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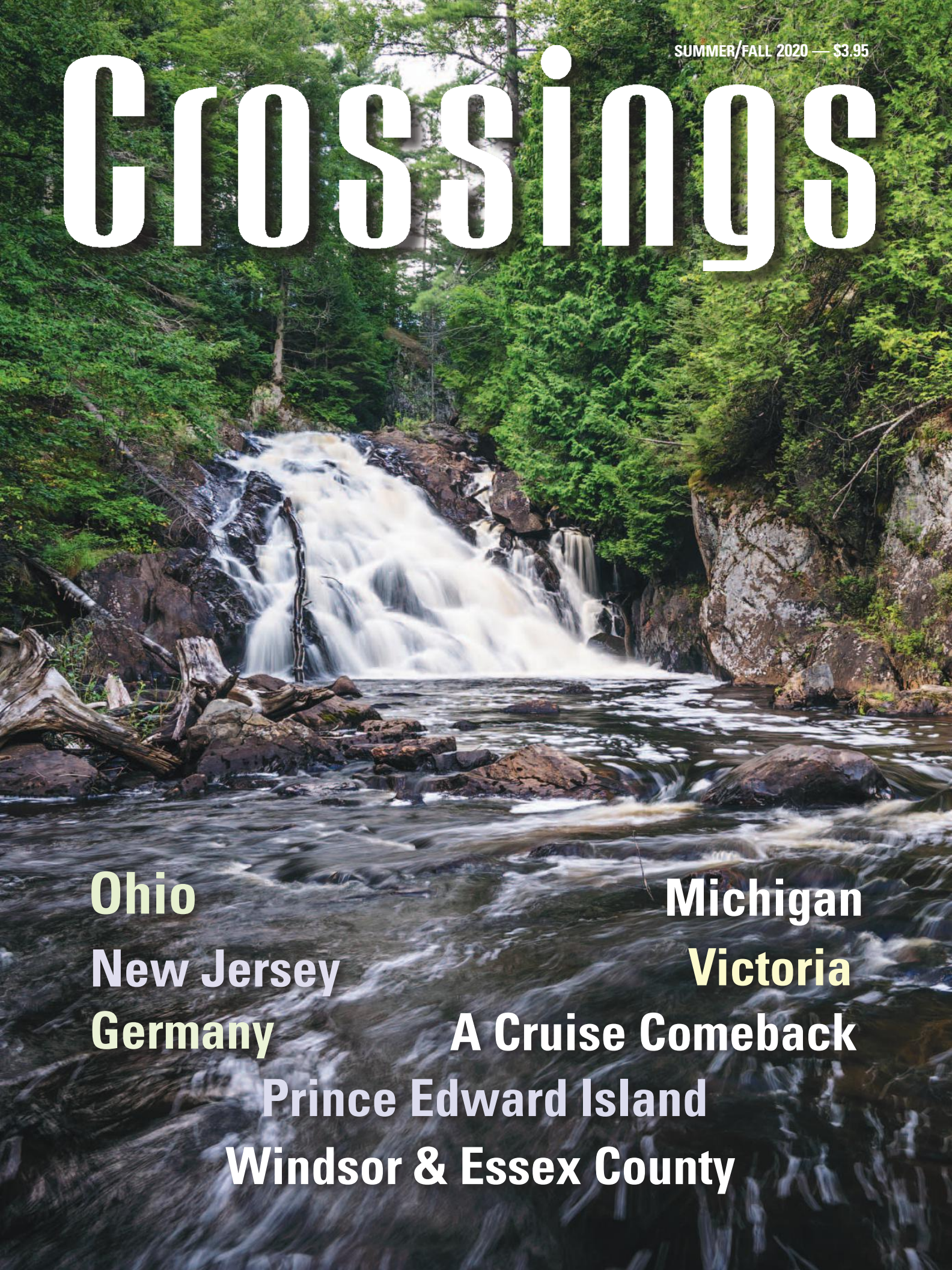

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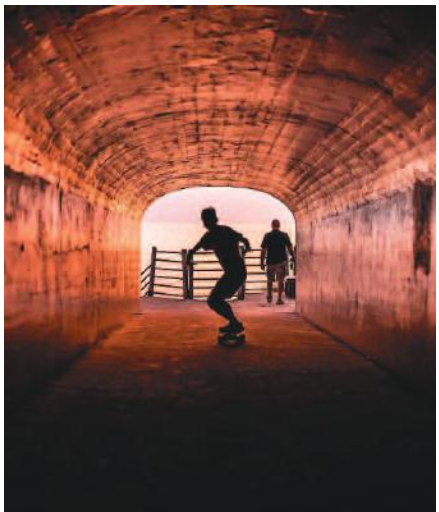

Crossings

Volume 21, Number 2, Summer/Fall 2020

Life & Style

16
READY WHEN YOU ARE
Holland welomes you with Dutch clean hospitality.

18
IT'S TIME FOR TRAVERSE CITY
Where great things come together all year long.

Free Wheeling

27
FRIPP ISLAND
Where the only footprints in the sand will be your own.

28
CRUISING AFTER COVID
When will it be safe to go back out on the water?

46
BODY AND SOUL
The Northumberland Heights Wellness Retreat.

The Rhine River from Ruedesheim, Germany

Travel

8
THERE'S MORE TO MICHIGAN
Finding safe places and spaces in the Great Lakes State.

20
WHAT'S NEW IN NEW JERSEY
The Garden State is a garden of earthly delights.

30
THE HEART OF IT ALL
Ohio welcomes you to a four-season playground.

40
AN ISLAND IN THE STREAM
Prince Edward Island is locked in the embrace of the sea.

42
VICTORIA'S NO SECRET
Get some tea and sympathy in Canada's west coast capital.

44
GERMANY IS WUNDEBAR
Travel to one of the most charming countries on the Continent.

48
THE BEST OF EVERYTHING
Enjoy the best of Windsor and Essex County.

52
SCOTLAND'S PIPES ARE CALLING YOU
Taking the high road to the land of hill and heather.

The sleek European styling of the 1953-1954 Studebaker Commander is a daring and enduring tribute to the design genius of Raymond Loewy

Cover: Pinnacle Falls, Marquette Michigan

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Michigan's Safe Places & Spaces

BY **RENU SAGGAR**

Michigan is amazing at any time of year, but late summer and fall is 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

While traveling this year may look and feel a bit different than the past, know that Michigan's Coldwater Country is making safety, sanitation and social distancing a priority to keep their residents and visitors safe.

Located along the US-12 Heritage Route, halfway between Chicago and Detroit, is an area boasting outdoor recreation, unique attractions and stunning architecture. The region is also notable for its quaint towns including Coldwater, Bronson, Quincy and Union City and a host of family entertainment options.

Home to more than 100 lakes, it's easy to spend the entire day on the water. One of the more unique experiences in the area is transiting from one lake to another through the chain of lakes. Coldwater Country is home to not only one chain of lakes but two — North Chain of Lakes and South Chain of Lakes. Reel in the catch of the day, enjoy a leisurely pontoon ride or kayak the Union City Heritage Water Trail, just one of only nine water trails in Michigan.

Families can spend the day at the newest Coldwater Country attraction, *The Aqua Pit*. This inflatable aquatic playground features a multi-tiered obstacle course in the water, a beach area, kayaking, paddle boarding and more.

Head to the Adventure Zone for mini golf and go-carts. Laser tag, arcade and the virtual reality lounge are perfect for days when the weather doesn't cooperate.

Catch a performance with Tibbits Opera House. This summer's salute to their traditional Popcorn Theatre, 'A Popped Potpourri' is perfect for a family outing. The show is designed to delight both young and old and features musical favorites from popular kids' movies like 'Chitty Chitty Bang Bang' and 'Willy Wonka.' Or catch a flick at the family-owned and operated Capri Drive-In showing double features.

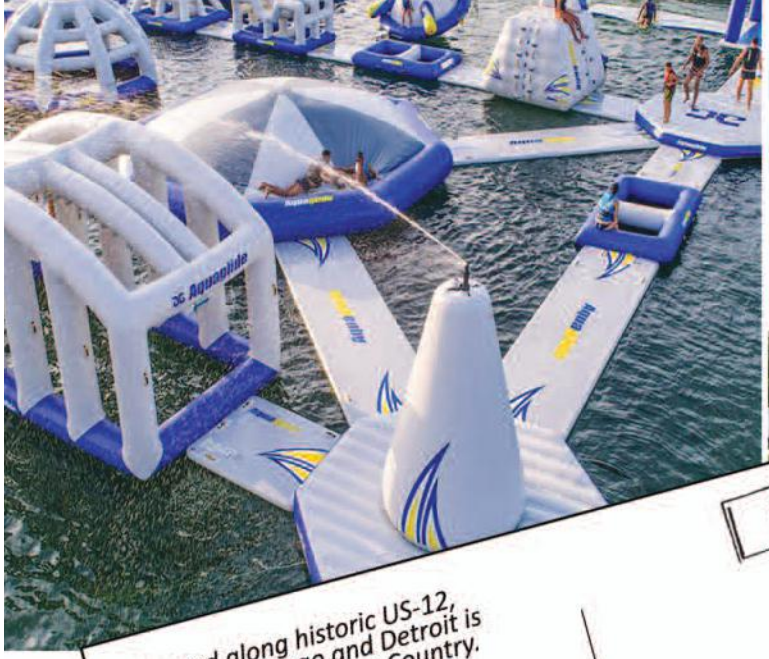
For a magical experience, plan to attend Camp Colon in the Magic Capital of the World. This one-of-a-kind camp, August 6-8, is a mini-version of the annual Magic Get Together with magic shows, lectures and more.

So, when you're ready and the time is right, they're here and ready to help make family memories all year long.

Stay up-to-date on Coldwater Country happenings and upcoming events at ColdwaterCountry.com.

Lansing

Looking for the perfect weekend road trip? Discover Greater Lansing! Nestled in the heart of Michigan, it's the State Capitol and home to Michigan State University. Greater Lansing offers dozens of outdoor activities for all ages. Bike the 17+ mile River Trail, or paddle a kayak along the Grand River through the core of downtown Lansing. Hit the links for premier golf or try your hand at disc or foot golf. Dip your toes in the sand of our urban beach at Rotary Park, just



Situated along historic US-12, between Chicago and Detroit is Michigan's Coldwater Country.

Wish you were here for family fun, fishing, and festivals throughout the seasons!

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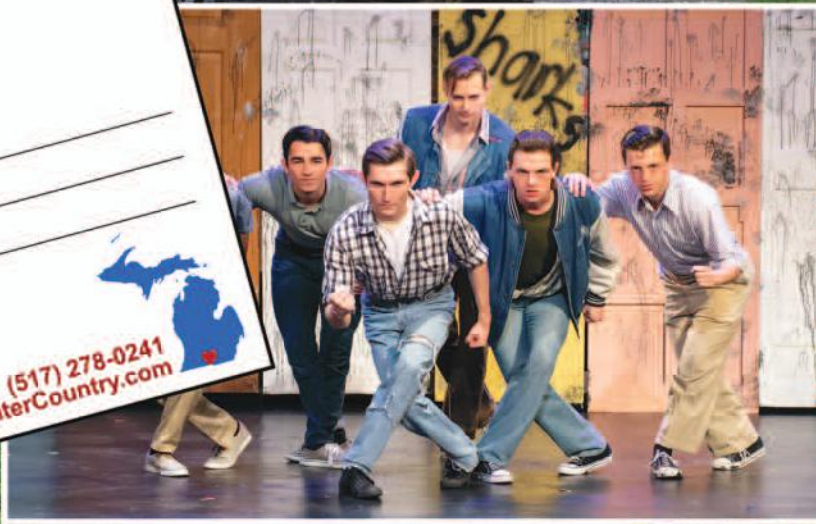

Michigan

steps from the State Capitol. The park offers access to the Lansing River Trail, a kayak/canoe livery, a fire pit, lighted forest is the perfect spot for a picnic before exploring five other attractions within a five-block radius.

Absorb a kaleidoscope of colors as you stroll the 3.5-mile ART path with nearly 20 new art installations. REO Town and Old Town are charming and eclectic communities with artists enclaves street art and colorful murals. Add boutique shopping and delicious dining and they are the perfect place to spend an afternoon.

Bringing the kids? Celebrate Potter Park Zoo's 100th anniversary and see baby otter pups, kangaroo joeys and a rare black rhino calf. Marry exercise and education as you experience the Planet Walk. Enjoy Little Hawk putting course, that offers real grass, actual sand traps and waterfalls. No swirling windmills on this course! Kids also enjoy the MSU 4-H Children's Gardens and of course, the MSU Dairy Store for fresh ice cream.

After all that activity you'll be hungry! Grab a bite and dine *al fresco* at one of the numerous open-air patios. In addition to dozens of outdoor activities, area hotels have taken the Greater Lansing Safe Pledge to help keep you well. Love Lansing like a local and they promise, you'll love it just as much as they do!

Book your weekend getaway at lansing.org.

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 over 100 Choice Hotels in Michigan to choose from, Choice Hotels can be the perfect place to create the vacation of your dreams. Brands include Comfort Inn, Comfort Suites, Sleep Inn, Quality Inn, Clarion & the one-of-a-kind, upscale Ascend hotels, combining the amenities of a luxury resort, with the intimacy of a bed and breakfast.

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

The Commitment to Clean initiative builds on Choice Hotels' long-standing cleanliness protocols and enhances the existing program in response to the pandemic. These include heightened cleaning protocols for high-traffic areas; using hospital-grade disinfectant approved by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; and allowing guests to request delivery of additional toiletries, towels, linens or coffee without having a housekeeper enter the room. Furniture has been re-arranged to encourage appropriate social distancing.

Choice Hotels' complete approach to infection prevention includes a close association with Ecolab, who is helping ensure the company has the right infection prevention programs and training in place.

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Michigan

Flint & Genesee County

Flint & Genesee is filled with wide open spaces ready for you to enjoy an adventure. Just an hour's drive from the Canadian border, Flint offers a unique, urban destination filled with public art, while the rest of Genesee County provides endless opportunities to explore.

For those craving sunshine, Flint & Genesee is home to Michigan's largest county parks system, which covers 11,000 acres of outdoor space. The high points of their parks system include the 383-acre For-Mar Nature Preserve and Arboretum, which has one of the country's largest treehouses, built by Animal Planet's Treehouse Masters. Miles of hiking trails and waterways meander through tree-lined parks, quaint villages and bustling downtowns.

Many hiking trails are multi-use and paved to meet Americans with Disabilities (ADA) accessibility standards. Public access sites throughout the county make boating and kayaking easy and accessible. Kayak and canoe rentals are available for all skill levels.

Genesee County's fascinating history comes to life in the restored, working community of *Crossroads Village*. Wander through more than 34 historic buildings and shops, including Michigan's oldest operating gristmill, a cider mill, a General Store, an old-time barber shop and an authentic blacksmith shop.

Mueller's Orchard & Cider Mill in Linden, has been providing fun for the whole family for over 70 years. Family activities include a farm market, pumpkin patch, fall corn maze, tours and more.

With over 11 national-caliber, public golf courses, Flint & Genesee offer a tailored golf experience for every age, budget and skill level. From public Flint city courses to 18-hole championship courses, enjoy an afternoon of beautiful weather, scenic views and some of the best golf in Michigan. Discounted, overnight golf packages are available.

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

Southwest Michigan

No matter how large or small your family or group, here are six fun things for you to enjoy in fall, winter and spring.

Farm-fresh flavors and fun! Tempered by Lake Michigan, the climate in Southwest Michigan provides farmers with bountiful harvests of a large variety of fruits and vegetables. Several family-owned farms welcome groups to handpick produce from fertile fields, orchards and markets. As well as gather up recipes to share back home. You will find the farm-fresh flavors exceptional.

Experience a colorful history! Ever since melting glaciers formed the Lake Michigan shore, this area has been steeped in history. Learn the stories of renowned European explorers and American entrepreneurs. Climb to the top of a century-old lighthouse. Sail on a replica tall ship. Come, be part of an amazing, multifaceted history.

Get outside and play! Give yourself some playtime. Take a leisurely stretch along the shaded garden trails. Challenge each other to a laughter-filled round of mini-golf or go-kart riding. Paddle on a winding river or make an exhilarating climb up a giant dune. Breathe deep! The air is so refreshing.

Fun food and shopping experiences! Whether you stop for a break or stay for a day or more tasting chef specialties and finding unique gifts in the resort

Kayaking on the Flint River

Spend the day discovering the miles of trails and waterways that are waiting for you in Flint and Genesee County, Michigan. Barrier-free options ensure that all are able to partake in nature. Whether paddling the rivers, exploring the trails, or enjoying the lakes – Flint & Genesee's great outdoors invite you in.

We're ready to explore when you are in Flint & Genesee.

Explore FLINT & GENESEE

exploreflintandgenesee.org

Michigan

towns and countryside villages, visiting Southwest Michigan will be a highlight of your trip. Lake Michigan and river views, breathtaking sunsets, victorian-era downtowns, this is where you can indulge in the moment.

Collect creative experiences! Discover the creativity flowing through Southwest Michigan. Meet the artist and see talented performers who will enrich your life while you are there. Take a class at a studio. Let your spirits soar at a concert. Laugh or wipe away tears during a live performance. Even fabricate your ideas in a lab. The creative possibilities are endless.

Travel the Makers Trail! Southwest Michigan is home to 40+ award-winning wineries, breweries and distilleries. Each provides unique gathering places to taste their products. Some of the tours include food pairings, yoga or art classes. They all love to answer your questions and make recommendations. Catch the next flight on the Makers Trail.

As soon as it is safe to travel across the boarder, we will be here waiting for you with life's simple joys. Visit www.swmichigan.org.

Grand Haven

Grand Haven is one of Michigan's most popular beach towns, but that doesn't mean there's nothing to do here once the sun sets on summer. Here are 4 ways to enjoy fall in the Grand Haven area!

By Water — The Grand Haven area is surrounded by water including Lake Michigan, Spring Lake, Pigeon Creek and the mighty Grand River. So, naturally they suggest taking in the fall colors from the water. There are many areas to launch your own kayak, including Eastmanville Bayou, Hemlock Crossing and Mill Point Park. If you have never paddled, or don't own your own, Lakeshore Kayak Rental offers kayak lessons as well as kayak, canoe and stand up paddle board rentals. While out on the water, be sure to keep your eyes peeled for bald eagles!

By Bike — Did you know that the Grand Haven area has over 100 miles of bike trails? The Lakeshore Trail is a 20-mile bike trail between downtown Grand Haven and Holland. Along the way you can stop at Rosy Mound Natural Area, Kirk Park and Sandy Point Beach House. The 15-mile Lakeside Trail encircles Spring Lake through the communities of Ferrysburg and the Village of Spring Lake. If you are looking for something more off-road, Pigeon Creek Park and Bass River Recreation Area offers mountain biking trails through the woods and along the Grand River. Fat Tire biking is welcome throughout the area including local beaches. Sun Sport Rentals in Grand Haven offers bike rentals for all ages. Be sure to contact the Visitors Center for an area bike map and to share some of the options for your experience level and interest.

By Foot — The Grand Haven area is blessed with an amazing system of parks that offer trails through forests, along the rivers, over dunes and with stunning views of Lake Michigan. North Ottawa Dunes is home to 513 acres of wooded dunes – some exceeding 750 ft. in height. Rosy Mound Natural Area is a favorite stop with its group of trails, stairs, dune boardwalk trail and Lake Michigan beach. Hemlock Crossing has over 6 miles of trails that meander through the forest, old pine plantations and along the Pigeon River. This is also the home of the Ottawa County Nature Education Center which has exhibits a wildlife den with critters and activities and a wildlife viewing area.

Marquuette Waterfalls

The NEC also offers a variety of programs including guided hikes, kayaking trips and nighttime astronomy programs.

By Car — If you are looking to cover a larger area during your fall color tour of the Grand Haven area, then a car is the way to go. A favorite route to take is the stretch of road from Grand Haven to Eastmanville Bayou and back known as the Historic River Road. Using the handy guide found on their website or at their Visitors Center, this self-guided auto tour brings you along the original River Road which is oldest byway in Ottawa County and one of the oldest in the state. Numbered signs along the way indicate stops and points of interest that mesh local history with the beautiful riverside and park system. Some must-stops along the way include Vander Mill cider mill, Odd Side Ales, Turk's Tavern, Connor Bayou and countless farm side stands.

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

Marquette County

Marquette County in Michigan's Upper Peninsula, is the ultimate trip for nature lovers seeking solace in the great outdoors. Surrounded by glacier-hewn bluffs with breathtaking views and diverse

Michigan

landscapes ranging from rock formations to dense hardwoods Marquette County has an adventure for every kind of traveler including your four-legged ones.

Marquette County is home to 77 natural waterfalls, more falls than any other county in the state of Michigan. This summer and fall Travel Marquette invites visitors to experience these natural wonders up close and personal. With a dedicated directory and map detailing the county's most popular waterfalls, Visit TravelMarquetteMichigan.com/marquette-county-waterfall-map for your free Marquette County Waterfall map.

Many falls can be found near downtown Marquette. Grab a bite at one of the local restaurants before heading to Wright Street Falls, located just 10 minutes from town. It's perfect for a quick and easy excursion.

Other family friendly locations include Warner Creek Falls and Cataract Dam Falls, both known for their scenic trails and wonderful fishing locations.

Up for a challenge? Take on four waterfalls in the same afternoon, each more enchanting than the last. Morgan Creek Falls offers visitors a dynamic hike, perfect for those seeking riverside views and 5 to 25-foot drops. And for a double-feature, Carp River Falls is a short half-mile hike from Morgan Creek. A bit farther down the road are Yellow Dog Falls and Pinnacle Falls, two remote hidden gems with stunning scenery. Several smaller falls are scattered throughout the area.

Other classic waterfalls in the greater Marquette area include Big Pup Creek Falls, an easy and dog-friendly spot with gentle trails and views of the Yellow Dog River, as well as Little Garlic Falls, a popular state forest with interesting rock formations and dense wooded trails. Both waterfall sites are located a half hour's drive from downtown Marquette.

For those interested in a guided experience, *Marquette Recreational Tours* offers a wonderful Waterfalls Tour. Equipment retailers and rental shops stand ready to supply all outings while local breweries and hangouts await accomplished waterfall chasers returning to downtown Marquette after a long day of adventures.

Marquette has gained national acclaim as a premier mountain bike destination with over 150 miles of singletrack. If you prefer a more leisurely ride, there are also excellent paved paths for cycling. The Noquemanon Trail Network (NTN) was built with all rider styles and skills.

Travel Marquette is committed to following health and safety guidelines in accordance with Governor Whitmer and the MI Safe Start Plan. The Safe Start Plan offers health and safety guidelines for local businesses to responsibly reopen and welcome locals and visitors alike to enjoy the beauty of Marquette County.

Marquette's historic downtown pays homage to the rich mineral deposits, dense forests and maritime markers that have helped to shape its story. From unique dining experiences, award-winning craft breweries and a thriving art scene, Marquette embraces a culture anchored in skill and ingenuity.

Finish your day with a burger and award-winning microbrew, or a *pasty,* a sort of portable beef stew folded into a purse of pie dough and baked to a rich, golden brown. Other dining options feature fresh-caught whitefish, and a selection of locally roasted coffees or handcrafted cocktails.

Plan your adventure at TravelMarquetteMichigan.com.

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The golden shores of Lake Michigan

Holland: Dreams Are On Us

BY RENU SAGGAR

Whether you are one of the first to cross a newly opened border, or prefer to dream a bit longer, Holland is ready when you are.

Nothing is more important to the people of Holland, Michigan than the well-being of its residents and guests. The community is monitoring and following local, state and federal guidelines to ensure safety, health and peace of mind. Residents and visitors work together to keep this beautiful town open for all to enjoy.

Until we meet, why not dream of pristine, white sandy beaches with towering dunes? Go ahead, anticipate savoring an artisianal beverage from a sidewalk café. Chart a leisurely route through the unique shops in the historic downtown with over 100 independently-owned shops, galleries, eateries, and brew pubs. It is no wonder that downtown's accolades include "America's Prettiest Towns", "The Best Main Street You Gotta Visit", and one of "The Most Beautiful Small Towns In America".

There's more!

Envision Holland's hotels "Welkoming" you with Dutch clean hospitality. With 2,000 hotel rooms you're sure to find accommodations to fit your budget.

Picture wandering through town on your own, contemplating life-sized bronze Wizard of Oz sculptures, including Dorothy,Toto,Tin Man, Scarecrow, a Munchkin and a 1,000 lb Cowardly Lion! Then, decide whether a brick oven pizza, pan seared salmon or a family style paella sounds good for dinner.

Get a taste of Holland's Dutch heritage at *Windmill Island Gardens,* where "DeZwaan" a 19th century working windmill was imported from the Netherlands over half a century ago, it towers over 36 acres of beautifully-manicured lawns and gardens. You can enhance your Dutch experience by heading over to *Nelis' Dutch Village*, a re-creation of 100 year-old village in the Netherlands, or stopping by *DeKlomp Wooden Shoe and Delft Factory*, the only production delftware factory in the US. Watch wooden shoes being carved on machines that were imported from the Netherlands. And don't forget the *Holland Museum,* with its 2nd floor Dutch galleries.

Just a short drive from downtown, relax and unwind on the "sugar sand" shores of Lake Michigan. Wake up in the morning and head to the water – kayak an inland stream, paddle board along the Lake Michigan shoreline or climb aboard a fishing vessel to catch your own dinner. Finish the day marveling at the sun setting on the spectacular lake.

While the greater Holland area has a number of waterfront parks and beaches, none is more popular than Holland State Park, offering the best view of *Big Red,* Holland's iconic lighthouse and one of Michigan's most photographed landmarks. For a special treat, be sure to check out nearby *Tunnel Park,* where you actually walk through a 1930's era concrete tunnel to get to the sparkling waters of Lake Michigan. Holland is also a favorite destination for cyclists, with over 150 miles of paved bike paths.

Whatever your vision of the perfect Holland visit, our community is ready to help you make it a dream come true. When you are ready to visit our vibrant town, be sure to check www.holland.org.

Windmill Island Gardens

There's more fun for you in Michigan

Get ready to have some fun in Michigan. All the important Michigan attractions and events are right at your fingertips at MichiganFun.com. Get to know some of Michigan's most visited locations. From the bay in Traverse City to Woodward Ave. in Detroit, Michigan never disapoints. There's also valuable information on some of Michigan's lesser known, but no less interesting places to visit like Algonac and Beaver Island.

Every year, nearly 35 million people flock to one or more of Michigan's 5,000 fairs and festivals where they build their

Holland Tulip Time

Zehnder's Snowfest

own cherished memories filled with incredible music, compelling independent films, delicious foods, thrilling rides, blue-ribbon livestock, fine wines, craft beers and so much more.

Event and attraction categories on MichiganFun.com include Fun & Adventure; Art & Music, Food & Drink, Galleries & Museums, Festivals and Tourism.

Search by event, or find out what's new and exciting in places like Holland, Coldwater, Flint, Gaylord, Lansing and Marquette. You'll also find images, event and attraction details and desciptions, maps and links to their websites.

From coast to coast and through all four seasons, Michigan offers some of the most diverse and enjoyable fairs and festivals in the country. Yes, fairs and festivals are great for the economy.

Yes, they're a terrific way for artists, entertainers, food producers, businesses and others to feature their products and creations. And yes, they're a lot of fun. But they're so much more!

For millions of people, they are the centerpiece of a lifetime of memories. A fair or festival may last only a few days, but the memories of those experiences can be shared for a lifetime.

So, get out there! Create some memories with your friends and families and we hope to see you there! Subscribe to their Newsletter and be notified about new and monthly events right in your inbox. Don't miss a Michigan moment.

Have an event you would like to get listed? Contact their office at 989-845-2080 for more information.

Visit MichiganFun.com to create your next memory!

Aerial view of Downtown Traverse City

Now's the Time for Traverse City

BY **RENU SAGGAR**

Nestled along the deep blue waters of Grand Traverse Bay, Traverse City is a four-season recreational paradise. For over a century, travelers have been coming here to enjoy the unique mixture of relaxation, adventure and unrivaled natural splendor.

With more than 150 inland lakes and hundreds of miles of Lake Michigan shoreline, including the majestic Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore, nothing is more peaceful than looking out over Lake Michigan from high atop a golden sand dune.

Traverse City has almost limitless opportunities for boating, sailing, paddling, swimming and beachcombing. There are miles of hiking and cycling trails, blue-ribbon trout streams and 18 championship golf courses with million dollar views and world-class designs.

Long known as *The Cherry Capital of the World,* Traverse City is also an increasingly famous wine-producing region, with about 40 wineries and tasting rooms and a hotbed of craft brewing and distilling. Thanks to a new generation of innovative local chefs, they're also winning national acclaim for their fresh, imaginative regional cuisine. Follow your nose (okay, eyes too) to find the perfect patio for relaxing *alfresco* dining.

Awaken your taste buds with food and wine pairings on the *Leelanau Peninsula Wine Trail*. Thanks to the region's unique combination of climate, topography and soils — its *terroir*, as the French say — Traverse City area wines have earned accolades from wine critics including Travel Channel's *Top 10 Cities for Wine Snobs*. Of course, "terroir" is not limited to beer and wine. The distilled spirits produced by Traverse City vintners and microdistillers also carry distinctive flavors — from the fruit brandies produced by local wineries, to the small-batch vodkas and whiskeys made from the area's artisinal distilleries.

When it comes to shopping, Traverse City's creative entrepreneurs do retail therapy like no other. The beautiful turn-of-the-century downtown has over 150 boutiques, quirky galleries and restaurants, while the *Village at Grand Traverse Commons* (a former mental asylum) is filled with fascinating shops and eateries.

In Traverse City as well as the surrounding regions, the well-being of residents and guests is their highest priority. That's why the region is following local, state and federal guidelines to ensure safety, health and peace of mind. We're all in this together.

If you want to know if your favorite local business is open, the best thing to do is call them or check their website/social media.

No matter what your Traverse City getaway looks like, you'll discover outdoor adventure and endless opportunities in a pretty great place.

Start planning your trip at traversecity.com.

Park Place Hotel

The only hotel and conference facility located in the heart of downtown Traverse City, the historic Park Place Hotel & Conference Center, is where luxury meets location. It's just steps from shops and restaurants, or an easy stroll to the bay and beach. The gracious accommodations, memorable views, thoughtful amenities and comprehensive services make this a very special, pet-friendly place.

Your confidence and trust in their ability to provide safe and comfortable surroundings is not taken lightly. Park Place is doing their utmost to keep visitors, guests and staff safe and away from potential harm during the pandemic.

Each of 140 tastefully decorated guest rooms and suites are carefully appointed and feature lovely views of Boardman Lake and Grand Traverse Bay. Amenities include a coffee maker, mini refrigerator, microwave and complimentary Wi-Fi.

Planning an event? The Park Place Hotel's new Conference Center is a classically modern facility customized to accommodate a variety of groups.

The newly-renovated Tower Rooms blend contemporary design and amenities with an historic location. The stunning indoor pool facility, complete with whirlpool, splash pad and fitness center is available to guests free of charge.

Minervas Restaurant & Bar on the lobby level, offers upscale but comfortable atmosphere, for breakfast, lunch and dinner with a full menu of steaks, chops, seafood and more. Minervas also features happy hour food and drink specials.

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

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

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PURE MICHIGAN
TraverseCity.com

Newark Skyline

Is Newark the New Brooklyn?

BY RENU SAGGAR

Newark has it all: a thriving arts and cultural scene, green spaces and scintillating sports and entertainment options.

One of the most diverse cities in America, Newark's many ethnic enclaves boast residents from 132 nations. The city is home to the most Cuban-Americans outside of Florida, the third largest Peruvian, Indian and Korean populations in the country and the fourth largest Chinese population in the U.S.

People gush over the Newark Museum, the Prudential Center and NJPAC arts center. In the University Heights neighborhood, unversities and colleges, including Rutgers, rival the biggest college towns.

The *Ironbound District* is where you can find traditional and contemporary twists on Portuguese, Spanish and Brazilian dining. Located on the banks of the Passaic River, the *Brazilian Independence Day Festival,* held over Labor Day weekend, is one of Newark's largest annual celebrations. It's also the place to see and be seen once the sun goes down.

Makers Village is home to AeroFarms, the largest indoor aeroponic farm in the world. It takes indoor vertical farming to a new level with locally grown pesticide-free produce that bursts with flavor and nutrition all year round.

The *Newark Museum* houses 80 art and science galleries including the Ballentine House and Dreyfuss Planetarium. Collections include a room of paintings by Joseph Stella and impressive collections of Native American and African-American art. The Tibetan collection is revered as one of the world's finest and includes a Buddhist altar consecrated by the Dalai Lama himself.

Hip galleries like Aljira and City Without Walls are all part of a vibrant cultural renaissance.

The *New Jersey Performing Arts Center* (NJPAC), downtown is one of the largest performing arts centers in America. Artists that have appeared on NJPAC's stages include the Boston Symphony Orchestra, Yo-Yo Ma, Paul Simon, Bob Dylan and the Dance Theatre of Harlem.

Hockey fans can take in a New Jersey Devils game in the *Prudential Center.* Affectionately known as "The Rock," the center also hosts concerts, wrestling and other special events.

The *Grammy Museum Experience,* which is a part of the Prudential Center, is an interactive, experiential museum devoted to the history and winners of the Grammy Award. Cutting-edge exhibits and interactive experiences help guests explore a host of musical genres. Learn how to rap, or take a drum lesson at the E Street Band's Max Weinberg. Some of New Jersey's most famous stars and homegrown talent are featured here, including Frank Sinatra and the Boss himself — Bruce Springsteen.

Branch Brook Park is an American treasure with over 5,300 cherry trees — that's 1000 more than Washington DC, but who's counting? Designed by famed landscape architect Frederick Law Olmstead, who also created NYC's Central Park. Branch Brook is home to a large lake and Monarch Meadow, a new butterfly garden. Don't miss their annual Cherry Blossom Festival next April!

Visit www.newarkhappening.com.

New Jersey Performing Arts Center

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

FieldStation Dinosaurs

Roaring for The Meadowlands

BY RENU SAGGAR

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

With distinguished attractions such as MetLife Stadium, Medieval Times, Liberty Science Center, RPM Raceway, Meadowlands Racetrack and most recently, the American Dream retail and entertainment complex with its wide range of year-round entertainment, including a DreamWorks Water Park, Ice Rink, Nickelodeon Universe Theme Park, Big Snow indoor ski slope and more.

What makes this region so exceptional, are the many unique experiences available only in the Meadowlands. They are home to the only sports complex that hosts two NFL teams, and has also hosted major events such as Superbowl XLVIII, and WrestleMania twice. They will also be the future host for the Army vs. Navy Rivalry and FIFA World Cup.

The Meadowlands region is overflowing with great retail experiences. In addition to the new American Dream, the region boasts a plethora of other shopping malls from brand name outlets like Bergen Towne Centre and Jersey Gardens to desired luxury stores at Westfield's Garden State Plaza.

The hidden gems in the greater Meadowlands are the beautiful parks and recreation areas offering everything from horseback riding, nature walks, to kayaking the local waterways!

Additionally *FieldStation Dinosaurs* is a family-friendly attraction featuring 30 life-size animatronic dinosaurs that always thrills. Nearby is Bergen County Zoo and a whimsical carousel ride that is beloved by all ages.

Outdoor enthusiasts can take free bird walks guided by the New Jersey Sports and Exposition Authority and the Bergen County Audubon Society, or enjoy bird watching and water activities like canoeing or kayaking, or on an eco-cruise with the *Hackensack Riverkeeper*. If you prefer to stay on dry land, stroll one of The Meadowlands' many free public parks.

Whether you're looking for live sports, karaoke, music or dancing, there are dozens of great restaurants and nightlife including Redd's Sports Bar, Rutherford Restaurant Row. A variety of ethnic dining options range from authentic Italian to authentic Japanese cuisine.

At the end of the day, get some rest in the well-appointed accommodations. With over 50 hotels and 11,000 rooms at all service levels and public transportation to New York City that runs throughout the region, the Meadowlands has a large network of lodging and transit choices.

There's plenty more to see and do, so come and live like a local and be one of the lucky ones who can say they experienced Meadowlands Live!

For more information, please visit the MLCVB at www.mlcvb.com. To begin planning, visit the Meadowlands Live CVB at www.meadowlandslive.com.

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The MLCVB has received funding through a grant provided by the State of NJ, Office of Travel & Tourism

David Bowie mural Jersey City, New Jersey

Head on Down to Hudson County

BY **RENU SAGGAR**

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.

Just eight kilometers from Times Square, travellers will find an unexpected locale along the Hudson River. For many immigrants who entered America through Ellis Island, it was their first stop.

Skip the NYC lines and visit the Statue of Liberty National Monument and Ellis Island, with a ferry ride from Jersey City instead. This hassle-free alternative includes round trip ferry transportation from *Liberty State Park*.

With ferries, trains and buses that connect to New Jersey and New York City, staying in Hudson County is a convenient, affordable and attractive option. Hudson County boasts a variety of lodging offerings to fit every budget and interest. Stay in one of many waterfront hotels and watch the sun rise over NYC every morning. Need room for the family? Affordable hotels have suites, pools and shuttles waiting for you as well.

Cruise along the Hudson River, charter a yacht with skyline views or sail away at Cape Liberty Cruise Port. Cruise lines including Royal Caribbean and Celebrity Cruises, depart for destinations like the Bahamas and Bermuda.

The Bayonne Bridge

The renowned *Hackensack Riverkeeper Eco-Cruises* provide a fun, educational, and experiential tour through some of Hudson County's most interesting riparian terrain aboard a 30-foot pontoon boat.

From sweeping views to exhilarating trails and stand-up paddle boarding, Hudson County has an outdoor experience for everyone. Bike along the waterfront Hudson Loop or stroll through history at expansive Liberty State Park. Or kayak along the Hudson River.

Hudson County is adjacent to two of New Jersey's most renowned Scenic Byways that boast outstanding nature, recreational, cultural, historic or archaeological significance. These stunning drives, including the Palisades Scenic Byway and Western Highlands Scenic Byway, offer some of the Garden State's most compelling scenery.

For a one-square-mile city, Hoboken sure has a lot of history. It's the birthplace of Frank Sinatra, the site of America's first baseball game and home to rows of gorgeous Victorian row houses—not to mention the waterfront. You can learn all about this history and more at the *Hoboken Historical Museum*.

With an impressive array of award-winning restaurants and eclectic menus, Hudson County knows a thing or two about good food. You can eat breakfast in a hip diner, followed by a waterfront seafood lunch then a delicious steakhouse dinner—with ethnic café and restaurant options to suit virtually everyone's taste buds. A fantastic array of coffee shops, craft breweries and wine bars—not to mention scenic rooftop spots—will guarantee you never go thirsty, either.

Food is more than sustenance in Hudson County, it's an art form! Top-notch tasting tours like *Taste of Downtown*, *Mangia* and cooking classes like *Hudson Table* will help you fully appreciate the county's diverse and delicious flavors.

It's easy to see why Hudson County is a shopper's paradise. There is no sales tax on clothes and shoes and a plethora of options—Newport Mall, Harmon Meadow and nearby Jersey Gardens—the largest outlet mall in New Jersey. For boutique lovers, Hoboken and Jersey City offer a variety of small shops, local goods and outdoor markets as well.

The newly opened *American Dream* mall is the destination for indoor entertainment. In addition to an impressive array of retailers it offers cutting-edge attractions like the Nickelodeon theme park, indoor skiing, the DreamWorks Water Park and more.

With an array of self-guided walking tours, you can explore Hudson County's history, culture and dining scenes straight from your smartphone. Easy-to-follow walking route maps wind you through some of the best Hudson County sights, with interesting background, flashback photographs and fun facts that showcase the region's history.

Go to www.visithudson.org for more information.

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

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Hudson County New Jersey

Taking in the views from Jersey City

BY **RENU SAGGAR**

No visit to New York City is complete without marveling at the imposing skyline. But you can't find the best views unless you leave Manhattan. Enjoy some of the best skyline vistas from Jersey City's picturesque waterfront. Just one mile away, it offers unobstructed views of iconic Lower Manhattan landmarks like the Empire State Building and Chrysler Building.

Jersey City boasts amazing views of the New York City skyline

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, only 2,000 feet away. Pop into the park's *Central Railroad Terminal* of New Jersey and explore the historic depot. The park's Empty Sky 9/11 Memorial is a beautiful, yet sobering reminder of the tragic events of 9/11. It represents the view where the Twin Towers used to be in the NYC skyline. The 1,212-acre park is also home to the world-renowned *Liberty Science Center* features the nation's largest IMAX dome theater and the *Jennifer Chalsty Planetarium,* the largest in the western hemisphere.

For a unique twist on a traditional New York City boat tour, try the Circle Manhattan Plus Statue of Liberty Jet Ski Tour. This private jet ski excursion cruises all the way around the island of Manhattan. You'll see the top waterfront attractions like the Brooklyn Bridge, One World Trade Center and one of the most celebrated sights in the city—the Statue of Liberty.

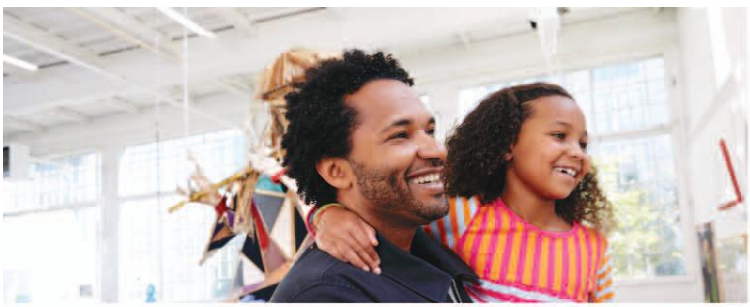
Landlubbers can explore Jersey City's historic downtown from the waterfront landmark Colgate Clock, through the Powerhouse Arts District, home to many talented artists and galleries.

Jersey City still reflects the flavors and influences of the international populations that call the city home. Sample some of the city's multicultural influences with a vast array of food options from Korean and Indian, to Filipino and Cuban.

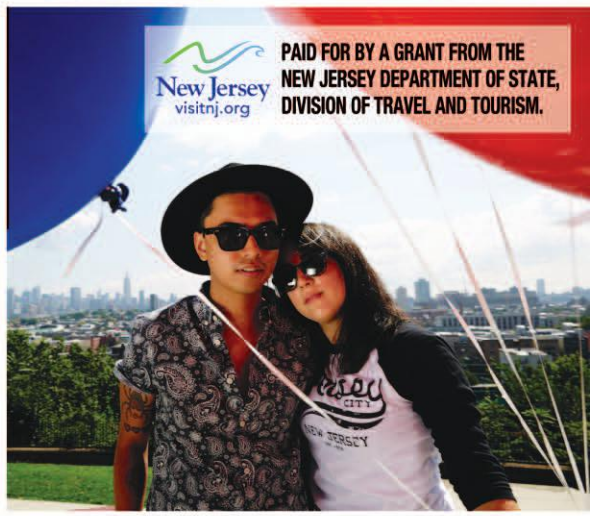
White Eagle Hall is a newly restored and renovated historic theater located in Downtown Jersey City's thriving cultural scene . The opulent theatre presents live music, theatre, comedy, dance, film and family shows.

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

Visit jcmakeityours.com for more information.



JERSEY CITY MAKE IT YOURS



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Fripp Island Golf & Beach Resort

BY **RENU SAGGAR**

Located in the low country of South Carolina, Fripp Island is a serene barrier island and the perfect escape for those looking to get away to a safe, secluded environment. Visitors will discover lush natural landscapes and authentic local culture, swapping busy resorts for lonely beaches, cycling uncrowded coastal paths, stargazing and sampling fresh caught seafood.

Fripp Island is a certifed wildlife habitat. Photo: Dayton Harris

With two championship golf courses and 3 1/2 miles of unspoiled beaches, *Fripp Island Golf & Beach Resort* offers a vacation you'll always remember. Named one of the "100 Best Golf Resorts in North America" by Links Magazine, Fripp Island Beach & Golf Resort boasts two of the most spectacular golf courses in America. *Ocean Point*, designed by George Cobb, is authentic links-style course where both the front and back nine finish against a backdrop of the Atlantic Ocean. This seaside masterpiece features beautifully manicured fairways and well-bunkered greens.

Ocean Creek was golf great Davis Love III's first signature course. Four distinct rolling dune lines and ridges climb as high as 15 feet, as they corkscrew across the fairways.

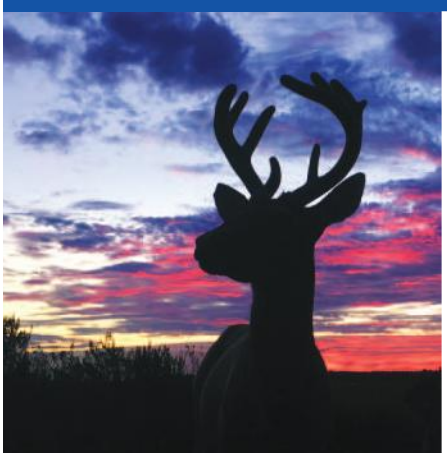
Non golfers will still find plenty to do. With eight fast-dry and two hard courts, tennis and pickleball are year round sports at Fripp as well. The *Nature and Activity Center* is run by a knowledgeable staff, who can both entertain and educate you while exploring the island by bike, trail or kayak. As a Certified Wildlife Habitat and an Audubon Important Area, you'll find an abundance of wildlife here. In addition to the plentiful deer, Fripp Island is home to over 100 species of birds.

Just a short drive down the road is Beaufort. Topping many top 10 travel lists, this historic town has a lively arts community. The narrow streets of the city's historic district are lined with centuries-old, moss-draped live oaks. Even closer is St. Helena, which is home to *The Penn Center* and a vibrant Gullah culture.

Offering comfortable, well-equipped vacation rentals from one to eight bedrooms, the resort can be your home away from home. Come experience all that Fripp Island Resort has to offer and you will fall in love with the hospitality and quiet splendor of the South Carolina low country.

Visit them online at frippislandresort.com.

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



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

855-256-1766 FrippIslandResort.com

Fripp Island®
GOLF & BEACH RESORT

BY **RENU SAGGAR**

Cruising in the Time of a Pandemic

Cruise lines around the world have temporarily suspended operations due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The U.S Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has extended its ban on cruising from the United States through at least September 30. When cruises do resume guests will find new policies and procedures in place to prioritize their health and safety and that of the crew.

When they do return cruisers may find some of their favorite ships among the missing. Carnival Fantasy and Carnival Inspiration have been sold, while Carnival Fascination and Carnival Imagination will move to a long term lay-up status, with no specific timeline for a return to operation.

"We are using this pause in operations to think carefully about our fleet and to build a plan that gives our guests new choices and upgrades to current ship offerings," said Christine Duffy, president of Carnival Cruise Line. "We have a great variety of ships across the Carnival Cruise Line fleet and we will continue to invest in the four remaining Fantasy class ships that we are keeping in the fleet.

Holland America Line recently announced that four ships — Amsterdam, Maasdam, Rotterdam and Veendam — will be leaving the fleet and sold to undisclosed buyers.

"It's always difficult to see any ship leave the fleet, especially those that have a long and storied history with our company," said Stein Kruse, chief executive officer of Holland America Group and Carnival UK. "However, Holland America Line has a bright future ahead that includes recent Pinnacle-Class ships, with a third sister ship next year. While streamlined, our diverse fleet continues to offer exceptional options for cruisers looking for a mid-sized ship experience ."

Princess recently became the first major line to cancel service into December 2020. The line which experienced major coronavirus outbreaks on Diamond Princess and Grand Princess, cited the "continued progression of COVID-19 and related decisions of various government, health authorities and airlines regarding travel restrictions." Princess canceled all departures to the Caribbean, California Coast, Hawaii, Mexico, Panama Canal, South America and Antarctica, Asia and the South Pacific through at least December 15.

"We share in our guests' disappointment in canceling these cruises," said Princess president Jan Swartz. "We look forward to the days when we can return to travel and the happiness it brings to all who cruise."

Cruises lines are working feverishly to meet the highest possible health and safety standards on board their ships, with continual updates from governmental and local tourism authorities.

While the cruise industry has always had rigorous health standards, the unique challenges posed by COVID-19 provide an opportunity to raise the bar even higher. Royal Caribbean and Norwegian Cruise Line recently announced a collaboration to develop enhanced cruise health and safety standards. A newly formed "Healthy Sail Panel" has been tasked with collaboratively developing recommendations for cruise lines to advance their public health response to COVID-19, improve safety and achieve readiness for the safe resumption of operations.

New safety measures could include reduced capacity, new embarkation procedures, enhanced cleaning protocols, social distancing and facial covering guidelines and health monitoring for guests and crew.

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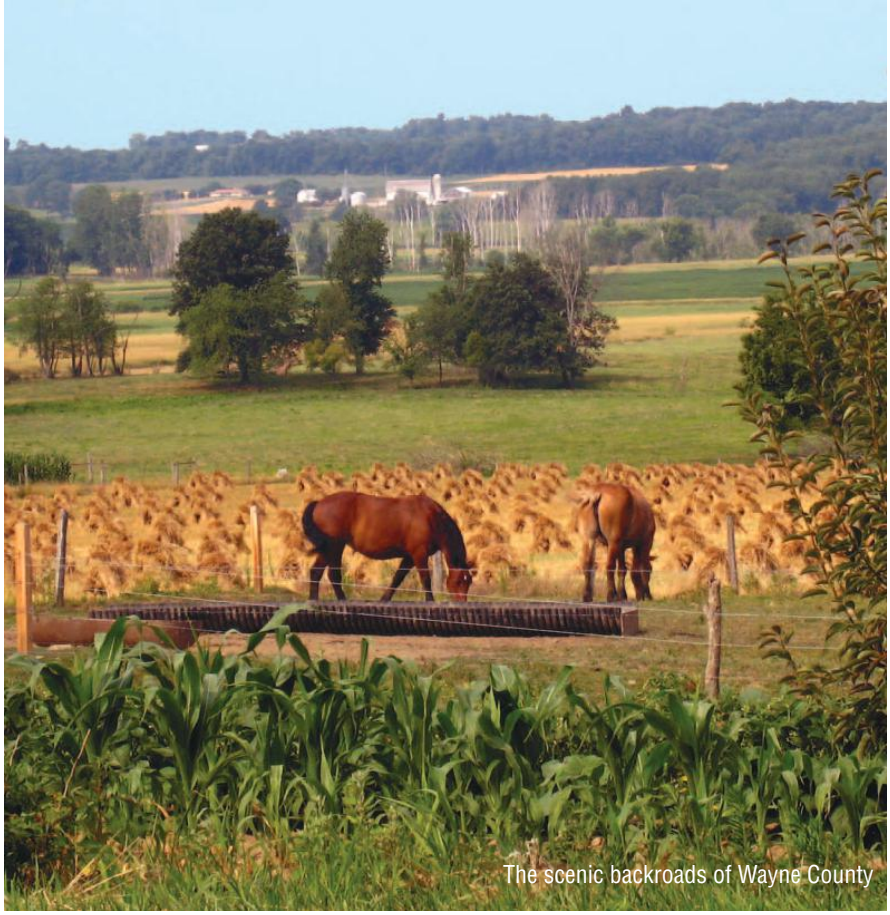

The scenic backroads of Wayne County

Ohio is the Heart of it All

BY **RENU SAGGAR**

There's no better way to experience warm weekends and one-of-a-kind gatherings than in Ohio. From theme parks to state parks, timeless New England style villages and world class cities, you'll find it all in the Buckeye State. Spend the day along the Lake Erie shore, sample vintages in one of America's fastest growing wine regions, shop till you drop, or get a little edgy in the cutting edge arts and cultural scenes.

Akron & Summit County

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

Cities offer visitors the thrill of rich culture found in various major metropolitan areas. Art enthusiasts can explore the Akron Art Museum and galleries like Summit Artspace or Akrona which feature local and touring exhibits. Those looking to catch a performance have a variety of playhouses and concert venues from which to choose, including the Akron Civic Theatre, one of five remaining atmospheric theaters in the nation. Guests who still haven't had their fill can look into Greater Akron's past at Hale Farm & Village, Perkins Stone Mansion and Stan Hywet Hall & Gardens. The former estate of F.A. Seiberling, co-founder of The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company, the 65-room Tudor Revival Manor House, is the nation's 6th largest historic home open to the public. The estate includes five historic buildings and eight historic gardens spread over 70 acres.

Visitors that need a break from the action can wander off the beaten path to Cuyahoga Valley National Park (CVNP) by taking the Ohio Erie & Canalway Towpath Trail, which runs through the heart of downtown Akron, or by hopping onboard the Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad. The 13th most-visited national park in the U.S. in 2019, CVNP boasts 33,000 acres of unimaginably beautiful scenery to play, rest and recharge.

A visit to Greater Akron also offers novices to pros a chance to hit the links on more than a dozen manicured public courses. Not a golfer? Spend your time shopping area favorites, Don Drumm Studios & Gallery, Akron Glass Works, Mustard Seed Market & Café, or any of 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 4th annual Summit Brew Path featuring 25 breweries' eclectic libations – a can't miss regardless if you complete the official path or not! Check out, NewAgainAkron.com vintage shopping trail. New for 2020 — TheDripDrive.com — Greater Akron Coffee Experience.

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

Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad

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Heart of it All

Medina County

Whether you're visiting with the family, a group of friends or looking for outdoor excitement, Medina County is a great place to visit.

How about a romantic getaway at one of the many hotels and inns? Take a stroll along one of the quiet park trails exploring nature in dozens of green spaces.

Each of the communities within the county have their own signature attractions and events. Historic *Medina Square* with its Victorian architecture, offers many unique shops, galleries, eclectic restaurants, brew pubs and bistros.

*Valley City i*s known as the Frog Jumping Capital of Ohio, with an annual frog jumping contest. See one of the longest parades in Ohio and world's tallest matchstick in *Wadsworth,* at the Blue Tip Festival. Buzzard Day in *Hinckley,* in March, marks the return of the buzzards for the summer season and they always show up.

American ingenuity is alive and well at *Root Candles*. They make candles with the same honesty, integrity and craftsmanship that their founder instilled nearly 150 years ago. Now in its fifth generation of family ownership, Root Candles blends ground-breaking advancements with the past. It's like rubbing elbows with the 19th and 20th centuries.

Celebrate Christmas all year round at *Castle Noel*. The holiday entertainment complex features holiday window displays from NYC department stores, such as Bloomingdales, Saks, Lord & Taylor, Macy's and others. You will be amazed by the grand collection of props and costumes from Christmas movies including the Grinch's 16-foot sleigh, Will Ferrell's Elf costume, a sweater worn by Tim Allen, and soldiers from the Santa Claus movies and so much more. End with a visit by Santa, then slide down the slide from "A Christmas Story". In the lower level you'll find Alien Vacation Mini Golf in Freaky 3D.

Nearby, experience the thrill of racing at High Voltage Indoor Karting, an indoor electric go-cart track.

Lose yourself in the meticulously detailed train scenes and doll houses in the *Medina Toy and Train Museum*. Shelves of pristine old toys offer a glimpse into how previous generations played with toys and games.

Medina boasts some of the most beautiful historic architecture in Ohio. The Medina Historical Society is housed in a faithfully restored Victorian built in 1886-1887 by local foundry owner John Smart. The Historical Society acquired the house in 1984 and used old family photos to complete the exterior restoration.

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

Choice Hotels Ohio

Sometimes the best travel experiences can't be found in a guidebook. All across the Buckeye State visitors can enjoy the flavour of the big cities and towns. Choice Hotels has locations near all your favorite destinations, for a restful stay and at an affordable price. Whether you're taking a vacation or a business trip, Choice Hotels has properties to fit your travel needs. So start planning your trip with ChoiceHotels.com/Ohio and see what the great state of Ohio has to offer.

Guests can enroll in the award-winning Choice Privileges® loyalty rewards program, top-rated by U.S. News & World

Report for three consecutive years. Membership is free and offers fast rewards, instant perks and exclusive member rates when booking directly.

With 11 different brands Choice Hotels provide guests with exactly what they're looking for. At Cambria® hotels & suites you're always a VIP. The vibe here is upscale but never uptight—their modern, stylish rooms make you feel like you've been upgraded.

With all the amenities you need and hotels everywhere you want to be, Comfort Inn will get you rested and ready for anything.

At Comfort Suites® hotels, you'll find more of the space you need to spread out, relax or work. At Quality hotels, you get real value. They offer the amenities that guests desire, including complementary hot fresh and healthy breakfast, free Wi-Fi, newspaper, coffee and tea, in-room refrigerator, fresh linens, fluffy pillows and plush blankets.

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.

Econo Lodge® hotels are the familiar name that makes travel simple. They offer guests the amenities they need, a price they want and a brand they can trust. Free Wi-Fi is available throughout the hotel and many Econo Lodge properties offer pet-friendly locations.

Wayne County

Situated in the heart of Ohio's Amish Country, the Wayne County Convention and Visitors Bureau invites you to enjoy the gorgeous summer and autumn weather on a Backroads of Wayne County, Fill the Picnic Basket Tour.

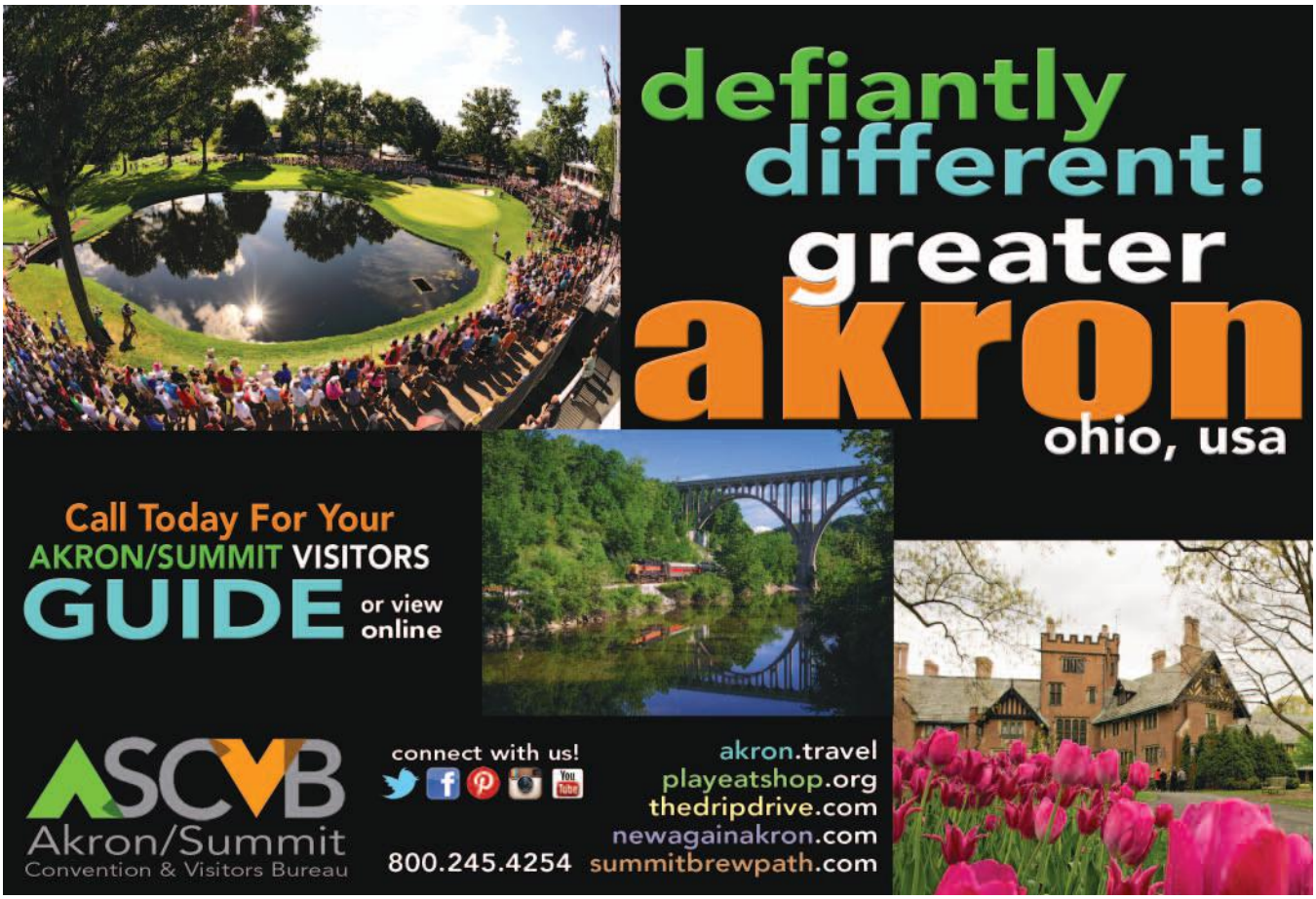
The Wayne County Convention & Visitors Bureau suggests your first stop should be at their office located at 428 W. Liberty Street in Downtown Wooster. They will be happy to furnish you with maps and information on the area. The office is open Monday through Friday 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. A convenient after hours kiosk is located outside of the building with local maps and the Wayne County Visitors Guide.

While in Downtown Wooster stop by Local Roots Market and Café, a year-round indoor local food co-op featuring baked goods, meats, pierogies, eggs, produce, coffee, arts and crafts and seasonal ready-to-go salads, wraps, hummus and soups. Try Boo Bear's Brew, a new coffee shop within Local Roots, for pour overs and cold brews.

Downtown Wooster is home to the JAFB Wooster Brewery, a microbrewery crafting fresh handmade beer. JAFB invites you to bring your picnic lunch and enjoy it in their tap room while trying their fall beer offerings. They only make one thing at JAFB…beer, and they do it right. Just a short walk from the brewery you'll find the Minglewood Distilling Company, a small batch micro distillery whose hand crafted spirits are made from locally sourced ingredients.

Wayne County boasts a number of award-winning wineries: Troutman Vineyards & Winery and Lincoln Way Vineyards in Wooster, and Silver Run Vineyard & Winery and Bent Ladder Cider & Wine, both in Doylestown.

Troutman's *White Menagerie* is a German-style dry white wine that celebrates the Troutman family's German heritage. It is made from Ohio grown Seyval Blanc grapes that are fermented and aged in stainless steel tanks. Lincoln Way Vineyards was



Heart of it All

established with the support of Andy Troutman of Troutman Vineyards and Winery to supply wine grapes to Troutman's rapidly growing operation. Today, Lincoln Way wines are earning accolades and awards. Their *Four O' Four Red* is an off dry blend of Frontenac, Corot Noir and Noiret with hints of Blackberry, Black Raspberry, Mulberry and Strawberry notes.

After more than a decade of visits to wineries around the world, husband and wife team Christine Sabo and Ed Sunkin created *Silver Run Vineyard & Winery,* a culmination of their favorite wine experiences. Guests can relax by the fireplace in the tasting room, or drink in the breathtaking sunsets while sipping wine on the covered back porch.

Bent Ladder Cider & Wine's *Curbside Cider* is made with pineapple and hops. The flavor is light and fruity with notes of apple, pineapple, citrus and tropical fruit with juicy aromas of oranges, spice and lemongrass.

These establishments also offer tasting rooms with scenic views of the rural Wayne County countryside, wonderful outdoor concerts, food trucks and events throughout the fall.

If you'd like to fill your cooler with locally butchered meats or cheeses to take home you'll find the Marshallville Packing Company in Marshallville, Whitefeather Meats in Creston and Cannon Center Meats North of Wooster. Shisler'a Cheese Shop on Route 30 between Orrville and Kidron offers local cheeses, meats, chocolates, Amish baked goods and snacks.

Another beautiful place to enjoy your picnic would be the *Secrest Arboretum & Gardens* on The Ohio State University's Agricultural College campus in Wooster. This 110-acre arboretum is open daily from dawn to dusk offering scenic walking and biking paths, children's areas and the opportunity to explore the diverse landscape theme gardens.

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

Youngstown

The world-renowned Butler Institute of American Art recently celebrated its 100th Anniversary. With over 20,000 pieces in all media covering four centuries of work, The Butler's permanent collection is a true reflection of America's history. Director and Curator, Dr. Louis Zona, says, "A visit to The Butler is like a walk through American history, with masterpieces leading the way." The museum's galleries feature important paintings by Mary Cassatt, John Singer Sargent, Edward Hopper and William Merritt Chase, just to name a few. You'll also find *Snap the Whip* by Winslow Homer, known as "America's Mona Lisa" at the centerpiece of the museum's 19th century holdings. All are part of the museum's impressive collection of realist portraits, impressionist pieces and paintings and sculptures of the American West.

Youngstown's Mill Creek MetroParks offer miles and miles of hiking and biking trails. Don't miss lovely *Fellows Riverside Gardens,* one of the finest public gardens in the United States. Roses of all classes are spectacular when in full bloom.

If a *Winery Weekend* sounds appealing, uncork and raise a glass as you visit five unique wineries in the Youngstown area, including lakeside wineries with stunning views, wineries with full restaurants and quiet tasting places await.

Established in 2005, Mastropietro Winery was the first winery in Mahoning County. It is situated in a peaceful country

The John Smart Home Museum & Research Center – Medina County Historical Society

setting overlooking the thriving vineyard which provides grapes for their estate-grown varietals. Situated on Pine Lake in southern Mahoning County, the expansive Vineyards at Pine Lake includes an event center and tasting room in a beautiful lakeside setting.

Halliday's Winery is nestled between picturesque Lake Milton and the manicured links of Olde Dutch Mill Golf Course. You'll love the view of the sunset over Lake Milton while sitting by the fire pits with a glass of wine.

Lil Paws Winery & Brewery produces artisinal wines and craft beers on the premises all with a commitment to quality. The winery boasts a relaxing atmosphere and an outdoor patio overlooking Lake Milton.

L'uva Bella Winery & Bistro is a California-style winery with an inviting stone outdoor patio. The winery includes a wine-tasting bar, lounge and restaurant featuring a wood-fired pizza oven imported from Italy.

You're sure to find some new favorite varietals. Food options range from snacks and flatbreads to full-menu restaurants. Most feature live music on the weekends, so get ready to uncork a bottle and raise a glass.

Welcome your weekend here! Visit www.youngstownlive.com for a complete list of attractions and events.

Fulton County

History weaves it's way throughout Fulton County. *Sauder Village* is Ohio's largest living history museum. You will be transported through time from 1803 — 1920's. Experience life in Ohio while visiting with costumed guides in historic homes, farms, gardens and community shops. Participate in hands-on activities like making butter, milking a goat or playing old fashioned games. Travel back in time onboard the Erie Express Train, a miniature replica of the original 1863 C.P. Huntington train that played an important role in America's transportation history. Marvel at the working craftsmen creating items of beauty, utility and character, and enjoy hearty home-style food and the warmth of genuine, old-fashioned hospitality. Visit saudervillage.org for more information. More area history can be found in the *Museum of Fulton County,* historical sites, parks, trails and attractions.

Throughout Fulton County you will find many unique shopping opportunities. Browse shops such as Richard Morgan Custom Metal Art Studio, Turkeyfoot Creek Creamery, Oak Openings Pottery, Swan Creek Candles & Antiques, Stella Leona Artisan Chocolates, along with many other boutiques and specialty shops. Fulton County Trails feature the History Trail, Wine Trail, 'Trail' Trail, Sweet Tooth Trail, Play Trail, Unique Shopping Trail and Artisan Trail. Use the *Blaze The Trails Passport* to document all your adventures. Collect 20 stamps in your passport and you'll receive a free T-Shirt!

Plan on spending the night at comfortable and affordable accommodations, including Sauder Heritage Inn, Holiday Inn Express, Days Inn, Rodeway Inn, Magnuson Hotel and local campgrounds. For a truly one-of-a-kind experience *Cannaley Treehouse Village* in Swanton, the largest public overnight treehouse site in the country. Treehouse Village includes tree-attached raised platforms for tent and hammock camping and separate treehouse structures complete with electricity, electric-heat and air conditioning. The Hub is a mountain biker's paradise. Accommodating 4 guests, this ADA accessible treehouse has an accessible bedroom and a loft both with queen beds. A slide

makes it easy and fun to get back on the ground.

For more information visit www.fultoncountyoh.com.

Gahanna

Not too far from downtown Columbus, Ohio, Gahanna surprises visitors with its peaceful setting and unique claim to fame. Gahanna is known as the *Herb Capital of Ohio* and any visit should include a stop at the *Ohio Herb Center*. The Center features a charming gift shop with bespoke treasures including natural beauty and bath products, soy candles, tea blends and a collection of books for gardening and wellness enthusiasts. Additionally, the Ohio Herb Center presents classes for all ages, ranging from Botanical Beauty Bar workshops to Spices of the World. Visit OhioHerbCenter.org.

Gather friends and chart your own adventure by picking up Herbal Cocktail Trail passports and setting out to enjoy delicious libations at participating restaurants, wineries and pubs. Earn six stamps to redeem for a prize! Passports/cocktails change seasonally.

The breathtaking *Creekside District* is 775 acres of unique outdoor space that's equal parts entertainment district and public park. It's home to several restaurants offering patio dining overlooking *Big Walnut Creek*—featuring fountains, trails, waterfalls and wildflowers. Kayak down Big Walnut Creek or wander the interactive Story Trail. Entertain the kids at Lazer Kraze Family Fun Center and Glow Putt Mini Golf after a superhero lunch at SuperChef's of Gahanna. Let your unique story begin in Gahanna, Ohio!

Discover more about Gahanna, Ohio at VisitGahanna.com.

Sandusky County

Fall in Northwest Ohio is a special time of year where the Lake Erie region rewards visitors with the beauty of full autumn splendor. Clear, crisp days give way to beautiful sunsets each evening and hardwood trees take on their traditional fall colors. Unseasonably warm days make time spent outdoors more enjoyable as the air is warmed by the waters of Lake Erie as she gives back the last gifts of summer.

All this sets the stage for an enjoyable visit to Northwest Ohio and to Sandusky County. Now is a perfect time to research your adventures, create your dream holiday and build a bucket list for when the pandemic ends. Regardless of the season, year-round there is so much to see and do in the region! We will all emerge from

Heart of it All

our personal bubbles, anxious to travel around, share experiences and spend time with family and friends…together.

Sandusky County was once called the Cutlery and Sauerkraut capital of the world, but today the region is widely known for its colorful history. Sandusky County is filled with historical attractions, beautiful parks, good eats and friendly locals.

Plan a visit to Rutherford B. Hayes Presidential Library and Museums for a tour of America's 19th President's beautiful Victorian home, then take in some American history with a self-guided tour of the recently renovated museum.

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

Later, line up for your mugshot and get ready to join the chow line at the *Jailhouse Rock Dinner Theater.*

The *Mad River & NKP Railroad Museum* houses a large collection of engines, freight cars, passenger cars, various rail equipment, a giant crane for rail repairs and even a massive snowplow once used to clear tracks in the middle of blizzards. Climb aboard one of the many cabooses on display and picture the life of a railroad conductor who called these places their home away from home. A vast amount of rail paraphernalia is also on display at the museum, including uniforms, furniture, tools, signs, dishes, lanterns and a dizzying array of other wonderfully preserved historical rail items.

Sandusky County Convention and Visitors Bureau would like to welcome you along with their Northwest Ohio partners to create a comprehensive planning website where you can see the "Best of" the area. The site is loaded with information on attractions, offers interactive virtual tours and experiences of their area museums and attractions and they post Blogs often, as their team visits and shares their experiences in the area. Check out www.visitnorthwestohio.com. *For more on Sandusky County and their attractions and accommodations, visit www.sanduskycounty.org.*

Greater Grand Lake

The Greater Grand Lake Visitors Region is home to *Grand Lake St. Marys* — Ohio's largest inland lake. In summer, the lake buzzes with activities like fishing and watersports. Birders will be keeping an eagle eye out for this year's hatchlings getting ready to fledge in the many eagle nests located around the lake.

Check out the *Armstrong Air & Space Museum* in Wapakoneta, Ohio. Located in the hometown of Neil Armstrong, the first man to set foot on the moon, the museum chronicles Ohio's contributions to the history of space flight. It's a great place to learn about the Apollo 11 mission and the moon. See a genuine moon rock, two full-sized aircraft flown by Neil Armstrong, the Gemini VIII space capsule, artifacts from the Apollo 11 mission and much more.

Fort Recovery tells the story of a battle that changed the course of American history. The museum features life-size dioramas of soldiers and the various Indian tribes involved in the fighting. Exhibits interpret the 1794 Battle of Fallen Timbers, and include military and Indian artifacts, uniforms, weapons, paintings and maps.

Biking season, it is the perfect time to visit the *Bicycle Museum of America* in New Bremen, Ohio. This gem of a museum displays more than 200 unique and interesting models on display from the high wheel bicycles of the 1800's to the sleek racing bikes of today. It's a fun family stop for all generations.

Don't forget to sample some of nature's bounty with delicious farm-to-table food in local restaurants, craft breweries, artisinal wineries and boutique shopping. It all adds up to a great getaway weekend you'll truly enjoy.

Check out GreaterGrandLakeRegion.com and plan your visit today.

Ashland County

There is a quiet splendor to the countryside — a rolling quilt of farms and woodlots peppered with hidden-jewel county parks. Located 66 miles southwest of Cleveland and 82 miles northeast of Columbus, Ashland is well-known for its Parks and recreational facilities.

Hikers, paddlers, anglers and other outdoors people have their pick of gorgeous hardwood forests and meandering rivers. The best of the Midwest is on bold display here. Find yourself among small-town charm, rustic scenery and world-class cultural offerings that combine in one lovely package.

Ashland County is one of those special corners of the country where rich heritage and the here-and-now energy harmonize in a timelessly pretty landscape. They wholeheartedly welcome you to their warm community, whether you're here to vacation or to choose to linger. Come, stay and play. You'll be glad you did.

Visit them at exploreashlandohio.com.

Lake County

Looking for a weekend getaway or a relaxing vacation? Look no further than Lake County. Set on the southern shores of Lake Erie, Lake County is an easy three-hour drive from the Canadian border.

The region is home to over 30 wineries producing nationally award-winning wines, many produced from grapes grown right on their estates.

Two brand new hotels in Madison, Ohio are just minutes away from the wineries and feature shuttle service to and from many of the tasting rooms. On the other side of the county visitors will find bustling Historic Downtown Willoughby, featuring numerous restaurants, bars and two craft breweries — Willoughby Brewing Co. and BRIM.

Folks looking for unique local foods

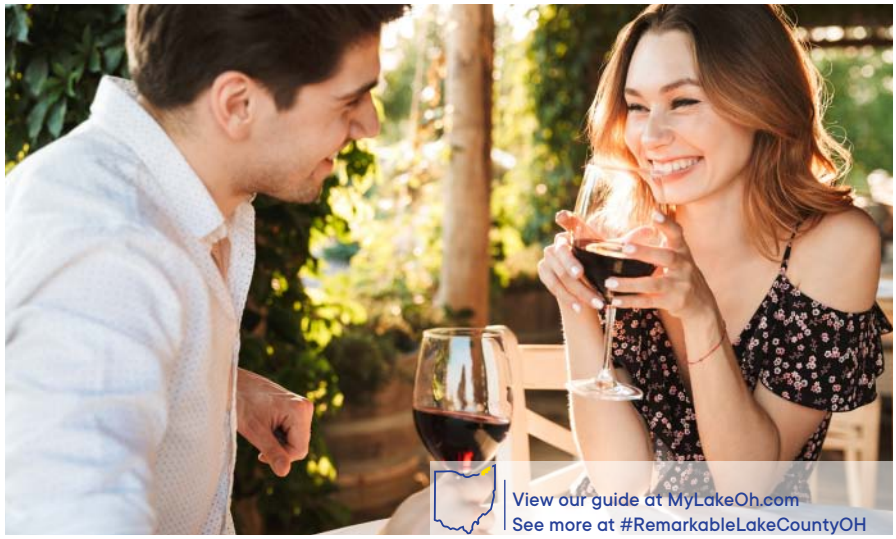
Heart of it All

should visit Melt Bar & Grilled or Pastina Rustic Italian in Mentor. Or, for authentic, unique Mexican food options visit one of the mouth-watering Taquerias in Painesville, such as La Casita, El Taco Macho or La Mexicana. Not only does Lake County feature award-winning restaurants and beverages, it's also full of world-class outdoor activities including fishing, boating, kayaking, hiking and bird watching.

Holden Arboretum is home to the Midwest's largest Rhododendron garden, a magnificent Butterfly Garden, plus 20 miles of hiking trails with many themed gardens and tree collections. The largest Arboretum's in the USA. The Canopy Walk is a triangular 65-foot-high walkway offering a breathtaking view of nature. You can even see Lake Erie.

Headlands Beach State Park is Ohio's longest natural sand beach. The Fairport Harbor Lighthouse/Marine Museum houses its original 3rd order Fresnel lens, the Frontenac pilothouse, nautical artifacts and more.

Visit MyLakeOH.com and plan your getaway to Remarkable Lake County, Ohio.



Lake County, OH is located on the southern shores of Lake Erie and is an easy three-hour drive from Niagra Falls. Here you will find the "Grand River Valley" one of the most beautiful wine regions in the United States. It is home to over 30 wineries who produce unparalleled, award-winning wines year after year. The close proximity of the wineries allows travelers to easily visit numerous wineries in a day or over the course of a long weekend. Come explore what Remarkable Lake County, OH has to offer!

fultonCOUNTY
THE PLACE TO FIND YOUR PACE

Relive yesteryear at Ohio's historic **Sauder Village**. Find family fun at the popular, expansive **Fulton County Fairgrounds**. Explore one of the area's **wonderful wineries**. And that's just day one. Whether its 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

BY **RENU SAGGAR**

Prince Edward Island Time

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

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

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

The 170-mile-long *Confederation Trail* offers hikers and cyclists a memorable route through the undulating green hills dotted with the purple flowers of fireweed and picturesque seascapes.

Charlottetown, the capital, is where the land and sea meld with a vibrant Acadian culture. *Province House,* a restored Georgian building, is where the "Fathers of Confederation" first met in 1864, to discuss the union of British North America. Victoria Park offers some memorable views of the coast.

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

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

Charlottetown Street

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

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

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

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

Ranked in Top 50 as best conditioned courses in North America, *Crowbush Cove,* situated around the dunes of the north shore, offers a unique seaside setting and proximity to the dunes. The creative instincts of course designer Thomas McBroom are evident in the undulating fairways, pot bunkers and challenging greens.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Cape Egmont Lighthouse

The British Columbia Parliament Building

Victoria's No Secret

BY **ADELINA IRVINE**

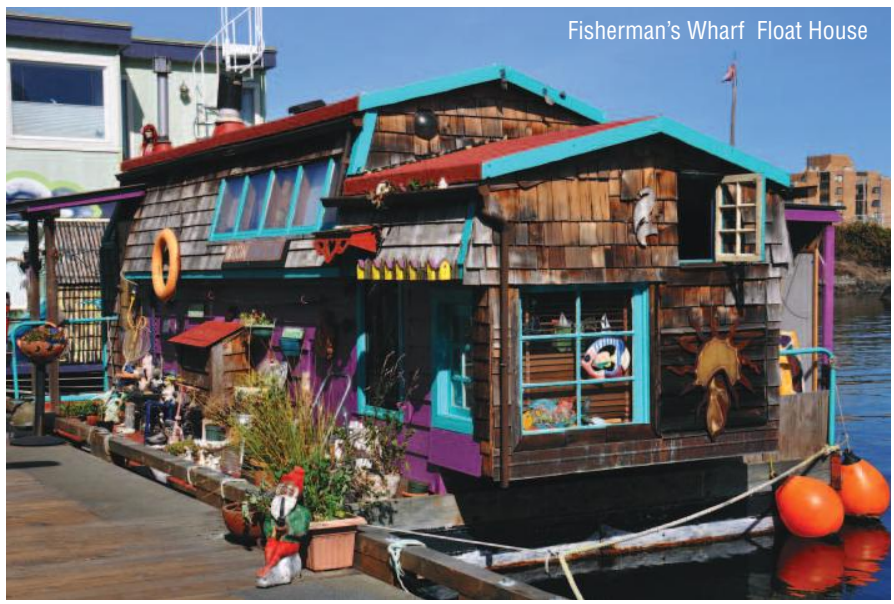
Victoria presides over a beautiful natural harbor and lives up to its British heritage with double-decker buses and afternoon tea served in the Edwardian-era Empress Hotel. British Columbia's capital sits on the craggy southern end of Vancouver Island. Walkers can explore a variety of quaint neighborhoods each with its own unique vibe. Stroll through the village in Oak Bay making stops at delis, pubs and galleries lining Oak Bay Avenue or head over to Vic West to find the Gorge Park Japanese Garden. In James Bay, visitors will discover local coffee shops and restaurants nestled among the heritage homes.

As a city on the edge of nature, hikers can climb to the top of Mount Douglas for panoramic views of the Olympic Mountains and the city below. Nearby Goldstream Provincial Park is home to the Niagara of the west coast and an historic wooden railway trestle. Victoria is Canada's cycling capital with cyclist-friendly streets and dedicated bike lanes. Hardcore riders can pedal the Galloping Goose and Lochside Regional trails, a massive network stretching over 90 km from Swartz Bay ferry terminal all the way to Sooke.

Canada's timeless Victorian city is world famous for *Butchart Gardens,* a 55-acre botanical wonderland near Brentwood Bay. With a former limestone quarry as her canvas, Jennie Butchart envisioned transforming this space into a beautiful garden haven, overflowing with lush greenery and colorful blooms. Over 100 years later the result of her vision is still family run to this day. There are five individual gardens and special features like the Rose Carousel and Waterwheel Square.

A walkway of rose-laden arches will greet you in the Rose Garden. Bustling with blooms from summer to early autumn, it boasts an impressive collection of floribundas, ramblers, climbers and Hybrid Tea Roses. Serene waters and stepping-stones guide the senses in the Japanese Garden, where maple and beech trees rustle and Himalayan Blue Poppies blossom in the late spring. The Sunken Garden is a green-cloaked quarry cradling beds of flowers, trees and shrubs as its walking path winds past the graceful Ross Fountain.

Beacon Hill Park is one of Victoria's favorite green spaces. Stroll the gardens past ponds and bridged streams, keeping an eye out for resident peacocks and blue



Fisherman's Wharf Float House

herons. Make a stop at Beacon Hill Children's Farm (open March to September), full of four legged residents like goats, sheep, alpacas and donkeys. The daily goat stampede is a park tradition.

Fisherman's Wharf is one of Victoria's most colorful attractions. Explore a variety of float homes and fishing vessels, admire views of the harbour and enjoy fresh caught fish and chips on the docks. Go on a whale watching adventure to spot orcas, humpback and minke whales and aquatic neighbors like sea lions and seals. Or try your hand at kayaking and paddle out with a guide to a bull kelp forest.

Dallas Road is one of the city's most scenic spots. Follow the coastline and discover driftwood covered beaches, shallow bays along with unparalleled views of the snow-capped Olympic Mountains. Watch the kite surfers and paragliders soaring on the ocean breeze. The *Ogden Point Breakwater,* lets you literally walk right out to sea and admire the intricate First Nations artwork painted on either side.

Lower Johnson Street, more commonly known as *LoJo,* is a magnet for shoppers filled with trendy boutiques and independent fashion and accessory retailers. It's also the entrance of *Market Square* where you'll find a wonderful selection of one-of-a kind merchandise. If you're after something more offbeat, head to Canada's oldest Chinatown and stroll down *Fan Tan Alley.* North America's narrowest street is lined with quirky shops and restaurants.

Hatley Castle located just outside Victoria, provided the exterior setting for Xavier's School for Gifted Youngsters in the X-Men films. Constructed in 1908 as a retirement home for coal baron James Dunsmuir and his wife Laura, the castle was the largest private residence on the west coast. Today, the Edwardian style stone castle with its 82-foot-high turret is part of Royal Roads University. Visitors can take a one hour guided estate tour that includes the first floor of the castle and the lower level museum. The 565-acres of grounds are home to expansive formal gardens and over 10 miles of trails.

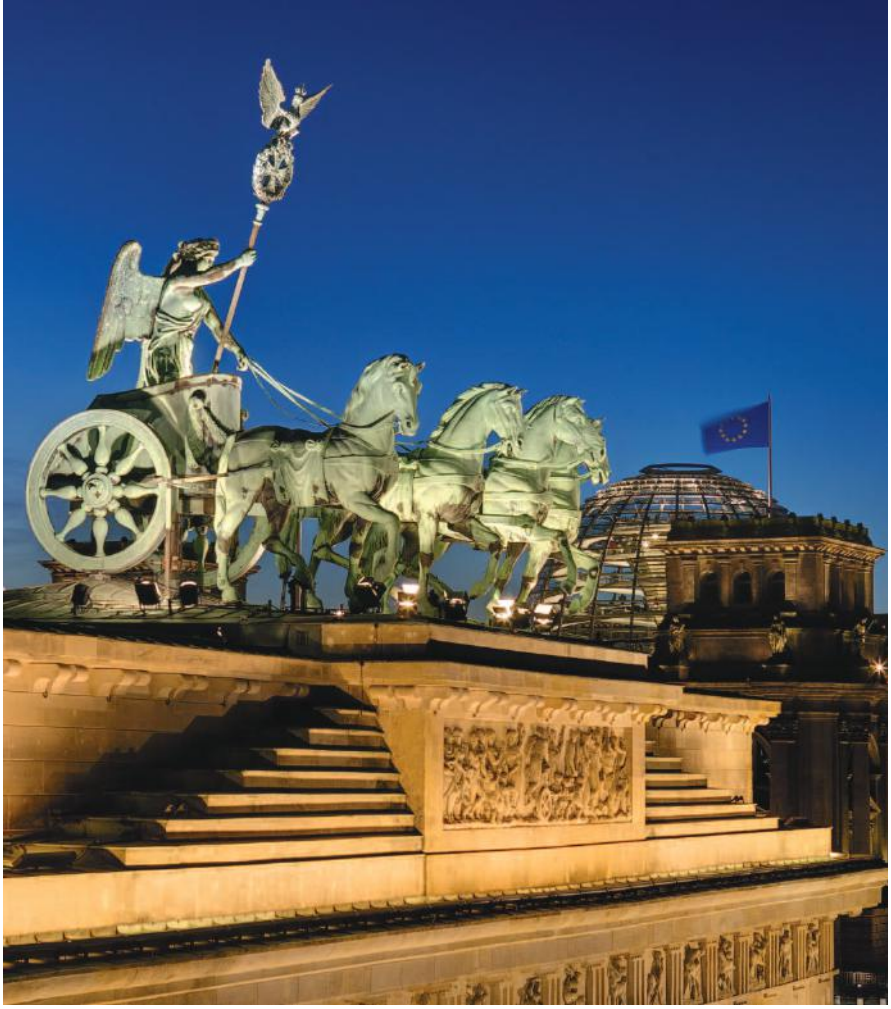
With 26,000 square feet of indoor exhibits and seven million artifacts the *Royal BC Museum* lets you explore all of BC in an afternoon. See how the fur trade touched the lives of BC's First Peoples, or climb aboard Captain Vancouver's ship as she anchors in Nootka Sound. Stroll through a forest for a visit with a cougar or grizzly bear and lose yourself in history at the BC Archives, a collection of photographs, documents, maps and historical records.

The *Art Gallery of Greater Victoria* is housed in a combination of contemporary exhibition spaces and a remarkable mansion built in 1889. It preserves an important collection of visual and decorative arts, including one of the only Shinto shrines outside of Japan.

The *Robert Bateman Centre* celebrates one of the world's foremost wildlife artists with over 100 original pieces spanning an astonishing seven decades. Prints of Bateman's landscapes and wildlife portraits have sold in the hundreds of thousands. Interactive installations include a Birdsong Gallery and multi-media video. The Gallery Shop offers a unique selection of Robert Bateman's exclusive prints.

Southern Vancouver Island is known as "Canada's Provence" for its high-quality niche food scene and natural environment. Victoria's restaurants and cafés are blessed with an abundance of local ingredients. Seafood—particularly salmon and shellfish—are caught fresh from Pacific waters and is a mainstay of West Coast cuisine.

Butchart Gardens



The Brandenburg Gatein in Berlin

Germany is Wunderbar

Old World elegance with a modern flair

BY **RENU SAGGAR**

With fairy tale castles and charming walled towns, there are few places on earth that can match the scenic splendor of Germany's Middle Rhine Valley. In the postcard perfect village of Ruedesheim, gently sloping vineyards ascend thickly wooded hills where castles brood above rocky limestone peaks. More than forty castles guard the river between the cities of Mainz and Koblenz, more than any place else in the world.

One of the best ways to enjoy the Rhine's riverside views is from Düsseldorf's Rhine Embankment Promenade. Recognized as the center of German fashion, Dusseldorf offers a scintillating nightlife and arts scene. Königsallee is known as Germany's most elegant street, with a mix of exclusive boutiques and art galleries facing a tree-lined canal. From Dusseldorf, travelers can easily explore other locations along the Rhine River.

With the Elbe and Alster rivers as its boulevards, Hamburg is one of Europe's most captivating cities. Known as Germany's *Gateway to the World,* this charming port town is Germany's second largest city. *Beatles-Platz* at the entrance to Grosse Freiheit, is the city's tribute to the Fab Four, who over the course of hundreds of marathon gigs at the Kaiserkeller, Indra and Star-Club, honed their musical chops in the city in 1960, as an unknown band from Liverpool.

Hamburg has more bridges inside its city limits than any other city in the world, some 2,500 in all, with more canals than Amsterdam and Venice combined. The Chilehaus, a brick stone office building built in 1922, is shaped like an ocean liner. Churches are important landmarks, and during the 19th century, St. Nicholas's church, was the world's tallest building.

Everyone knows that fairy tales are not real, but there are real places that either inspired these stories, or look like they just stepped out of one. Frankfort is the gateway to Germany's *Fairy Tale Road.* The 600 km journey encompasses Brothers Grimm's birthplace at Hanau, childhood homes and Kassel where they collected and published their stories. Winding though the states of Hesse, Lower-Saxony, North Rhine-Westphalia, Thuringia and Bremen, the legends, myths and fables are rooted in ancient oral traditions that precede recorded history. The town of Kassel is where local tales of Rapunzel, Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs and Hansel and Gretel sparked the imaginations of the Brothers Grimm, who lived here from 1798-1830.

Southwestern Bavaria near the Austrian

Heidelberg is the city of romantics

border, offers some of the world's most mesmerizing Alpine scenery, with charming villages and onion-domed churches dotting the rolling hills. It's also the home of *Neuschwanstein*, one the world's most picturesque castles. Perched above a valley and half-ringed by mountains, Neuschwanstein is a beautiful, breathtaking folly on an unimaginable scale. Once home to "Mad" King Ludwig II, the late century 19th monarch only lived here for a few months before he died in 1886. Even today, it remains unfinished. The castle famously served as the inspiration for Cinderella's Castle at Walt Disney World Resort.

"No pleasure is fleeting; because the impression it leaves remains forever," wrote Johann Wolfgang von Goethe. Heidelberg, the city of romantics, was central to Goethe's life and work, and in particular, the castle garden where his statue now resides. Others who have fallen under Heidelberg's spell include Mark Twain, composer Robert Schumann the painter William Turner and General Patton. Today it attracts more than three million visitors a year.

Located between Stuttgart and Frankfurt, Heidelberg presides over the Neckar River Valley where the legendary Odenwald (Forest of Odin) opens up towards the plains of the Rhine Valley.

The city's crowning glory is majestic *Heidelberg Castle,* perched high above Old Town. It's appeal is not diminished by the fact that is has been partially in ruins for over 300 years. One of its most unique attractions is the *Grosse Fass*, the world's largest wine barrel, a 250-year-old vat that once held 58,000 gallons of wine.

Whether you are interested in history, art or culture, Berlin has a multitude of attractions. The museum at Checkpoint Charlie, part of the former Berlin Wall, is a must-see, as is the moving Holocaust Memorial located close to the Brandenburg Gate. Until the fall of the Berlin Wall, the gate stood directly on the border and is regarded as a symbol of the reunification of Germany. Not much is left of the Wall itself, but there are some sections still standing, which are hugely popular with visitors.

Culture vultures will want to visit *Museum Island*, home to the Berlin State Museums which house works of art from around the world. The Neues Museum is dedicated to cultural history, housing 9,000 objects from ancient Egypt, antiquity, prehistory and early history. Visit the Ishtar Gate from Babylon at the Pergamon Museum while the Altes Museum displays works of the ancient Greeks, Etruscans and Romans. After a long day sightseeing, head for Tiergarten Park to enjoy a cold brew at one of its many beer gardens.

Nüremberg is known for malty red-beer and a maze of sandstone cellars. Perfectly situated between Frankfurt & Munich, it's an easily accessible driving destination. Visitors can sample such culinary delights as "Nürnbergers" a thin brown sausage and Lebkuchen, a honey-laced cookie baked here since 1395.

Christmas can be celebrated all year long in Rothenburg ob der Tauber in Bavaria. The medieval setting is so postcard perfect, visitors occasionally complain it's too Disney-like. In truth, the walled city has been left largely untouched for hundreds of years. The town boasts some of the most impressive medieval architecture in Europe and is also home to the *German Christmas Museum.* One local specialty that shouldn't be missed is the Schneeball, or snowball made from strips of sweet dough fried and covered with powdered sugar or chocolate.

Neuschwanstein Castle in Bavaria

BY **RENU SAGGAR**

Wellness in the Lap of Luxury

Northumberland Heights Wellness Retreat has just one purpose — to ensure every activity — from relaxing spa treatments and massages, to yoga & meditation, to quiet reflection, to every meal you enjoy— is so memorable that it leaves you eager to return. Immerse yourself in an atmosphere that synergize mind, body and soul.

Located amid 80 acres of pastoral splendor in the rolling Northumberland Hills, about an hour and a half east of Toronto, it's a place that restores, rejuvenates and adds years and years to your life. Public spaces are a harmonious blend of Indian tradition and modern western style with well-appointed furnishings, meditative music and gurgling fountains. An attentive staff greets you with a smile, hot towels and tea. The view from the hill overlooking Lake Ontario is pure magic.

Here, you can transcend the rigors of daily life with a mindful, multi-sensory experience in the Meditation Garden. In the evenings, stars cover the sky like a blanket of white diamonds.

The resort offers a variety of Day and Overnight Spa packages, ideal for a couples or a girlfriends getaway. Experience total luxury in any of 12 suites and 2 Spa suites. Choose a suite that has a private patio, sun loungers and private dining area that surrounds you with nature.

The exquisitely decorated suites offer the ultimate in comfort, whether you're celebrating a special occasion or treating someone you love. The Garden Suite and Comfort Suite Packages feature two queen size beds, a three piece en suite bath and 55" LED TV. Dining includes breakfast, lunch, high tea and dinner. Complimentary, secure WiFi is available throughout the property.

Comfort Spa Suite Package amenities include a king size bed with pillow-top mattress, 100% cotton linens, Pevonia bath products, a fireplace, walk-in Jacuzzi tub, 55" LED TV, bathrobes, slippers and yoga mats. Relax in your private patio and enjoy customized in room massage and spa sessions in the private Spa treatment room. Doorways are extra wide to accommodate wheelchairs, plus there's a roll-in shower. Enjoy each and every experience in the comfort of your suite or practice meditation and yoga amid the serenity of the woods. Dining includes breakfast, three-course lunch, high tea and three-course dinner.

The Garden Spa Suite Package is nicknamed the "Honeymoon Suite" by

Northumberland guests. Comfort and convenience come together in understated elegance.

Northumberland's full service spa offers a menu of signature experiences that will soothe your mind and heal your body. Ayurvedic and International therapies can be customized and tailored to fulfill your every desire. Their expert spa team will help you plan the perfect revitalizing spa experience.

Enjoy moments of pure bliss with their carefully selected body treatments. Exotic exfoliating ritual cleanses polish and softens the skin to perfection. Wraps are designed to improve the skin's texture and appearance by helping to rid the body of excess fluids and toxins. A fusion session might involve various international modalities including Swedish massage intertwined with shiatsu, aromatherapy, reflexology, energy rebalancing and heat therapy. Experience total ecstasy with a tri-phase hot stone massage and feel the tension and fatigue fade away.

Abhyanga is traditional Ayurvedic massage with highly specialized herb infused oils carefully chosen for your body type. This therapy utilizes the pouring of activated warm oils with customized natural herbal oil formulas. This healing massage helps to energize vital energy points of the body and is an excellent treatment for detoxification.

Ayurveda says that five marmas (vital areas) out of 107 are located in the foot. *Pada Abhyangam* is Ayurvedic foot massage — a soothing, revitalizing and calming the autonomic nervous system. Combine it with Potli massage, which involves fresh and dried Ayurvedic herbs packed in muslin cloth dipped in warm oil and massaged into marma points.

Known as the massage of third eye, *Shirodhara* begins with head massage followed by a steady stream of lukewarm carefully chosen medicated oil poured from a special vessel onto the forehead. The oil runs over the temple, scalp while you drift and dream. It induces a deep feeling of spiritual healing, while enhancing mental clarity and comprehension.

Udvartana is whole body massage incorporating herbal and medicated powders. This dry massage helps in weight reduction and cellulite treatment while it purifies, tones and gives a luster to the skin. This deep, dry massage uses sea salt to break down the body's excess subcutaneous fat while special strokes stimulate lymphatic drainage.

Diners will discover talented chefs who cook with passion and finesse, skillfully preparing world-class cuisine made with the finest ingredients. Selections encompass everything from pork schnitzel to Indian pholourie with many vegan and gluten free options. The culinary creations are presented in the rustic, chalet-style dining room with expansive views of the woods. Your entrée also comes with a perfectly paired wine. Special requests and dietary restrictions can be accommodated with 24 hours notice.

The *Tea Lounge* offers a peaceful and romantic setting for afternoon tea and snacks. In the evening, it transforms into a cozy and comfortable cocktail lounge where guests can sip a glass of wine, or enjoy a cocktail while tucked into a cozy chair in front of the fire. Northumberland Heights also features a ballroom and conference center facilities, ideal for weddings and corporate retreats.

Spoil yourself with activities like nature walks, yoga and cooking classes or explore the boardwalk and Lake Ontario on nearby Cobourg Beach. You deserve to feel special and they will do the utmost to make you feel that way.

The Best of Windsor & Essex County

BY **RAYMOND CUA**

As a travelling foodie, travelling doesn't always have to mean going to different countries. Experiencing the beauty in your own backyard is just as rewarding, especially if your backyard is Ontario.You'll want plenty of time to explore Windsor Essex. With so many things to do and places to eat or drink, it can be hard to decide where to go first. Luckily there's the Best of Windsor Essex Awards to highlight some of the best the area has to offer, as voted by the locals that live there.

Iron Kettle Bed & Breakfast: Best B&B

Iron Kettle B&B

Owned by a husband and wife team of Benjamin Leblanc-Beaudoin and Ginette Tremblay, the 3-acre Iron Kettle Bed and Breakfast in Comber is the very first Feast ON certified Bed and Breakfast I've heard of. This means all the food served in the B&B uses local and seasonal ingredients from Ontario's farmers and artisans. This fully restored 1876 Victorian home now has a garden where the chef grows his herbs, a pool, a pond and a hot tub. Breakfast includes fresh made pastries, fruits, juices and more. During my stay, there was also made-to-order omelette feature based on what's seasonal.

Jack's Gastropub: Best Perch

Whenever I'm in Ontario's Southwest, having local Lake Erie Perch is always a must! You must try the dish at Jack's Gastropub, a staple in the quaint town of Kingsville, and winner for Best Perch. As a Feast ON restaurant, Jack's Gastropub proudly serves a seasonal menu created with ingredients from local farmers, producers & artisans, along with a local drink list of wine from EPIC wineries, and local brews featuring their in-house Banded Goose Brewing (BgB).

Jack's Gastropub

Armando's Pizza: Best Pizza Pie

Armando's Pizza

One major thing I learned about Windsor is they have their own Windsor-style Pizza. It consists of a thin crust pizza, using cornmeal underneath and topped with shredded pepperoni, locally made Galati cheese and canned mushrooms. You read that right — canned mushrooms. When Windsor pizza first started, there were no mushroom farms in Windsor so they could only use canned mushrooms. Founded in 1967, Armando's is one of the original area pizzerias that helped define what has become world famous as Windsor-style pizza. Armando's Pizza has won Best Pizza every year to date.

Mamo Burger Bar: Best Burger Joint

A Windsor staple for burgers since 2013, Mamo Burger Bar has won Best Burger Joint every year (to date) in the Best of Windsor Essex Awards. Mamo Burger serves local beef ground in-house and has plenty of choices on their signature burgers menu. I thoroughly enjoyed The Big Popper. Fried goat cheese should be a thing for burgers! And I loved that the cheese balanced the spice from the jalapenos. Travelling Foodie Tip: Ask about their Burger of the Month or build your own instagrammable burger where you can go crazy on toppings!

Point Pelee National Park: Best Trail

Point Pelee

Winner of multiple Best of Windsor Essex awards, Point Pelee National Park has a variety of things to see. You'll definitely want to check out the Marsh Boardwalk which was the Best of Windsor Essex winner for Best Trail. There are two towers with panoramic views of the ponds and cattail marsh. There's also a 1.4-km walking trail along the floating boardwalk.

Pelee Island Winery: Best Wine Experience

Founded in 1979, Pelee Island Winery is the oldest estate winery in Canada with over 750 acres of vineyards on Pelee Island. Since Pelee Island Winery has Canada's most southerly vineyards, its terroir is the most unique compared to all other wineries, making their wines quite special. The unusually hot and long grape growing season and being surrounded by Lake Erie which is made of limestone bedrock, the soil condition makes it great for pinot noir — making them the largest pinot noir producer in Ontario. Having a wine tasting inside a giant wine barrel, including wines straight from the barrel, I can totally see how they won Best of Windsor Essex Award for Best Wine Experience.

Pelee Island Winery

Urban Art Market: Best Locally Made Store

When travelling to destinations, people love to buy locally made products for souvenirs and gifts. In Windsor, the Urban Art Market is the perfect place for that. Winner of Best Locally Made Store, Urban Art Market is the first store of this kind in Windsor where a community of over 30 artists and artisans come together.

Hope this travel guide gives you an idea on the best things to do, where to eat and where stay in Windsor Essex! To explore more click visitwindsoressex.com/staycation.

Enjoy Open Air Weekends in Amherstburg

Amherstburg is one of Ontario's prettiest towns. Nestled on the shores of Lake Erie and the Detroit River it's blessed with a spectacular natural setting and a storied history. Wander past stately homes strung along the banks of Detroit River or stroll the magnificent award-winning public gardens.

Amherstburg is welcoming visitors in a safe and hospitable atmosphere. Opening the streets to pedestrians in Downtown Amherstburg encourages everyone to enjoy the open air while respecting physical distancing of 6 feet.

Enjoy Open Air Weekends by strolling through the *King's Navy Yard Park* along the shoreline of the Detroit River. The gardens are in oasis of calm with winding pathways, a ship's anchor, manicured flowerbeds, historic cannons and a lighthouse beacon. Take a stroll along the waterfront and watch the ocean and lake freighters pass by.

Photos courtesy of the Town of Amherstburg

Take the time to explore a variety of retail shops or grab a bite to eat at an outdoor patio. You may choose to take advantage of carry out service at any Amherstburg restaurant and enjoy it outside at King's Navy Yard Park in the Take-Out Court. From burgers to lobster thermador, from craft beer to ice cream, satisfy your long awaited craving for delicious food from your favourite Amherstburg eateries.

Being walkable is what makes Amherstburg unique. Explore historic sites from the War of 1812 and the Underground Railroad. Shop for unique treasures in Dalhousie Alley and downtown, then check out the Amherstburg Farmers market for fresh seasonal fruits and vegetables, fresh fish, meats, home-made breads and baked goods, craft beer and wines and arts and crafts by local artisans.

The *Amherstburg Freedom Museum* tells the story of African-Canadians many of whose ancestors entered Canada as refugees from slavery in America.

Fort Malden was built in 1795 at the mouth of the Detroit River to ward off the threat of an American invasion and played a pivotal role in the War of 1812.

The *Gibson Gallery* is located in a former 1896 Michigan Central Railroad Station, which has been fully restored. The gallery features exhibits by local artists and traveling exhibits.

VisitAmherstburg.ca for more information.

Your Place to Stop, Shop and Dine

Windsor & Essex County — It's all you need and more

BY **RENU SAGGAR**

Mezzo Ristorante & Lounge

Overlooking Via Italia, Mezzo offers both indoor and patio dining — perfect for corporate functions, date night, girls night out, weddings, private parties and more. Whatever the occasion, extraordinary chefs and their friendly, professional staff will cater to your every desire.

Mezzo

Co-owners Filip Rocca & Darcy King have created an intimate, yet lively gathering place where the area's best cuisine can be enjoyed in a relaxed atmosphere.

Let Mezzo help you with that fine dining experience, casual night on the patio or any catering need such as , weddings or corporate meetings and more. They are there to help you navigate though the difficult decisions to give you that exceptional experience you are looking for!

It's no wonder that Mezzo was Voted *Top Choice Italian Restaurant* in Windsor 2020. The prestigious award identifies and celebrates business excellence in cities across North America as voted on by their own communities.

Mezzo Ristorante & Lounge recently partnered with the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers to feed frontline health care workers at area hospitals during the Covid-19 pandemic. Individually prepared and packaged meals were delivered to locations throughout the region to help feed an estimated 6,000 frontline staff in Windsor, Leamington and Chatham-Kent. During the month of June $1.00 for every meal served at Mezzo was also donated to the Windsor Downtown Mission. We would like to thank Mezzo and their team for their generosity and hard work during the critical times. Don't forget to show your support for them. There's no reason for you to miss out either. Take out and Mezzo Gourmet Boxes are available for pickup and delivery with curbside pickup and contactless payment available upon request. You can also add a bottle of local wine to any order. Discover authentic Italian cuisine in Via Italia!

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

A La Mode

It's all about the fashion at A La Mode, making the shopping experience comfortable, personable and affordable. A La Mode carries a wide variety of styles taking you from day casual to evening chic!

At A La Mode discover 2020's latest clothing trends from fashion's top designers like My Soul and U Chuu from Montreal, a trendy yet classic line.

Joseph Ribkoff's timeless designs continue empowering women to live the most exciting chapter of their lives. His passion is to make women look and feel their best and nothing says sassy like a Joseph Ribkoff outfit.

Sandwich from Holland, offers inspirational fashion, distinctive in its simplicity and effortless contemporary styling.

A La Mode also carries a great selection of accessories by Desigual: purses, jewelry, shoes and much more — whether on a first date, on a night out with girlfriends or in an unexpected encounter that may last until dawn. It's a great place to shop for trendy outfits including jeans, skirts, sweaters and jackets that will become your own wardrobe staples.

A La Mode

Make an appointment with their friendly, professional staff for a look that's all you. A La Mode is located at 52 Richmond St. in Amherstburg, with second location at 3869 Dougall Avenue. Alterations are done on site at the Amherstburg location. Check their website alamodefashions.ca for current store hours of operation, online shopping coming soon! A La Mode would like to thank their customers for supporting them during this difficult time.

Riccardo's Italian Restaurant

Riccardo's restaurant is certainly one of the city's best-known, with a cultivated ambiance that makes Riccardo's notable for it's unfussy sophistication.

Every item on the menu has an appealing analog on the expertly curated wine list. Renowned Chef Riccardo Maltese's menu leans into seasonal ingredients and straightforward classics.

Riccardo's

Chef Maltese brings an authentic touch to his culinary creations with lessons he learned from his hometown of Marsala, Sicily. Delightful aromas drift out of the open kitchen. The best way to navigate the menu is to round up a group of friends or family and experience the "WOW" with its originality while maintaining the Italian spirit of simplicity. In warmer weather, the waterfront patio is the ideal spot to drink a glass of wine and take in the sights of the river.

Starters include traditional Sicilian Arancine – homemade Italian rice balls flash fried and baked, served with Riccardo's meat sauce. The very popular Chicken Parmigiana features boneless chicken breast, lightly breaded and melted mozzarella, dressed in tomato sauce. Pastas include housemade baked Lasagna smothered with meat sauce and local fresh mozarella and Linguini Seafood Marinara, sautéed black tiger shrimp, sea clams, squid rings, PEI mussels, garlic and marinara sauce.

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

Visit them online at www.riccardositalian.ca

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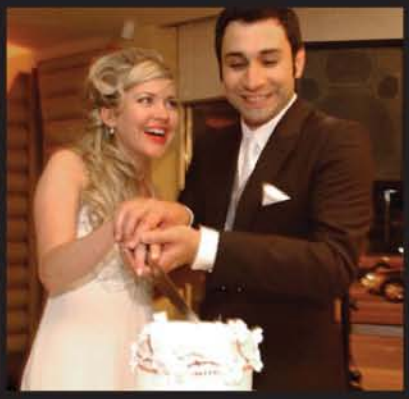

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The hardy and hairy Highland Cow

The Pipes Are Calling You

BY **MANTAN DOUGLAS**

Scotland's rugged landscape resonates with tales of fallen monarchs, uprisings, glorious victories and bloody defeats. Its history is peopled with larger than life characters like Bonnie Prince Charlie, Mary Queen of Scots and William Wallace.

The craggy coastline of the place once known as *Caledonia* is splashed with wildly romantic islands. On the east coast a dense sea fog known as *Haar*, can roll in without warning. On the west coast, the warm waters of the Gulf Stream have unexpectedly planted sections of the coast with palm trees.

The mountains of the Highlands are breathtakingly beautiful — from the steep slopes around Glencoe — to the Cairngorms lonely plateau. Contemplate the mysterious black depths of *Loch Ness* and wonder what's lurking down below.

In Edinburgh, the hills are never far away — they're visible from Edinburgh Castle ramparts. Sometimes known as the "Athens of the North" for its many neo-classical buildings, the cobbled *Royal Mile* runs from the castle, perched on a pedestal of volcanic rock, down to Holyrood Abbey. The castle encompasses a variety of buildings, the oldest being the 12th Century St Margaret's Chapel.

And history doesn't just stop at the castle's craggy summit. Halfway down is the famed crown spire of St. Giles Cathedral, while the Palace of Holyroodhouse rests in the shadow of Arthur's Seat. This is where Mary Queen of Scots spent much of her stormy reign. Gladstone's Land, St. Giles Cathedral and John Knox House are just a few of the historic sites along the way.

Between the castle and the royal palace are the historic 'closes' — each with its own story — running off the main road like ribs from a backbone. Head down Dunbar's Close to find a tranquil green oasis just seconds away from the hustle and bustle of the street. Visitors will find plenty of opportunities to browse for cashmere, tweed and tartan or enjoy the best of the Scottish larder.

Once a medieval marketplace and site for public executions, the Grassmarket area is just a short walk away. The striking medieval architecture and stunning castle views make it one of the city's most popular areas, buzzing with lively pubs and eclectic shops and galleries.

Although executions stopped in 1784, some of the traditional pubs, such as *The*

Eilean Donan Castle

Last Drop still keep the bloody tales alive.

Glasgow is awash with green spaces and the "Dear Green Place" is home to six parks — from Glasgow Green, the city's oldest park, to the Kibble Palace glasshouse in the Botanic Gardens and Kelvingrove Park — Glasgow's main park and home to the famed Kelvingrove Museum and Glasgow University.

Highlights of the massive red sandstone museum include Salvador Dali's *Christ of St. John of the Cross* and an authentic World War II era Spitfire. Other exhibits include "Mackintosh and the Glasgow Style" a comprehensive look at the work of *Charles Rennie Mackintosh,* the celebrated Glasgow architect and designer.

Loch Lomond, about 20-miles northwest of Glasgow, sits under the shadow of 3,195-foot *Ben Lomand*. To the north the loch is narrow and deep with mountains rising theatrically from the shore. To the south, it's studded with tree-cloaked islands. The 60 or so islands were perfect for smuggling liquor and hiding rebels like Rob Roy. *Inchconnachan* island is home to a colony of red-necked Wallabies, descended from the inhabitants of a private zoo. The loch sits in the middle of *Scotland's Trossachs National Park* and on the *Highland Boundary Fault,* which marks the division of the lowlands and the rugged Scottish Highlands.

The Gaelic term for whisky is "Uisge Beatha", or "water of life." Ancient distilleries still craft the same fiery concoctions that have warmed the bellies of Scotsmen for centuries. *Speyside* in northeastern Scotland, is home to more than half of Scotland's distilleries, including Glenlivet, Glenfiddich, Cardhu and Strathisla, makers of Chivas Regal.

In Western Scotland, St. Columbia's footprints can be found on the misty headlands of the Mull of Kintyre and the islands of Scotland's Whisky Coast. Whiskies from this region are noted for their complex, peaty character and many distilleries are open for tours and tastings, including *Talisker* on the Isle of Skye and Lagavulin and Laphroaig on Islay.

And there's a story with every pour — fireside reveries with strange visitors, shipwrecks, shape shifting Selkies, deeds of derring-do and the weather which changes by the hour.

Ayrshire on Scotland's craggy Western Coast is the historical seat of literary Scotland and the spirit of *Robert Burns* can be found at every corner. Take a tour around *Burns Cottage* in Alloway, near Ayr, where he was born. Just down the road is *Alloway Old Kirk,* which Burns used as the setting for the gathering of witches in *Tam o' Shanter*, considered his finest work.

Close by is *Brig o' Doon,* famous as the setting for Tam o' Shanter's harrowing climax. The narrow arched bridge was built in the 1400's and today is part of the *Burns National Heritage Park*. The park also houses the Burn's Monument, a striking 70-foot tall Grecian-style tower overlooking a formal garden.

While some may argue no Scotsman would invent a game in which it was possible to lose a ball, Scotland is the birthplace of golf and courses like *St. Andrews* are considered hallowed ground.

You almost expect to run into "Old" Tom Morris in the pub quaffing a pint after 18 holes. Old Tom routed the "New" Course at St. Andrews over 100-years ago. He was called "Old" Tom to distinguish him from his father "Young" Tom, who worked on the "Old" Course.

Visitors can wander around the impressive ruins of the cathedral, once the most magnificent in the country and St. Andrews Castle, with its damp, mossy tunnels and chilly dungeons.

Edinburgh from Calton Hill

Beyond The Boundaries of Taste

BY **RENU SAGGAR**

Sushi Bar offers an authentic taste of Japan in a stylish and welcoming atmosphere in Lakeshore. Whether you are new to this culinary experience or a sushi lover, Sushi Bar has something for everyone! Beautiful presentation in a pleasant setting, food is awesome and the service is unmatchable. What makes you revisit Sushi Bar is the freshness, it really melts in your mouth and sits lightly on the stomach therefore generates feeling of health and wellbeing. It surely makes the diners feel adventurous too! The secret is developing a relationship with

Sushi Bar Lakeshore

the Sushi Chef J.R at Sushi Bar, who can take simple ingredients like salmon, tuna, fresh vegetables and seaweed and create something extraordinary as he goes along.

Their menu is filled with delicious appetizers, rolls, boats, and dinners which is meant to be shared. Start with small plates like Beef Negimaki – local beef sirloin wrapped asparagus, grilled & topped with teriyaki sauce. Some of their best sellers include the Firecracker (shrimp tempura & cream cheese, topped with crab, house sauces and baked until golden brown) and the Rock 'n Roll (smoked salmon, crab, bbq eel and cream cheese, fully deep fried). The Golden Dragon is made with shrimp tempura, cream cheese and topped with tempura sweet potato & house sauces.

Eating healthy never tasted so good. Sushi Bar is committed to using only natural ingredients at the peak of their freshness and flavor. Having a holiday party, New Year's, perhaps a romantic Valentine's Day or just getting together with some friends and don't feel like cooking? They will build you a custom platter that is sure to be a hit. Whether It's as an appetizer, or the main dish, sushi is never a bad choice.

For a full menu visit them at sushibarlakeshore.ca. Catering is also available and don't forget to order your sushi platter for your next get together.

sushibar

Sushi Bar is located at:
486 Advance Blvd. Suite 130, Tecumseh • 519.727.8880
www.thesushibarlakeshore.ca

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