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Spice Things

Add zest to your next vacation and explore Flint & Genesee County, Michigan. Invigorate your palette with unique craft food and beverages available across the county. Enliven your other senses with vibrant murals sprinkled throughout Flint or an electrifying performance at a historic venue or outdoor music festival.

**Explore the spice of life
in Flint & Genesee.**



Up



EXPLORE
FLINT & GENESEE

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Sloan Museum of Discovery in Flint, Michigan opens to the Public July 16, 2022 as a world-class, full interactive museum of science, history and hands-on learning for the community.

Cover: Southwest Michigan





FLINT INSTITUTE OF MUSIC
FLINT SCHOOL OF PERFORMING ARTS
FLINT SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA



FLINT'S PERFORMING ARTS DESTINATION

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FLINT INSTITUTE OF MUSIC





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Crossings

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BY RENU SAGGAR

to enjoy nature and get some exercise and Flint & Genesee offer several beautiful and scenic trails, including Creasey Bicentennial Park Trail (Grand Blanc), Black Creek Trail (Davison Township), Genesee Valley Trail (Flint Township), Flint River Trail (Flint), Riverview Trail (Flushing) and the George Atkin Jr. Recreational Trail (Clio).

Kayaking and canoeing are great ways to explore the region's rivers and lakes. The Flint River is accessible from a variety of locations in the middle of Genesee County, including Flushing, Davison and Flint. In Flint, paddlers can rent kayaks and canoes from *Kayak Flint* located by Tenacity Brewing in downtown. There are more than 11,000 acres of parks and recreational space in Genesee County, from For-Mar Nature Preserve & Arboretum in Burton to Holloway Reservoir Regional Park in Davison.

Visitors might also consider unplugging and breathing in the fresh air at a campground or RV park in Genesee County. From a pop-up tent to RV, camping gives you the opportunity to relax, soak up the sun and connect with nature. Area campgrounds offer affordable family fun such as hiking, swimming, playgrounds and more. Affordable nightly, weekly and monthly rates are available for non-lakefront and lakefront sites with electric and water.

Flint & Genesee is home to number of apple orchards and is a treat in itself. The farm store at *Almar Orchards* (Flushing) is open year-round and hard cider tastings are always available. *Spicer's Orchard* (Fenton) offers wine tasting and cider sampling, and pick-your-own fruits like blueberries and strawberries. *Porter's Orchard* (Goodrich) offers a play area for children, a petting zoo and serves up Apple Cider slushies to cool the summer heat.

For a taste of arts and culture, visit the *Flint Cultural Center*, home to the state's second-largest art museum and the nation's most technologically advanced planetarium. Make sure to catch a live performance at Flint's historic *Capitol Theatre*, originally built in 1928 and re-opened in 2017 after a \$32-million renovation.

For more information, please visit www.exploreflintandgenesee.org. 📍

Golfers will be in Flint this Spring

Michigan is a great state for a spring or summertime visit and a popular golf destination. However, golf in Flint & Genesee County remains somewhat of a hidden treasure to the many golfers who visit the region.

Those who like to spend time on the links will have their choice of 20 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.

Golfers can easily put a fun-filled weekend together with over 24 unique lodging experiences, as well as dozens of fine dining options, craft beverage venues and a vibrant nightlife.

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 different levels of challenges. *Explore Flint & Genesee* – the region's Convention and Visitors' Bureau – is happy to assist golfers in putting together unique, discounted packages for any travel budget.

Flint & Genesee is proud to host a major PGA event. The *Ally Challenge* presented by McLaren, returns Aug. 22-28 at *Warwick Hills Country Club* in Grand Blanc.



During this PGA TOUR Champions event, spectators can see some of their favorite golf legends at rates that fits any budget. The family-friendly event provides free admission for all children 17 and under, as well as a concert experience. Grab a Pro-Am ticket, a day-pass or weekend pass for the main event or splurge on an all-access clubhouse pass. The hospitality and food options are unmatched by any other stop on the PGA Tour. More information is available at theallychallenge.com.

For the +1s and other non-golfers, Flint & Genesee offers an array of outdoor and indoor activities. Bicycling is a great way

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The restored Capitol Theatre in Flint

The Flint Institute of Music

Performing Arts are vibrant in Genesee County

Broadway shows. World-premiere plays. National touring concerts. A world-class symphony orchestra. Dance performances by – and for – all ages. You can experience all of this in downtown Flint, the heart of Genesee County.

The arts and culture scene is alive and well in Flint. One of the driving organizations is the *Flint Institute of Music*.

Celebrating more than 100 years of service to the community, the Flint Institute of Music is a multi-disciplinary performing arts organization that transforms people and community through the power of the performing arts. The institute has five distinctive performing arts venues: the restored Capitol Theatre downtown and The Whiting, Elgood Theatre, Bower Theatre and MacArthur Recital Hall on its own campus in the Flint Cultural Center. FIM programs also include the Flint School of Performing Arts, Flint Repertory Theatre, Music Around Town and Whiting Presents, a seasonal presentation of national and international performing artists.

Flint Repertory Theatre is a professional, not-for-profit theatre with a commitment to provide the city of Flint and surrounding communities with highly imaginative, thought-provoking theatre that is challenging, entertaining and

inspiring for everyone. It produces and presents its annual Signature Series at the Elgood and Bower Theatres. Productions include *Death of a Salesman*, *The Fantasticks*, *Happy Days* and the 2021 world premiere of *Wrong River*, an emotional, edgy story about the Flint Water Crisis are just a sample of its inclusive, critically acclaimed and award-winning productions. The Rep also hosts the New Works Festival every spring. Playwrights from around the country come together to share their works hoping their will be selected as the next world-premiere play debuting at the theatre.

The Whiting, a 2,043-seat theatre in Flint, Michigan provides Broadway, music, comedy, theatre, dance and much more. Past performances include Chris Isaak, Kenny Wayne Shepherd, STOMP, Wayne Brady, Itzhak Perlman, Martin Short, *Mamma Mia*, *Cirque Dreams Holiday*, Jeff Daniels, *Rain: A Tribute to The Beatles*, *Sinbad*, *Rock of Ages*, *Fiddler on the Roof* and *South Pacific*, among many others. It combines the charm and grace of old European theaters with the beauty and comfort of modern day.

The *Flint Symphony Orchestra* is one of the finest orchestras of its size in the nation. Its rich 104-year history as a cultural icon in the community is a testament to the dedication to world-class perfor-

mances from the musicians and Flint and Genesee County audiences alike. During the summer, you may find our Flint Symphony Orchestra musicians performing in small groups at venues around the county as part of the Music Around Town program. FSO has been performing under the baton of Maestro Enrique Diemecke for 34 years, one of the longest tenures for a music director in the country.

The *Capitol Theatre*, a faithfully restored 1,575 seat historic theatre in Downtown Flint, provides an iconic atmosphere for a weekly line-up of concerts and movies. Originally built in 1928, the Capitol Theatre has been listed on the National Register of Historic Places in Michigan since 1985. The original façade and nearly every interior element have been carefully recreated to their original design, but with the modernization of sound and lighting systems. Programming at the restored Capitol includes a diverse mix of popular and classical music, comedy acts, film screenings, contemporary and modern dance, spoken word and theater works that play to the strengths of its intimate auditorium.

The *Flint School of Performing Arts* is the largest community school of the arts in Michigan and one of the most comprehensive performing arts instructional programs in the country. The storied history of the Flint Youth Theatre stands alongside the Flint Youth Ballet and Flint Youth Symphony Orchestra as the pinnacle instructional program for theatre. Everyone - students of all ages, faculty and teaching artists – is together where they can maximize their collective performing arts experience. There's music, dance and theatre for everyone!

FIM invites you to enjoy a show or performance at one of its esteemed venues when you visit Flint. They're proud to contribute to the quality of life in the region through moving, entertaining, fun and enlightening performing arts.

Find a schedule of their events at www.thefim.org.



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Fishing on Marble Lake

BY RENU SAGGAR

will delight in both the play, and learning, at the *Children's Museum of Branch County*. Families can paint a masterpiece at *Picasso's Art Studio*, dig for dinosaur fossils, become a dentist, put on a play and more! Take a ride on the rails with the historic *Little River Railroad's* 110-year old steam engine train.

Enjoy nature with a visit to the *Critchlow Alligator Sanctuary*. Observe these amazing reptiles in a tropical habitat during guided tours and animal interactions. Walk through the swamp and feed the alligators, or just watch them bask and swim in this reptile paradise.

The beautiful architecture of the *Tibbits Opera House* makes it a treat to visit any time, they offer a diverse selection of arts and entertainment throughout the entire year.

Or, make your way to Southern Michigan's only 1,000 car, twin screen drive-in movie theater, the *Capri Drive-In*. Family owned and operated since 1964, the Capri Drive-In offers a memorable and often nostalgic, drive-in experience.

Shop 'til you drop at the many unique boutiques and shops throughout the area. Hunt for antique treasures, enjoy homemade baked goods, one-of-a-kind accents and jewelry. Coldwater Country is home to Allen, Michigan's Antique Capital, with the largest concentration of antique dealers in the Midwest. The area is home to five amazing antique malls, including the *Allen Antique Barn*, boasting two floors and more than 25,000 square feet of treasures.

For a magical experience head to Colon and learn how to do magic tricks and entertain a crowd. Home to three big magic shops, plus countless activities, and events, it's no wonder they call Colon the *Magic Capital of the World*.

Grab a bite to eat at one of Coldwater Country's locally owned diners, restaurants or pubs. Enjoy the unique flavors, local color and hospitality of the area's many restaurants and eateries. At the end of a long fun-filled day, or exciting night on the town, check into one of the many comfortable hotels and lodgings for downtime. Most are just minutes from all the excitement and attractions.

For more information on things to see and do, and where to stay, in Michigan's Coldwater Country visit ColdwaterCountry.com.

Spring forward in Michigan

Michigan is amazing at any time of year but spring and summer are something special. There's no better place to get in tune with nature, experience the quiet tranquility of the woods and lakes, or play a round of golf. Enjoy bike rides, leisurely walks, fresh food and more, all in Michigan.

Coldwater Country

When the weather gets warmer, it's time to head for Michigan's Coldwater Country. Located in south-central Michigan along the US-12 Heritage Route, halfway between Chicago and Detroit, it's an area brimming with outdoor recreation, unique attractions, quaint downtowns, stunning architecture and a whole host of family entertainment options.

Home to more than 100 freshwater lakes, Coldwater Country is a great place to escape and relax on the water. One of the most popular experiences is traveling from one lake to another through the chain of lakes. Coldwater Country is home to not only one chain of lakes but two – the North Chain of Lake and the South Chain of Lakes. Enjoy a leisurely pontoon ride, or kayak the Union City Heritage Water Trail, just one of nine water trails in Michigan. Try to catch the



limit while reeling in the big one. Bluegill, perch, pike and walleye are among Coldwater's catch of the day.

Check out one of the area's newest attractions, *The Aqua Pit*. This inflatable aquatic playground features a multi-tiered obstacle course in the water, a beach area, kayaking, paddle boarding and more. It's something for the entire family!

Head to the *Adventure Zone* for an afternoon of mini golf, go-carts, laser tag and a virtual reality lounge. Perfect for the days when the weather doesn't cooperate. Kids

COLDWATERCOUNTRY ...at the pulse of Michigan



No matter the season, there's always a reason to visit **Michigan's Coldwater Country**. Situated along the historic US-12 Heritage Trail, the area is a haven for relaxation. Spend the day on one of 100+ freshwater lakes, including two chains of lakes, kayak a waterway trail or reel in the catch of the day. Step back in time with a ride aboard the 110 year-old Little River Railroad steam engine train or while exploring timeless Victorian downtowns and countless antique shops. Learn magic in the Magic Capital of the World or take in a performance at Tibbits Opera House or a double-feature at the Capri Drive-In. The possibilities are endless. Find out more at ColdwaterCountry.com.



(517) 278-0241

COLDWATERCOUNTRY
...at the pulse of Michigan



Michigan

Michigan Festivals & Events

After two long years of dealing with the pandemic that took over our lives, we are finally seeing the light at the end of this dark tunnel. Mandates are being lifted and borders have reopened. This year in Michigan, many festivals and events promise to be back to normal. They're rolling out the welcome mat for travelers and friends from across the border to come visit and to take in this beautiful and diverse state. Come "Party at MI Place" in Pure Michigan where all the attractions and events are right at your fingertips at MichiganFun.com.

Get ready to visit Michigan's two peninsulas with their wealth of cultural festivals, fairs and events leaving memories that linger long after you return home. Activities run from Detroit in southeastern Michigan, to Iron Mountain in the western U.P.

Every year, nearly 35 million people flock to one or more of Michigan's 5,000 festivals, fairs and events creating their own cherished memories. Have a need for speed? Check out one of our small

racetracks or Michigan International Speedway known as NASCAR's fastest track. The *Belle Isle Grand Prix* (June 3-5) features the cars of the Verizon IndyCar Series in the *Chevrolet Dual in Detroit* presented by Quicken Loans. Also on the track are the sports cars of the IMSA WeatherTech Sports Car Championship, in the *Chevrolet Sports Car Classic*.

Prefer something a bit slower paced? Take a horse drawn carriage or ride a bicycle around Mackinaw Island. Don't forget to stop for some fudge.

Michigan offers Art shows, Music Festivals, Craft Beer, Fine Michigan Wines and Spirits, carnivals, fruits and vegetable markets and galleries, with great food and plenty to see and do.

The *Flint Art Fair* (June 11-12) is held on the grounds of the Flint Institute of Arts, in the heart of the beautiful Flint Cultural Center. The 2-day event introduces original works from as many as 150 established and emerging artists from Michigan and beyond.

Search www.MichiganFun.com for festivals, fairs and events in exciting places like Holland, Three Rivers, Flint, Traverse City, Munising, Marquette and Lansing just to name a few. You will find images,

attraction details and descriptions, maps to guide you on your way and links to their websites.

A festival, fair or an event only lasts a few days, but the memories that you create from the experience will last a lifetime.

Why not plan a visit to Michigan this year and bring the family? Make some magical memories for you and your loved ones.

Michigan is the *Unsalted Coast State* with plenty to offer and waiting for you to explore and enjoy.

Sloan Museum of Discovery

The Sloan Museum in the Flint Cultural Center is closed for renovation and will re-open July 2022 as the new *Sloan Museum of Discovery*. The \$30 million project will provide visitors with new opportunities to learn about science and history through exploration, discovery, and action. Galleries include a hands-on science *Discovery Hall*, engaging visitors in earth and physical science exploration, featuring the multi-story Spaceship Earth exhibit, a Maker Space, water tables, and much more.

The *Vehicle City Gallery* will present rotating exhibits about the history and future of the automobile inside Sloan Museum—formerly off-site at Buick Gallery. The gallery will also display carriages, carts, and other forms of transportation.

At the *Early Childhood Gallery* kids can prepare their meals, care for family members, and do chores in the house, garden and garage.

Re-imagined Flint history galleries will be designed with the flexibility to frequently change displays. The new history exhibits will be interactive and immersive.

Choice Hotels Michigan

When you're ready to book the perfect Michigan getaway, finding safe, comfortable and affordable accommodations near all the best destinations is one of your first priorities. With 12 brands and over 100 properties in Michigan to choose from, *Choice Hotels* can be the perfect place to create the vacation of your dreams. Brands include Cambria Hotel, Comfort Inn, Comfort Suites, Clarion, Econo Lodge, Rodeway Inn, Quality Inn & Suites & 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 at the Detroit Airport, Lansing, Holland, Traverse City and more.

Whether you're taking a business trip,



Lakeshore Art Festival - Muskegon MI

or planning a family vacation. These may include breakfast, pools, business centers and pet friendly properties.

Cambria Hotel in Traverse City is the perfect place to relax and unwind. This upscale and modern hotel offers spacious suites with spa-inspired bathrooms. Amenities include an indoor pool, fitness center and full service restaurant and bar to name a few. Take advantage of their free shuttle to the airport or downtown.

You'll know the new Comfort brand when you see it—just look for their new logo. With a proven track record of reliability, value, and convenience, Comfort brand hotels offer everything guests need for a refreshing stay.

Quality brand hotels offer amenities, like complementary hot breakfasts, free Wi-Fi, newspaper, coffee and tea and in-room refrigerator. Rooms are bright and cheery with fresh linens, fluffy pillows, and plush blankets. Start your morning with a complementary hot, fresh and healthy breakfast.

Ascend Hotels in Michigan offers a high standard of luxury combined with local flare. Business or pleasure, you will not be disappointed with their stunning rooms and amenities.

Join the *Choice Privileges* and get more from each stay. Membership is free and offers fast rewards, instant perks and exclusive member rates. Choice Privileges was voted the "Best Hotel Loyalty Program" by USA Today's 10 Best Readers' Choice Awards, and by U.S. News & World Report for three consecutive years.

Book early at ChoiceHotels.com/Michigan-hotels to fit any budget with great savings.

Southwest Michigan

When the ice on Lake Michigan melts and the rivers and streams move with rapid, swirling energy, joy leaps into everyone's heart in Southwest Michigan. Spring is a vibrant, heightened senses season when we get outside and immerse in the reawakening natural beauty in and around St. Joseph.

While there are glimpses in March, it is in late April through mid-May that spring bursts forth. Drive with the windows down for miles and breathe in the sweet fragrances wafting from thousands of blossoms in their orchards. See the vineyards turn the rolling hillsides into gorgeous shades of green. Find your way to the giant dunes along Lake Michigan, listening to the wind whoosh and whisper over the soft, golden sand. Peer down

as you walk our beaches, searching for sparkling pieces of beach glass, elusive fossils and colorful stones washed on the shore. The Big Lake's waves roar to life this time of year, pounding our beaches and dousing our century-old lighthouses.

Watch daring surfers ride white, frothy crests and parasails and hang gliders soar skyward on warm-again winds. For sure, come in the evening when the shimmering water grows quieter, mirroring the crimson and gold of another stunning sunset. It is something you will want to put your life on pause for and watch night after night.

Satisfy your hunger for something fresh and new.

Spring is also when you shed your winter coat and refresh your wardrobe, home decor and spirits. That's easily done in the Victorian-era downtowns that dot Lake Michigan's shore from New Buffalo to South Haven. Follow flower-lined sidewalks and brick streets to shops and art galleries brimming with new fashions, the latest beach games, rainy-day toys, by-the-beach books and tasty gifts for your tail-wagging best friend. Find original art and pottery for your home or trendy tableware and entertainment



The advertisement features a vibrant blue background with a yellow and white wavy border at the bottom. The text "You're Invited" is written in a large, black, cursive font with a white outline. Below it, "to have some" is written in a smaller, yellow, cursive font. The word "MICHIGAN" is displayed in large, 3D block letters, each containing a different scenic image of Michigan, such as a Ferris wheel, a lighthouse, and a city skyline. The word "FUN" is written in large, bold, blue block letters with a white outline and a slight shadow. In the top right corner, there is a circular logo with a person silhouette and the text "MichiganFun.com". In the bottom left corner, the website "www.michiganfun.com" is written in white.

ideas so you can enjoy the longer days.

Then bring joy to your palate as you savor delicious foods, steamy coffees, creamy lattes and calming teas. Area chefs proudly create with ingredients grown by local farmers because they know every bite tastes better. And don't hurry past the ice cream and sweet shops — you can work off the treats while kayaking rivers, or biking or hiking our scenic trails that are surrounded by wildflowers, leaf-popping trees and the cheery notes of returning songbirds.

History is all around you in Southwest Michigan. Drive to Tiscornia Park and walk out the North Pier and tour St. Joseph's historic lighthouse, open Memorial Day Weekend, to Labor Day Weekend. (Go to StJoeLighthouseTours.org for opening hours and reservations.) Climb to the lantern house where you can see for miles in every direction!

Another favorite tour, available all year, is to follow the *Makers Trail* to wineries, breweries, cideries and distilleries scattered throughout the countryside and in the resort towns. Many local makers introduce their new libations in the spring. Their staff will pour you tastes and

answer your questions about what to try.

Often, you can sit outside soaking up the sun as you sip or stay inside to listen to live music. A few makers offer trails that wind through the vineyards, outdoor games, bowling or putting green that gives you a wee bit of Scotland to enjoy with your whiskey. Be sure to time your stops to catch lunch or dinner at one of the Makers Trail restaurants that look out on beautiful spring vistas. You can plan your itinerary at makerstrail.org.

Send your spirits soaring during our spring celebrations.

There are festivals throughout the year in Southwest Michigan, but spring is when they celebrate the return of warmer days. May weekends are energized with laughter and music! Make plans to join them at the 116-year-old Blossomtime Grand Floral Parade, May 14 (tentatively); Compass Music Fest, May 21 and the KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship, May 26-29.

This spring, discover just how much joy you can find in Southwest Michigan. It simply starts at swmichigan.org/spring.

Marquette County

Located on Michigan's Upper Pen-

insula, where the clear waters of Lake Superior lap the shorelines, Marquette County harbors a community distinguished by its natural surroundings—from rushing waterfalls and rock formations to scenic vistas and dense hardwoods. Spring brings warmer temperatures, the annual snowmelt and the greening of the forests to Marquette County and there is no better time to get outside and explore the breathtaking terrain of Michigan's Upper Peninsula. Boasting a long list of activities distinctive to the region, visitors can enjoy their fill of premier golfing, hiking, biking, boating and more in this dynamic outdoor destination.

Golfers will delight in a range of courses available to them, each set against a stunning natural backdrop offering an unparalleled experience. The award-winning Marquette Golf Club is Upper Michigan's only 36-hole facility and features two courses to choose from – Greywalls and Heritage. Featuring breathtaking views of Lake Superior, tumbling greens and dramatic elevation changes, Greywalls is an incredible showcase of the beauty of the surrounding area.

Additional courses in the area include



St. Joseph Lighthouse in Southwest Michigan

FIND LIFE'S *Simple* JOYS

IN & AROUND ST. JOSEPH



Oh, the fun your family will have walking along the beach, flying a kite and splashing in Lake Michigan. Dance under the Whirlpool Compass Fountain. Sit by the St. Joseph River licking yummy ice cream and watching a giant freighter. Then snuggle as the sun sets – tomorrow will be magical, too.

Southwest
MICHIGAN
SWMICHIGAN.ORG

PHOTO LOCATION: ST. JOSEPH RIVER

Michigan

the Northern Michigan University Golf Course, the Red Fox Run Golf Course and Wawonowin Country Club. The picturesque Northern Michigan University Golf Course was designed by the award-winning golf architects Jerry Matthews and Bruce Matthews III. The 18-hole, 72 par course is open to the public and measures more than 6,800 yards.

The Red Fox Run Golf Course in Gwinn, MI carefully blends rolling fairways, rich woodlands and scenic wildlife. While slightly more challenging, the Red Fox Run Golf Course offers a fantastic panoramic golf experience.

Golfers in the area will also want to visit the Wawonowin Country Club, one of the Upper Peninsula's premier 18-hole semi-private courses located in Champion, MI.

After a day on the links, Marquette's charming and historic downtown awaits travelers to unwind and trade stories at the area's local breweries, restaurants and shopping. Spanning 1,872 square miles, Marquette County is comprised of many small communities that showcase the very best of the Upper Peninsula, includ-

ing Ishpeming, Negaunee, Harvey, Gwinn and Michigamme Township, in addition to downtown Marquette.

As the urban counterpart to outdoor adventures, Marquette's historic downtown features a flourishing culinary and brewery scene with countless options for visitors to indulge in after a day of exploring. Follow along Travel Marquette's brew passport to hit all the area's local breweries, including the newly opened Upper Peninsula Brewing Company, or fan-favorites like Barrel + Beam and Ore Dock Brewing Co.

With dozens of coffee shops, food trucks and restaurants, there are ample places to tempt your palate whether it is fine dining, local seafood, artisan baked goods, pub grub, authentic ethnic cuisine or just a good sandwich. Marquette County also offers a number of accommodations, from hotel and motel lodging to quaint inns. With options to stay in historic downtown Marquette or amidst nature, the possibilities are endless.

For those that want to further explore Marquette's outdoor adventures, the area has gained national acclaim as a premier biking destination with over 150 miles of singletrack. In addition, there are excel-

lent paved paths with exceptional views for cycling, walking or jogging. The *Iron Ore Heritage Trail* was built with all rider styles and skills in mind so bikers of all ages and levels can enjoy.

View seekers will want to check out some of the area's trails that feature scenic outlooks like Thomas Rock. In addition to the well-kept trails in the area, there are over 70 natural waterfalls to discover including Yellow Dog Falls, Big Pup Creek and Warner Falls and 83 miles of Lake Superior shoreline and even more freshwater lakes and swimming holes.

Watersports lovers are certain to enjoy kayaking around the Greenwood Reservoir, fishing on the lower harbor or paddleboarding in Marquette Bay – Lake Superior and the surrounding waters offer ample outdoor activities this spring. After a day on the water, head over to the Marquette Harbor Lighthouse, the oldest structure in Marquette, for photographs amidst one of the area's most picturesque backgrounds.

For more information please go to travelmarquette.com.

Park Place Hotel

The elegant Park Place Hotel & Conference Center is where luxury meets



The water's fine in Marquette. Image — Aaron Peterson

location. It's the only hotel and conference facility in the heart of downtown Traverse City, 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 Traverse City's tallest building.

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

The newly-renovated *Tower* rooms blend contemporary design and modern amenities, with a historic location. *West Wing* rooms showcase a modern design while providing all the luxuries and amenities guests expect and deserve.

All of the 140 tastefully decorated guest rooms and suites are carefully appointed and feature exceptionally comfortable beds, coffee maker, mini refrigerator, microwave and complimentary Wi-Fi. Pets are welcome for a small additional fee.

The newly built, 15,000 square foot conference center, is a classically modern facility with a capacity for 450 people, that can be customized to accommodate a variety of groups.

Take a dip in the 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.

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.



Park Place Hotel Lobby - Ken Petersen Photography

Located in the heart of downtown Traverse City with stunning views of Traverse City and Grand Traverse Bay. All within walking distance to an array of restaurants, boutique shopping and entertainment. And a short drive to sample some of the Midwest's finest wine and beer on Leelanau and Old Mission Peninsula.

- » Classically Decorated Guestrooms and Suites
- » Complimentary high-speed Internet
- » Minervas Restaurant & Bar
- » The Beacon Lounge
- » Gift shop
- » Complimentary parking for registered guests
- » Pet friendly rooms, please inquire when making your reservations
- » Indoor Pool, Hot Tub and Splash Pad
- » Fitness Room
- » 15,000 sq ft Conference Center



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PARK PLACE HOTEL
& CONFERENCE CENTER
(231) 946-5000
Park-Place-Hotel.com





A-Ga-Ming Golf Resort - The Torch

Warming up in Traverse City

Few places in the country are adorned in spring splendor like Traverse City in the northwest corner of Michigan.

Thanks to millions of cherry trees showing off their blossoms, the region puts on a display seldom seen in other locations.

The secret of Traverse City is getting out and getting discovered in many ways.

- 10 Best Wine Regions (USA Today)
- 25 Top Lake Vacations in US (U.S. News & World Report)
- Top 10 Small Town Beer Scene (USA Today)
- Top 100 Spas in America – Crystal Mountain (Spas of America)
- Most Female-Friendly Golf Destination (Golf Digest)

The accolades for this resort region, snuggled in Grand Traverse Bay, off Lake Michigan, go on and on.

The area is defined by the water. Grand Traverse Bay is known for tall ship cruising, sport fishing, kayaking, stand up paddleboards, swimming and all kinds of water sports. Inland lakes and rivers become fly fishing paradise.

The region is acclaimed as a top wine destination. Located on the 45th parallel (the same as Italy's Piedmont region and Bordeaux in France), the *Traverse Wine Coast* consists of over 40 wineries creating highly acclaimed white wines, with red wines recently claiming national recognition. Those wineries are concentrated along the Leelanau and Old Mission



Peninsulas. Wine tasting rooms proudly show off not only the quality of their wines, but incredible views of the region.

The Traverse City region is also known as the home of the *Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore*. Voted by viewers of ABC's *Good Morning America* as the *Most Beautiful Place in America*, the 35 miles of sandy Lake Michigan shoreline features ten beaches and hundreds of miles of biking and hiking trails. Perhaps the most popular attraction of the park is the *Dunes Climb* that tops out at a steep 460 feet above the shoreline and leads to a majestic panoramic view of the Big Lake.

When other regions face oppressive heat and humidity during summer golf season, Traverse City weather is tempered

by those same lakes. Aquamarine waters are often peeking through the trees along the fairways at a variety of courses. Golfers find championship courses designed by some of the greatest names in the game like Jack Nicklaus, Arnold Palmer, Gary Player and Jerry Matthews. Thanks to the northern latitude and being on the western edge of the Eastern Time Zone, summer golf can extend well after 9 p.m., allowing plenty of time on the meticulously groomed greens.

If your idea of a getaway is taking a road trip, Traverse City has two road trips that will knock your socks off. The iconic M-22 can start in Lake Michigan shore town of *Frankfort*. The village offers a quaint downtown that leads to the spectacular Frankfort Beach that's perfect for spending a day swimming or exploring the *Frankfort North Breakwater Lighthouse*. Head north along M-22 and have your road trip include *Fish Town* in Leland, and another lighthouse at Northport. Check out the art scene in Suttons Bay, then end up in Traverse City.

Another scenic road trip takes you 15 miles up *Old Mission Peninsula*. Drive past miles of cherry orchards and wine vineyards but spend a little time at the scenic overlooks with views of both East and West Grand Traverse Bays. At the end of the peninsula there is still another lighthouse to explore, *Mission Point Lighthouse*.

Traverse City has been praised by *Bon Appetite* magazine as a Top Five Foodie Town and classically trained chefs serve up varied dishes that include farm-to-table, fine dining and ethnic food. The meals can be topped off with local wines, or one of the many local craft beers or distilled spirits.

Traverse City is known as the *Cherry Capital of the World* and home of the National Cherry Festival in the summer. But major events are not limited to the celebration of cherries, a Summer Concert Series is held at the world-renowned *Interlochen Center for the Arts* and also hosts the Traverse City Film Festival. 🍷

Spring may usher in a new season with the cherry blossoms, but the region has developed into four seasons of events and activities. Plan your next get a way at traversacity.com.



TRULY
CONNECTED

TOTALLY
CHILL



Summer in Traverse City...or TC. The one place to truly connect with your friends or special someone. At the Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore. Over drinks. Or anywhere your heart leads. TC in summer – a Pretty Great Place.



Philip Grausman, *Leucantha*, 1993, *Grounds For Sculpture*,
Photo: David Michael Howarth Photography

BY WARRIE HOWELL

dining and is home to the largest Norman Rockwell mural.

Hopewell Valley Vineyards is dedicated to the creation of handcrafted wines by blending Old World traditions with New World flair. The vineyard provides a relaxing and beautiful environment for tasting world class wines, enjoying the company of friends and creating long-lasting memories.

Nature lovers can revel in the region's many bucolic parks and outdoor spaces. Scenic *Mercer County Park* encompasses more than 2,500 acres and includes an athletic complex, tennis courts, and a secluded lakeside area. Take a horseback ride at the stables, or sign up for riding lessons. Two championship golf courses, the links-style *Mercer Oaks East*, and traditional *Mercer Oaks West*, offer two completely different challenges for players of all levels with amenities that are second to none.

Grounds For Sculpture, a 42-acre sculpture garden in Hamilton, is renowned for being one of the most unique attractions in the state. The extensive collection of sculptures, set amid quixotic gardens, terraces, and courtyards delight all who visit. After exploring the grounds, be sure to visit *Rat's Restaurant* for an exceptional dining experience. 🍷

The Princeton-Mercer Region is an extraordinary destination offering a vast array of distinctive venues for visitors. For information go to visitprinceton.org.

Graduate to Princeton-Mercer

Some of the world's best minds have been visiting and meeting in Princeton, New Jersey for more than 200 years. F. Scott Fitzgerald, Albert Einstein, John F. Kennedy, and more recently Jeff Bezos, and Michelle Obama to name a few have walked the ivy halls of Princeton University.

Fortunately, you don't need to be a student or an eminent scholar to enjoy the architecture and natural beauty. Take a self-guided walking tour around beautiful downtown Princeton and the Princeton University campus. Highlights include the Albert Einstein House on Mercer Street, Nassau Hall, built in 1756, the Morven Museum & Garden, Princeton University Art Museum and Princeton University Chapel. The Princeton Walking Tour Map can be downloaded at visitprinceton.org/things-to-do/tours/.

The all-new, outdoor *Princeton Festival* will be held June 10-25, 2022 with a wonderful selection of artists.

While wandering downtown's pleasant streets check out the local bookstores, boutiques, and galleries. *Palmer Square* boasts a distinctive collection of shopping and dining that is not to be missed.

Charming towns and villages are abundant throughout the Princeton-Mercer Region. Hunt for antiques in the elegant shops and galleries in nearby Hopewell and New Hope, or the *Golden Nugget Antique Flea Market*. Check out the *Trenton Punk Rock Indoor Flea Market*

at the Cure Insurance Arena with more than 300 unique small businesses, artists, food trucks and live music each day! The region offers the best in apparel, shoes, jewelry, gifts and more.

Visiting the Princeton-Mercer Region guarantees you the opportunity to dine at a variety of fabulous bistros, cafes and restaurants like *Kuo Social*, a modern Chinese restaurant named New Jersey's Best New Restaurant and Best Chinese in 2021. *Salt Creek Grille* sears meat over hot mesquite embers creating a unique and flavorful experience. The *Yankee Doodle Tap Room*, a Princeton institution since 1756 is well known for their gastro pub



Princeton University Campus – Denise Applewhite, Princeton University

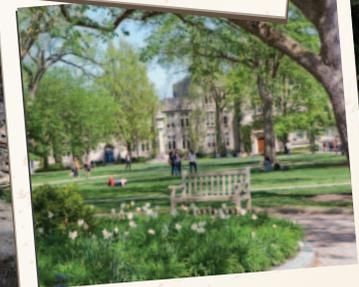
REVISIT REDISCOVER RECONNECT



TRENTON THUNDER STADIUM



GROUNDS FOR SCULPTURE*



PRINCETON UNIVERSITY



PALMER SQUARE



SAYEN GARDENS

Somewhere between your bucket list and to-do list is a world of things to do. Fall in love again and again with the Princeton-Mercer Region. Plan your visit at visitprinceton.org



VISIT PRINCETON-MERCER

VISITPRINCETON.ORG


New Jersey
visitnj.org

*Supported in part by a grant from
the New Jersey Department of State,
Division of Travel and Tourism.*

*Dina Wind, Harp of David #1, 1985/2018, steel, 26 x 24 x 22 feet, Grounds For Sculpture, Gift of the Dina Wind Art Foundation, photo: David Michael Howarth Photography.



The Dreamworks Water Park at American Dream Mall

Make It The Meadowlands

Located just across from NY City, the Meadowlands Region is emerging as the hub for diverse and exciting, dining, entertainment and event experiences.

Attractions range from MetLife Stadium, Medieval Times, Liberty Science Center, RPM Raceway and Meadowlands Racetrack.

Thrill seekers and shoppers alike have been flocking to the *American Dream* entertainment and retail destination in East Rutherford. Along with the 100's of retail stores, the three million square foot complex is home to Nickelodeon Universe amusement park – the biggest indoor theme park in the western hemisphere, DreamWorks Water Park, Big Snow - North America's first and only indoor, real-snow, year-round ski and snow resort, the NHL regulation-sized The Rink for ice skating and hockey, Legoland Discovery Center, SEA LIFE Aquarium and more.

Just across the parking lot from American Dream, is MetLife Stadium, the home field of two NFL teams: New York Jets and the New York Giants. In addition to football fans, the 82,500 seat MetLife stadium will also be host to several high-profile concert events in 2022 including Paul McCartney, Elton John, Coldplay, Kenny Chesney, the Red Hot Chili Peppers and more.

If that weren't enough, adjacent to MetLife stadium is the world-class Meadowlands Racetrack featuring live harness racing and the FanDuel Sportsbook – the highest-grossing sportsbook on the east coast.

Families can enjoy dinner theater at Medieval Times in Lyndhurst, electric go-kart racing at RPM Raceway in Jersey City and Liberty Science Center's hands on learning experiences and the largest

BY RENU SAGGAR

planetarium in the Western Hemisphere in Jersey City. Field Station: Dinosaurs outdoor dinosaur and science expedition will reopen for the season in June in Leonia, with all new games, shows and activities along with 31 life-sized animatronic dinosaurs.

Foodies will enjoy The Meadowlands' diverse cuisine, with everything from gourmet delis, the unique New Jersey Diner experience, to French, Italian, Spanish, Asian and other ethnic restaurants.

The Meadowlands offers more than 11,000 hotel rooms at over 40 hotels that are often the same names and offer the same amenities as those found in NYC but at a more reasonable cost. Visitors will also enjoy an easier trip to Midtown Manhattan than from many other parts of New York City, and their travel can be a part of the experience when done via the New York Waterway's which is reasonably priced and offers frequent ferries across the Hudson River.

The Meadowlands Region encompasses North Jersey from the George Washington Bridge to the Statue of Liberty, and between the Hudson and Hackensack Rivers, and is easily accessible from Newark Liberty International Airport and major U.S. roadways via The Garden State Parkway and the New Jersey Turnpike. 

For more information and to begin planning your visit, please visit the MLCVB at www.mlcvb.com.



Eco-cruising aboard Hackensack Riverkeeper cruises



NJ'S **MOST EXCITING** DESTINATION!

Enjoy Dozens of Local Attractions from Eco-Tourism Nature Walks and Boating to Live Jousting in the Meadowlands.

From Dining at Some of the Best Restaurants Anywhere to World Class Shopping.

Major Sporting Events and Live Concerts at MetLife Stadium, plus the American Dream Retail and Entertainment Complex – 3 Million Square Feet of Amusements, Shopping and More.

Also the world-class Meadowlands Racetrack Featuring Live harness Racing and the FanDuel Sportsbook – the Highest-Grossing Sportsbook on the East Coast. For the Ultimate Educational Experience, Visit the Liberty Science Center for Hands-On Learning Experiences and the Largest Planetarium in the Western Hemisphere.

Contact line: 877-MLCVB-US



meadowlandslive.com



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



View of Manhattan from Hudson County

BY RENU SAGGAR

terfront hotels and watch the sun rise over NYC every morning. Need room for the whole family? A variety of affordable hotels offer suites, pools and shuttles to whisk you to the Big Apple.

Here's a sampling of Hudson County hotels to consider: Take in the Hyatt Regency's waterfront vistas in Jersey City, or the luxe Hyatt House's sweeping Lower Manhattan views. There's the intimate boutique Envue hotel in Weehawken, or the chic, city-view W Hotel in Hoboken. With transportation to NYC and local tours you can experience the best of the best on both sides of the Hudson River.

Discover contemporary art at *Mana Contemporary*, an experiential arts center that immerses visitors in the creative process behind art forms like painting, sculpture, dance, photography and film. The popular JCAST (Jersey City Artist & Studio Tour) festival, features nearly 150 art spaces that open their doors for a week-end of performances, installations, studio tours, children's activities and exhibits. Art House Productions, creator of Jersey City's ongoing JC Fridays series, makes free art, music and festival fun available every quarter.

Over in the Mile Square City, Hoboken-Arts features an independent online gallery with fine art, art prints and products from emerging and established artists who have a connection to the city. In Bayonne, The Bridge Art Gallery also engages art enthusiasts through multi-cultural exhibitions and presentations highlighting local and international artists.

As an American Mosaic, Hudson County is packed with exciting cultural experiences. Celebrate Holi Hai, the colorful Indian festival of colours in Jersey City and Hoboken. Enjoy live music from an array of talented local artists at festivals like summer's *Groove on Grove* in Jersey City. Soak up the history behind diverse destinations like Hoboken, birthplace of Frank Sinatra and home to the Hoboken Historical Museum. Immerse yourself in Hudson County History with a Revolutionary War bunker tour, or walk back through 350 years of history at the Jersey City Harsimus Cemetery. 📍

Go to www.visithudson.org for more information.

Hands up for Hudson County

Hudson County, New Jersey, is an American mosaic. One of the most diverse destinations in the US, it offers a thrilling blend of culture and ethnicities — all a stone's throw from Manhattan. But, with their own vibrant art, music, theater, history and food scenes, visitors may not want to leave. Warm, welcoming residents and a growing number of travelers enjoy Hudson County's unique experiences all year.

If you're looking for bucket-list sights, historic attractions, serene nature, cultural immersion and a creative culinary scene, you've come to the right place. Hudson County offers everything from festivals and award-winning restaurants to scenic parks and ferries to the Statue of Liberty — all in one, easily navigable destination.

At the 1,212-acre *Liberty State Park*, catch unparalleled views of the Manhattan skyline along the Liberty Walk promenade, or visit the state-of-the-art and interactive *Liberty Science Center*. Liberty State Park also offers cruises to the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island, not to mention boating, canoeing, hiking, biking and nature walks.

Beyond this waterfront jewel, Hudson County features a variety of impressive gems, including the Red Bull Arena, Bayonne Golf Club, the Hoboken Historical Museum and the fantastic American



Hudson County has an eclectic food scene

Dream mall and entertainment complex.

With an impressive array of award-winning restaurants and eclectic menus, they know a thing or two about good food. Whether you're in the mood for wood fire pizza from Jersey City's Razza, craving homecooked Italian from another Jersey City staple, 15 Fox Place, or seeking Latin American flavors at La Isla Restaurant in Hoboken, there's something delicious for everyone. Take in the fantastic array of coffee shops, craft breweries and wine bars—not to mention scenic rooftop spots—will guarantee you never go thirsty, either.

Ferries, trains and buses connect New Jersey and New York City, so staying in Hudson County is a convenient, affordable and attractive option. They boast a variety of lodging offerings to fit every budget and interest. Love Manhattan skyline views? Stay in one of many wa-

Only in Hudson County NJ



Liberty State Park

Statue of Liberty

Liberty Science Center

Ellis Island

American Dream

Water Sports on
the Hudson River

Statue Cruises

Liberty State Park, in Jersey City, is a 1,200-acre green space with Ellis Island, the Statue of Liberty and the Manhattan skyline as a backdrop. Liberty Science Center is a 300,000 square foot science experience which is ideal for all ages, featuring the western hemisphere's largest IMAX dome planetarium, a 3D theater, 110 species of live animals, hurricane and tornado-force wind simulators, live simulcast surgeries and many travelling museum exhibits.

Statue Cruises ferry service departs daily from Liberty State Park for the Statue of Liberty and the Ellis Island National Immigration Museum. The ferry is located next to the historic Central Terminal building. Hudson County is filled with adventure opportunities. Visit Hoboken to kayak along the Hudson River from the Hoboken Cove Community Boat House, or try your hand at sailing, standup paddle boarding, and jet skiing on the Hudson from Hoboken's Pier 13. Over at the scenic Liberty State Park, we have everything from boating and canoeing to biking and running races. The Hackensack Riverkeeper Eco-Cruise, takes you through the Meadowland marshes for education, history, and fun aboard a 30-foot pontoon leaving from Laural Hill Park, Secaucus.

American Dream is a colossal Garden State attraction, this 3 million square foot experience center in East Rutherford, is two miles from an array of hotels in Secaucus, and offers an exciting new entertainment and shopping experience.

Stop by our website at www.visithudson.org. See you soon!



Supported in part by a grant from the New Jersey Department of State, Division of Travel and Tourism

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Make your next stop Jersey City

BY RENU SAGGAR

Jersey City, has all the excitement of Manhattan – at a fraction of the price. With the Statue of Liberty at their doorstep, world-class restaurants and hotels, quick and easy access to NYC, Jersey City is an unbeatable bargain.

Set near the Statue of Liberty Jersey City's *Liberty State Park*, is an urban oasis where you can catch ferries to both the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island. The 1,212-acre park is home to world-renowned attractions like the *Liberty Science Center* with the nation's largest IMAX dome theater and the *Jennifer Chalsty Planetarium*, the largest in the western hemisphere. The Science Center houses 12 museum exhibition halls; an animal collection with 110 species, giant aquariums, a 3D theater, hurricane- and tornado-force wind simulators, and more. Pop into the park's *Central Railroad Terminal* of New Jersey and explore the historic depot.

Prepare for action packed excitement at *RPM Raceway*! This state-of-the-art indoor karting facility features the fastest electric cars in the US, with speeds of 45 mph on tracks developed by NASCAR racers. Sit back and enjoy the spectacular NYC skyline,



The Jersey City waterfront

or savvy up to some sizzling nightlife.

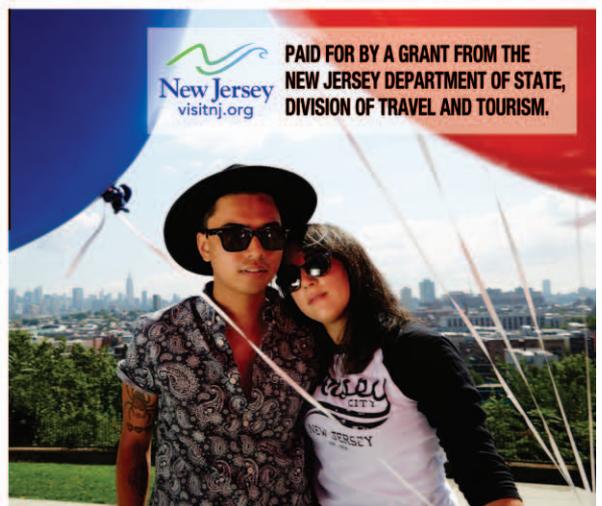
Often referred to as New York's Sixth Borough, Jersey City is home to diverse cultural festivals and food festivals like *Midnight Market* and *Project Eats*. *Smorgasburg*, the acclaimed open air food market, has made its way to Jersey City! Sample some of the city's multicultural influences with a vast array of food options. Jersey City hosts the largest Independence Day (July 4th) celebration in the region

with first class entertainment and it is a free event open to the public. The first weekend in October is all about ART. Visitors tour private studios, galleries, local businesses, public art and pop-up spaces. Artists will have an opportunity to introduce their work to the public and make connections.

Explore Jersey City's historic downtown from the waterfront landmark *Colgate Clock*, through the *Powerhouse Arts District*, home to many talented artists and galleries.

Shoppers can check out *Newport Centre* with three levels of shopping in the heart of the Newport Hudson Waterfront Community and located adjacent to the Holland Tunnel. 📍

Visit them at jcmakeityours.com for more information.



New Jersey
visitnj.org

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Elizabeth – Gateway to the Garden State

Experience the unexpected. Elizabeth is not your average city! More than just a place to live, It's a bold and passionate place and the premiere urban destination in the state. Located just minutes from NYC, there's fast and easy access to all state and major highways, airports, trains and the seaport. Elizabeth is known as the Gateway to the Garden State!

This is where New Jersey was founded 350 years ago. Wander around historic Midtown to discover more than a dozen sites on the historic walking tour. Highlights include the *First Presbyterian Church*, which was also an important battleground during the Revolutionary War. A little further on is *Hersch Tower*, one of the tallest buildings in Union County. Built in the Art Deco style during the height of the depression, it was designed by the same architects as the Empire State Building. Another example of Art Deco restoration is the *Ritz Theater*. One of the largest and oldest operating theaters in the state, it dates back to 1926.

Walk over to *Historic Boxwood Hall*, home of the President of the Continental Congress, as well as the youngest signer of the



The Historic Midtown District in Elizabeth

Constitution. These are just a few of the many highlights and prepare to be amazed by the many statues and monuments along the way.

Visitors will also enjoy Elizabeth's culturally diverse dining and lively nightlife experiences. Imagine eating Colombian pastries for breakfast, an Asian Noodle Dish for lunch and Southern Comfort food for dinner. Well, you can certainly do that in Elizabeth! Travel the globe without a passport! Dine in Italy, Portugal

or Mexico without leaving New Jersey.

An absolute must is a stop *The Mills at Jersey Gardens*, New Jersey's largest high-end outlet shopping mall. This retail mecca features retailers like Coach, Michael Kors and Kate Spade, all at a reduced tax rate. There's no tax on clothing and shoes so, your budget will go a long way!

In early June, the city hosts the largest *Portuguese Festival* on the east coast. During July, it's the largest *Columbian Festival* in America. There is so much more to see!

Check out all of Elizabeth and upcoming events at www.GoElizabethNJ.com. It All Starts Here!

You'll take Manhattan at the Holland Hotel

Conveniently located on the New Jersey side of the Holland Tunnel, the Holland Hotel makes access to New York City a breeze! They're minutes away from NJ Path, Downtown NYC and the American Dream Mall.

Rated 4-Stars by TripAdvisor and 4.5-Stars by Expedia.com, the Holland Hotel features 71 newly renovated rooms with luxurious bathrooms. Amenities include brand new HD LCD TVs with over 90 local and national channels, large mini fridge, in-room safe and microwave.

Money saving features include free Wi-Fi and complimentary parking for



cars, trucks and even tour buses. So you won't have to worry about paying expensive parking fees, or leaving your vehicle somewhere else!

The Holland Hotel is fully equipped to handle groups of all sizes, from solo travelers, to full tour buses. Their friendly staff is ready to make your stay as comfortable and memorable as possible!

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 a 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.

Holland Hotel is the most convenient and affordable option for visitors who want to experience New York City!, but who don't want to pay Manhattan prices. Hop on the train or take a ferry to the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island.

The Holland Hotel is also great for those who want to stay local and see 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 and within minutes of Newark International Airport and the Cape Liberty Cruise Port.

The Holland Hotel goes out of it's way to make each and every guest feel "at-home". Why wait, make your reservation now! Visit them online at thehollandhotel.com. 



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The Holland Hotel

MINUTES AWAY FROM *adventure!*



STATUE OF LIBERTY & ELLIS ISLAND



TIMES SQUARE, NYC



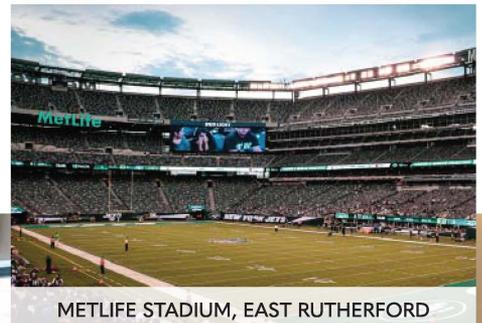
LIBERTY SCIENCE CENTER, JERSEY CITY



NEWPORT CENTER MALL, JERSEY CITY



AMERICAN DREAM MALL, EAST RUTHERFORD



METLIFE STADIUM, EAST RUTHERFORD

“Our NYC experience was amazing! And The Holland Hotel helped make it happen.”

– Cindy
Reviewer on Hotels.com

“Location, right next to the mall and PATH subway station. Also the price is great too.”

– Carlo
Reviewer on Booking.com

“The location was perfect for our weekend trip to NYC - a short walk to the PATH train & we were in NYC. The hotel staff (& guests) were friendly. The hotel was clean & quiet - I always felt safe. Off street parking at the building was my favorite amenity!”

– Alisa
Reviewer on Booking.com



Relaxing in a Sauna Pod

Head for the hills – the Hocking Hills

We are living in interesting times. We all need a break, some time to take care of ourselves. Countless studies link time spent in nature with overall good health. Time to head for the Hills.

Ohio's Hocking Hills will renew your mind, body and spirit. *Hocking Hills State Park* has more than twenty-five miles of trails spread between six non-contiguous parks. *Hocking State Forest* features more than nine thousand acres, including fifty-nine miles of hiking on three trails. Both areas display the wonders of nature with waterfalls, gorges and cliffs.

Trails range from easy and accessible to challenging enough for the most adventurous soul. Drop a line in Rose Lake, hike the six mile *Grandma Gatewood Trail*, named for the first woman to solo hike the Appalachian Trail when she was sixty-seven years young. *Hocking State Forest* has hidden treasures along far less traveled trails. Try a little yoga by a waterfall. This is Mother Nature's Spa.

The Hocking Hills region has spas beyond the parks and forest. Imagine relaxing in a sauna pod surrounded by nature. How about a little *shinrin-yoku* a/k/a forest bathing or taking in the forest atmosphere? Feel all your stress drift away in a cleansing salt cave.

Refresh your body with a therapeutic massage at one of the area's spas. Try Reiki, an energy healing technique that promotes relaxation, reduces stress and anxiety through gentle touch. Recharge your energy fields with an energy healing session.

Rest under a canopy of stars in your private hot tub. Cozy cabins and cottages are peppered throughout the hills with all the comforts of home. Let the spa come to you with an in-cabin massage. Sit around a campfire toasting marshmallows as the stories of the day float on the breeze. This is the land of *ahhhs*.

Explore a haunted railroad tunnel by horseback or ride out to a genuine cowboy cookout. Paddle down the Hocking River

or fly over it in the tree canopy on ziplines. Cruise *Lake Logan* in a pontoon boat. Spot eagles, blue heron, swans and more hanging around the lake.

Get your adrenaline pumping by climbing a real rock face, not one of those indoor climbing walls, the real thing. Climb and rappel rock faces as high as one hundred and twenty feet. If you have a need for speed try the SuperZip® and fly at speeds up to 50 mph.

When you need to refuel you'll find authentic home cooking, elegant dining and eclectic offerings in the locally owned restaurants. There's not a lot of familiar eateries but the comfort you get from the local cuisine is plenty familiar.

When the sun goes down connect with the heavens at the *John Glenn Astronomy Park*. The newest attraction in the Hocking Hills State Park is named for the famous NASA astronaut. Imagine the sights he saw as he orbited our planet sixty years ago. Observe the solar system through the park's powerful telescope. Bring your own telescope. The park is located where Ohio's night sky is the darkest for maximum star gazing.

Thousands of years ago Mother Nature created a special and unexpected oasis in the heart of the USA. The natural history of the region is on display year-round. It inspires artists and craftsmen everyday giving the Hocking Hills a vibrant arts community.

Local wineries and breweries showcase local musical talent. Shops and galleries provide an opportunity to take a little Hocking Hills creativity home with you. Community festivals celebrate the region's culture and history.

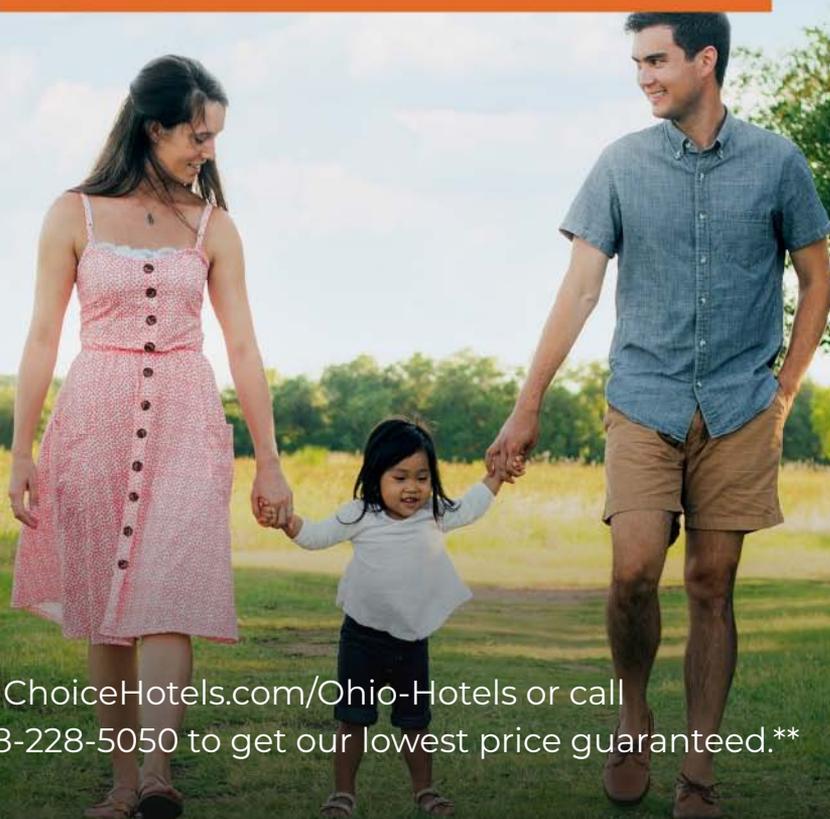
Reconnect with yourself, your family, your friends and meet some new friends in the Hocking Hills, Ohio's crown jewels. Take a deep breath and get ready for that well deserved break. You'll be glad you headed for the Hills. 🍷

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Brandywine Falls in Cuyahoga Valley National Park

BY RENU SAGGAR

to catch a performance have a variety of playhouses and concert venues from which to choose including the *Akron Civic Theatre*, one of five remaining atmospheric theaters in the nation. Guests who still haven't had their fill can look into Greater Akron's past at *Hale Farm & Village*, *Perkins Stone Mansion* and *Stan Hywet Hall & Gardens*. The former estate of F.A. Seiberling, co-founder of The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company, Stan Hywet is the nation's 6th largest historic home open to the public. The estate includes the 65-room Tudor Revival Manor House, five historic buildings and eight gardens spread over 70 acres.

Visitors who 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. The 7th most-visited national park in the U.S. in 2020, CVNP boasts 33,000 acres of unimaginably beautiful areas to play, rest and recharge.

A visit to Greater Akron also offers novices to pros a chance to hit the links on more than a dozen manicured public courses. Not a golfer? Spend your time shopping area favorites, Don Drumm

Ohio is swinging into Spring

Tranquil, green and timeless spring and summer are peak seasons to explore Ohio. Nature is aroused from its wintery slumber, days are longer and the temperatures begin to heat up. While cities hum with world-class museums, shopping and attractions and the countryside offers its own unique traditions, festivals and events. Paddle the many lakes and rivers, cycle the towpath on historic canals, or celebrate nature's bounty in the bistros and vineyards. When you least expect it, your heart is sure to be stolen away by Ohio's great natural beauty and quiet charm.

Akron & Summit County

City Life. Outdoor Life. Grab Life Right Here! Hot metropolitan places alongside cool outdoor spaces. You decide which vibe will satisfy — they would like to think you'll enjoy it all.

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



The 1892 Sandusky County Jail

Studios & Gallery, Akron Glass Works, Mustard Seed Market & Café or any of the myriad shops and boutiques scattered throughout our communities. Diverse dining options offer flavors from authentic Nepalese to modern Mexican and from Swensons Drive-in's car-side service, to an iconic Akron steak house. Don't miss the 6th annual *Summit Brew Path*, featuring 23 breweries' eclectic libations — a can't miss regardless if you complete the official path or not! Check out, *NewAgainAkron.com* vintage shopping trail and the 2nd annual *TheDripDrive.com* — the Greater Akron Coffee Experience.

Sights, sounds and special experiences await. Plan a visit that will be your very own. akron.travel, summitbrewpath.com, newagainakron.com, thedripdrive.com, seeakronnow.com.

Sandusky County

You've all waited so long to get back to traveling, shouldn't you take some time this summer to make your way to Sandusky County Ohio. Filled with abundant natural beauty, take in all the Lake Erie region has to offer. Unique adventures that will satisfy both young and old alike. A few summertime favorites include sport fishing, visiting the Lake Erie islands, riding roller coasters at *Cedar Point* amusement park, kayaking on the Sandusky River or just relaxing at one of our amazing wineries with a glass of Ohio made wine.

If you are into history, plan a visit to *Rutherford B. Hayes Presidential Library and Museums* for tour of the 19th President of the United States' beautiful Victorian home, then take in some American history with a self-guided tour of the recently renovated museum.

Fremont Ohio, located in Sandusky County is 18 minutes from

the Lake Erie Island ferries, 35 minutes from Cedar Point and offers the area's best hotel rates. Fremont's central location is close to the area's best attractions and major interstate highways including, 80/90 Ohio Turnpike. Stay in the center of it all and see why Sandusky County is called the "Sweet Spot of Ohio".

Ever wonder what life was like in a 19th century prison? Take a tour of the historic 1892 *Sandusky County Jail* and 1840's dungeon is located underneath the Sandusky County Courthouse. Hear the gripping stories and misdeeds of some of the notorious inmates imprisoned here and see the gallows used for the last hanging .

The *Mad River & NKP Railroad Museum* houses a vast collection of engines, freight cars, passenger cars and a giant crane for rail repairs and even a massive snowplow once used to clear snow off the tracks.

With so much to see and do, you must add Sandusky County and Ohio's Northcoast to your bucket list in 2022. Best of all, Ohio is close enough to be a day triptrip from Southwestern Ontario, although a long weekend is recommended.

For more information, visit: www.sanduskycounty.org.

A Night at the Opera in Wayne County

You might already be aware that Wayne County, Ohio is part of the world's largest Amish settlement and home to Lehman's Hardware, The J.M. Smucker Co. Store and Café, and P. Graham Dunn. But did you know that the *Ohio Light Opera*, summer resident opera company of the College of Wooster also calls Wayne County their home?

Great musicals and operettas headline the summer line-up of the 2022 Light Opera festival season, which runs June 18th

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Ohio

through July 31st. It opens with "Cinderella" the American classic fairy tale by Rodgers and Hammerstein. Also included in this summer's line up will be "Hello, Dolly!," "The Student Prince," Gilbert and Sullivan's "The Pirates of Penzance," and "The Mock Marriage." Rounding out the summer schedule will be "The Fantasticks," which will be performed in an outdoor venue.

Over 20,000 patrons from across the country and around the world come to Wooster for The Ohio Light Opera performances in the intimate confines of Freedlander Theater each summer. Theatre-goers find the matinee performances fit in well with local restaurants that offer upscale dining and still leave time for sightseeing and shopping. Evening performances can be followed by wine parings or decadent desserts and coffee. Hotels, Inns and Bed and Breakfasts offer special packages that include show tickets, gourmet breakfasts, lunches and dinners.

Discover the charming villages and shopping areas such as the historic Main Street Wooster, home to the newly opened E&H ACE Hardware Flagship Store right on the square, or the popular shops of Amish Country in Kidron, Shreve and Fredericksburg. Spend the afternoon in the quaint village of Smithville or Orrville, the home of those irresistible Smucker's jams and jellies. Whether it's antiques or specialty items, Wayne County has it all.

Visit them online at www.wccvb.com for a complete listing of accommodations, restaurants, shops and maps of the area.

Remarkable Lake County

It's been far too long since Canadians have been able to visit the remarkable wineries, attractions and outdoor adventures available in Lake County, OH and the region is excited to welcome you back!

Access to more than more than 30 wineries of the Grand River Valley is an easy three-hour drive from the Canada-United States border, and this award-winning wine region has rapidly become one of the hottest US destinations in the Midwest region.

In addition to award-winning wineries, outdoor lovers can explore the nationally renowned *Holden Arboretum* with its 12-story high emergent tower and amazing canopy walk among the trees!

If you're looking for a little more adventure, rent a kayak or paddleboard and cruise Lake Erie at *Fairport Harbor Lakefront Park Beach*, or explore *Mentor Lagoons State Nature Preserve*.

Grab your clubs and plan to play a round at *Blackbrook Golf Course* or *Manakiki Golf Course*, which, according to GOLF Magazine, was named one of the best Municipal Golf Courses in the country.

While you're in the area make plans to take in a first-class theater performance at the historic *Rabbit Run Barn Theater*, or visit the home of a United States President, James A. Garfield. With terrific lodging options, ranging from brand new hotels in the heart of Ohio's Wine Country to the historic *Steele Mansion* boutique hotel in Painesville, you're sure to find a clean, safe and affordable place to stay while you're in the area.

Plan your trip to Remarkable Lake County, OH today and visit MyLakeOH.com to explore everything the area has to offer.

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

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Dare to Discover at Sanduskycounty.org!

Medina County

Step up to the many great things to see, do, dine and stay in Medina County. Discover family fun, golfing, parks, shopping and Get a Way Weekends — something for everyone.

Medina County offers a wealth of festivals and events all year long. Make beautiful music with Medina's free *Concerts on the Square*, throughout the summer. The family will enjoy events like *Wadsworth Blue Tip Festival*, and *Brunswick Summer Celebration*, featuring great food, thrilling rides and top-notch entertainment.

Later in the summer get ready for the *Medina County Fair*, the *Valley City Frog Jump*, *Art in the Park*, Arts week programs, concerts at Mapleside Farms, and concerts in downtown Wadsworth. That's just some of the many more fun programs/events across the County.

Castle Noel is another must see. The largest Indoor Christmas Entertainment complex and Museum in America. Marvel at the many Christmas window displays from New York City Department stores like Sax, Macy's, Lord and Taylors and others.

On the lower level, visit *Alien Vacation* indoor mini golf with black light and freaky 3-D. You will also encounter movie Aliens throughout the 18-hole mini golf. Other family attractions include *The Foundry Social* with games, billiards bocce ball, ping pong, arcade games and *High Voltage Indoor Karting*.

Scene 75 is one of the largest indoor entertainment centers in the country, with arcade games black light mini golf, indoor go karts and laser tag.

Outdoors lovers will not want to miss the many County and City parks. They offer boating, fishing (may need an Ohio

fishing license for some of the lakes), swimming, hiking trails, pavilions, dog parks and mountain bike trails.

Looking for fresh food? Stop at one of Medina's farmers markets and orchards. Pay a visit to an alpaca farm, or *Spring Mist* petting farm. Just call ahead for open days during the summer and specific hours.

Shoppers take note! Medina County has some terrific retail venues in each of their local communities and out in the country. You'll find outlets, specialty shops, unique shops and antiques. While you are out doing you're shopping and visiting attractions enjoy the wealth of wonderful locally owned, restaurants, fine dining, plus your favourite chains.

If you're a history buff visit the many small local museums, an 1850's Farm, a one room school house, a railroad depot, or a Queen Anne or Victorian home. The *Northern Ohio Railway Museum*, which is open Saturdays during the summer, offers short trolley rides every other Saturday. Be sure to check out the late 1800's early 1900's buildings and architecture in Medina and Wadsworth.

With an easy access to highway, Medina County is a great place to visit, stay, explore and make day trips to nearby areas! Conveniently located just 35 miles south of Cleveland and 24 miles west of Akron, for more information on upcoming events, visitmedinacounty.com.

Choice Hotels Ohio

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Step Up To Medina County

We invite you to eat, shop and play in Medina County, Ohio where you can enjoy a wealth of fascinating attractions, unique festivals, world class dining, incredible shopping, outdoor and indoor concerts, outstanding parks and challenging golf courses. Make your plans today and discover the many possibilities in Medina County, Ohio!

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REMARKABLE

Rediscover romance in the vineyards of the 30+ wineries of the Grand River Valley. Relax and Recharge on the beaches and waters of Lake Erie. Revisit history at the President James A. Garfield Home and Fairport Harbor Lighthouse & Museum. Reinvent your family vacation at the Holden Arboretum, Squires Castle or Rabbit Run Theater. Reaffirm the power and joy of travel and visit Remarkable Lake County, OH.

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state of Ohio has to offer.

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MainStay Suites is an affordable option for families. They offer residential style suites but with the comfort of a hotel room.

Quality Inn, offers plenty of perks including free parking, free coffee and free WiFi throughout the property.

Life is better when you get together, so Clarion hotels provide the meeting space, catering, restaurants, bars and social atmosphere that make them the perfect place to meet up.

Sleep Inn & Suites offer an affordable, simply stylish retreat from which to explore the area. Get a great start to your day with their free Morning Medley hot breakfast buffet and feel free to treat yourself to seconds.

Youngstown

Spring is in bloom with over 40,000 bulbs at *Fellows Riverside Gardens*! This beautiful 12-acre public garden is part of *Mill Creek MetroParks*. Over 400,000 people visit annually to view the wonderful plantings, the wide variety of roses, and seasonal displays of annuals and perennials. Climb the observation tower for spectacular views of *Lake Glacier*. Enjoy the *Davis Visitors Center*, have lunch in the café and find unique gifts at the *Shop in the Gardens*.

Spring also means it's time to get your golf clubs out and book a tee time! Golfers of all skill levels will find Youngstown and Mahoning County can be your Northeast Ohio golfing destination. The Youngstown area has been ranked #4 in the US for top quality, affordable public golf courses. There's no need to spend a fortune on a golf getaway because local hotels offer affordable golf packages.

Joining forces for the first time,



Fellows Riverside Gardens in Youngstown

The Butler Institute of America Art in Youngstown, OH and STERANKO bring universally know heroic characters to audiences of all ages in the groundbreaking exhibition, STERANKO AND THE AMERICAN HERO. This collection of over 60 paintings that audiences may never have known existed, bridges the world of fine art with literary and cinematic art. STERANKO is one of the architects of the Marvel Superheroic Age and a collaborator with Steven Spielberg, George Lucas and Francis Ford Coppola on their hottest blockbuster films. Available for viewing March 13th to May 29th, 2022. At The Butler admission is free, visit their website for operating hours.

After your round, take your pick of tasty local dining options and enjoy a great meal. Relax at a local brewery, or one of their local wineries. Plan a stop at Vintage Estate Wine & Beer for an unbelievable selection of beers from around the world. Browse 1,200 craft beers in stock and a wine room with over 1,000 labels from which to choose. 🍷

Plan a weekend! The Mahoning County CVB is happy to help. Visit them at youngstownlive.com.

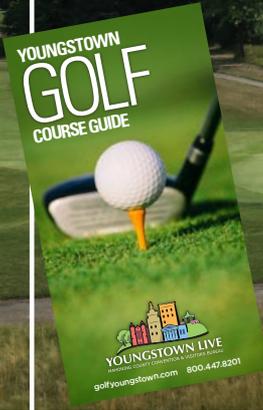
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Panama City beach has 27 miles of sugar white sand.

Surf's up at Panama City Beach

Panama City Beach is the perfect destination for a memorable beach getaway, offering all the right amenities for visitors looking for the perfect sun and sand beach destination.

Best known for its 27 miles of sugar-white sand beaches bordering the clear, turquoise waters of the Gulf of Mexico – Panama City Beach was named the world's No. 2 "Emerging Destination" by Trip Advisor. With 320 days of sunshine annually, it has long been favored by travelers seeking year-round fun for families.

Any time of year is a good time to experience the bounty of nature at PCB's many parks and beaches. A hidden gem is *St. Andrews State Park*, which has been named one of the top beaches in the United States. The park's *Shell Island*, is a secluded, seven-mile-long, barrier island that runs east to west between the Gulf of Mexico and St. Andrews Bay. This is Florida at its most natural, complete with graceful sand dunes, coastal scrub forest, pine hammocks and an inland lake.

Outdoor enthusiasts can hike along scenic trails, or go bird-watching, boating, fishing, diving, kayaking, off-road cycling, stand up paddleboarding and more throughout the year. In addition, Panama City Beach provides unique wildlife viewing opportunities. From bottle-nosed dolphins and large schools of baitfish in the Gulf of Mexico, to alligators and egrets in the marshes and dune lakes, wildlife thrives in this area.

The Gulf Coast has long been known as a golfer's paradise, given that the weather is conducive to playing year-round and Panama City Beach is no exception. Whether a beginner, an amateur, or a seasoned professional, there is a course to fit every skill level. Between the challenging marshlands of *Bay Point Golf Club*, the forgiving fairways of *Holiday Golf Club* and the historic surroundings of *Signal Hill Golf Course*, you're sure to find the perfect greens for your getaway.

For those looking for a little retail therapy, the *Décor by the Shore* shopping trail features a vast selection of shops and

BY ADELINA IRVINE

boutiques specializing in coastal-themed antiques, furniture, gifts and accessories. Northwest Florida is known for its especially unique sense of style and design, home to brightly colored fixtures and quirky beach-themed art, showcasing a fun and whimsical aesthetic. With an ever-growing list of locations in Panama City Beach offering one-of-a-kind coastal décor, visitors will enjoy every minute while shopping for fun finds during any season.

Known as the "Seafood Capital of the South," PCB offers an array of award-winning culinary options. Dining experiences range everything from family-friendly beachside eateries, to premier fine-dining restaurants. Don't forget to try the beach's authentic local eateries.

Panama City Beach hosts some of the area's premier food and drink festivals, including the annual craft beer, wine and spirits festival, *UNwineD*, as well as *Oktoberfest* and the annual *Food Truck and Craft Beer Festival*. The sugar-white sand beaches provide a beautiful backdrop for Panama City Beach's outdoor events like the summer concerts in the park.

Music lovers can enjoy live performances by America's favorite adult rock bands at the annual *SandJam Music Festival*, or hear the freshest sounds in country and Southern rock music at the *Pepsi Gulf Coast Jam*. Be sure to check the special events calendar at <https://www.visitpanamacitybeach.com/events/>, as there's always something fun going on.

Panama City Beach delivers an unforgettable vacation for travelers heading south in search of a warm-weather escape. Apart from the serene shoreline, there's plenty of family fun, heart-pounding action, eco-adventure and romance waiting for you. PCB is a perfect blend of coastal fun, outdoor adventures and local events that are fun for everyone. Those seeking an authentic, fun and high-quality beach experience should dive into Panama City Beach and *Make It Yours!* The hardest part of planning your itinerary will be deciding what to do first.

Visit the official Panama City Beach Convention and Visitors Bureau www.visitpanamacitybeach.com.

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BY RENU SAGGAR

Québec not only boasts the continent's largest collection of 17th and 18th century buildings, a granite and sandstone wall marks the perimeter of the old city. With a circumference of 4.6 kilometres (2.8 miles), it's the only one of its kind north of Mexico. Inside the walls in the heart of *Vieux Québec*, the Ursuline Convent is North America's oldest educational institution for young women, founded in 1639.

One of the Lower Town's more colourful areas is the Quartier Petit-Champlain. This is where *Cirque de Soleil* got their start as a ragtag troupe of street performers. The labyrinth of narrow streets buzzes with chic boutiques and bistros. Rue du Petit-Champlain was recently voted Canada's most charming street.

Lower Town is connected to Upper Town by the aptly named Break-Neck Stairs. Or, you can take a two-minute ride aboard the *Funiculaire*, which drops you on Terrasse Dufferin, a beautiful promenade overlooking the St. Lawrence River. Upper Town straddles Cap Diamant, the city's highest point with the Citadelle de Québec, a huge star-shaped fortress, perched at its tip. Constructed by the

Québec City is a French Kiss

Québec City's old-world atmosphere radiates an irresistible charm. The French adventure in the New World began right here, more than 400 years ago. The name was taken from *Kébec*, an Algonquin term for "where the river narrows" and the tiny settlement quickly evolved into the capital of New France.

Perched astride a 350-foot bluff overlooking the St. Lawrence River, the city is divided into Upper and Lower Town. Lower Town's style is quintessential New France — thick stonewalls, heavy wooden doors, shutters and bright tin roofs. Today, these former homes and warehouses have been reborn as lively bistros, galleries and more fine restaurants per capita than anywhere in North America. Stringent building codes require they preserve their historic exteriors.

"Gift of God I will make thee worthy" vowed Samuel De Champlain, who founded the city in 1608. The first habitation boasted two houses, a store, and a stockade. Notre-Dame-des-Victoires, a

pretty little church opposite the bust of Louis XIV in Place Royale, was erected 80 years later.



British in the 19th century, the massive fortification is still an active military installation.

Rue du Trésor, a vibrant pedestrian alley is where local artists display their work. Dominating the skyline are the stone turrets and spires of the iconic Château Frontenac. Said to be the most photographed hotel in the world it was named after *Comte de Frontenac*, the 17th century governor of New France. The hotel was built on the site of Fort St. Louis, the colonial governors' residence. New York architect Bruce Price was said to have combined the architectural styles of the Middle Ages and the Renaissance to symbolize the collision of two great colonial powers.

Pinned to the cliffside below is the Promenade des Gouverneurs, a picturesque *via ferrata* running from Battlefields Park, to Dufferin Terrace and Place d'Armes. The boardwalk hangs 92 metres (302 feet) above the St. Lawrence, and offers expansive views of the river and Québec's busy harbour. Visitors can take the ferry to the town of Lévis, for some amazing photo opportunities.

Québec is a town made for walking. Winding cobblestone streets are typically

short and narrow, and lead nowhere in particular. The best way to get to know them is to walk, or ride a horse-drawn *caleche*. The *Grand Allee*, the old stone homes and churches, the French Empire style Parliament Building, offer the pleasures of *depaysement*, the feeling of being abroad without leaving the country.

Battlefields Park is also known as the *Plains of Abraham*. On September 13th, 1759, British forces routed the French army in what proved to be the deciding battle of the French and Indian War, effectively ending French ambitions in North America.

Today, the park is to Québec City what Central Park is to New York. With its meandering pathways and views of the St. Lawrence River, it is an ideal setting for a stroll, or a quiet picnic.

Nowhere is the city's zest for living more evident than during the *Festival International d'Ete de Québec*, the annual summer festival. A joyous celebration of the performing arts, friends and families take to the streets, picnicking with baguettes, cheese, paté and a bottle of wine.

The *Domaine Cataraqui* is an enchanting 19th century villa overlooking the St. Lawrence River. The former residence

of two Governor Generals, the property boasts an incredible one million square foot garden complete with stables and greenhouse. Still occasionally used for official functions, it also houses galleries and an interpretive centre.

Celebrated by artists and poets, romantic Ile d'Orleans is a potent symbol of French Canada and the indomitable spirit of New France. Set in the estuary of the Saint-Lawrence River, a few miles from Québec City, the island's inhabitants have stubbornly clung to their centuries old traditions. Authentic old French Canadian homes will delight visitors and bring them closer to the history of rural French Canada. A bridge connecting the island to the mainland was built in 1935 near the foot of *Montmorency Falls*. Previously the island could only be reached by boat or ice-bridge during the winter.

Visitors can take a gondola to the top of the falls, which are 30 metres taller than Niagara, then walk down on a scenic stairway. At the top of the cataract, stands Kent House, once the home of the Duke of Kent, the father of Queen Victoria. The falls plunge 272 feet (83 metres) into a bowl-shaped basin and with a bit of luck, you'll spot a rainbow in the mist. 🌈



Place Royale in Lower Town



The Rocky Mountaineer in Kicking Horse Pass

Riding the rails in style

Rail travel has its own special romance. Whether it's the passing scenery, the hypnotic rhythm of the wheels, or the anticipation of arriving in a destination unknown, riding the rails transcends mere travel becoming a journey of self-discovery. Here are four trips that no traveler should miss.

The Rocky Mountaineer

Canada's Rocky Mountaineer has been called the "most spectacular train ride in the world." The train's bi-level, glass-domed coaches offer unobstructed views, gourmet cuisine created by Michelin-trained chefs and attentive cabin service.

From mid-April to mid-October, the train retraces the legendary routes between Vancouver and Banff/Calgary or Jasper Alberta. Boarding at Vancouver the 2-day journey travels by daylight so passengers can take in all the heart-stopping scenery.

Place names along the way are magical: Jaws of Death Gorge, Suicide Rapids and Jackass Mountain, named for hapless pack

BY RENU SAGGAR

animals who slipped on the narrow trail and plunged to their deaths.

The train overnights in the western city of Kamloops, where guests are berthed in comfortable hotels. Then it's "All Aboard" for either Banff/Calgary or Jasper. The "Journey through the Clouds" to Jasper features spectacular scenery including *Pyramid Falls*, which cascades 300-feet down Mount Cheadle and Mount Robson, which at 12,972 feet is the tallest peak in the Canadian Rockies.

The popular "First Passage to the West" route takes you to Banff and then Calgary. The train follows Kicking Horse River into the Spiral Tunnels — two massive tunnels where the train doubles back on itself to reduce the steep grade.

Then get ready for a peak experience — the ice-mantled mountains of the Canadian Rockies. Following the Bow River toward Banff, the train passes spectacular mountains like the Three Sisters and turreted Castle Mountain. And there's no view like the view from Canada's rooftop.

The Palace on Wheels

A land of ornate palaces and an explosion of colors and cultures, Rajasthan is India's domain of kings. The *Palace on Wheels* takes you deep into the home of maharajas, tigers and elephants, in sheer luxury, where every moment becomes a once in a lifetime experience.



Orient Express' palatial Art Deco cabin

Inspired by the opulent private coaches that once carried the rulers of the princely states, carriages feature amenities like air conditioning, private baths and wifi, as well as an onboard ayurvedic spa. Each car is named after a precious stone with interiors and aesthetics reflecting sumptuous Rajasthani decor. Two dining cars, “The Maharaja” and “The Maharani” serve traditional, European and Continental cuisine.

The 8-day itinerary departs from Delhi and takes travelers inside Rajasthan’s most storied destinations — Jaipur, Udaipur the City of Lakes, the desert oasis of Jaisalmer, Jodhpur and Agra. Excursions include the Ranthambhore Tiger Reserve, the UNESCO World Heritage Hill Fort of Chittorgarh and the timeless Taj Mahal.

Rajasthan, India’s desert state was once a collection of princely realms. Jaipur, the capital, is known as the Pink City, thanks to the pink sandstone used to construct its crenellated stonewalls. Deep inside the walls, the City Palace is an imposing blend of Mughal and Rajasthani architecture.

Udaipur is situated in the lap of the thickly wooded Arvali hills. Its main attraction is the towering cluster of honey colored castles known as the City Palace.

The delicate arches and domed cupolas of Rajasthan’s largest palace complex look out over Lake Pichola, whose twin islands house the world famous Lake Palace Hotel.

Jodhpur is surrounded by the arid Great Thar desert, which contrasts dramatically with the Blue City. Most buildings here are painted blue, because it is thought the color keeps them cooler. The amazing Mehrangarh Fort is perched atop a 400-foot hill. Constructed in 1459, it’s famous for its intricate carvings and expansive courtyards.

Agra is synonymous with the Taj Mahal, built by Emperor Shah Jahan in 1630, in memory of his beloved Queen. Constructed entirely of white marble it took over 22 years to complete. At sunset it glows an almost eerie luminescence, which at times makes it appear to be floating over the horizon.

Venice Simplon Orient Express

Vintage glamour meets unrivalled indulgence on the Venice Simplon-Orient Express. The legendary train runs from London to Venice, with stops in Paris and Verona, Italy. The legendary train is made up of 17 original 1920s and 1930s carriages, each one with its own unique history.

Cars are adorned with art-deco details, burnished brass and French-polished cherry paneling. Three elegant dining carriages exude culinary sophistication, from the Lalique glass inlays in Cote d’Azur, to the black lacquer panels in L’Oriental. French chefs prepare gourmet meals mixing ingredients sourced along the route. Taste fresh caught lobsters from Brittany, or salt marsh lamb from Mont St Michel. Then, drop by the champagne bar for a tempting selection of chilled vintages.

The Ghan

Australia’s legendary Ghan is an epic journey across an entire continent. Following a route once traveled by camel caravans led by Afghan herders, it passes through the two jewels of Australia’s Northern Territory — the Red Centre and the tropical Top End. Along the way it passes the majestic Flinders Range and Ayers Rock in the heart of the Outback’s Red Centre. Onboard dining includes such exotic fare as saltwater barramundi and grilled fillet of kangaroo. Eventually the saltbush and spinifex give way to the swamp and eucalyptus as the 1,851 mile journey rolls into Darwin, with its distinctive mixture of Australian and Asian cultures. 🍷

The Hawa Mahal in Jaipur





BY RENU SAGGAR

third century A.D. and is set against the mesmerizing beauty of the Pacific.

The *Ferrocarril Central Andino*, a rail line joining Lima to Huancayo, is the second highest railway in the world. A journey through the heart of Peru, the *Train of the Andes*, is simply breathtaking. During the 11-hour ride the train climbs to an altitude of 15,681-feet and goes through 69 tunnels and over 58 bridges.

One of Peru's most mysterious destinations is located about six hours from Lima. The *Nazca Lines* are a series of geometric shapes and zoomorphic figures that were etched in the ground more than 2,000 years ago. The meaning of these lines is still unknown, although there are numerous theories, including religious rituals and extra terrestrials. It wasn't until the advent of modern aviation in the 1930s that the figures were identified, since it's impossible to see them at ground level.

These fascinating geoglyphs consist of more than 800 scratched straight lines, 300 geometric figures, along with some truly bizarre stylized animal and plant drawings.

Cusco, the ancient capital of the Incan Empire, is one of Peru's most important destinations. Many believe that the city was built in the shape of a puma, a sacred animal. Inca buildings and foundations have often proved to be stronger than those built in present-day Peru and

Lost in the clouds in Peru

Ancient wonders and colonial grandeur

Home to ancient ruins and antediluvian cultures, Peru is a magical destination, filled with cloud forests, llamas and enigmatic geoglyphs that may or may not have been fashioned by visitors from space. The third-largest country in South America butts up against the Pacific and straddles the Andes, which descend like silt-laden rivers into the Selva, the humid tropics of the Amazon basin.

Lima, the capital, was founded in 1535 and was once the most important city in the Americas. Located on Peru's arid Pacific coast, there are many splendid examples of Colonial architecture like the Convent of Santo Domingo. Plaza de Armas, located in the heart of the historic district, was founded by Spanish conquistador Francisco Pizarro in 1535. More palaces and buildings with fantastically carved wooden balconies flank the plaza.

Miraflores is Lima's beach resort and entertainment center. Travelers flock here to dine in fine restaurants, shop for local

handcrafts, relax and enjoy themselves. Pachacamac, Lima's most important pre-Incan sanctuary, was built in the



Rainbow Mountain

remains of the palace of the Incas, the Temple of the Sun, and the Temple of the Virgins of the Sun still stand.

Hatun Rumiyoq, known as the “Street of the Old Rock” was once the palace of Inca Roca, the 14th century Sapa Inca of the Kingdom of Cusco. Currently known as the *Archbishop’s Palace*, it features a stone perimeter wall. Inside is a great Renaissance courtyard with stone arches and tiles. The street, which runs from the Plaza de Armas, to the Barrio de San Blas, is also home to the Stone of Twelve Angles, a masterpiece of ancient stonework and a potent symbol of the city’s past. Barrio de San Blas, a traditional neighborhood located nearby, is famous for its narrow cobbled streets and workshops where visitors can purchase traditional arts and crafts.

Just ten minutes away from Cusco, are the massive walls of the Sacsayhuamán fortress and a few miles from there, you’ll find the archeological sites of Qenko, Pukapukara and Tambomachay. These Incan buildings were constructed entirely from stone and no one can explain how these stones were moved into place.

Rainbow Mountain, about 3 hours from Cusco, is becoming an attraction second

only to Machu Picchu. Recently discovered due to climate change, just 4 years ago it was entirely covered in snow. The rainbow-like appearance is created by 14 minerals giving the mountain its palette of turquoise, lavender and gold.

Pisac, about an hour’s bus ride from Cusco, is a great place to experience the flavor of an Andean town market. Visitors will find local ceramics, hand-painted beads, colorful textiles and souvenirs.

From Cusco, you can board the train to Machu Picchu. A half-day journey through the beautiful Sacred Valley, it passes snow-capped Andean peaks, timeless Indian villages with terraced fields. Adventurous travelers can follow one of the Inca Trails, a spectacular network of pathways that snake their way to the citadel.

The most important legacy of ancient Peru, Machu Picchu is an Quechua Indian term for “old mountain,” and the citadel is perched in a high saddle between two Andes peaks. Probably the most remarkable architectural achievement of the Inca Empire, the Lost City of the Incas was rediscovered in 1911, centuries after being forgotten by time. The cloud shrouded ruins are filled with

palaces, baths, temples and houses, all in a remarkable state of preservation.

The building technique employed by the Incas is called *ashlar*. Stones are cut in such a way that they fit perfectly together without having to use mortar to secure them.

Machu Picchu also served as an astronomical observatory. The sacred Intihuatana stone indicates the two equinoxes and twice per year, the sun sits directly over the stone creating no shadow.

With 84 of the earth’s 104 known life zones, Peru’s wildlife is rich in diversity. The Amazon basin is home to pink dolphins, jaguars, and giant river otters, 4,000 types of butterflies and one-third of the world’s 8,600 bird species. *Manu*, a vast national park in the Amazon basin, is one of the best places to see this stunning variety of flora and fauna.

The Colca Canyon in southern Peru’s Arequipa region, is one of the world’s deepest, reaching a depth of 13,640 feet, or about twice as deep as the Grand Canyon. The canyon’s yawning depth can easily be appreciated from the Cruz del Condor, a viewpoint where rare Andean Condors can be seen circling most times of the year. 🗺️



Machu Picchu



BY ADELINA IRVINE

Seaport Village, Coronado, Old Town, Balboa Park/San Diego Zoo and more. Visitors enjoy “hop-on and hop-off privileges” at each stop including a designated stop at the Cruise Ship Terminal.

Sixteen scenic parks are strung along the city’s 250 acres of shoreline. Visitors can commune with nature, or relive maritime history. The *USS Midway Museum*, a post WWII era aircraft carrier docked at Navy Pier on the Embarcadero, is the most visited naval ship museum in the continental U.S. An on-board “air wing” boasts 25 restored aircraft and helicopters. Civilians can also catch a San Diego Bay harbor tour to see active U.S. Navy vessels docked along Carrier Row.

Nine more historic vessels are moored nearby at the Maritime Museum of San Diego. The *Star of India* was launched five days before Abraham Lincoln’s Gettysburg Address in 1863, and has sailed around the world twenty-one times. A three-masted bark, the *Star* is the world’s oldest merchant sailing vessel still in operation.

The museum’s fleet also includes a steam-powered ferryboat launched in 1898, an authentic Russian B-39 submarine and *HMS Surprise*, an exacting replica of an 18th century British frigate featured in the Academy-award winning

It never rains in San Diego

Given the year-round sunshine and endless waves, it’s hard to tell when summer ends in Southern California — and some claim it never really does. That’s why no one talks about the weather. It’s nothing but blue skies. Frictionless days give way to vermilion tinged sunsets and evenings filled with stars. Chaparral covered hillsides hover like a mirage over the placid harbor where sea lions bask in the perpetual sunshine.

With its broad sweep of protected bay framed by red sandstone cliffs, San Diego has long been a magnet for sailors. The fastest growing cruise port on the West Coast, about half a dozen cruise lines sail in or out of the harbor with itineraries ranging from the Mexican Riviera and Sea of Cortez, to the breathtaking vistas of the Pacific Coast and the Panama Canal. The Port of San Diego’s main terminal is located a leisurely stroll from the historic Gaslamp Quarter, housing dozens of the city’s best restaurants, galleries, clubs and boutiques.

Old Town Trolley Tours are a great way to see the city on an entertaining narrated tour. Stops include the Gaslamp Quarter,



Balboa Park

film, *Master and Commander: The Far Side of the World*.

Shoppers can set sail for Seaport Village, a 14-acre waterfront shopping and dining complex that recreates a California harbor setting of a century ago. Themed shops, restaurants and cafes are set amid cobblestone pathways, duck ponds and fountains fringed by lush tropical landscaping.

San Diego has a beach for every occasion, including Ocean Beach, a funky enclave that looks like it walked off the cover of a Beach Boys album. Coronado Beach is a vast ribbon of white sand that stretches in front of Coronado Island's opulent oceanfront mansions. Located a bridge away from downtown San Diego, Coronado offers an enchanting island experience that has made it a popular vacation destination for more than a century. Pristine beaches, first-class accommodations, fine dining and abundant outdoor recreation can all be found along the island's bayside. The historic Hotel del Coronado is familiar as the setting for the 1959 movie classic *"Some Like it Hot."* When it opened in 1888, the turreted, white Victorian property was the largest resort hotel in the world.

Early spring, thousands of gray whales journey south from Alaska each year, along 6,000 miles of California coastline to their breeding waters in Baja California. Reaching 50 feet long and weighing up to 45 tons, gray whales typically travel close to the shoreline. A number of whale watching cruises are available to take visitors out to see these gentle giants of the sea.

Orson Welles used Balboa Park's buildings to stand in for Xanadu, Charles Foster Kane's castle in the film *Citizen Kane*. San Diego's cultural masterpiece is often referred to as the "Smithsonian of the West." The park's 1,200-acre house fifteen museums, ranging from photography and model trains, to classic and contemporary art. There are performing arts venues like the Tony Award®-winning Old Globe Theater; botanical gardens and the world renowned San Diego Zoo. The zoo houses 3,700 animals representing 650 rare and exotic species in lush, naturalistic habitats. The Zoo's unique animal habitats include Elephant Odyssey, the Australian Outback, Monkey Trails and Polar Bear Plunge.

Curving along seven miles of coastline, about 12 miles north of San Diego, La

Jolla's rocky red sandstone cliffs offer a striking counterpoint to the iridescent blue sea. A chic and affluent hideaway filled with celebrities and multi-million dollar homes, in Spanish, La Jolla means "the jewel."

Attractions include the Torrey Pines State Reserve, one of the last remaining wild places on the southern California coast. Bisected by miles of trails, sandstone cliffs and unspoiled beaches, the 2,000-acre reserve is home to the elegant, salt pruned Torrey pine. The rarest native pine in the U.S. grows only along this rugged stretch of coastline.

Just south of the reserve is Torrey Pines Golf Course, considered one of America's foremost municipal golf facilities. Set high on a coastal bluff overlooking the Pacific, it's not uncommon for golfers to see dolphins frolicking in the surf or hang gliders circling the gilded seaside cliffs.

Visitors can make a run for the border to Tijuana, Mexico. Located just 17-miles from downtown San Diego, it is one of the most visited cities in the world. Tijuana boasts over 60-million border crossings each year. The San Diego Trolley provides safe and convenient transportation to the border. 



Your Place to Stop, Shop and Dine

Windsor & Amherstburg – Everything you need and more

Mezzo Ristorante & Lounge

Fine dining at its best is what to expect at Mezzo Ristorante & Lounge. A well-trained staff awaits your arrival. Knowledgeable bar staff serve specialty cocktails and fine wines that compliment your meal. Located at 804 Erie St. E. Windsor, Mezzo Ristorante & Lounge is the area's Number One Italian restaurant, voted Windsor's Top Choice Italian Restaurant in 2022.

Sophisticated cuisine is presented with care and attention to detail and that's a main reason why Mezzo is ranked as one of the city's best for nearly 20 years.

What makes Mezzo so special? They offer a high level of customer service, an elegant ambiance, upscale table settings and fine dining etiquette to name a few.

Starting on Mother's Day, Mezzo will be offering Sunday brunch with a DJ. Supper Club and Casino dinner packages are also back by popular demand.

Mezzo offers both indoor and patio dining — perfect for corporate functions, date night, girls night out, weddings, private parties and more. It's an intimate, yet lively gathering place where the area's best cuisine can be enjoyed in a relaxed atmosphere.



Mezzo tantalizing menu selections often begin with *Mezzo Bruschetta* – Crostini topped with roasted sweet peppers, marinated tomatoes, goat cheese and caramelized onions. Pastas include *Tagliatelle* – Tagliatelle noodles with shrimp, scallops,

mussels and calamari in a spicy tomato and white wine sauce. Sweet finishing touches include their famous *Mezzo Tiramisu* – Layered ladyfinger cookies with liquor and espresso flavoured mascarpone cheese and topped with chocolate.

Can't make it in person? Try one of Mezzo's Gourmet Take Out Boxes To Go. Visit them online for their menu and upcoming events at Mezzo.ca.

A La Mode

A La Mode is a beautifully curated boutique, independently run retail store operating for twenty plus years in the heart of Amherstburg, ON. Located at 52 Richmond Street, A La Mode is well known for its chic casual womens apparel, accessories, shoes, jewelry, hats, scarfs and much more. Their fashion lines range from everyday casual to event wear. Many styles to chose from for that special occasion and they cater for women of all shapes and sizes. Excellent quality that fits all price points.

A La Mode carries a wide variety of styles taking you from day casual to evening chic! Designer Canadian labels include Joseph Ribkoff, Tribal, Blyse, Dolcezza and many more.

Joseph Ribkoff's timeless designs give you the confidence to know you are being noticed, but also have the toned elegance of a modern lady.

Designed for the real woman, the *Dolcezza* collection offers a refined look without compromise. Made mostly of natural



A La Mode

and breathable fibers, their garments are stylish, comfortable and with a great fit.

featuring fun outfits and ensemble inspirations!

Visit their website at www.alamodefashions.ca.

Riccardo's Italian Restaurant

If you're dreaming of the Amalfi coast, basking under the Tuscan sun, or simply craving good, authentic Italian food, make reservations at *Riccardo's Restaurant*. Located in the heart of Amherstburg overlooking the Detroit River, every item on the menu is expertly crafted by renowned Chef Riccardo Maltese.

Delightful aromas drift out of the open kitchen where Chef Maltese works his culinary magic, informed by lessons learned from his hometown of Marsala, Sicily. In warmer weather, the waterfront patio is an ideal spot to sip a glass of wine and watch the ship go by.



Riccardo's

Riccardo's offers simple but delicious Italian cooking with pastas like *Housemade Manicotti* – stuffed with ricotta and spinach tomato sauce. *Linguini Seafood Pasta* – Sautéed black tiger shrimp, sea clams, squid rings, Prince Edward Island mussels, garlic and marinara sauce. The *Gnocchi* is Riccardo's homemade potato dumplings with your choice of sauce.

The very popular *Seafood Combo* features broiled orange roughy, breaded Lake Erie yellow perch and garlic jumbo tiger shrimp. *Dusted Calamari Rings* are seasoned with roasted red bell peppers and garlic aioli.

Barbeque specialties include *Spring Lamb Chops* – Delectable Frenched lamb chops, seasoned to absolute perfection.

Riccardo truly makes you feel like you are dining in his home kitchen. One of the best authentic Italian menus in the city!

Summer is the perfect time to savor a meal under the new covered patio with great views of the river. Enjoy Riccardo's hospitality at his Amherstburg location at 238 Dalhousie St., near Navy Yard Park, or allow him to cater your next event.

Look for Riccardo's ad on page 6 and be fortunate enough to dine there this Spring/Summer!! 🍷

Visit them online at www.riccardositalian.com



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Artisan Grill

Fresh ingredients artfully prepared, outstanding service, a warm ambience, and an extensive wine list are the hallmarks of your dining experience at Artisan Grill. In August, 2021 Chef Matthew Johnston, owner of Amherstburg's popular *Artisan Grill*, opened the doors to his second location in Windsor's Devonshire Mall.

Chef Matthew defines Artisan Grill as "Premium Casual dining." While it's no secret that Canadians love to eat out, the way they do is changing. They want casual dining venues, but expect the menu, style and service of a fine dining restaurant. Matthew has revamped and reinvented Artisan Grill at both locations, effectively blurring the line between fine and casual dining. They feature casual, welcoming physical spaces, but add upscale amenities and influences.

Menus feature some sensational new dishes, along with some past favourites. They offer a variety of vegetarian and gluten-free dishes, as well as many items that can be modified to accommodate any requests.

A fervent believer in "Eating in Season" the menu adapts with the changing calendar. Chef Matthew's goal is to introduce patrons to a wide variety of tastes and flavours. Fish is responsibly sourced from sustainable fisheries. Poultry is Canadian free range. Six cuts of steak are aged up to 35 days.

You no longer need to decide between a New York strip and a filet. Artisan Grill's *Porterhouse* is a 26 oz. Certified Angus T-Bone, with both cuts of beef combined into one steak.

The *Fried Goat Cheese Spinach* features baby spinach tossed with slivered red onion, craisins, apple, almonds and panko

fried goat cheese, finished and with a tangy raspberry vinaigrette.

How about a *Pancetta Portobello Burger*? A 6 oz.. Certified Angus burger is topped with mushrooms, sliced pancetta and provolone cheese on a brioche bun, with lettuce, tomato, red onion and pickle.

In a post pandemic world, patrons will be more enthusiastic than ever about visiting their favourite restaurants for family reunions, birthday parties, meet friends for a few drinks after work, seasonal parties, or romantic date nights. Whether it's a bridal shower, or that special Mother's Day feast for Mom, Artisan Grill could not be a better choice! 🍷

Stay tuned! Crossings Magazine's summer edition will celebrate the unsung hospitality heroes of Windsor & Essex county and Matthew Johnston is one of them! Visit them online at artisangrill.ca.



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BY ADELINA IRVINE



Fulton County Ohio is “historicFUL”

Whether it's playful, tasteful, or cheerful, Fulton County offers more than a weekend FUL of Fun. The county's northern border helps form Ohio's boundary with Michigan and visitors can easily make a day of it.

Discover the charms of the past at *Sauder Village*, Ohio's largest living history destination. With hands on activities and costumed guides, you will be transported through time, from the pioneer era, to the new Roaring 1920's Main Street, home to *The Broken Barrel Speakeasy*.

Family members can participate in hands on activities such as making butter or milking a goat. *Mary Ann's Cabin* is an adorable log cabin where kids can play with child-sized furniture and utensils, toys, games and more!

Climb aboard the *Erie Express*, a miniature replica of the celebrated 1863 C.P. Huntington train.

Marvel at the working craftsmen creating items of beauty, utility and character. Sauder Village is sure to engage every member of your family.

Unplug and relax while trekking on Fulton County trails, playing in scenic state parks, or touring a bison ranch. Just minutes from Sauder village guests can take a ride into the past at the *Lockport Covered Bridge*. Or, enjoy a serene walk



Fulton County Courthouse

through scenic *Goll Woods State Nature Preserve*.

Enjoy small town hospitality county festivals and other community events. The Fulton County fairgrounds plays host to numerous events year-round, including the National Thresher's Convention, Crosley Car Show, Antique Motorcycle show, races, Dog Shows, Horse Shows, the Stateline Gem and Mineral show and more! The beautifully manicured fairgrounds provide an ideal site for

camping, whether you are attending an event, or just passing through.

During Labor Day weekend visitors will find affordable family fun at Ohio's finest and best county fair! Fair goers will experience top name entertainment, thrilling rides, a huge trade show, competitions and of course, food!

Engage your curiosity at the *Museum of Fulton County*. Learn about the people who made this part of Northwest Ohio a thriving community. There's always something new to discover. The county was named for Robert Fulton, inventor of the steamboat and was home to luminaries like legendary auto racer Barney Oldfield, and a hometown version of Annie Oakley. Travel the world with Carl Britsch, a successful architect and artist in 2022's feature exhibit.

History buffs will discover many other sites scattered throughout the county. The historic *Fulton County Courthouse* is the centerpiece of Wauseon, an idyllic town located about 30 miles from Toledo. The Italianate courthouse was completed in 1872 and is on the National Register of Historic Places.

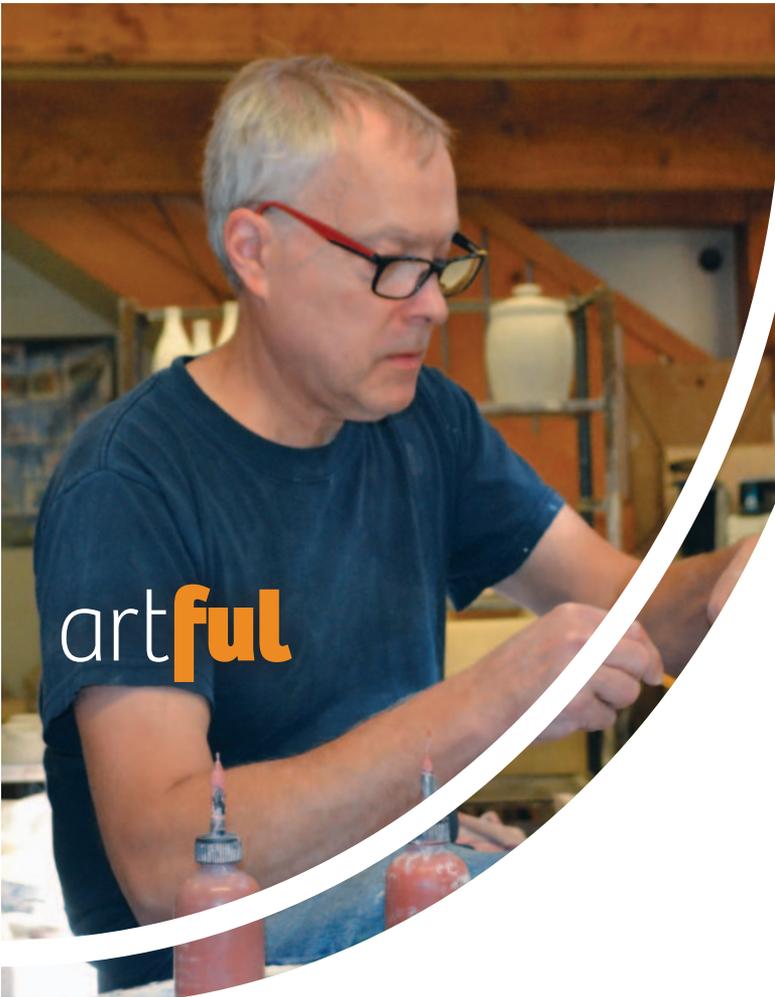
Enjoy top notch entertainment, food and beverages at locally owned restaurants, wineries and craft breweries. Get revved up in the excitement of "Saturday Night Lights" at Oakshade Raceway and Delta Motorsports.

Throughout Fulton County you will find many unique shopping opportunities including quaint boutiques, antique and specialty shops such as Stella Leona Chocolates, Swan Creek Candles and many more.

Oak Openings Pottery and Manabigama Kiln Center offer beautiful, hand-made wood-fired pottery. Richard Allan Metal Arts takes unwanted items from peoples past and makes them into incredible works of art. Windfall Woodworks creates unique and functional pieces, all from wood blown down by the wind! Turkeyfoot Creek Creamery is a family owned farm, which handcrafts artisanal goat cheese and ice cream.

Guests will find comfortable and affordable lodging at Holiday Inn Express, Days Inn, Rodeway Inn, Sauder Heritage Inn and Fulton County Fairgrounds camping, located directly off the Ohio Turnpike. 📍

To find your FUL in Fulton County go to visitFULTONcounty.com.



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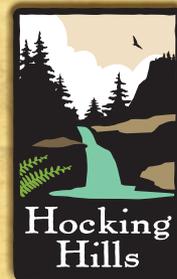
Relive yesteryear at historic Sauder Village.
Find family fun at the popular Fulton County Fairgrounds.
Explore one of the area's wonderful wineries. And that's just day one. Whether it's history and heritage, fun and festivities, arts and activities, or just simply rest and relaxation that's on your getaway list, you're sure to find it in Fulton County.

 visitfultoncounty.com

Welcome Back



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