting back and enjoying the serenity of the lagoon.

Accommodations include *Palazzo Condominiums*, located on the west end of Panama City's dazzling white-sand beaches. Palazzo offers an impressive array of gulf-front amenities such as an elevated tropical gulf-front pool and spa, fitness facility, meeting space and covered parking. You'll be delighted by elegant,

comfortable and very spacious 1-, 2- and 3-bedroom units. Each unit has a fully equipped kitchen with granite countertops, 9-foot ceilings, washer/dryer and private balconies with endless gulf views.

WonderWorks is a four-story interactive fun lab housed in an eye-catching upside down building. The laws of nature and probability create some of the most mind boggling and head scratching challenges in the more than 100 exhibits.

The *Russell Fields Pier* extends more than 1,600 feet into the calm gulf waters. Located directly across the street from Pier Park, the city pier is known as a prime fishing spot.

Panama City Beach was named as one of America's top three golf towns by Golf Digest magazine. There are five, 18-hole championship golf courses, including *Signal Hill*, designed on powder white dunes and the *Nicklaus Course* at Bay Point, the only Nicklaus design in Northwest Florida. The *Hombre Golf Club*, offers three championship nines named the “The Good, The Bad & The Ugly,” with water on 21 of the 27 holes. 🏌️

Visit the official Panama City Beach Convention and Visitors Bureau www.visit-panamacitybeach.com.

Pier Park.





The Gemini VIII capsule.

BY RENU SAGGAR

Wapakoneta parties like it's 1969

Celebrate Apollo 11 in Neil Armstrong's hometown

On July 20, 1969, the world paused for a brief, shining moment. Apollo 11 had reached the moon. Neil Alden Armstrong, stepped out of the lunar module Eagle and set foot on the soft dust of the lunar surface and said the words we still quote today: "That's one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind."

This year marks the 50th Anniversary of those first steps onto the moon. This incredible event was celebrated not only in the United States, but around the world. The anniversary holds special meaning for the residents of Wapakoneta, Ohio because the man who took those steps called this community home.

An entire year of events and festivities has been planned in Wapakoneta and Auglaize County, Ohio to honor Neil Armstrong, Buzz Aldrin, and Michael Collins, and also the tens of thousands of men and women whose efforts made Apollo 11 successful. They've been celebrating the first steps on the moon for 49 years, and they'd love to have you join them in 2019 for the 50th anniversary celebration.

Throughout the spring and early summer there will be monthly stargazing events, special guest speakers and musical concerts. You will want to be

sure to check out the *Moon Menu Trail*, featuring a dozen eateries offering special lunar themed meals, sandwiches, snacks, treats and drinks. A truly delicious way to celebrate. Just log onto FirstOnTheMoon.org for the full calendar of events.

The major 10 day celebration will be focused on the actual 50th Anniversary of the launch and completion of the mission to the moon. Festivities from July 12th through July 21st, will include a hot air balloon rally, a huge 50th Anniversary "Homecoming" parade, Aeronca Champion flights at the Neil Armstrong Airport, visiting Astronaut presentations, the World's Largest Moon Pie, interactive science experiments, the "Run to the

Moon" 5K/10K race, rocket launches and the Summer Moon Festival. It's sure to be a blast!

When you visit Wapakoneta check out their lovely, historic downtown. It's brimming with unique shops and a wide variety of places to eat, grab a snack or a drink. It's a great place to stroll and enjoy the same friendly community that Neil Armstrong experienced as a boy. But the must-see attraction is, of course, the *Armstrong Air & Space Museum*. Opened only three years after the moon landing, on July 20, 1972, the museum takes visitors on a journey through aerospace history. There you can explore Armstrong's story and other Ohioan's achievements in the history of flight. The museum itself is designed to resemble a futuristic moon base and contains many authentic artifacts, including the Gemini VIII spacecraft, Neil Armstrong's Gemini and Apollo space-suits, and a lunar sample — the NASA term for a moon rock. The museum is also home to two full-size aircraft, including the *Aeronca Champion*, the very airplane in which Neil Armstrong learned to fly.

Enjoy interactive exhibits and simulators. Visitors can practice landing the lunar module and space shuttle, experience simulated zero gravity or dock the Gemini capsule, just as Armstrong did in 1966. The 56-foot dome in the center of the museum houses the *Astro Theater*, where guests can watch an informative movie. Simulators and the film are included with your admission to the Armstrong Air & Space Museum.

So get ready to party like it's 1969 and make plans to visit. Wapakoneta is easy to find, on I-75 at exit 111. 📍

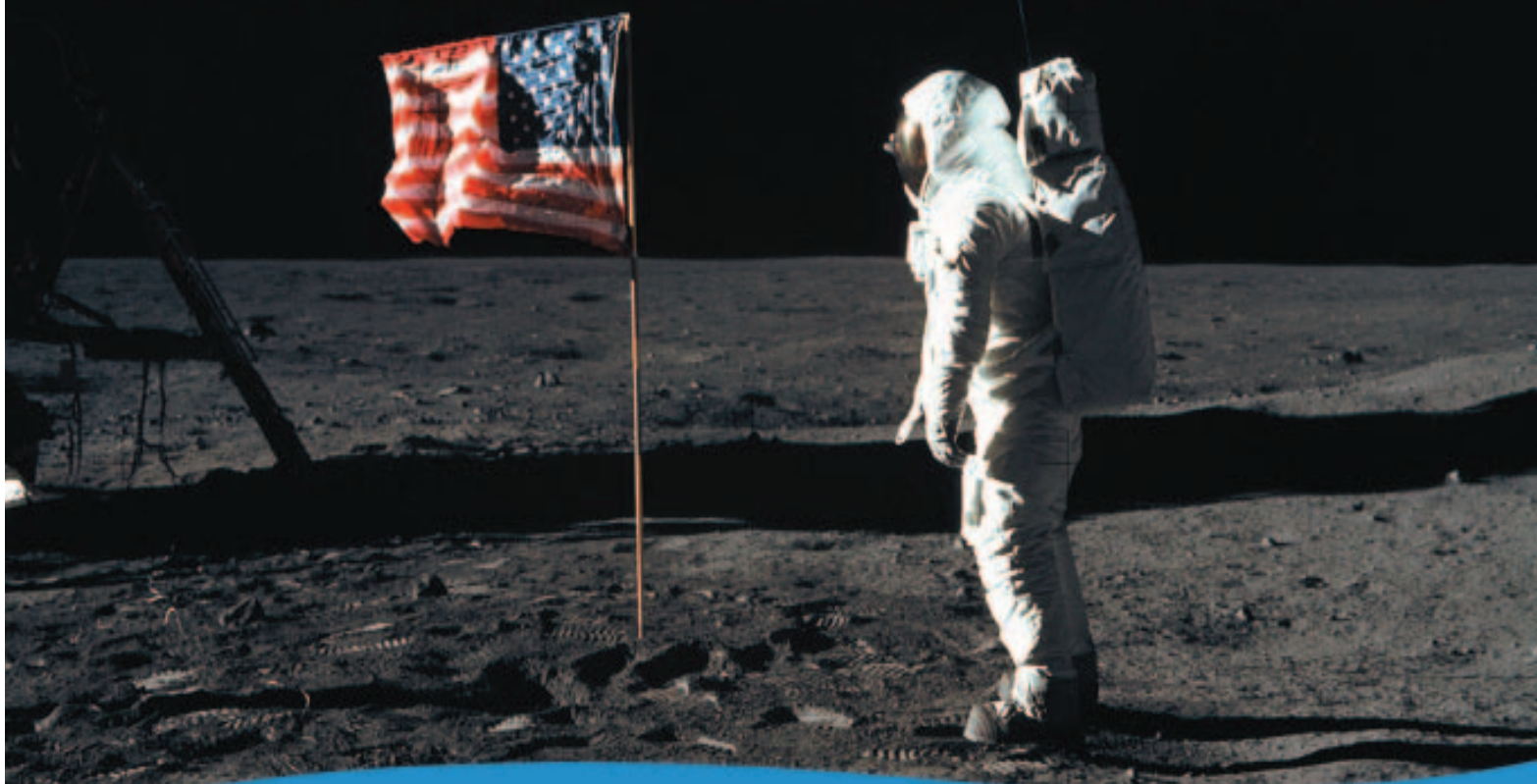
For complete celebration information check out www.FirstOnTheMoon.org.



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BY RENU SAGGAR Urban AirAffair in Logan Ohio, brings in hundreds of vintage Airstreams.

An Ohio Spring Adventure

Rich with tradition and history, Ohio offers today's travelers and vacationers a multitude of options. From its bustling metropolitan areas to its quaint country villages and scenic riverboat towns, Ohio boasts an abundance of activities in every region of the state. In fact, Ohio's diversity makes it ideal for every age and interest level. It is easily accessible with an extensive network of interstates and highways and very affordable for families.



Spain Creek Covered Bridge in Union County.

Hocking Hills

Vacations and stories go together like maple syrup and pancakes. Some vacation stories are funny, some are poignant, some are unbelievable and some just make our heart smile every time we remember our travels. Southeast Ohio's Hocking Hills provide the perfect backdrop for your vacation stories.

Located in the foothills of Appalachia, the Hocking Hills are Ohio's natural crown jewels. The terrain changes from

towering cliff faces, to deep ravines through sandstone caves, to forests with wildflower carpets. The unique topography makes for an awesome eco playground.

The Hocking Hills are best known for miles and miles of scenic hiking trails traversing prehistoric caves, sparkling waterfalls and cliff top vistas, but there is so much more. More than sixty ziplines make the Hocking Hills the *Canopy Tour Capital of the Midwest*, but that's just the beginning. Canoe or kayak the historic Hocking River. Rent a pontoon boat and cruise around Lake Logan. Take a horseback ride to an authentic cowboy cookout. Rock climbing and rappelling on a real cliff face is always better than a man-made indoor climbing wall. There's nothing like a good big fish story and there's plenty of great fishing in this playground.

Two thousand and nineteen is the 50th Anniversary of Apollo 11's successful moon landing. Ohio native Neil Armstrong spoke the words which expressed more than that

moment on July 20th. Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin were on the ultimate "vacation". The simple words "One small step for a man, one giant leap for mankind" will resonate forever with all who share even a small amount of wanderlust with the explorers of the last frontier.

This is also the first full year of the *John Glenn Astronomy Park*. Opened June 21, 2018, the newest addition to Ohio's most visited state park is attracting stargazers and explorers with weekend astronomy programs. The stargazing plaza is open every day and night, complete with Wifi and electric for even the most advanced telescopes. The Astronomy Park is located in a particularly dark night sky area of the Hocking Hills State Park, ideal for connecting with the heavens. Advance parking reservations are highly recommended on evenings when programs are offered. Visit jgap.org for more information.

From out of space travel to iconic earth-bound accommodations, the *UrbanAir® Astronomical Adventure* will roll into historic downtown Logan May 2 to 4. More than 100 iconic Airstream campers will line Main Street. Many Airstream owners welcome guests to tour their slice of Americana. Campers will be decked out in their favorite Astronomical décor while voters will select the best of the best. The mission of UrbanAir is to "Wake Up Downtown" and that they do!

Not only does Ohio's Hocking Hills region offer breathtaking scenery and unforgettable experiences, it also boasts a host of lodging options that are truly one-of-a-kind. New this year, is *The Box Hop*, a beautiful, comfortable oasis crafted from three 40-foot-long steel shipping containers. The structure is set on 18 lush acres and features a full kitchen, two bathrooms, and six-person hot tub among the other amenities. At the *Inn & Spa at Cedar Falls*, three fully-loaded high-end Mongolian yurts, complete with luxury amenities such as tiled showers and skylights, offer yet another option.

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Ohio Adventure

As you relax around the fire pit next to your cozy cabin tucked into the Hocking Hills, the stories of your day will linger in the evening air as the night sky fills with an unforgettable star show.

Find your next vacation stories in Ohio's Hocking Hills. Plan your Hocking Hills story at ExploreHockingHills.com.

Akron & Summit County

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 Perkins Stone Mansion, and Stan Hywet Hall & Gardens — the former estate of F.A. Seiberling, co-founder of The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company. The 65-room Tudor Revival Manor House, is the 6th largest historic home in America that is open to the public.

Visitors that need a break from the action 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. CVNP boasts 33,000 acres of unimaginably beautiful areas to play, rest and recharge.

Experience life in Ohio during the 19th-century at Hale Farm & Village. Operated by the Western Reserve Historical Society. See blacksmiths, candlestick makers and artisans at work in their respective dwellings, or visit with the farm animals.

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 like Don Drumm Studios & Gallery, Akron Glass Works, Mustard Seed Market & Café, or any of the myriad shops and boutiques scattered throughout our communities.

Check out NewAgainAkron.com — our new vintage/reclaimed shopping trail. 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. *The Summit Brew Path* features more than 20 official brewery stops in 2019 — 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 visit akron.travel, playeatshop.org or summitbrewpath.com.

Medina County

Offering small town atmosphere with big city flavor, stop in Medina County for a challenging round of golf, a stay in area hotels, or enjoy a dining experience at first-rate restaurants. Shop at unique retail shops, outlets and antique shops. Stop at *Root Candles*, known for their fragrances, specialty candles and accessories.

When visiting Medina County, be sure to make a stop

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at *Castle Noel*, a holiday entertainment complex with holiday window displays from NYC department stores, such as Bloomingdales, Saks, Lord & Taylor, Macy's and others. You will be amazed by the toys, photos, the Santa Squeeze, the Blizzard Vortex, a grand collection of props and costumes from Christmas movies including the Grinch's 16-foot sleigh, Will Ferrell's Elf costume, a sweater worn by Tim Allen, soldiers from the Santa Claus movies and so much more. End with a visit by Santa, then slide down the slide from "A Christmas Story". Open weekends March through November, and Tuesday to Sunday for the Christmas season. Alien Vacation Mini Golf, in the lower level, is in Freaky 3D. Nearby, take a spin at High Voltage Indoor Karting, an indoor electric go-cart track. Enjoy monthly rodeos, farms, Scene 75 Family Entertainment, exciting festivals, events and concerts. There is something for everyone. Summer brings family friendly festivals such as, Art-in-the-Park on Medina's historic Public Square, Wadsworth's Blue Tip Festival, Brunswick's Summer Celebration, the Frog Jump Festival in Valley City, the Largest Yard Sale in Seville, and the Medina County Fair, just to name a few.

Located just 35 miles south of Cleveland and 24 miles west of Akron, for information on upcoming events, visit medinacounty.com.

Choice Hotels Ohio

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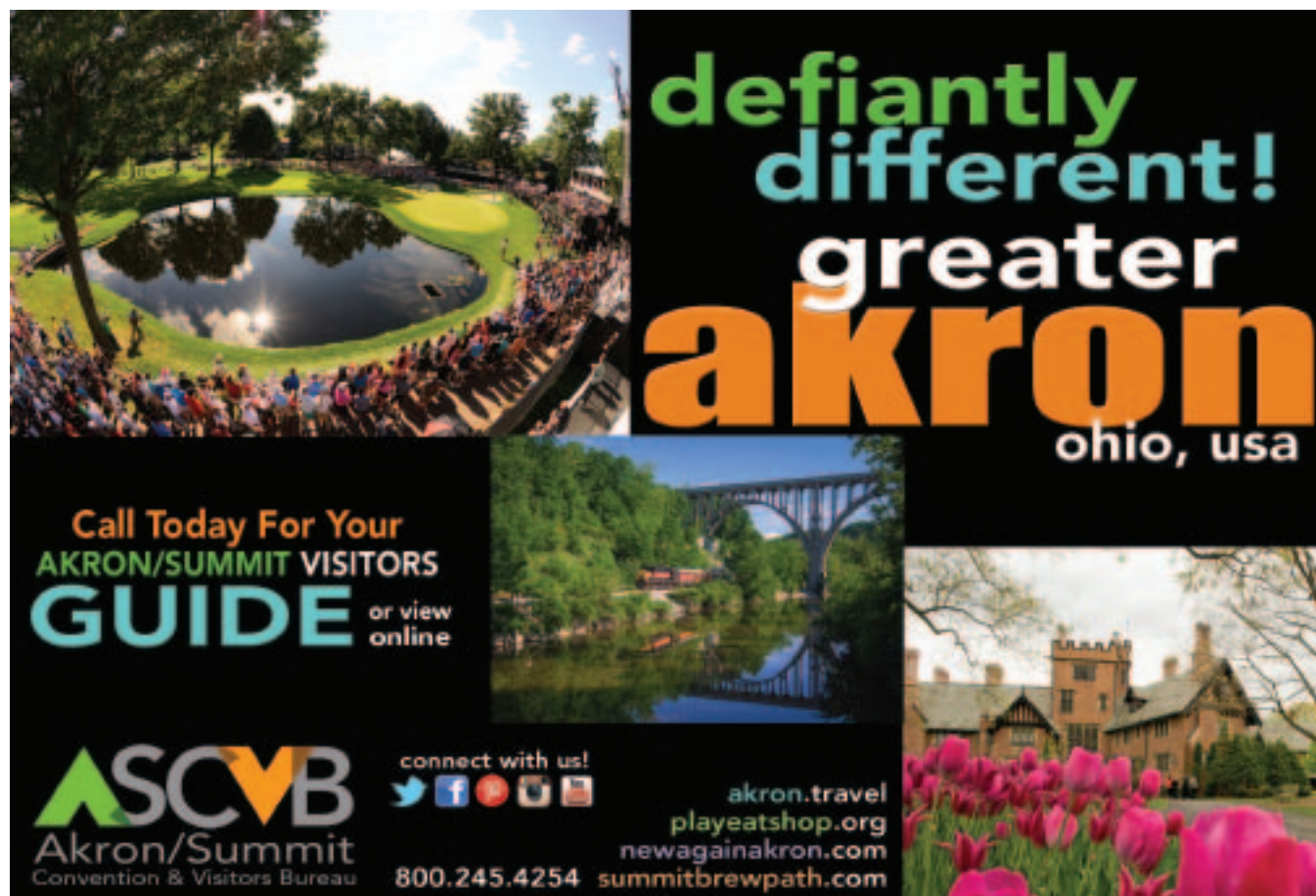
If upscale is more your style, visit Ascend® hotels for your one-of-a-kind experience in urban and resort locals. They're easy to find, and easy on your wallet.

Wayne County

Spend the day in Amish Country and the evening at the opera. Taste Wayne County's home-grown wine, or handcrafted beer. Watch inspirational messages being cut by laser. Drive through a beautiful arboretum, complete with a three-acre rose garden, and peruse over 350 varieties of jams and jellies.

Just in time for spring the counties making up Ohio's Amish Country announce the publication of a *Motorcycle Tour* brochure. This guide will take you on a turn-by-turn ride through the rural back roads of Amish Country, visiting charming towns and villages, unique attractions, amazing scenery and local places to grab a bite to eat.






The four counties included in this guide, Medina, Wayne, Holmes and Tuscarawas, each submitted two rides, one ap-



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Ohio Adventure

proximately 100 miles and one shorter version at 50 miles. A professional tour guide, who also rides, tested these routes ensuring that everyone will enjoy the journey. Some of the fun names given to these routes are the Wayne County Bottoms & Beyond, and the Tusky Twister.

They welcome you, your two, three, and four-wheeled friends and invite you to join us on the scenic back roads where you can unwind and enjoy life at a simpler pace.

You can download a free copy of the guide at www.wccvb.com, or contact the Wayne County Convention & Visitors Bureau to receive a copy of this brochure and the new 2019 Wayne County Visitors Guide. Listings in the guide include accommodations, including bed and breakfasts, restaurants specializing in local cuisine, unique shopping venues including locally made furniture, golf courses and local wildlife areas and the new 2019 Wayne County Calendar of Events.

The beautiful 88-acre Secrest Arboretum, is located on the campus of The Ohio State University. Well-known for

their breathtaking spring flowers, it boasts miles of well-manicured gardens and trails. Other area parks include a 13,000 year old kettle hole bog formed by glaciers and one of the few remaining old-growth forests in Ohio, with handicapped accessible boardwalks.

Visit the Wayne County Convention & Visitors Bureau online at www.wccvb.com for a complete list of area attraction and events.

Bowling Green

Located just off I-75, 25 miles south of Toledo, Bowling Green is the perfect stopover for Canadian Snowbirds on their way to, and from Florida, or any other destination. There is so much to do in Bowling Green, from the very first wind farm in the state, to museums, parks & trails, gardens, golf, bowling, theaters, art galleries, schoolhouses and a planetarium just to get you started! BG has variety of lodging properties located right off the highway, and a vibrant downtown full of shopping and dining just minutes away. Shoppers can browse a variety national and local retailers, while diners can choose from local favorite eateries and brew pubs, or familiar chain restaurants.

Simpson Garden Park is a 10-acre oasis with paths full of flower gardens, quiet

groves, and sensory, herb, Japanese, and children's Discovery Gardens.

Snook's Dream Cars is a 1940's style service station replica with cars and memorabilia from the 30's-60's.

The National Construction Equipment Museum documents the fascinating history of construction equipment with archival collections on site.

BG was named a Best Hometown by Ohio Magazine for the second time for the 2017-2018 year.

So stay with the best and see why BG is the best today.

Visit their website at VisitBGOHio.com for information about the events, sites and where to stay during your visit with us! #BGBestHometown!

Youngstown

Returning March 1st with all new charm designs for 2019, The Wines of the Valley Wine Trail invites you to travel around to six wineries in the Youngstown, Ohio area, and collect custom wine charms along the way.

Pick up a passport at any of the six participating wineries in the Youngstown area, purchase a glass of wine and receive a stamp in your passport, as well as a different charm at each winery. Collect



Unwind in part of the world's largest Amish community. We are home to Lehman's, P. Graham Dunn, The J.M. Smucker Company Store and Café, The Ohio Light Opera, Everything Rubbermaid, Downtown Wooster, Secrest Arboretum and more!



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at least five stamps and redeem your passport for a keepsake wine charm box, plus a bonus charm. The promotion runs through September 29, 2019. Visit www.winesofthevalley.com for more details, or to download your passport.

Two thousand and nineteen marks the 100th Anniversary of the world-renowned *Butler Institute of American Art*. Many special exhibits are planned throughout the year. A connoisseur's tour of the Butler's permanent collection begins with *Snap the Whip* by Winslow Homer, the centerpiece of the museum's 19th century holdings. Other important works on display include *Pennsylvania Coal Town*, a masterpiece by Edward Hopper, and an Andy Warhol portrait of baseball great Pete Rose.

Spend the day browsing through the museum's marbled galleries and let the masterpieces lead you through four centuries of work in all media.

Youngstown and Mahoning County is your Northeast Ohio golfing destination this spring. The area has been ranked #4 in the U.S. for top-quality, affordable public golf courses. Golfers of all skill levels will be challenged on scenic, well-maintained courses, where you can sharpen your game. No need to spend a fortune on a golf getaway, because local hotels offer very affordable golf packages.

Welcome Your Weekend in Mahoning. Mahoning County Convention & Visitors Bureau is happy to help. Please visit www.youngstownlive.com.

Fulton County

Rich in agriculture, yet close to the bustling metropolitan area of Toledo, there is something for everyone in Fulton County, Ohio. Fulton County communities include Wauseon (county seat), Archbold, Delta, Fayette, Lyons, Metamora, Pettisville, and Swanton.

You will be pleasantly surprised to see what Fulton County has to offer in the way of accommodations, shopping, dining, heritage sites, museums, entertainment and recreation venues. Take in one of their many events, including the Wauseon Strawberry Festival, the Antique Motorcycle Club of America Show and the Swanton Corn Festival, to name a few. For more information on these and many other events taking place in Fulton, visit them at visitfultoncountyoh.com

While visiting Fulton County make sure to stop by *Sauder Village*. A living history destination that transports guests through time from 1803 – 1920's. Experience life in Ohio while visiting with



Welcome the Weekend

The Butler Institute of American Art
Celebrating 100 Years of Great American Art
Cantabile by Stephen Knapp

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Challenging golf. Miles of trails.
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costumed guides in historic homes, farms, gardens and community shops. Since it is not a guided tour, take your time while experiencing life in the past! Participate in hands-on activities like making butter, milking a goat or playing old-fashioned games. It's fun for all ages! Open seasonally May through October, please visit their website for days, times and admission prices at saudervillage.org and start planning a memorable experience!

Just minutes from Sauder Village guests can enjoy a ride through the Lockport Covered Bridge, a relaxing walk through Goll Woods State Nature Preserve, a stroll through specialty and antique shops in small-town Archbold, and a visit to the Spangler Candy Company, to take a ride on the "Lolly Trolley" and learn how dum-dum suckers are made!

For more information visit www.fulton-countyoh.com.

Sandusky County

Americans love fishing and our natural areas and they also love outdoor festivals. One of the most unique festivals in Ohio is Fremont's Annual Fishing and Outdoor

Festival located in Fremont, Ohio.

This year's festival is on May 18th and once again, will include the "Hawg-Trough," a semi-truck sized stocked fish tank parked on Front Street stocked with multiple species of Ohio's game fish, multiple educational pieces on fishing, an archery trailer, electro-fishing boat, various other fishing boats, kayaks, all-terrain vehicles, campers, camping gear, kids activities, giveaways, food trucks, musical acts and much more!

Visitors coming to the area may also choose to participate in the many other activities and attractions Sandusky County and northern Ohio has to offer. "They call this area the vacation sweet spot," says David Thornbury, marketing specialist with the SCCVB. It's just a short drive from all the area's best attractions, plus the many wonderful hiking, biking and kayaking areas waiting to be explored.

The Fishing and Outdoor Festival came about because of a natural phenomenon that takes place in Northern Ohio, along the Sandusky River, in Fremont, Ohio. Starting usually in early March and lasting until mid-May, walleye and white bass, thousands upon thousands of them, spawn in the river and begin their journey

upstream to Lake Erie.

When this happens, the river banks fill with fishermen from all over the country. Many of them return year after year, making fishing the Sandusky River an annual generational event with their family and friends.

Other area experiences range from the mild to the wild! Start with a laid-back tour of the NKP Railroad Museum, or the remarkable Rutherford B. Hayes Presidential Museum. Then gear up for the adventure of a lifetime with an African Safari adventure, or try spelunking at Seneca Caverns. If you're the ultimate thrill seeker then look no further than Cedar Point amusement park, the roller coaster capital of the world!

Explore all Sandusky County has to offer. For more information visit them at www.sanduskycounty.org.

Gahanna

Whether your adventure begins with a canoe voyage down the Big Walnut Creek, in an Airstream-trailer-turned-coffee-shop, at the nation's highest rated Universally Designed home, or at Ohio's Best Blues & Jazz Festival ... Gahanna is home to great stories.



Plan a getaway the whole family will love!

Open Seasonally:
Historic Village:
Visit historic homes & shops with costumed interpreters, craftsmen, hands-on activities and special events. Open May 1 - Oct. 27, 2019.
Call 800.590.9755 for details and a brochure.

Open Year Round:
Stay at the Sauder Heritage Inn with indoor pool or Sauder Village Campground
Homestyle dining at the Barn Restaurant
Freshly baked treats at the Doughbox Bakery
Enjoy unique shopping

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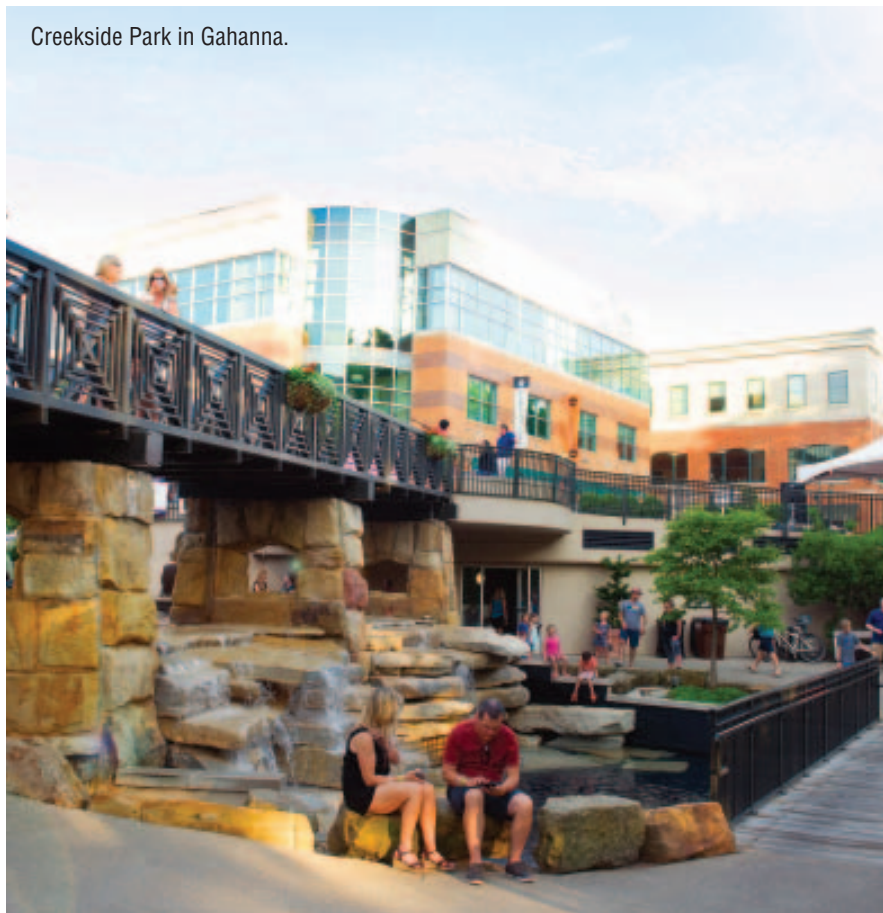
With a great location just 10-minutes from downtown Columbus and John Glenn Columbus International Airport, Gahanna offers a beautiful off-the-beaten path destination close to popular attractions like Columbus Zoo and Aquarium, COSI Columbus and Franklin Park Conservatory.

In Gahanna, you can meander down *The Story Trail*, or through 775 acres of parkland, idyllic outdoor havens and organic farms. Visit a leading incubator of food innovation. Sip a 240-year-old Limoncello recipe while touring Noble Cut distillery. Visit Wyandotte Winery—Central Ohio's oldest winery—and sample the unforgettable wine cakes!

Gahanna was declared the *Herb Capital of Ohio* by the state legislature in 1972, thanks to the efforts of local herb-enthusiast Jane “Bunnie” Geroux. In celebration of this “Thymely” distinction, the Gahanna Municipal Gardens were installed and later named the Geroux Herb Garden. Today, the breathtaking public gardens offer a quiet respite for visitors and wildlife alike.

Savor more flavors at signature restaurants and breweries that embrace the “Herb Capital of Ohio” status with

Creekside Park in Gahanna.



Adventure... so near, all year in Sandusky County!

Just 18 minutes from the Put-in-Bay Ferry!

Fremont, Ohio

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OHIO



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SANDUSKY COUNTY

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www.SanduskyCounty.org

Ohio Adventure

culinary creativity you won't find elsewhere. Visit the *Ohio Herb Center* to shop the unique gift store, or experience a workshop in Herbal Tea Blending, Thrifty Home Care, or Preserving the Harvest.

Grab your friends and some Herbal Cocktail Trail Passports and chart your adventure along one of Gahanna's most popular excursions ...enjoying unique herb-infused libations from 10 different restaurants, pubs and distilleries.

Families will love Buckeye Candy Company (filled with yummy, sweet treats), Lazer Kraze and Glow Putt Mini Golf. Experience a paddle boat ride in the Creekside District, or wade into a waterfall and feed the ducks at Creekside Park.

Visit a Botanical Beauty Bar, meet DIYers and shop among 5,000 herb plants during Herb Day (May 11). Listen to 50+ world-class bands/musicians perform over 3-days during the 21st annual *Creekside Blues & Jazz Festival* (June 14-16). Or shop Easton Town Center — the "Rodeo Drive of the Midwest." Sample and vote for creative pizza combinations during the "Pies in the Park" Celebration in October.

Gahanna hotels offer "Park and Ride" hotel getaway packages, making Gahanna both affordable and easily accessible. But it's the stories that set Gahanna apart from anywhere else.

Come discover yours. To learn more, go to: VisitGahanna.com.



Waynesville

Older than the state of Ohio, the village of Waynesville offers a fascinating combination of history and culture as it developed in southwestern Ohio. Waynesville is a wonderfully nostalgic trip into the past. Main Street features shops, galleries and boutiques housed mostly in meticulously restored buildings that date

back to the early 1800s. The past is always present, particularly in its quality antique shops where visitors find many genuine relics of the area's long and colorful history. Shops and eateries stay open late for *Wind Down Wednesdays*, March 27th, May 29th, July 31st, and September 25th. Visit www.waynesvilleohio.com/events.

Waynesville's *50th Annual Sauerkraut Festival* takes place October 12th and 13th. Voted best fall fair by Ohio Magazine, it's a weekend full of fun, charm, fabulous shopping, and fantastic food. The festival serves 7 tons of sauerkraut and attracts approximately 350,000 visitors each year to browse among the over 450 craft booths and sample the offerings from more than 30 different food booths. Sauerkraut is served in some very traditional and non-traditional ways, anything from sauerkraut German sundaes, sauerkraut pizza, cabbage rolls, and even sauerkraut brownies! Visitors and vendors come from every state in the nation to participate in the festival. www.sauerkrautfestival.com

Waynesville's *Second Saturday Street Faires* boast over forty booths where artisans create, display and sell their unique one-of-kind creations, from woodworking to fiber. There are live art demonstrations and an art contest, face painting, and local musical talent. Sample gourmet food-



Youngstown Wine Trail.

to-go from a variety of food trucks and local produce from the farmer's market. This year's dates are June 8th, July 13th, August 10th, and September 14th. Visit www.waynesvilleohio.com/events.

Visitors can catch a glimpse of how early area settlers lived at *Caesar Creek Pioneer Village*, near Waynesville. Located inside Caesar Creek State Park. It houses a variety of authentic circa 1795-1849 buildings, volunteers in period costume and a series of summertime festivals. The village gives visitors a in depth view of pioneer life. The park's Nature Center offers a wide range of programming, such as archery, fishing, nature hikes, and kayaking, as well as an up close experiences with native wildlife. Visit www.caesarcreekstatepark.com.

For more information and itinerary ideas visit waynesvilleshops.com.

Union County

Union County, Ohio, located just 20 miles from Columbus, offers diverse experiences that inspire and refresh.

Don't let the pastoral countryside fool you. Although Union County boasts more than 1,000 farms with a host of bountiful experiences, it's also home to some of the world's leading innovation companies.

Find inspiration at *The Honda Heritage*

Center, a state-of-the-art facility highlighting the successes of Honda Manufacturing of North America, one of the world's leading mobility companies.

See how six pounds of wood is transformed into a baseball bat at *Phoenix Bats*. The company has been making premium rock maple, yellow birch, and northern white ash bats for over 22 years. Pros prefer Phoenix Bats for their tremendous pop and power.

Grow your green thumb on a visit to the Scott's Miracle Grow Company Store, the location where it all started more than 150 years ago. Create an enviable garden with the help of the Leo Berbee Bulb Co. This family-owned business has been distributing millions of bulbs across the globe for more than 47 years. Among their esteemed customer list is the U.S. Botanic Garden, SeaWorld, The Pentagon, and the National Parks Service!

Technology and vision intertwine amid a landscape dotted with historic picturesque farms and covered bridges. There are seven covered bridges in the area including the Spain Creek Covered Ridge, built in the 1870s, and Buck Run Covered Bridge, Ohio's longest single-span wooden bridge.

Enjoy off-the-beaten path experiences,

farmer's markets, u-pick farms, barn sales filled with treasures, glacial hiking, delicious farm-to-table cuisine, quaint downtowns, wineries and the opportunity to dine on a covered bridge. Get ready to be transported to a time when life was more serene and the pace, slower. Rekindle inspiration and refresh in Union County! Let us help plan your escape today!

Go to: visitunioncountyohio.org.

Sidney/Shelby County

At first glance, Sidney, Ohio appears to be an ordinary, small mid-western town waiting to be discovered. To the contrary however, Sidney enjoys a rich and storied past, coupled with a wonderful array of today's experiences to entice every travel preference.

You can take a tour at one of the top 10 factory tours in America, visit historic sites, architectural points of interest, museums and so much more.

The Sidney and the Shelby County court square is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Points of interest include the majestic Shelby County Courthouse, considered to be one of the finest in the nation, the Peoples Federal Savings and Loan, designed by famed architect Louis Sullivan in 1917. The *Monumental Build-*

Waynesville...
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• Second Saturday Street Faires • Caesar's Creek State Park

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Ohio Adventure

ing was constructed as a tribute to Shelby County Ohio's fallen Civil War heroes.

Perhaps no other residence in west central Ohio captures the glamour and opulence of the 1890's more than *GreatStone Castle*. This magnificent bed and breakfast mansion, is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Nearby Jackson Center is the home of Airstream Inc., the world renowned recreational trailer manufacturer. Airstream is a popular stop for many who visit the area. The company conducts a daily tour that gives visitors the opportunity to view their manufacturing facility and see first-hand how the American legend Airstream is built.

For those who enjoy the great outdoors, Tawawa Park, located within the city, is a 220-acre wooded reserve where visitors can hike, bike, fish and picnic. Walking trails guide hikers along the park's winding creek and around its several lakes. The park's covered bridge has long been a favorite with photographers.

Lake Loramie State Park, to the north of the city, includes a 1600-acre lake with 30 miles of shoreline. It offers unsurpassed beauty and convenience for the family who wants to combine boating and camp-

ing adventures.

Shelby Oaks Golf Course, located north of Sidney, provides 27 holes to challenge players of all skill levels. A well-stocked pro shop and driving range make this a must-visit site for every golfer.

Vandemark Farm is great fun for all ages. Take a thrilling ride on the Night Hawk Zipline Adventure. Play a round of miniature golf, or sharpen your game on the driving range. Kids will love a visit to the Petting Zoo, and a ride on the giant swing.

For more information www.visitsidneyshelby.com.

Carroll County

Like flowers after the long winter, Carroll County blooms with the approach of spring. This rural community located in East Central Ohio, comes to life and the rolling hills and scenic vistas only become more beautiful.

Small-town charm is at a premium in both Carrollton and Minerva. The public square in Carrollton, is surrounded by small shops, including four antique stores that invite you to explore the past Wednesday through Saturday. You can purchase your favorite novelty candy and discover something new you just have to have at Ashton's 5- & 10-Cent Store. The Carroll County Arts Center showcases

local artists and offers a variety of classes every month.

Located at the top of the square in downtown Carrollton, the Civil War Museum is a memorial to Ohio's "Fighting McCooks." This historic house was the home to Major Daniel McCook, who with his nine sons, two brothers and five nephews, became known as the "Fighting McCooks"

Susie's Museum of Childhood is filled with a vast collection of playthings beloved by American children from the late 1700s to present day. Extensive displays of collectible Steiff stuffed animals, and dolls of every description.

The Algonquin Mill Complex features a pioneer village that includes an old-fashioned gristmill, a saw mill, two-story farmhouse, printshop, schoolhouse and much more.

Minerva invites you to explore its downtown during its *Discover Downtown* held the second Friday of each month. Stop in and try a hand-crafted beer at Sandy Springs Brewing Company.

Golfers are preparing their clubs for the first opportunity to hit the links at Carroll County's two golf courses. Carroll Meadows Golf Course, located in Carrollton, features 18 holes of premium watered fairways. Rolling hills and beautiful views

Think Spring...

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of cabin fever and let
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wash away the winter
blues with your first
taste of spring*



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characterize the Great Trail Golf Course's 27 holes in nearby Minerva.

If relaxing on the lake is more your idea of a great vacation, Atwood Lake has two public marinas you can use. Or visit Atwood Boats to rent a pontoon or fishing boat for the day. Atwood Lake Park also offers campgrounds and cabin rentals. A geocache trail is another way to check out the Atwood Lake area.

Nearby Leesville Lake is a fisherman's paradise, offering a variety of fish, including muskies.

Carroll County's hilly, curvy roads are ideal for a motorcycle tour. June 1, 2019 will be the 3rd Annual Best Dam Motorcycle Poker Run. It will depart from Atwood Lake Park and take the riders on a scenic ride to five different dams or levees.

You can also get a close look at alpacas at one of Carroll County's three alpaca farms — Coffee Pot Alpaca Farm, Natural Approach Farm Store and Alpaca Farm, and Lana Bella Alpaca Farm. All of the farms offer products made from alpaca fiber. Great Trail Farm re-introduced bison to Carroll County and visitors can see them during the Great Trail Festival.

Visit carrollcountyohio.com to plan your trip to Carroll County, Ohio. 



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2020 Volkswagen Passat

BY ADELINA IRVINE

leatherette and Nappa leather seating surfaces are available.

Power comes from Volkswagen's familiar 2.0-liter turbocharged and direct-injection TSI engine with 174 horsepower with 207 pound-feet of torque on most models. Power is translated to the front wheels via a six-speed Tiptronic automatic transmission.

Every Passat comes with standard App-Connect technology, which integrates compatible smartphones with Apple CarPlay, Android Auto and MirrorLink, making select apps accessible from the infotainment screen.

The new Passat offers a comprehensive suite of standard and available driver-assistance technology with standard Forward Collision Warning and Autonomous Emergency Braking (Front Assist), now with Pedestrian Monitoring, as well as Blind Spot Monitor and Rear Traffic Alert.

The 2020 Volkswagen Passat will be available in four regular trim levels and for those who want to stand out just a little bit more, there's the available R-Line trim. It features more aggressive front bumper, rear spoiler, rear diffuser, R-Line badges and 19-inch alloy wheels.

Passat will come with a 6-year or 72,000-mile (whichever occurs first), Best Bumper-to-Bumper Limited Warranty. It is expected to begin arriving at Volkswagen dealers this summer. *by*

Some automotive experts say the popularity of SUVs has rendered sedans all but obsolete. A few U.S. automakers have announced they would pare back or stop selling sedans altogether. At this year's Detroit Auto Show, Volkswagen went in the opposite direction — unveiling the 2020 Passat. A thorough update designed to make style, space and technology more accessible than ever to midsize sedan buyers, it's part of a very competitive field that includes the perennially popular Honda Accord and Toyota Camry.

It might surprise some people but the Volkswagen Passat has quietly grown into the world's best-selling midsize sedan, with more than 29 million sold. It's been overhauled to cater specifically to North American buyers, with more interior space a bolder design, upgraded technology and enhanced access to convenience and driver-assistance features.

The only midsize sedan to offer German driving dynamics at an affordable price will resonate with buyers, thanks to its combination of a roomy cabin and taut handling. With this new model, they've stepped up the style factor to make it even more attractive.

While the 2020 Passat retains the underpinnings of the previous model, it has been completely restyled. A dynamic

coupe-like roofline, dramatic "tornado" line and dominant grille gives the Passat a bold new look. Slim LED headlights and taillights are standard along with 17-inch aluminum-alloy wheels. To the casual observer it would be easy to mistake this Passat for one of its Audi cousins.

Inside, the Passat combines a sophisticated new design and upgraded technology with a spacious cabin. The cockpit features a more contemporary instrument panel with a 6.3-inch infotainment touchscreen. In addition to the standard cloth seats, Volkswagen's V-Tex





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BY RENU SAGGAR

The Ocean Medallion can be worn as a pendant or on your wrist.

Reaching for the Sky

Princess Celebrates 50 years in Alaska

With breathtaking coastal scenery and abundant marine life, an Alaska cruise gives you a front row seat to the wonders of nature. Princess Cruises' 2019 Alaska program offers a multitude of ways to experience the "Great Land," with more sailings that include Alaska's "must see" destination — Glacier Bay National Park.

This year, Princess is celebrating 50 years sailing to the Great Land with its largest deployment ever. Seven Princess Cruise ships will sail to Alaska, including the inaugural season of the 3,500-passenger Royal Princess, bringing the largest Princess ship ever to the region.

Guests who want to see more of Alaska, can choose from more than 23 cruise tour options while visiting another must-see, Denali National Park. Most offer Princess exclusive *Direct-to-the-Wilderness* rail service from the ship to the Denali region, plus the opportunity to explore Fairbanks and/or Anchorage. Guests at the Mt. McKinley Princess Wilderness

Lodge, will be spellbound by the personal stories of mountain climbers who have conquered Denali.

While on board, guests will encounter a variety of ways to engage in authentic experiences through the award-winning *North to Alaska* program, featuring *Cook My Catch*, an exclusive culinary program allowing guests to return from select Princess fishing excursions and have the chef prepare their very own catch of the day. The crowd-favorite *Puppies in the Piazza*, brings real Alaska sled dog puppies on board in Skagway to interact with guests.

Voyage of the Glaciers, Princess' most popular Gulf of Alaska itinerary, travels between Vancouver, B.C. and Whittier. In addition to UNESCO-listed Glacier Bay National Park, ships will call at either Hubbard Glacier or College Fjord.

Glacier Bay is home to 12 tidewater glaciers and from your vantage point on deck, you can watch icebergs being born. Mammoth slabs of ice "calve" off the face of a glacier and crash into the sea. Margerie Glacier at the end of the bay, is an ice age relic, 21-miles-long and 25 stories high.

Mother to a flotilla of icebergs Hubbard Glacier is an immense river of ice that flows into breathtaking Disenchantment Bay. Alaska's largest tidewater glacier looms nearly 400 feet over passing ships.

College Fjord appears as a collection of frozen rivers cascading down the mountainside. Discovered in 1899 by members of the Harriman Expedition, they named them after their Ivy League Alma maters and sister schools.



Princess is introducing the cruise industry's largest balconies at sea, onboard the new 3,660 guest *Sky Princess*, launching in October, 2019. Centrally located at the apex of the ship the Sky Suites feature two bedrooms, two bathrooms and a dining area with a skylight to the stars. They also offer 270-degree panoramas and have sleeping capacity for five guests — making them ideal for families.

Sky Princess, which will make her maiden voyage in the Mediterranean, will include the best of the stunning features found on sister ships — Royal Princess, Regal Princess and Majestic Princess — as well as new offerings that represent an evolution of the current ships' designs. With a total of 1539 staterooms, almost 80% of all outside cabins have private balconies. New for *Sky Princess* will be the addition of a *Wakeview* pool on its aft deck. *Sky Princess* guests will also enjoy two new deep-tank top deck pools, a restorative Retreat Pool, and more Jacuzzis than previous Royal-Class ships, including two Jacuzzis cantilevered over the deep-tank pools.

Meanwhile, *Sky Princess* will introduce more ways for guests to unwind, with its relaxing *Sanctuary* area offering a new

contemporary design and twice as many private cabanas as its sister ships.

The ship's *Vista Lounge* will sport a brand new look complete with a full bar. A new café in the Princess Live venue will serve barista-brewed coffee, artisanal tea and quick bites.

Diners can choose between the three main dining rooms: Allegro, Concerto and Symphony. The Horizon Court and Horizon Bistro offer casual buffet options, while guests can grab a burger from Trident Grill, or a slice at Prego Pizzeria. Indoors, Alfredo's features delicious calzones, salads and thin-crust pizza.

Princess Cruises is also introducing a dazzling array of new and enhanced dishes to its main dining room menus across the global fleet. Under the direction of Pierre-Marie LePrince, the new menus celebrate the cruise line's culinary heritage and renowned chef partnerships with Curtis Stone and Ernesto Uchimura.

Princess will expand its Medallion-Class™ experience to three additional ships this year, building on the enhanced personalized cruise experience guests enjoy on Caribbean Princess and Regal Princess.

The 3,600 passenger *Regal Princess* is

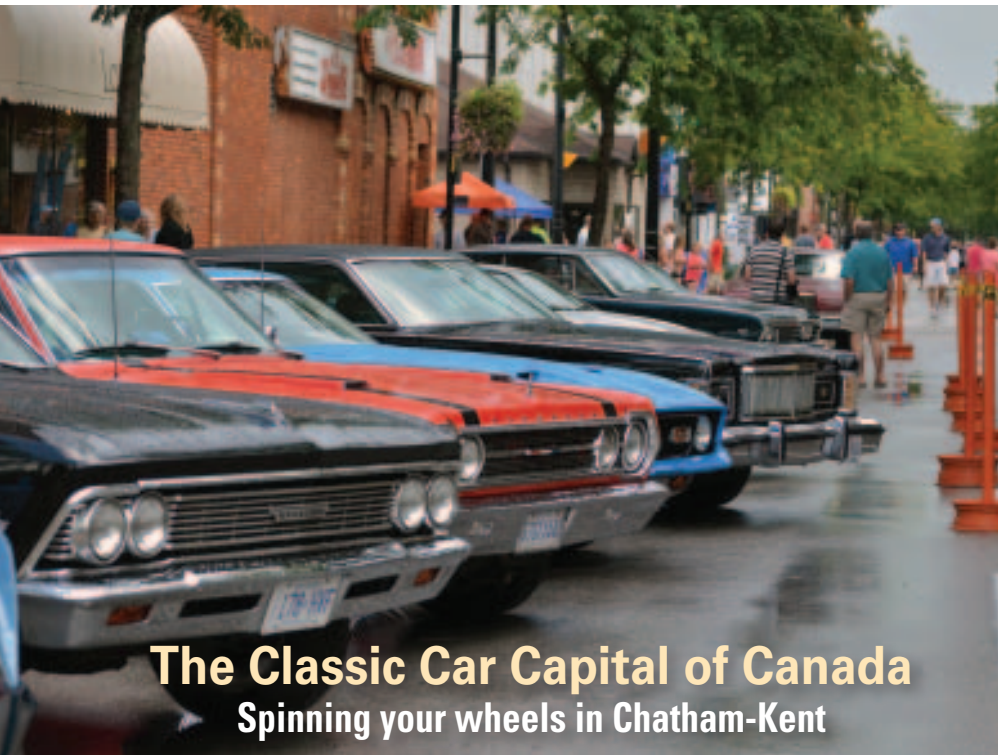
an intoxicating mix of classic Italian ambience, gourmet dining and stellar entertainment. Descend a pair of marble spiral staircases into the Piazza, a soaring, three-deck-high atrium that is a stunning seraglio of glass and gold. Staterooms are generous with a contemporary décor, ample storage, Egyptian cotton linens, pillow-top mattresses, and satellite TV.

One of the ship's most striking features is the *SeaWalk*, extending 28 feet over the starboard side on the top deck. Hovering 128 feet above the ocean, this dramatic glass-bottomed walkway offers unparalleled views.

The *Ocean Medallion* wearable device brings the Internet of Things to the high seas. The quarter-sized device offers streamlined port embarkation and disembarkation, and point-to-point navigation around the ship. Guests can also use it to order food and beverages; book shore excursions; and learn about destinations and activities at each port of call. There's no on-off switch, no charging, no menu to navigate. Guests won't have to push a button or take any action to reveal enhanced services and personalized experiences based on their preferences. 📱

Go right from the ship to the Alaska wilderness.





The Classic Car Capital of Canada

Spinning your wheels in Chatham-Kent

RetroFest is joining forces with R.M Sotheby's this year.

Chatham-Kent is often referred to as "The Classic Car Capitol of Canada." Their reputation continues to grow as the world's foremost collector car restorer/auctioneer RM Sotheby's, headquartered in Chatham-Kent, celebrates its 40th anniversary this year. A visit to RM's Classic Car Museum will also be on the starting blocks and is a definite "must-do", as it opens its doors to the public.

The *Chatham-Kent Museum*, displays a rare, 1919 Model 11 Gray-Dort Touring Car. In the early 1920's, Chatham-Kent was home to three Gray-Dort factories and a total of 26 thousand were manufactured before the company closed its doors. Today, less than 100 remain.

Visitors can also explore Canadian automotive history as well as Classic, Vintage and Custom cars at the many festivals and events that take place annually.

9th Blenheim Classics Auto Show — May 24-25 More than 100 classic and vintage vehicles and thousands of local car buffs will descend in downtown Blenheim.

RetroFest & RM Sotheby's 40th Anniversary — June 21-23 This year RetroFest joins forces with RM Sotheby's to enhance the event in this, RM's 40th year. The Friday evening parade and RetroFest show on Saturday will be the biggest yet. Incredible floats, celebrity judges and a collector show put on by RM Sotheby's

BY RENU SAGGAR

will gather some of the world's rarest cars, never before seen in Canada and unlikely to ever be seen again. Tecumseh Park in Chatham will host traditional family activities that guarantee fun for all ages. Other celebratory events are planned to coincide with the RM milestone anniversary celebration.

RM Sotheby's 40th Anniversary—Chatham — June 21-23 RM Sotheby's celebrates 40 years in Chatham-Kent. This massive celebration will feature a once-in-a-lifetime collector car display behind the Chatham-Kent Civic Centre, along with some of the rarest and most beautiful cars in the world. The Sam Roberts Band highlights Friday night entertainment in Tecumseh Park. A special show at the Chatham Capitol Theatre on Saturday night will benefit local charities.

The Thamesville Threshing Festival Car Show — June 21-22 This event boasts hundreds of antique cars, boats and tractors at the Car Show and Shine to be held Saturday June 22 in Ferguson Park. The parade Friday night at 6:30 p.m. kicks off the event and is among the largest in Southwestern Ontario.

Erieau Boulevard of Dreams — June 23 It's a feast for the eyes in Erieau, as the Erieau Boulevard of Dreams event features all makes and models, with entertainment

and food dotting the boulevard, right in the heart of the beach resort.


Wildwood by the Lake Car & Bike Show — Chatham — (June 23) This show along the water features a wide variety of makes, models and years, ranging from the classics to the brand new. This free show runs from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Mitchell's Bay 8th Annual Car, Truck, Tractor and Bike Show — July 20 Mitchell's Bay Park is the perfect venue for this family event. Along with a great selection of vintage vehicles, there is plenty of entertainment for the kids including a bouncy castle and face painting. The beach and splash pad are also available to cool off in the hot sun.

East Kent Vintage Equipment Show — Ridgetown — August 3-4 A show for all ages. Besides vintage equipment, families will find children's activities, live threshing, harvest and plowing demos. Highlights include vintage machinery demonstrations, along with vintage car displays and a tractor drive in the county.

Bothwell Optimist Old Autos Car Show & Flea Market — August 9-11 Enjoy two days of car show fun in Bothwell's Victoria Park beginning with an Automotive Swap Meet on Friday Night. On Saturday, enjoy one of Canada's largest displays of more than 1,200 vehicles. Families will also find food and entertainment galore.

WAMBO – Wallaceburg Antique Motor and Boat Outing — August 9-10 Wallaceburg plays host to Canada's largest and foremost antique transportation show featuring more than 500 displays of cars, fire trucks, boats, motorcycles and airplanes. The arrival of the boats of the Sydenham River is a sight not to be missed, while there are plenty of things for families to do, including activities, entertainment and a toy and model show.

Pride in R' Ride Annual Classic Hot Rod-Car/Truck Show—North Buxton — September 2 This event draws former residents who relocated to various parts of Canada and the United States for a homecoming to this community. Descendants of former slaves have made this weekend comparable to a pilgrimage, where memories are rekindled, ties and acquaintances are renewed. North Buxton host Parade at 12:30 p.m., followed by a Wood Sculpture unveiling. 

Check out all the exciting events that showcase the region and the history of classic cars at VisitCK.ca.

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Enjoy fine French cuisine at Fleur De Lis.

Outlets there are plenty of ‘I’ve got to have it!’ moments waiting for you.

Just minutes from the US border, Windsor Crossing Premium Outlets is conveniently located along Hwy 401 and only fifteen minutes from the Ambassador Bridge. They offer over 40 brand name outlets – think Coach, Tommy Hilfiger, Puma, Columbia —not to mention the exchange rate! The Coach Outlet store at Windsor Crossing is ah-mazing! It’s a hidden gem filled with the latest to hand bags, hip and trendy sunglasses and outer apparel for the both women and men.

There are so many choices for footwear outlets, including, Aldo, Newly expanded and renovated Tootsies, Puma and Roots, you’re sure to find the perfect shoe for any occasion.

Don’t be fooled by seasonal window displays. Like full-price retail stores, Windsor Crossing Premium Outlet stores house their merchandise with the deepest discounts at the back of the store. Now you know where to go to track down a true bargain.

While there don’t forget to visit Guest Services to receive coupons and tourist discounts.

For those bargain hunters living in southern Ontario there is no need to cross the border to find amazing deals — no passport required. It’s an easy excursion for visitors who want to get their dose of outlet deals and spend the day shopping. Visit windsorcrossing.com for more information.

Ontario’s Seasonal Delights

Southwestern Ontario is at it’s best when the grays of winter give way to the greens of spring. The landscape presents itself as a collage of changing colours. Intense blue skies soar overhead. The lakes and rivers do not merely mirror the sky, but effect Protean changes from shades of green, to turquoise, to impossible shades of blue. How can something so familiar be so fabulous?



Windsor Crossing Premium Outlets.

Windsor Crossing Premium Outlets

For those that love shopping and getting a great deal, a trip to Windsor Crossing Premium Outlets is perfect for you. All the brands you and your family love. Stock up on clothes, shoes, home décor and the latest trends with prices so low your friends will not believe you!

Seasoned shoppers know there is nothing better than a trip to the outlet mall. Where else can you access so many incredible deals all in the same spot? Fortunately, retail enthusiasts don’t need to go far to snag a bargain. At Windsor Crossing Premium



A La Mode.






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A La Mode

It's all about the fashion at A La Mode, making the shopping experience comfortable, personable and affordable. They can dress you from head to toe with accessories like handbags, shoes, jewelry, scarves, hats and more!

A La Mode carries a wide variety of styles taking you from day casual to evening chic!

New this season is B. Young an off spring of Cream from Denmark. Designed for your working women, it focuses on sharp design and carefully balanced colors. Their garments are for the women who want stylish modern clothes at very reasonable prices. B. Young is all about the creation of feminine fashion energy. You can express your own personality through new and fresh styles all year around.



A La Mode.

Casual elegant, *Grande Madame* is a plus size collection designed in Paris France and made in Canada with dramatic silhouettes, this collection is simply effortless. It's for the fashion forward women who loves to stand out in a crowd. Jackets, blazers, skirts, bright colors, great styles – you will find your own personal style with Grande Madame.

All the way from Netherlands, Sandwich is exclusively at A La Mode in Windsor Essex County. Sandwich clothes are designed with real women in mind. Their philosophy is that every piece should be easy to coordinate with the rest of the collection. The colors and prints are matched with each other not only with the current collection but also match previous seasons.

Make an appointment with A La Mode's professional staff, who can help you mix, match and coordinate your pieces. Sandwich uses quality materials which not only looks good but also feels lovely to wear.

A La Mode is located at 52 Richmond St. in Amherstburg. They also have a second location at 3869 Dougall Ave. in Windsor. Alterations are done on site at the Amherstburg location.

Visit their website at www.alamodefashions.ca.

Enzo's Trattoria

With over 20 years experience in the world of gastronomy, Enzo's passion and commitment to excellence is exemplified in every dish he presents. A member of the Canadian Culinary Federation, Enzo serves authentic Italian food in Windsor's Little Italy with exceptional service.



Enzo's Trattoria.

"My restaurant thrives on using the freshest of products from local suppliers," says Enzo, who is also well-known for his previously owned Tutto Ristorante and Mancuso's Trattoria.

Enzo's is just right for casual, family dining. Made from scratch, hearty and delicious Italian cuisine served in a warm

inviting atmosphere. Signature dishes include *Sacchetti* — Black truffle and cheese filled pasta purses tossed in a cream sauce and *Vitello Alla Parmigiana* — Breaded veal scallopine topped off with a tomato sauce and mozzarella cheese. *Salsiccia Alla Calabrese* — Homemade Italian sausage with peppers, onions and mushrooms in a mildly spicy tomato sauce is another favorite. Don't miss out on vodka blush sauce pasta with prosciutto.

Enzo's Taste of Little Italy menu consists of an appetizer, an entrée and dessert for the low cost of \$28 per person plus taxes.

Whether you try the Chef's Special, or order off the menu, there is a taste of Italy on every plate.

Enzo's is the perfect place to host an event, for date night or a night out with friends! A family-friendly restaurant is located in the heart of Little Italy. A 42-person patio that opens up during the summer so you can enjoy *al fresco* dining.

Visit them at Enzos.ca to view their full menu, business hours and to book that special reservation!

Fleur De Lis

Chef Mathew Johnson's dream about having a French fusion restaurant on the riverfront is no longer a dream because "Fleur De Lis" is now a reality.



Fleur De Lis.

Amherstburg's premium casual dining now has an elegant option. Fleur De Lis is a unique dining experience on Saturdays, or any other day of the week by request. The very exclusive and intimate setting is perfect for that special occasion, private parties, or groups of 30 or more. Elaborately choreographed service, the depth of the wine cellar and sumptuous surroundings — these are the elements that distinguish a meal from a culinary event.

Fleur De Lis the result of the tireless efforts by owner Mathew Johnson, well-known as the owner/chef at Artisan Grill, Amherstburg's premium casual restaurant. His passion for food is no secret to food lovers, who have enjoyed many wonderful dining experiences there.

Fleur De Lis is a cozy and comfortable place with memorable décor complimented by vintage chandeliers and purple fabric accents, all in a contemporary European setting. A white piano plays softly in the background. Chef Matthew practices his craft in an open demonstration kitchen, putting new twists on classic French cuisine like French Onion Soup, Escargot and Lobster Thermador. The upscale ambience and sophisticated French fusion cuisine are presented in five courses at reasonable prices in an elegant, romantic atmosphere.

This is not just another restaurant. With classic French service Fleur De Lis is destined to become an important culinary destination. Make sure you call ahead for reservations. It will soon become a favourite with food lovers.

Visit them online at artisangrill.ca for their full menu for Fleur de Lis and Artisan Grill.

Mezzo Ristorante & Lounge

The not-to-be-missed dining experience at *Mezzo Ristorante & Lounge* goes far beyond the innovative, award-winning cuisine. A cool blend of a contemporary, eclectic atmosphere, extensive wine list, specialty cocktails and live entertainment, are the ingredients for one of Windsor's most appealing destinations.



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Joseph Ribkoff

Overlooking Via Italia, in the heart of Windsor's Little Italy, Mezzo offers both indoor and patio dining — perfect for corporate functions, date night, girls night out, weddings, private parties and fashion shows. Mezzo is also popular with the business community for lunch meetings, cocktails or quiet dinners. Whatever the occasion, Filip Rocca, their extraordinary chefs and friendly staff all cater to every patron's every need.



Mezzo.

Designed by their master chef to delight the eye and the palette, allow to immerse yourself and tempt your taste buds with their new menu items: Beef Tips – pepper encrusted beef tips on a bed of smoky mustard caramelized onions topped with fortina cheese, Potato Leek Soup – finished with roasted garlic and topped with fried potatoes, Beet Salad – with mixed greens, kale, diced peppers and onions with citrus dressing and topped with goat cheese. Lamb Shank Pasta-tossed with braised lamb in a roasted tomato sauce topped with goat cheese. Put a sweet finishing touch to your meal and experience their desserts which are individually designed just for you!! – Mezzo provides a delicious start to an evening of entertainment. Discover authentic Italian cuisine in the heart of Via Italia!

Visit them online for their menu and upcoming events at Mezzo.ca.

Teacups & Crowns

Take time out of your busy day for a cup of tea or cappuccino and explore the finer things in life. Teacups & Crowns is beautifully decorated with fresh cut flowers, unique curios and colorful décor. They carry a fine selection of jewelry, shawls, scarfs, handbag for any occasion, high-quality women's clothing and unique gifts for that special someone! Candles, cups and mugs and tea accessories from all over the world will delight aficionados of all kinds. Perfect for that friends or family afternoon out! Located at 591 Erie Street East, Windsor, customers are



Teacups & Crowns.

invited to select their own fine china teacup to use while sipping their favorite beverage. Choose from selection of loose leaf teas from Metropolitan Tea. Metropolitan uses only the highest quality leaves from Kenya, Ethiopia and India. These are delicious, ethically produced teas and not available on supermarket shelves. Accompaniments include home made scones with clotted cream and preserves, macaroons, chocolate swirl bundt cake and fresh pastries.

It's a very unique experience which you can't match anywhere in Southwestern Ontario! Sit, relax, have a cup of tea, then browse the gorgeous selection of high-end accessories and floral arrangements. It's a visit that you'll remember for a very long time to come.

Visit them at www.facebook.com/teacupsandcrowns. 



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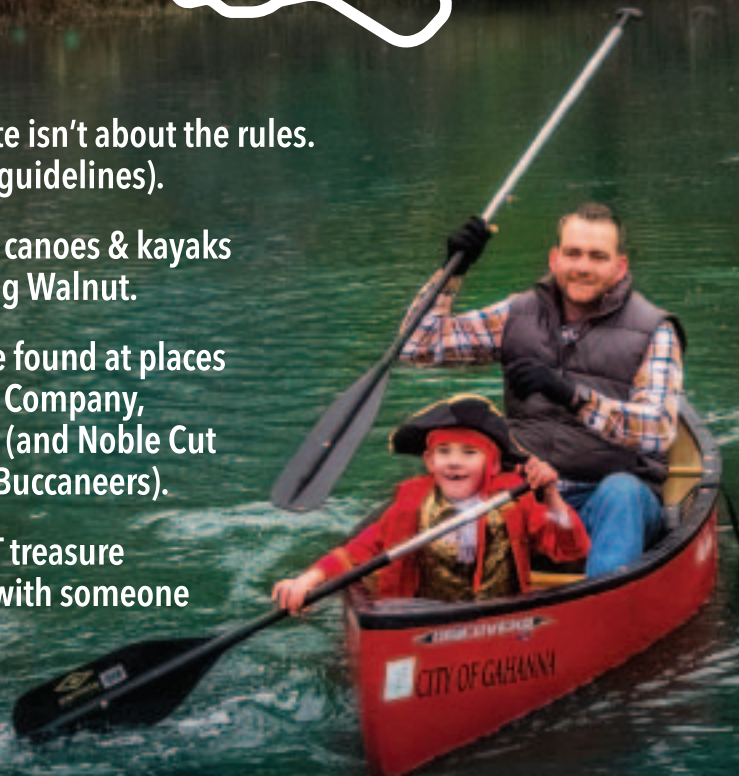


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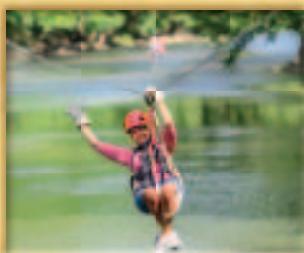
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