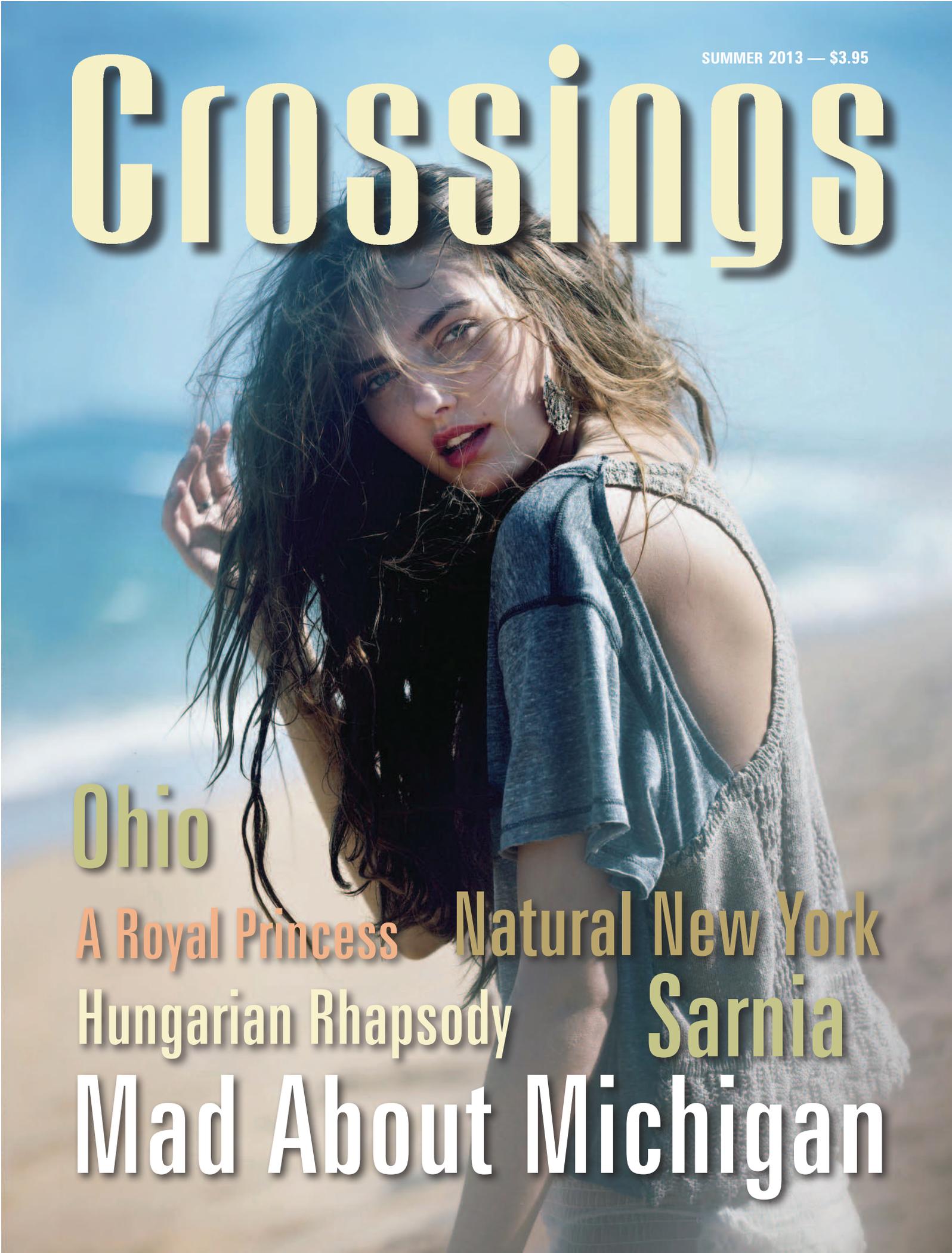


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Crossings

Volume 14, Number 2, Summer 2013

Life & Style

13

VROOM WITH A VIEW

The Detroit Grand Prix roars into the the Motor City.

24

MAGICAL MARQUETTE

You can go chasing waterfalls in Marquette, Michigan.

42

ENCHANTED MOUNTAINS

Cattaraugus County is all natural New York.



28

Free Wheeling

20

A KIND OF BLUE

Bluewater Country is crazy about the color blue.

46

SAILS TO SEE

Amherstburg welcomes the Tall Ships this summer.

48

SUMMER IN SARNIA

Sarnia and Lambton County celebrate the sun.

22



Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore.

Travel

8

COMEBACK CITY

Detroit gets back in the game with new attractions and events.

14

MAD ABOUT MICHIGAN

What can you do in Michigan this summer? Everything.

22

TRAVERSE CITY

Michigan's best beach town is surprisingly sophisticated.

Cover: Michigan will seem like a dream to summer travellers.

Cars like this 1957 Chevy Belair convertible will be on display during the 19th Annual Woodward Dream Cruise August 17.

26

THE PRINCESS DIARIES

Princess Cruise Lines' newest ship gets a royal welcome.

28

OHIO STYLE

The Buckeye State is at the heart of your next summer adventure.

52

HUNGARIAN RHAPSODY

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Detroit Makes a Comeback

The Noguchi Fountain in Detroit's Hart Plaza.

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Detroit's newest museum opened its doors to the public this April and features artifacts, family treasures and historical documents highlighting the history of the Greek community. *The Hellenic Museum of Michigan* chronicles the struggles, triumphs and contributions of a vibrant Greek immigrant community's journey to Michigan. Visit www.hellenicmi.org.

The *Michigan Science Center* is now open in Detroit's cultural center to inspire children and their families to discover, explore and appreciate science in a fun, learning environment. The *Secret of I*, and *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Solar System* are showing at the Dassault Sys-

BY RENU SAGGAR

temes Planetarium. Also showing in the Chrysler IMAX Dome Theatre are *The Human Body*, *Animalopolis*, *Dolphins* and *Mysteries of the Great Lakes*. For more information go to www.mi-sci.org.

See why millions of Americans traveled

to world's fairs in the 1930s for a glimpse of the future at the newest exhibit at the Henry Ford Museum. *Designing Tomorrow: America's World's Fairs of the 1930s* brings together nearly 150 artifacts including building models, furniture, period film footage, and Elektro the Moto-Man robot. Visit www.thehenryford.org.



Comerica Park will host the Sirius XM Hockeytown Winter Festival.

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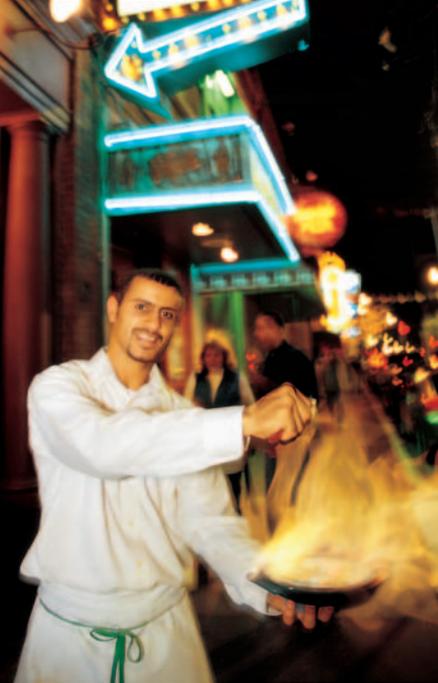


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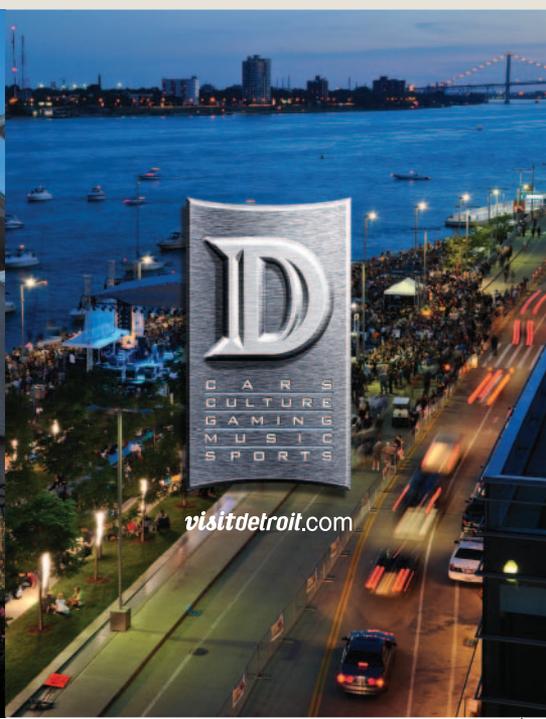


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Comeback City

The *Concours d'Elegance of America* returns to the Inn at St. John's in Plymouth this summer on Sunday, July 28. The show exhibits prestigious collector cars and offers an automotive art exhibition, a vintage car auction, Mode du Concours and social events. For a complete schedule of events, go to www.concoursusa.org.

Join the more than one million visitors and over 50,000 muscle cars, street rods, custom, collector and special interest vehicles for the world's largest one-day celebration of car culture. The 19th annual *Woodward Dream Cruise* takes place Saturday, August 17, 2013 and will have many great events throughout the day including entertainment and kids' activities. For more information, go to www.woodwarddreamcruise.com.

Shoppers will want to visit *Great Lakes Crossing Outlets*, Michigan's first indoor regional value-shopping center and entertainment venue, is located at I-75 and Baldwin Road in Auburn Hills. Michigan's largest indoor outlet center is completely enclosed so the weather is always perfect.

It features 185 shops, restaurants and entertainment options, more than 50 of which you will find nowhere else in the state.

These include including Bass Pro Shops Outdoor World, Disney Store Outlet, Rainforest Café, Saks Fifth Avenue Off 5th, Neiman Marcus Last Call Clearance Center, Victoria's Secret Outlet and Toby Keith's I Love This Bar & Grill — just to name a few! Now open — Swarovski and Sweet Earth and new stores coming soon include Ann Taylor Factory, The Limited Outlet and Kids Foot Locker all in the summer. There's also a 1,000-seat themed food court and a 25-screen, state-of-the-art theater megaplex, including a brand-new IMAX theater, all situated in a single-level, accessible racetrack design.

With so much to do at GLCO, why do it all in one day? Hotel partners offer shopping packages which include a shopping discount card and at some properties even a Great Lakes Crossing Outlets gift card.

It's also the perfect destination for groups — each group member receives a Visitor Savings Pass (shopping discount card) and a shopping bag, the group leader and motor coach driver receive a lunch voucher and there's a lounge for the driver

to relax in. Normal shopping hours are 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday.

Labor Day weekend in The D is jam packed with festivals and events all weekend long. Now in its 34th year, the *Detroit Jazz Festival* features five stages and 100 acts over four days, among several Detroit city blocks from Hart Plaza to Campus Martius Park. World-renowned musicians, including artist in residence Grammy award winner Danilo Pérez, will come together for this free festival, August 30-Sept 2. For a complete list of performers, go to www.detroitjazzfest.com.

Downtown Detroit will transform into a hockey winter wonderland this December in preparation for the 2014 *Bridgestone NHL Winter Classic*® that will take place Jan. 1 at Michigan Stadium on the University of Michigan campus in nearby Ann Arbor. As members of the NHL's Original Six™ and longtime rivals, the game between the Detroit Red Wings® and Toronto Maple Leafs® is sure to be an exciting matchup. In weeks prior to the game, Detroit will host the SiriusXM Hockeytown Winter Festival™, an outdoor celebration of hockey at Comerica Park beginning in mid-December. 🏒

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Vroom with a view

Driver Ryan Hunter-Reay at the 2012 Detroit Grand Prix.

The Chevrolet Detroit Belle Isle Grand Prix roared into the Motor City May 31-June 2, 2013, featuring the cars of the IZOD IndyCar Series, the Grand-Am Rolex Sports Car Series and the Pirelli World Challenge Championship Series. New this year was the IndyCar doubleheader Chevrolet Indy Dual in Detroit presented by Quicken Loans.

Competing on the newly-repaved Raceway at Belle Isle Park street circuit, the tur-

bocharged, hi-tech IndyCars hosted two separate championship-points races at the "Dual in Detroit" the weekend following the Indianapolis 500. Both IndyCar races are 70 laps in length (previous Belle Isle race distances were set for 90 laps) with the first race held on Saturday, June 1 and the second race run the following day on Sunday, June 2.

The two races also featured another new on-track innovation being unveiled in the 2013 IZOD IndyCar Series - standing

BY RENU SAGGAR

starts. The start of the Saturday race featured the full field of IndyCars beginning the event from a standing start format creating early-race drama and excitement on the race track while Sunday's race began with the traditional rolling start.

Both "Dual in Detroit" IndyCar races were televised live on ABC, creating back-to-back days of unprecedented national network exposure and racing coverage for Belle Isle and its beautiful waterfront shared by Detroit and Windsor, Canada.

There were also plenty of off-track activities too, including a concert from popular Poison lead singer Bret Michaels, Dwele and the Plain White T's. Friday, May 31 was Free Prix Day where visitors enjoyed free admission to watch the day's on-track activities, including practice and qualifying. Fans could also visit the paddock and garage areas and enjoy live entertainment.

Since the Grand Prix returned to Belle Isle in 2007, event organizers have made over \$7 million in lasting improvements to Belle Isle including over 230,000 square feet of concrete paving. For more information visit www.detroitgp.com. 

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Check out nine Elvis Tribute Artists, and other amazing tribute entertainers including Roy Orbison, The Blues Brothers, and Paul McCartney at the Michigan ElvisFest, July 12-13.

Thunder over Michigan August 10-11, is one of America's leading air shows and is considered the best "warbird" show in America. Held every summer at Willow Run Airport, the show features world-class entertainment, unique static displays, and fun for the whole family.

Fire Truck Muster, August 24 at Riverside Park is a gathering of fire trucks, owners and enthusiasts who have fun displaying their fire engines, and sharing their experiences and expertise with others. The diverse collection of fire rigs will range in era from the 1920's through the late 1970's.

Mad About Michigan

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

Visitors to Michigan can look forward to a wide range of new and improved lodging options, dining spots, and activities this year, including milestone celebrations. And there's no better place to shop for a bargain.

Ypsilanti

Ypsilanti may be hard to spell but it's easy to enjoy. There's a great vibe and a fertile local arts scene. The recipient of a Michigan Cool Cities Award, locals generally refer to their town as "Ypsi". The downtown area consists of two different districts "Downtown" and "Depot Town" located only a few minutes apart.

Bridging the short distance between the Downtown District and Depot Town, you will find stunning examples of Ypsilanti's 19th century prosperity in the rows of Victorian-era mansions that overlook Riverside Park. The mansions are now

witness to the multitude of music, art and sporting events hosted each year at Riverside, and car shows, including the July 5-7 Camaro Superfest 2013, a gathering of hundreds of Camaro owners showing off their prized rides at the longest running, and the largest Camaro event in the USA!

The Ton-Up Motorcycle Show June 22,

Weber's Ann Arbor

Weber's Restaurant and Boutique Hotel is Ann Arbor's deluxe, full service hotel, restaurant, banquet & conference property. Located in Ann Arbor's beautiful west side across from Dolph Park and Nature Area, it's moments from downtown and the University of Michigan's Central Campus. Founded in 1937 by Herman Weber, they are celebrating their 76th Anniversary.



Weber's New Years Eve package has sold out for 31 consecutive years, but this year will be extra special. The Toronto Maple Leafs and Detroit Red Wings will face off on Wednesday, Jan. 1, 2014, in Ann Arbor's 100,000 seat Michigan Stadium, better known as *The Big House*.

Weber's will be hosting a celebration of outdoor hockey, good times, and New Year's Eve with their famous New Year's Eve dinner party package customized for hockey fans. As part of the two-night package guest will enjoy a prime rib buffet, lobster and shrimp appetizer, lobster bisque, dessert extravaganza, midnight champagne, hats, noisemakers, and music and dancing with one of Michigan's top bands. What better way for hockey fans to ring in the New Year?

Weber's popular poolside hotel rooms and suites are unique to the Ann Arbor area, while Weber's Restaurant is an Ann Arbor landmark, serving the areas finest prime rib, steaks and seafood. Much of the restaurant and banquet menu is sourced with local ingredients.

The property recently completed a \$4 million renovation project and the result is a dramatic contemporary update to just about every part of the facility.

Livingston County

Southeast Michigan's Livingston County is known for signature events like Howell's *Michigan Challenge Balloonfest* and Brighton's *Smokin' Jazz and Barbeque Blues Festival*. In just about an hour's drive from Windsor, you can be in the center of these festive celebrations the whole family will enjoy.

On June 28, 29, & 30, forty majestic hot-air balloons will soar through the air like brightly colored gentle giants in flight during five scheduled balloon launches. If you haven't witnessed a "Balloon Glow," you are in for a treat on Saturday night. Balloons glow like lighted stained glass windows against the night sky when pilots fire-up their fuel tanks.

Other crowd-pleasing activities include; a stunt kite team, skydivers, fireworks, arts festival, live entertainment, and plenty of child-friendly happenings like the Wade Show Carnival. Downtown Howell merchants celebrate Balloonfest with special offers, entertainment, and family friendly activities. Details can be found at www.michiganchallenge.com.

On September 6th & 7th, Brighton's *Smokin' Jazz and Barbeque Blues Festival*

will welcome visitors with mellow sounds of jazz and the best barbeque around in the charming downtown. If you don't like barbeque you will have no trouble finding your favorite cuisine with a choice of over 30 downtown bars and eateries within walking distance of the festival. Downtown merchants are planning to lure you into their stores with special sales and incentives. More details are available at www.brightroncoc.org/events.

Sloan*Longway Flint

Regional history, historic automobiles and hands-on science are all on display at Sloan*Longway, in Flint. The museum's Buick Automotive Gallery and Research Center, features over 25 classic and concept Buicks and Chevrolets, while the Longway Planetarium is Michigan's largest planetarium with astounding special effects.

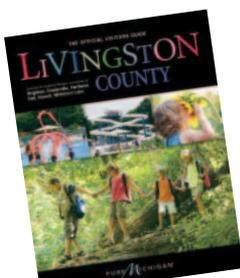
New exhibits include "Ask the Man Who Owns One" at Sloan Museum June 15-September 8, 2013. What made the Packard Motor Company a cut-above the rest? Ask the Man that Owns One will feature stories that changed the motor-ing experience forever, in addition to a collection of cars from each decade of

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Michigan

the nearly 60 year run of “The World’s Favorite Fine Car.”

Wisner’s Whizbang Emporium, Sloan’s newest gallery is designed for young and old to play together. Reminisce with your kids and wonder at toys from the past. *The Sloan Museum Auto Fair*, which takes place June 22 – 23, is a fun-filled two-day show with plenty of music, entertainment, vendors and of course, automobiles! The Flint Cultural Center campus becomes home to more than 600 of the best looking cars, trucks and motorcycles around.

Enjoy five days of automotive excitement at the 8th Annual Back to the Bricks Cruise and Car Show, August 13-17.

The *Golden Memories Car Show* on Sunday, September 15, is a very special event exclusively for vehicles produced in 1959 or earlier. It’s a relaxing day for car enthusiasts who love well preserved and restored automobiles.

Frankenmuth

The Christmas Spirit is alive and well in Frankenmuth. In fact, this little town

of 5,000, about 85-miles north of Detroit, celebrates Christmas 365-days a year. Visitors will find themselves surrounded by Bavarian style buildings and the Bronner’s, the world’s largest Christmas store. The impressive Alpine-design building is the size of 5.5 football fields, nestled on 27 acres of beautifully landscaped grounds. Every evening Bronner’s ½-mile long *Christmas Lane* glistens with thousands of twinkling lights.

The Bavarian Inn’s *Glockenspiel Tower*, is one of the village’s best loved landmarks, housing a magnificent 35-bell carillon, a beautiful figurine movement and an illuminated clock, all imported from Germany.

Located right next door to the Bavarian Inn is *Frankenmuth River Place*, a European-Style Village with 30 unique shops and attractions. From May through mid October, visitors can enjoy a narrated tour up and down the Cass River on a 70-ton paddlewheel boat. *Festival Platz Frankenmuth* celebrates its German heritage with annual festivals like the *Summer Music Fest*, August 8-10 & 15-17,

More than 3-million visitors come to Frankenmuth each year, many for the chicken dinners at Zehnders and the Ba-

varian Inn. Together they serve more than 700 tons of crisp fried chicken each year.

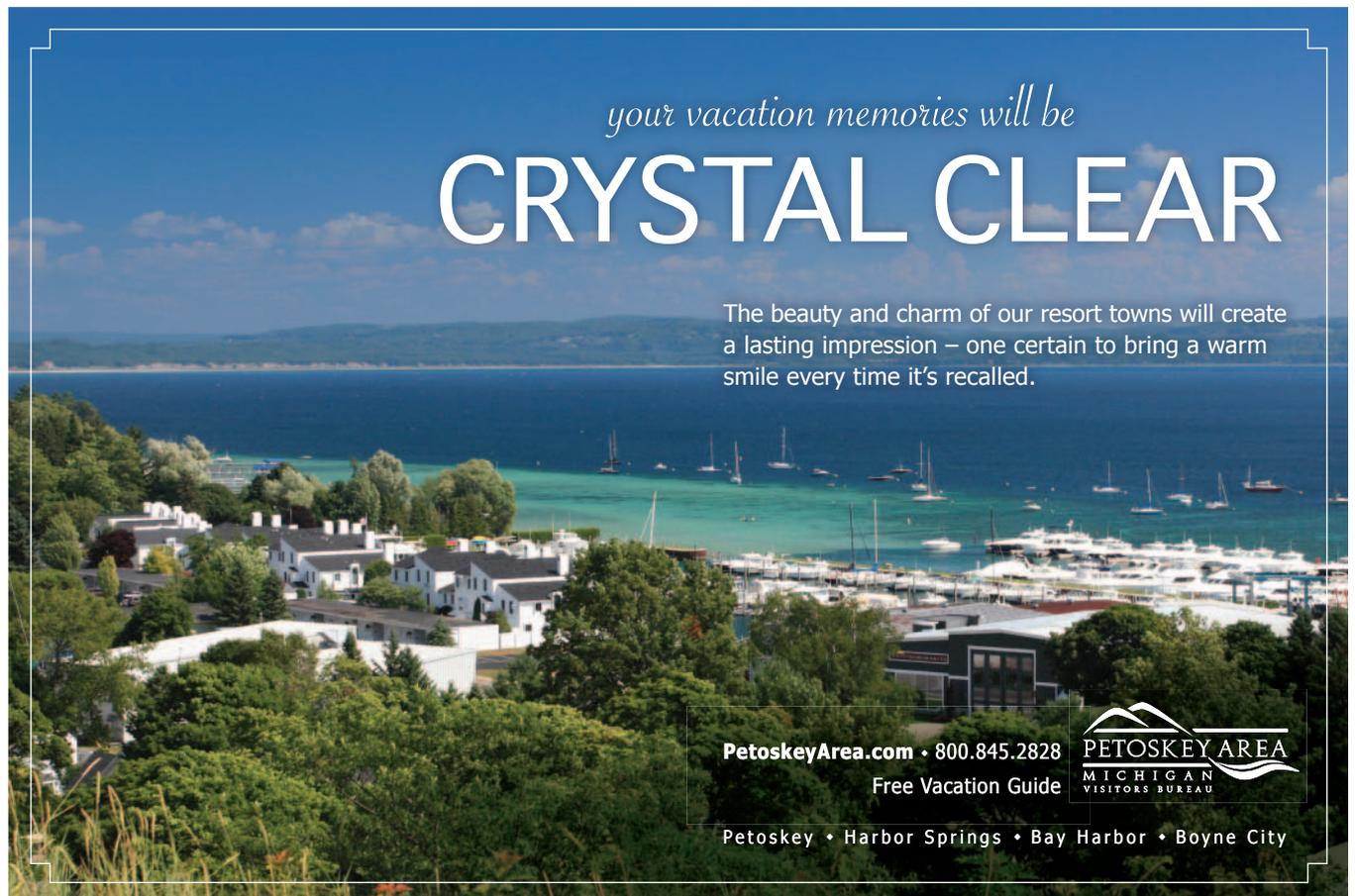
Zehnder’s main competition is the *Bavarian Inn*, right across the street. In this case it’s all in the family as the Bavarian Inn is also owned by members of the Zehnder family. Their customers are no less partial to chicken. The popular “all-you-can-eat” dinner features mounds of golden fried chicken.

Holland

Located along the shores of Lake Michigan and Lake Macatawa, Holland Michigan is a town where everyone goes Dutch. You see it in the tidy buildings and gardens, and taste it in the Dutch delicacies found in shops and eateries around town.

Windmill Island Gardens is a beautiful oasis on the edge of downtown. Best known for “De Zwaan” a nearly 250-year-old working Dutch windmill, the park features 36 acres of manicured gardens, home to over 150,000 tulips, dikes, canals and walking paths. The windmill, which stands 12 stories tall, is still fully functional

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ily Theme Park & Wooden Shoe Factory. Complete with authentic Dutch architecture, windmills and canals, costumed interpreters demonstrate crafts and life in the olden days. Visit the wooden shoe factory where you can try on a pair of Klompen (wooden shoes). Wooden shoes are considered the original Crocs, and are surprisingly practical footwear for gardening, Klompen dancing, or just hanging out and dispensing some *Klompen Wijsheid* (Wooden Shoe Wisdom).

Veldheers Tulip Farm plants over 5-million tulips for you to walk through and enjoy. They are also home to *De Klomp Wooden Shoe and Delft Factory*, the only North American production facility for the world famous Dutch pottery. Follow the process from pouring the liquid clay into molds, to firing the clay at 2,000 degrees. Then talk to the artists as they hand paint Dutch designs and glaze each item to a perfect finish.

Holland boasts over 1800 acres of parks and 120 miles of bike trails. The *Holland State Park* is one of the most popular parks in the State of Michigan. *Kollen Park*, one of the town's most beautiful recreational parks, is just a hop, skip and a jump from downtown Holland.

The main commercial area is filled with first-class shopping and dining, and creative art venues. In the summer, thirty venues, throughout an eight block area of downtown Holland, are home to performers every Thursday evening during the 13 week *Street Performers Series*. From stilt walkers, to contact jugglers, acrobatic artists and human statues, visitors will be entertained!

Grand Haven

The Grand Haven area is perfect for a family-fun getaway, or a romantic retreat-for-two. Located right on Lake Michigan, Spring Lake and along the Grand River it's home to miles of fresh water shoreline and soft sandy beaches, Recognized as one of the premier beach destinations in the Midwest, in 2012, Grand Haven was selected as one of the "World's Best Secret Beaches" by Travel+Leisure.

There are plenty of activities to keep everyone busy, but be sure to make time to enjoy a few area favorites: trolley rides, historic downtown shopping, art galleries, charter fishing, world's largest musical fountain and the 2.5 mile boardwalk that takes you from downtown to Lake Michigan. Some of the most beautiful sunsets happen behind the silhouette of

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Michigan

the lighthouse and the pier.

The *Michigan Pirate Festival* invades Grand Haven during the week of August 5-11. Be prepared for cannons blazing and sabres rattling, peglegs, parrots and plank walking.

Meet real life Golden Age pirates like Blackbeard, Long John Silver, and movie favorite Captain Jack Sparrow. Food, fun and fantasy await your presence this year as with pirate games, a Mermaid Lagoon, a den of ogres, a tavern, vendor booths, and a large children's area.

Mount Pleasant

Mount Pleasant combines a small town feel with big city amenities. Area highlights include Central Michigan University as well as the *Soaring Eagle Casino*. This four diamond resort offers countless thrills, indulgent dining, thrilling games, superstar entertainment, and breathtaking views. The casino features over 70 tables where you're sure to find your favorite game including: Blackjack, Roulette, Craps, Mini-Baccarat and more.

An historic downtown is filled with unique hotels and locally owned shops and eateries. Whether you want to eat,

shop, play or learn, Mount Pleasant offers numerous opportunities to do it all, and with over 50 events being held this Summer, there's no doubt you'll be able to find something that everyone will love. The *Mount Pleasant Craft Beer Festival* on June 15th, is a one of a kind event, bringing together 13 different breweries from all over Michigan, who will be sharing their unique blends of hops, spice and flavor. In addition to the Brewery Sampling, guest can also enjoy some live music, and games.

The 5th annual *Max and Emily's Summer Concert* series just may be the best one yet. This year's line up features performers such as The Verve Pipe (July 18th), The Ragbirds (July 11th), The Saucedcats (July 25th), Howie Day & Friends (August 24th), and American Idol Winner Kris Allen (June 6th). This free event is sponsored by the local eatery Max and Emily's, who created this tradition of providing their community with free, family friendly shows to enjoy during the summer months.

Petoskey

Petoskey is located on the shores of Lake Michigan's beautiful Little Traverse Bay in northwest lower Michigan. Long a resort area, Petoskey is known for its fresh air, spectacular beauty and, of course, Michigan's state stone, the *Petoskey Stone*. Made of fossilized coral they can be found along the shore of Lake Michigan each spring. People come for the stunning natural beauty and glistening waters of Lake Michigan; the nearly limitless outdoor recreational opportunities, and the world-class golf.

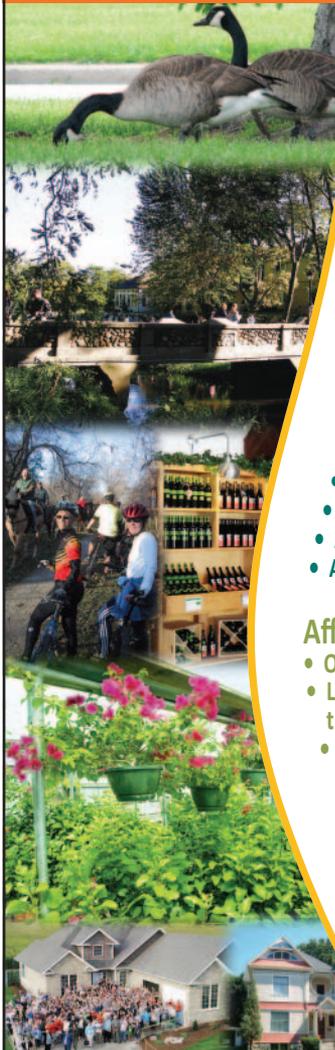
History buffs will love the historic architecture of Petoskey and its neighbor, the Bay View Association — an area so unique that the entire community has been declared a National Historic Landmark.

The crystal-clear waters of *Little Traverse Bay* have a special allure to those who enjoy swimming, boating, windsurfing and fishing. Or just listen to the waves lapping unto the shore.

There are a lot of places to bike in Michigan, but none more appealing than the *Little Traverse Wheelway*. Stretching from Petoskey to Harbor Springs, there are 26 miles of dedicated trail encompassing a paved path and local sidewalks. The Wheelway can be accessed at many points from Charlevoix to Harbor Springs, and offers glimpses along the way of sparkling Little Traverse Bay.



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Be sure to leave time to explore the shops, boutiques and galleries. *The Village at Bay Harbor*, Petoskey's famous Gaslight District, and the downtown areas of Harbor Springs and Boyne City are lined with dozens of inviting shops. Chances are you'll discover that special something you've always wanted.

Golf Magazine has rated northwest Michigan the #2 region in the country for concentrated golf quality. Rolling hills, majestic forests and glistening lakes have attracted the country's top golf course designers. You'll remember the golf courses long after forgetting your scores.

With more than 2,800 rooms in the area, you can be assured of finding lodging that's exactly right for you. Choose from quaint country inns, luxurious condominiums and modern full-service hotels. Stay on a golf course, on a lakefront or right in the heart of town. Select a place that has an indoor pool, or one that allows pets. Whatever your preference, they'll be waiting for you with a warm smile and a friendly word. Once you experience the unhurried resort town ambiance and unrivaled natural beauty of the Petoskey area, you'll know even a few days here will bring a lifetime of memories.

Cadillac

Cadillac offers a wealth of natural attractions including over 500,000 acres of state and national forest, 3 major rivers, and Lakes Cadillac and Mitchell. The two lakes are connected by a canal built during the era when lumbering was the town's major industry. Anglers can find walleye, pike, perch, rainbow trout and all manner of pan fish.

In June, July, and August ten lifelike sculptures by renowned artist *Seward Johnson* will be displayed around Cadillac City Park, on the eastern shoreline of Lake Cadillac. Best known for heroic works like his 26-foot-tall statue of Marilyn Monroe, this "Celebrating the Familiar" sculpture series is encouraging conversation and turning heads.

The July 4-7 *Cadillac Freedom Festival* features a street dance, monster truck rides, and a Fire on Water Military Tribute with floating bonfires just off the shores of Lake Cadillac beach. *The Thunder On the Lakeshore Motorcycle Show*, July 6 attracts a wide array of motorcycles and show related vendors from across the country. Then, watch the skies explode with color as Cadillac's Independence Day Fireworks take place over Lake Cadillac.

Kewadin Casinos

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

In Sault Ste. Marie, an on site 318-room hotel includes an indoor pool, spa and fitness center. Valet parking, free parking, a hotel shuttle, and the 260 seat Dream Catchers Restaurant are just a few of the amenities. Dream Catchers offers a full menu along with a salad bar and buffet. On Friday and Saturday nights, enjoy the Land and Seafood Buffet, which features fresh crab legs and prime rib.

The 1,500-seat *DreamMaker's Theatre* hosts some of the biggest acts in the industry, including country legend Vince Gill, who takes the stage on July 24, while rock legends Tesla will be performing on July 27. Comic Jeff Dunham performs August 1, while Night Ranger and John Waite get ready to rock on Sept. 22. 🎸

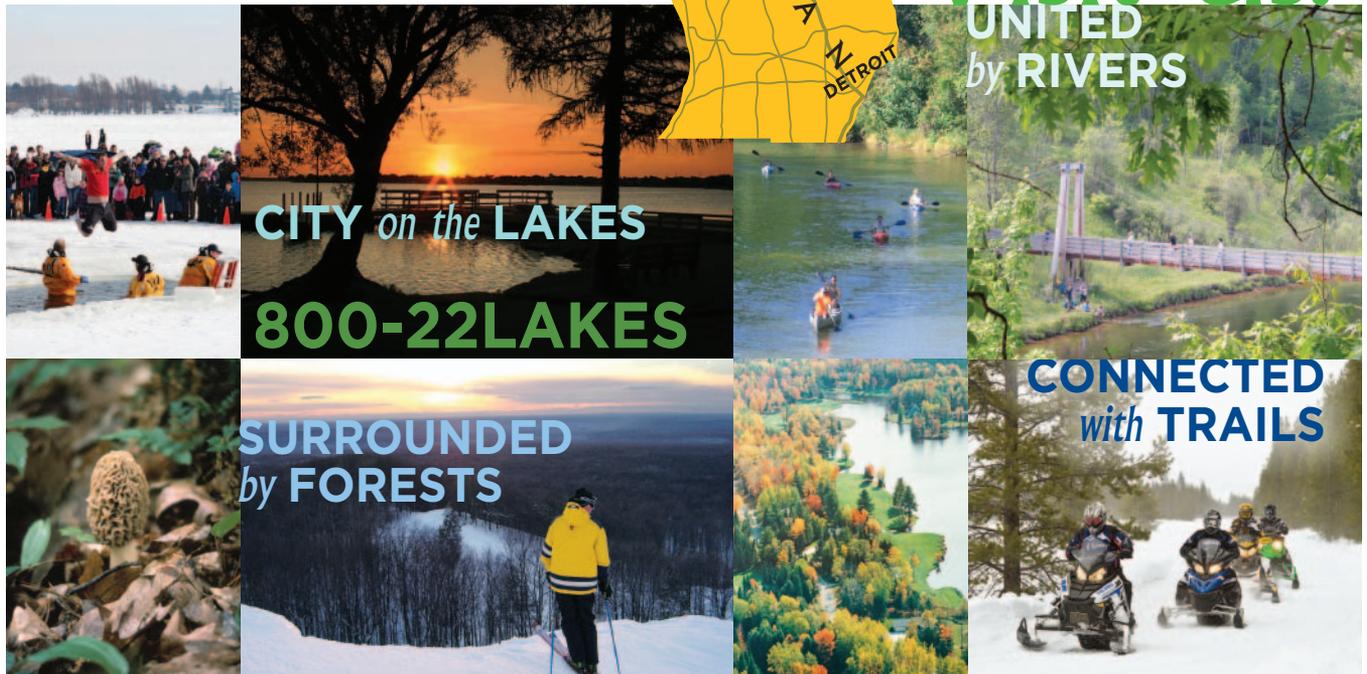
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Love is Blue in Bluewater Country

There's something in the water in this part of Michigan

The eastern shores of Michigan are home to a collection of communities that are bananas about the color blue. One hundred and forty miles of shoreline unites the quaint towns of Algonac, Clay, Marine City, St. Clair, Port Huron, Lexington, Port Sanilac, Harbor Beach and Port Austin. Green parks, boardwalks and wide beaches border the tranquil shorelines.

Port Huron is known as the "Maritime Capital of the Great Lakes." Visitors can explore the only existing lightship on the Great Lakes, or tour the Coast Guard Cutter "Bramble." The *Great Lakes Maritime Center* will give you insight on the great lake and ocean going freighters navigating one of the busiest waterways in the world.

Clay Township is home to the St. Clair Flats, including Harsens Island, Russell Island, and hundreds of out islands, which create the largest freshwater delta in North America.

Many ship's captains and sailors made their homes in *Marine City*, as evidenced

by the grand residential architecture throughout the historic downtown area. These gracious Victorian "painted ladies" still sit side by side with turn of the century cottages. Today, five waterfront parks are interspersed between unique shopping and dining venues along the historic waterfront and boardwalk.

Algonac was the birthplace of the celebrated Chris Craft boats. Located on the St. Clair River, it is also known the "Pick-erel Capitol of the World." Visitors can stroll along the downtown boardwalk, or visit the Algonac-Clay Historical Museum, which displays scale models of pleasure boats built right in town.

Spectacular sunsets are a nightly event in Port Austin, on the geographical tip of Michigan's Thumb. This quaint village boasts a large Farmers Market.

Port Sanilac is an historic waterfront village nestled on the shores of Lake Huron. In addition to scenic beaches, and a modern harbor facility, and is a treasure trove for scuba divers.

Just 40 miles north of Detroit is St. Clair, an historic little city of tree-lined streets and vintage homes. The centerpiece of downtown St. Clair is *Palmer Park*, featuring the longest fresh water boardwalk in the world!

St. Clair will be hosting the World's most elaborate and accurate model of the Titanic on selected dates in June 22nd, 29th and July 27th. The 18 foot-long ship is the only "Builders Model" ever approved by the builders of the original Titanic. The model is so highly sought that in 2012 it was featured in the National Geographic Museum in Washington DC. This will be its only planned exhibit in the United States in 2013, before it returns to Europe and the Middle East.

Marysville has a quiet, small town ambiance. The town's 58-acre park offers plenty of picnic areas, baseball diamonds and tennis courts. The park features a unique water spray area, a mile-long boardwalk for picturesque walks, a beach, fine fishing and a boat launch. 



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Map locations: Christmas, Manistique, Sault Ste. Marie, Hessel, St. Ignace.

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The Old Mission Point Lighthouse was built in 1870.



BY GAIL MERO-O'NEIL

Time Out in Traverse City

Nestled along the deep blue waters of Grand Traverse Bay, Traverse City is the cultural and social center of a four-season recreational paradise. For over a century, families have been coming here to enjoy Traverse City's serenity and beauty... its surprising sophistication — its unique mixture of relaxation, adventure and unrivaled natural splendor.

Fodor's called it "one of America's 10 Best Small Towns," and last year National Geographic picked it as one of its Top Summer Trips of the year.

Here you can relax on a magnificent golden beach, enjoy a round of championship golf, or amble through the shops and stores of a friendly, tree-shaded downtown. Cast your line into one of America's most famous trout streams, or pick a quart of fresh cherries straight off the tree.

Sometimes called the "Caribbean of the North" Traverse City is one place where the expression "crystal clear" means exactly what it says; you can look down into 30 or 40 feet of water and see every detail on the sandy bottom. And there are dozens of beautiful inland lakes and gentle rivers just over the horizon, too.

The *Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore*, a 64-mile curve of beaches, coves,

islands and hills that was voted "Most Beautiful Place in America" last fall by viewers of *Good Morning America*. It's a wonderful place for a hike, a beach picnic, a scenic drive or even a ferryboat excursion to the unspoiled Manitou Islands. Thousands of acres of national and state park and forest with miles of trails for hiking and cycling.

The region's distinctive landscape has attracted talented golf architects like Jack Nicklaus, Tom Weiskopf, Arnold Palmer and Gary Player, who have helped turn Traverse City into one of America's best golf destinations. Golf Magazine selected Traverse City as one of America's top six golf regions (they call it "America's summer golf capital"), and this year Golf Digest named it one of America's Top 10 "best buddies-trip" golf destinations.

Traverse City is a region rich in history, too. Reminders of the past are everywhere: lonely lighthouses and humble mission churches, grand old hotels, quaint summer cottages and the palatial homes of lumber barons. Picturesque villages like Suttons Bay, Bellaire, Leland, Old Mission and Glen Arbor are filled with hidden byways, cozy studios and quaint shops. .

Long known as the *Cherry Capital of the World*, Traverse City is now establishing an international reputation as a wine

destination. The Leelanau and Old Mission peninsulas are dotted with vineyards and wineries that consistently bring home awards from regional, national and international competitions. Talented and inventive new chefs are also making their presence felt throughout the region, developing a homegrown cuisine based on fresh local ingredients from local woods, waters and farms. Over 30 wineries from Michigan's Wine Coast, 30 artists, and a dozen fine restaurants will be serving their best at the 5th Annual *TC Wine & Art Festival*, June 22.

The National Cherry Festival, June 29 - July 6, features over 150 family activities: air shows, fireworks, parades, concerts, a midway and lots of delicious cherry products.

Front Street, Traverse City's main shopping thoroughfare, is filled with more than 150 boutiques, galleries, and bistros. Just around the corner, on Union Street, is the small but captivating Old Town district, and a few blocks to the west is the *Village at Grand Traverse Commons*, where the rambling Victorian-Italianate buildings of a 19th century asylum are being redeveloped into an elegant new retail district. The 63-acre site includes *The Mercato* is an expansive indoor market in the Garden Level of Building 50. Italian for "marketplace" the Mercato is reminiscent of an old-world market of unique, interconnected shops and restaurants; of bustling activity and social interaction; a place to meet, explore, and discover a taste for the extraordinary.

Immerse yourself in a one-of-a-kind, all-season shopping and dining "experience," throughout this dramatic indoor thoroughfare. Once inside, you'll be able to eat, get a massage, browse the eclectic shops, have coffee & dessert, taste wine, get your hair done, contemplate the ever-changing art displayed in the corridor,

The historic *Park Place Hotel* is a beautiful old property in the middle of everything in Traverse City. It's just steps from downtown shops and restaurants or an easy stroll to the bay and beach. The 140 tastefully appointed guest rooms and suites feature cable with premium channels, small refrigerator, complimentary high-speed Internet access.

The Beacon Lounge on the 10th floor offers a very intimate setting, overlooking Traverse City and Grand Traverse Bay. 🍷

For more information, contact the Traverse City Convention & Visitors Bureau at www.traverscity.com.

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Taste

Some of the best foodie stops in the region: fine dining, artisan foods, baked goods, gourmet coffees, sweets & ice cream, & award-winning local wines.

Explore

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The Village is a "pocket of cool in Traverse City."
— Forbes Magazine



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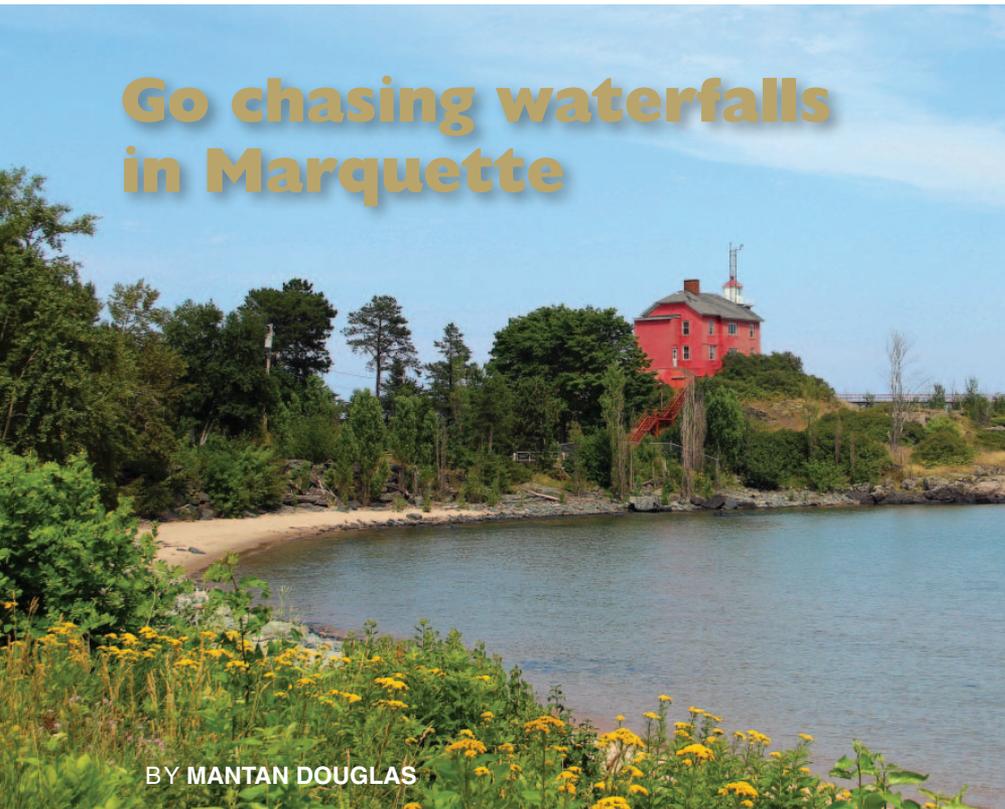
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Go chasing waterfalls in Marquette



BY MANTAN DOUGLAS

The Marquette Lower Harbor Light.

Where the wilderness comes in waves

Marquette County Michigan sits on the south shore of Lake Superior, the largest freshwater lake in the world. With over 1,083 square miles of land, Marquette County is larger than the state of Rhode Island and includes 55 miles of Lake Superior frontage.

Named after the French Jesuit missionary and explorer *Jacques Marquette*, the area is known for its friendly people, unrivaled scenic beauty and rich heritage centered around 160 plus years of iron mining, forestry and shipping.

Marquette County has more waterfalls than any other county in the state, with 77 in all. *Black River Falls* near Ishpeming, is a quick hike along a scenic path bordered by majestic pine trees. The impressive waterfall can be viewed from an island at the center of the river which is easily crossed by a foot bridge. Ishpeming's name comes from a Chippewa term for "on the summit".

Kayakers can paddle the *Lake Superior Hiawatha Water Trail* from Munising through Marquette to Big Bay. Those looking for a shorter trip can take a tour along the Black Rocks or Presque Isle Park.

Recreational opportunities in Marquette are as vast as Lake Superior, just

be sure to leave time to browse the historic downtown, including the Saturday Farmer's Market, or enjoy one of the many festivals taking place this summer, from art to tall ships. The Marquette Maritime Museum will host a number of tall ships July 19-21, including the Hindu, the Dennis Sullivan and the 151 foot Peacemaker.

The city of Marquette was recently named one of the Top Ten Distinctive Destinations by the National Trust for Historic Preservation. The historical district contains many stately sandstone and Victorian homes once owned by the lumber barons, mining moguls and shipping magnets of the 19th century.

Restored to its original splendor, the historic *Landmark Inn* is the crown jewel of downtown Marquette, welcoming travelers with a unique combination of old-world charm and modern-day convenience.

The timeless world of European-inspired elegance is reflected in 62 individually designed guest rooms (many with Jacuzzis, fireplaces and spectacular views of majestic Lake Superior). The entire hotel is 100% smoke free.

The Landmark Inn has served the famous and infamous from Amelia Earhart and Abbott and Costello, to Louis Arm-

strong, Duke Ellington and The Rolling Stones. Many of the rooms are named after the famous people who have stayed here.

A major renovation and restoration project began in 1995 and everything in the hotel has been refurbished or replaced. Guest room amenities include complimentary high speed Internet, coffee and tea, cable, including HBO, docking stations for iPad, iPod and iPhones, and use of Northern Michigan University's Physical Education Instructional Facility, including a state of the art fitness center, lap pool, racquetball courts and more.

The *Marquette Maritime Museum* is located in the Old City Waterworks building, a one story, stone structure built in the Richardsonian Romanesque style. The museum preserves the preeminent collection of lighthouse lenses anywhere in the Great Lakes, including the first, fourth order Fresnel installed in the Marquette Light in 1866. The Big Bay Lighthouse lens stands about 12 feet tall on a pedestal and weighs nearly a ton. The Maritime Museum offers tours of the *Marquette Harbor Lighthouse*, the oldest significant structure in the city and one of the most historic navigation beacons on Lake Superior.

Little Presque Isle, about 6 miles north of town, is often called the crown jewel of Lake Superior, with its beautiful sand beaches, rugged shoreline cliffs, heavily timbered forests, and unmatched public views. The wooded dunes are covered with hemlock, red pine, white pine, and balsam, with sandstone cliffs that reach nearly 60 feet high. The more than a mile of exposed bedrock along the shore is thought to be 2.3-billion years old.

The summit of *Sugarloaf Mountain* offers panoramic views looking north and east to Lake Superior, and south to the city of Marquette with its steeples and the verdant green forests beyond. Visitors can take a moderate 20-minute walk to the peak — a view best enjoyed when the morning sky is still dawn-rosy.

Located at the end of a rugged stone breakwater at Marquette's Presque Isle Park, the Presque Isle Harbor Light's red beacon still guides ships into the ore docks. A monument near the breakwater bears an inscription that begins "The awesome beauty of Lake Superior's waves have their dark and tragic side."



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A Royal Princess

The Duchess of Cambridge is Royal Princess' Godmother.

BY RENU SAGGAR

at the unique *Tea Tower* complete with a tea sommelier and a choice of 250 blends.

Staterooms are generous with a contemporary and inviting décor. Each one features Egyptian cotton linens, pillow-top mattress, a refrigerator and 37" flat screen television with movies, cable and satellite programming. All outside cabins or 80 percent of the ship's accommodations will include balconies.

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

Directly adjacent to the *SeaWalk* passengers will find a host of lounging options, beautiful palm trees, and two fresh water pools flanking an island. During the day passengers can relax and rejuvenate poolside and at night, the top deck will transform into the *Water and Light Show* with dancing fountains and an interactive sound and light show. The computerized fountain features 85 water jets, shooting streams of water 33 feet into the night sky. On select evenings, the island will be transformed into an outdoor dance floor and play host to the popular *Ultimate Deck Party*.

A soaring atrium, a dramatic over-the-water *SeaWalk*, an intimate dining experience surrounded by a soft curtain of light. The regal *Royal Princess* set sail in June with a host of innovations that enhance and expand on the classic Princess Cruise experience.

Following a christening ceremony by the Duchess of Cambridge (Kate Middleton) the 3,600 passenger ship's 2013 maiden season will include cruises on the line's signature *Grand Mediterranean* itinerary throughout the summer, followed by Eastern Caribbean cruises beginning in the fall.

A vastly expanded atrium is 50 percent larger than current Princess ships. Passengers will descend three decks down spiral staircases to the *Piazza* "the social hub of the ship." The piazza is home to *Bellini's* cocktail bar, *Crooners Lounge* mixing 75 different martinis, and the *Gelato Parlor* with the largest selection of Italian-inspired gelato and ice cream creations at sea. Tea lovers will congregate

Royal Princess begins her Maiden Season in June.



Royal Princess

Movies Under the Stars, Princess' signature poolside theater, will feature a 30 percent larger screen for true widescreen viewing, coupled with a high-tech visual and audio system for an unforgettable open-air movie-going experience. Passengers can enjoy movies, sporting events, and concerts while relaxing on a comfortable chaise lounge, complete with complimentary popcorn.

Princess Live! raises the curtain on a new era of cruise ship entertainment. Go behind the scenes to share the excitement of a working television studio. Princess Live! will showcase live television broadcasts, including game shows, interactive cooking shows, art house films, enrichment classes, murder mysteries, and "Meet the Experts" presentations from the crew. Onboard musicians will perform "unplugged" and "in-the-round" shows, giving audiences an opportunity to connect with the entertainers in a unique environment.

Royal Princess will also feature the line's largest Princess Theater ever, with

unobstructed sight lines from every seat. Four new shows will debut, including "Colors of the World," an experiential journey through the destinations visited by Princess ships; "Sweet Soul Music," a tribute to rhythm and blues; and "What the World Needs Now," celebrating the music and style of the '60s.

Chef's Table Lumiere is a spectacular new dining event that moves the Chef's Table experience light years into the future. Guests will be magically surrounded by a curtain of light — providing a soft wall of privacy that envelops a custom-made glass table located in the Concerto dining room.

Diners in the *Symphony* and *Allegro* dining rooms can enjoy a private dining experience in a wine cellar inspired space. Menus are designed to pair with wines and include carved classic meats like Lamb Baron and Veal rack a l'Orlov.

Princess' signature Tuscan-inspired specialty restaurant, *Sabatini's* will feature a fresh menu of sophisticated Italian favorites, while the *Crown Grill's* signature theater-style open kitchen sets the stage for its menu of chops, seafood and premium Sterling Silver steaks.

Royal Princess will also introduce another industry first — a dedicated pastry shop. Passengers can indulge in fresh-baked goodies including croissants, pastries, hot desserts, freshly baked waffles and French toast at breakfast.

Passengers can stay in shape with a new double lane jogging/walking track and the multi-activity *Princess Sports Central*. The Center Court can be used for basketball, tennis, a portable batting cage and volleyball, while golfers can tee off at the driving range. The *Lawn Court* offers a grassy area for putting, croquet and lawn bowling. The *Fitness Center* on Deck 17 pairs a state-of-the-art gym with spectacular ocean views.

While Royal Princess may seem like a destination unto itself, Princess will be steering her to some of the most storied ports in the Mediterranean. Between June 23 and September 27, Royal Princess will sail 12-day Grand Mediterranean itineraries between Barcelona and Venice. Ports include Toulon (for Provence), Livorno (for Florence and Pisa), Civitavecchia (for Rome), Naples (for Capri and Pompeii), Mykonos, Greece, Istanbul, and Kusadasi Turkey (for Ephesus), and Athens. 🚢





A state of perfect balance

Ohio makes great memories this summer

Ohio travel forecasters are expecting summer to roar in at the speed of a record-setting Cedar Point roller coaster.

Enjoy some wild times at the zoos, zipping around the curves with NASCAR and blowing things up in Columbus with Mythbusters. Then head to Cleveland to celebrate 50 years of the Rolling Stones.

Cedar Point is launching a new, world-record-breaking coaster for the park's 2013 season. *GateKeeper* is a whole new genre of roller coaster — a winged gargantuan that simulates the sensation of flying. Guests will take to the skies perched on the wings of a ride unlike anything they have ever experienced. One of only four such coasters in America, the mammoth ride has the longest drop of any

winged coaster on the planet!

GateKeeper will forever change the landscape of the Cedar Point Peninsula, making a dramatic flyover above the main entrance to the park with rolling maneuvers. Park guests will be welcomed by screaming riders hurtling overhead as they pass through a narrow slot in the new front gate portals for a near-miss encounter that literally comes within an inch of their lives!

The sensation is something like wing walking on an airplane, except for the times you find yourself upside down.

Riders will experience six, spine-tingling inversions during the 2-minute, 40-second adventure.

GateKeeper's incredible flying maneuvers will help Cedar Point break seven

world records including tallest drop, longest track and most inversions of any winged coaster on the planet.

In addition to all of the heart stopping thrills, Cedar Point features four kids' areas, a wide variety of live entertainment, restaurants, games, and *Soak City*, a huge 18-acre water park. *Soak City* features two relaxing inner tube river rides; more than a dozen thrilling water slides; a gigantic 500,000-gallon wave pool. *Luminosity!* a dazzling light show filled with music, fireworks, lasers and dancing is the perfect ending to a perfect day at the park.

Nearly seven million people get away to Ohio's *Lake Erie Shores & Islands* for vacation each year. From the more than 150 miles of unspoiled natural coastlines, to Cedar Point's top-thrill coasters the region offers year-round fun and relaxation for the whole family.

Port Clinton is Ohio's gateway to Lake Erie and the Islands. South Bass, Middle Bass and Kelleys Island are unspoiled waterfront playgrounds with breathtaking beaches, spectacular views and rosy summer sunsets.

Kelleys Island and Put-in-Bay invite visitors to explore quaint villages, historical attractions, family attractions, and island atmosphere. The largest American freshwater island in Lake Erie, take a scenic ride around Kelleys Island on a rental bike or golf cart. Check out the world famous *Glacial Grooves National Landmark*, or the historic homes and buildings listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

The Victorian era village of *Put-in-Bay* on South Bass Island, has been attracting visitors for nearly 150 years. Hundreds of thousands travel here annually to enjoy family fun activities, outdoor recreation and a large variety of special events. Visitors can tour the *Doller House*, a Victorian mansion that was home to one of Put-in-Bay's wealthiest and most influential citizens. History enthusiasts won't want to miss Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial, from the War of 1812.

Washington Park in downtown Sandusky, leaves a lasting impression with its unusual pictorial flower beds, working floral clock, and collection of tropical plants including palm trees.

The *Kalahari Resort* is America's largest indoor waterpark resort with 175,000 sq. ft. waterpark, play area, arcade, shopping, restaurants, spa and more! The Safari

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An Ohio Summer

Adventures animal park is located behind the outdoor waterpark.

Milan Ohio is the birthplace of prolific inventor, Thomas Edison, whose boyhood home is open for tours and houses a museum of his inventions.

Rolling Stones: 50 Years of Satisfaction just opened at Cleveland's Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum. It's the first ever major exhibition capturing the band's legendary career spanning more than half a century.

The exhibit, which takes up two-and-a-half floors of Cleveland's I.M. Pei designed museum, will celebrate the Rolling Stones' incredible contribution to popular music, from their earliest days playing small clubs, to their era-defining recordings such as "Gimme Shelter," "Paint It Black," and "Jumping Jack Flash" and sold-out global tours. Through the use of artifacts, film, text and interactive technology, generations of music fans will have the opportunity to get up close and personal with rare items from nearly every aspect of the Stones' astonishing five decades at the top.

The newly renovated, \$5 million *NASA Glenn Visitor Center* at Cleveland's Great Lakes Science Center invites explorers to steer a robotic rover, climb a Martian landscape, study artifacts used during Mars mission testing and learn how astronauts live and work on the International Space Station.

The three new space galleries focus on the risks and triumphs of human space travel, including the challenges of living and working in space. Visitors can climb a Martian landscape, steer a robotic rover, study artifacts used during Mars mission testing, gain insight into how astronauts live and work on the International Space Station and see the impressive new presentation of the Apollo Command Module used during the 1973 Skylab 3 Mission — one of only 15 Apollo capsules that took astronauts into space.

Cleveland's neighbor *Lake County* offers a surprising New England ambiance. The area is home to Mentor Headlands Beach State Park, Fairport Harbor, Lakefront Park, golf resorts, trophy fishing and award-winning wineries.

The *Fairport Harbor Marine Museum & Lighthouse* consists of a marine museum and lighthouse tower with spectacular

views of Lake Erie. The museum houses the light's original 3rd order Fresnel lens, the Frontenac pilothouse and nautical artifacts,

In Mentor, experience history at *Lawnfield*, the 29-room home of President James Garfield. The home of the 20th president features Garfield's presidential memorial library and his private study, as well as many original furnishings and artifacts belonging to the Garfield family.

In Kirtland, indulge your senses at the *Holden Arboretum*, a 3,100-acre paradise of flowers and trees (the nation's largest). Home to flora from all over the world, it features quiet walking trails, as well as paths for dog-walking.

Lake Farmpark was named one of 10 great locations to dig up the dirt on farming by USA Today, Farmpark is a family oriented science and cultural center devoted to agriculture. You can milk a cow, take a wagon ride, and discover over 50 breeds of farm animals up close. Marvel at the Border Collies at work, or explore solar and wind power, the Great Tomato Works, and themed gardens.

NASCAR Returns to the Mid-Ohio Raceway, in Lexington August 17. The Nationwide Children's Hospital 200



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An Ohio Summer

brings NASCAR drivers and fans to a 2.4-mile, 15-turn road course that currently hosts the IndyCar Series and Grand-Am Racing. The Mid-Ohio Sports Car Course has fiercely challenged the mettle of the world's top drivers for more than four decades.

The Toledo Zoo has gotten a little wilder with *Wild Walkabout* which opened in May. Experience the wonders from down under with more than 50 species of Australian animals Zoo-wide, including a huge saltwater crocodile.

Grizzly Ridge will be one of the biggest openings in the Akron Zoo's 60-year history. The exhibit which opens to the public on July 20, will include grizzly bears, red wolves, coyotes, river otters and bald eagles. An enclosed slide will run through the otter pool, providing kids a chance to slide through with otters swimming around them.

Visitors to the Cincinnati Zoo will be transported to the grassy plains of the dark continent when *Africa* opens June 29. Discover dramatic, open-air views of lions and cheetahs, and African primates such as the olive baboon. The hippo area offers both above- and below-water viewing.

Columbus Zoo and Aquarium guests now have the opportunity to see stingrays up close and to touch these majestic creatures! Located in Jungle Jack's Landing near Zoombezi Bay, Stingray Bay features an 18,000-gallon saltwater pool for dozens of cownose and southern stingrays to call home. Staff will inform guests about the best ways to touch the animals and answer questions and the rays' barbs have been carefully trimmed off their whip-like tails. It's painless and just like cutting your fingernails. The landscaped pool features a waterfall and a wide ledge for toddlers to lean on when touching the rays.

There's no better way to celebrate summer in Columbus than with hot ribs and cool jazz. The 34th annual *Jazz & Rib Fest*, July 19-21, will be serving up a lineup of artists guaranteed to satisfy the cravings of any jazz connoisseur, while barbeque pit masters grill sizzling ribs, chicken, and more.

There is something for everyone at the *Ohio State Fair*, July 24-August 4. Learn about agriculture and watch champion 4-H livestock compete for top honors, or take in a growing fine arts show and competition. Go for a paddle or just relax

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in the eight-acre natural resources park, take a ride on the midway and finish off the evening with a concert.

COSI (the Center of Science and Industry) located downtown, is one of the most respected science centers in the nation. The Discovery Channel's Emmy®-nominated series makes its way to COSI June 8, 2013 in *MythBusters: The Explosive Exhibition*, this hands-on, interactive experience combines popular scientific facts with innovative, family-friendly displays.

The *Workshop* is the place where guests turn into investigators and use real science to test myths. Guests discover whether they get wetter running versus walking in the rain, and find out if toast really does always land buttered-side down. The Live MythBusters Demonstration Stage is where guests have the opportunity to view and participate in live science demonstrations that dissect myths with the help of a team of energetic MythBusting facilitators.

Grove City may be your best stopover when visiting Columbus or Central Ohio. Located just eight miles southwest of

Ohio's capital city, it offers a low stress alternative for people who crave big city attractions and small town charm.

Grove City has over 1,100 clean, comfortable and affordable hotel rooms and over 51 places to dine, all within one mile of the hotels. Information about hotel specials and other area attractions is available at visitgrovecityoh.com.

The *Gardens at Gantz Farm and Arboretum* is a popular spot with visitors, while the *Big Splash* waterpark features interactive water play toys, a zero-depth entrance for easy accessibility, and a 190-foot water slide.

Get ready for high times this summer *Balloons-n-Tunes* hot air balloon festival will be held August 23-24 at Beulah Park. This is a great opportunity to experience hot air ballooning up close, and at the same time, interact with the pilots and crew members. The event also includes tethered balloon rides, daily ascensions, various attractions and the popular night glow.

More than 100 juried exhibitors display and sell fine art, photography, jewelry, crafts, fabric art, glasswork, pottery and wood creations at *Arts in the Alley*, September 21-22. A variety of musical enter-

tainment also are featured throughout the weekend

Located 40 miles southeast of Columbus, Ohio's *Hocking Hills* are the realm of boreal forests, secluded caves and waterfalls tumbling over soaring rock faces. The Wyandot Indians called the area "hockhocking," which means "bottle-shaped" in reference to a bottleneck in the Hocking River Gorge near Lancaster.

Hocking Hills State Park consists of 2,348-forested acres lying just south of Logan, Ohio. *Old Man's Cave* is considered the "heart" of the park and a series of rock-hewn steps, man-made tunnels, arched stone bridges and hiking trails lead visitors through this rocky gorge. Most hikers begin at Upper Falls — one of the most photographed spots in the State of Ohio — and then follow along the creek to Old Man's Cave.

The *Old Man's Cave Visitor Center*, located on Ohio 664 about ten miles south of Logan, illustrates the geology of the park and features displays on the human history of the region and native wildlife.

Cedar Falls is located midway between Old Man's Cave and Ash Cave. Numerous hemlock trees fill the narrow gorge surrounding this 50-foot high "split face"

Grove City, Ohio

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waterfall. Botany challenged settlers mistakenly thought the trees were cedars and named the site Cedar Falls.

Ash Cave takes its name from the mounds of ashes discovered in the cave by early settlers, who believed they were the remains of Native American campfires. The horseshoe-shaped cave is located in the southern portion of the park and accessible via a tree-lined gorge and a valley floor carpeted by wildflowers. The largest recess cave in Ohio is nearly 700 feet long and 100 feet deep, and visitors will not only be impressed by its enormous size but by its incredible acoustic qualities. A tributary of the East Fork of Queer Creek, still flows over the rim to a pool below.

Conkle's Hollow is one of the park's most spectacular vistas with sheer Blackhand sandstone cliffs rising nearly 200 feet above the valley floor. This cool, deep gorge has numerous waterfalls cascading over the rock faces, with the massive slump block and boulders littering the canyon floor. The *Rim Trail* is a two-mile loop that circles the ledge with mag-

nificent overlooks and stunning views of the gorge.

The *Rock House* is the park's only true "cave" in the traditional sense of the word. The 200-foot-long tube-like cavity runs through a 150-foot high cliff. The 25-foot-high tunnel features seven natural openings that provide spectacular views into a wooded ravine below.

Located at the edge of the Hocking Hills, *Fairfield County* is one of the most scenic, natural areas in Ohio. The region has 18 covered bridges, more than any other place in the state. Most were built ca 1871-1906. The *Rock Mill Bridge*, the smallest covered bridge in Fairfield County, has a span of just 33-feet.

Rock Mill, located on the headwaters of the Hocking River, is an 1824 Flour & Grist Mill, authentically restored with original giant white oak beams, 35 shuttered windows, doors, wooden lap siding and a new tin roof. There is a beautiful waterfall and deep carved gorge at the mill site.

The *Sherman House Museum* in Lancaster, is the birthplace of General William Tecumseh Sherman, and his brother Senator John Sherman. The museum features Sherman family memorabilia, Civil War

and GAR artifacts. Parts of the house were built in 1811 while a brick front and Victorian parlor were added in 1870. A Sherman era garden along the side of the house and in the backyard features plants popular in the 1800's and used by the Shermans.

At one time there were over 40 glass companies in the area manufacturing beautiful art glass. *The Ohio Glass Museum* is located in the historic downtown and chronicles the over 100 year history of glass making in Lancaster and Fairfield County. *The Glass Blowing Studio*, a favorite of adults and children alike, is open during museum hours.

The *Lancaster Festival* takes place July 18-27 and is the region's signature summer event. Artists slated to perform at this year's festival include Michael Bolton and Crystal Bowersox.

Wayne County is known as Ohio's "Gateway to Amish Country." Wayne and the surrounding counties are home to the world's largest Amish population.

Amish farms, one-room school houses and their distinct black horse-drawn buggies are familiar sights. Known for their peaceful ways and timeless lifestyle, a large number of shops and stores feature

Wander The Wonders of Wayne County, Ohio

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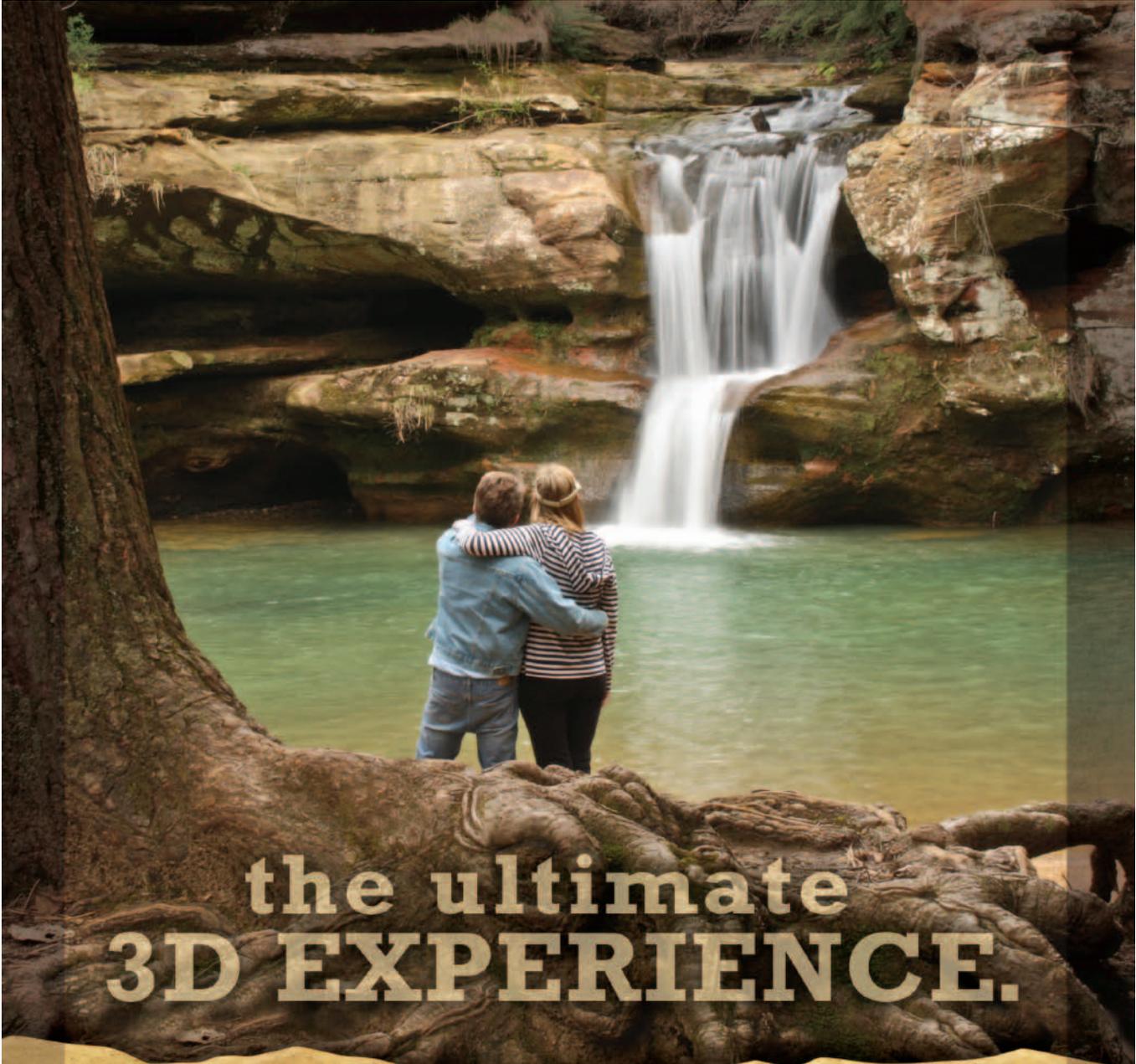


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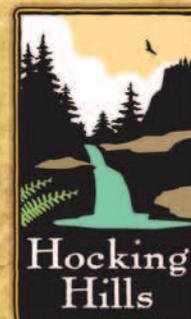
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authentic Amish products, from food to fine wood furniture and quilts. Amish-style restaurants feature authentic home cooked meals, including noodles, apple fritters, and deep dish fruit pies.

Wayne County provides many diverse opportunities to enjoy the outdoors. There are natural foot trails, paved trails, bike trails, birding and fishing areas, sure to please nature lovers of every kind. The 5,671-acre Killbuck Marsh Wildlife Area offers a 3.7-mile wildlife observation and earthen foot trail where visitors can view birds, including trumpeter swans that frequent the area.

A surprising number of world-renowned companies call Wayne County home, including The J.M. Smucker Company, Wooster Brush Company, and The Cat's Meow Village, creators of the popular two-dimensional wooden collectibles. If you think it isn't made any more, check with *Lehman's* before you give up

Founded by Jay Lehman in 1955 to serve the local Amish and others without

electricity, Lehman's now ships old-fashioned merchandise all over the world.

Because of their attention to historical authenticity, not only do historical museums and re-enactment groups purchase their products, but Hollywood has also caught on. Virtually every big name Hollywood production set in the 19th century buys their props from Lehman's.

Families have long enjoyed vacationing at beautiful Grand Lake St. Marys. Ohio's largest inland lake was completed in 1845, without power equipment, The lake served as a feeder lake for the Miami-Erie Canal. Today Grand Lake St. Marys State Park consists of nearly 600 acres of prime lakeside parkland. You will find trails and walkways, great access to fishing, swimming beaches, picnic amenities, and excellent bird watching opportunities. Area attractions include the *Armstrong Air and Space Museum* in Wapakoneta. Named in honor of Wapakoneta native Neil Armstrong, first man to set foot on the moon, the museum chronicles Ohio's contributions to the history of space flight. Among the items on display are the Gemini VIII spacecraft, and personal items from Armstrong's life.

The *Bicycle Museum of America* in New Bremen, houses a rich source of bicycle history with over 300 bicycles on display, including the actual bicycle from the film *Peewee's Big Adventure*.

Visitors to *Fort Recovery* state park can see history come alive through the reconstructed fort with the two-story blockhouses and connecting stockade along with two log cabins depicting early colonial homes and tools. The 108th Fort Recovery Harvest Jubilee takes place June 27th through the 30th. Activities include pie-baking contests, Go Kart races, Kiddie Tractor Pull, a talent show, the Famous Fort Recovery Racing Ducks, and the Jubilee Quarter Auction. The Fireman's Parade begins at 2 p.m. on Sunday and is followed by a chicken BBQ.

The historic river city of Marietta celebrates a rich history of an era gone by. Located at the confluence of the Ohio and Muskingum Rivers, it's a place where the past still lives on with covered bridges, authentic sternwheelers and a tradition of handcrafted artistry. Named in honor of the French Queen Marie Antoinette, tree lined brick streets are framed with graceful Victorian homes.



Ash Cave in Hocking Hills State Park.

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At one time there were over 50 covered bridges scattered throughout Washington County. Originally built to keep water off the roadbed, the nine remaining bridges serve as romantic reminders of a time gone by. Covered bridges were once called "kissing bridges" because no one knew what a couple might be doing once they drove their buggy into the bridge.

Harmar Village is linked to downtown Marietta by a historic railroad bridge that is open to foot traffic. Harmar is home to the Toy and Doll Museum, Marietta Soda Museum, the Fearing House, and some unique shops and eateries.

Visitors will want to explore the *W.P. Snyder Jr.*, America's sole surviving steam-powered sternwheel towboat at the *Ohio River Museum*. Later, you can cruise the Ohio River on the *Valley Gem*, a working sternwheeler docked next door. The annual *Ohio River Sternwheel Festival* takes place this September 6, 7 & 8. Between 30-35 authentic sternwheel boats make the trip to Marietta for the festival, which also includes fireworks, food and live entertainment. 🎆

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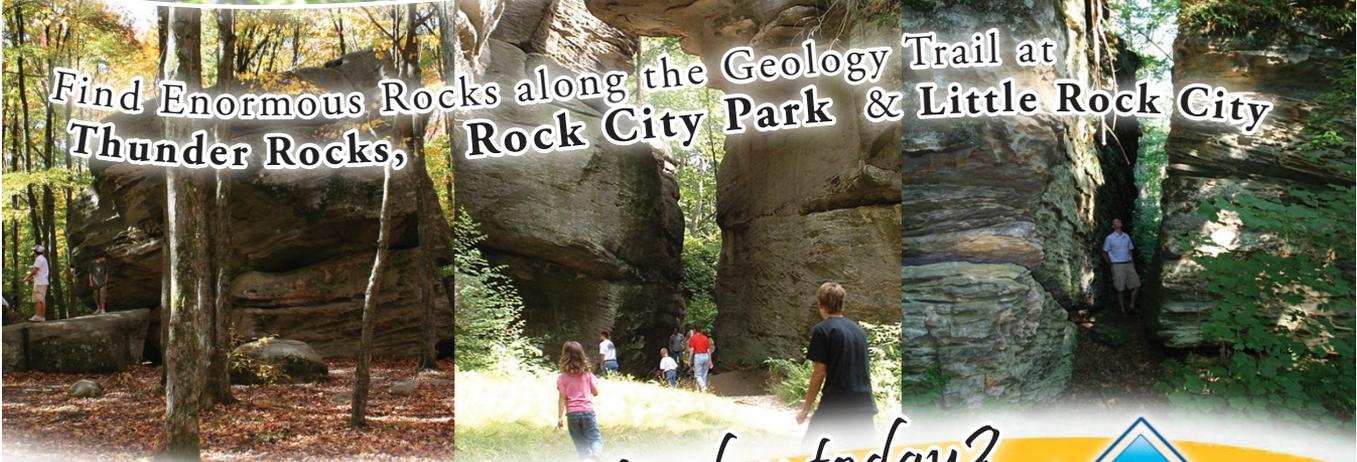
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BY GAIL MERO-O'NEIL

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Allegany State Park building at Red House Lake. Photos: Michael Head.

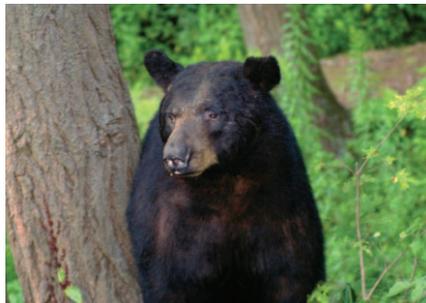
Western New York's Cattaraugus County

Cattaraugus County is a peaceful oasis for people who enjoy nature. Located in Western New York, along the Pennsylvania border, the region is home to *Allegany State Park*, the largest state park in New York State. The 65,000 acre park is open year round with a multitude of outdoor activities for every season. The park offers 18 hiking trails, 3 of which have been developed as self-guided nature trails. Visitors can cycle along the 5.6 miles of paved trails, which includes 3.1 miles around Red House Lake. Rafting and Kayaking are two of the region's biggest attractions.

Salamanca the only city in America on Native American lands. The Seneca Indian Nation, a branch of the Iroquois, has a proud history, which is on view at the Seneca-Iroquois National Museum.

You don't have to go to Las Vegas to enjoy world-class gaming, dining and entertainment. The *Seneca Allegany Casino & Hotel* offers state-of-the-art slot machines and table games in a memorable location at the foot of the majestic Allegany Mountains. A new \$53 million hotel tower added more than 200 rooms with unobstructed mountain vistas. All existing rooms received \$1.2 million in renovations to match those in the new hotel tower.

Experience the Old Order Amish way of life with a trip along New York's *Amish*



Trail, located in the western portion of the Enchanted Mountains. Don't miss *Mager's Mountain Alpacas*. It is a treat to see those beautiful creatures and added to the excitement is a conversation with Paul and Sue Mager. And one of the country's major buffalo herds of buffalo makes its home in Cattaraugus County. Stop and admire these mighty beasts, even buy a steak to take home.

The Amish sell their products from their homes and the *Amish Trail Map* will help you locate their businesses. These maps may be picked up at any of the businesses or downloaded at www.amishtrail.com.

The Seneca Nation's influence permeates the Salamanca area, which boasts Seneca-Iroquois museums and shops and a robust gaming industry.

The Holiday Inn Express® Hotel & Suites Salamanca embraces the spirit and natural splendor of the Enchanted Mountain Region. Hotel guests can enjoy the scenery along the Amish Trail and in

Allegany State Park, which is practically in their backyard, and will be delighted by a staff that is friendly and caring.

The hotel is also just down the street from Seneca Allegany Casino and Seneca Gaming and Entertainment, both of which provide free, 24-hour shuttles to hotel guests.

A recent multi-million dollar renovation includes amenities, like free high-speed, wireless internet, a heated indoor pool, a whirlpool, and fitness center can help you relax at the end of the day. Every room now has a refrigerator and microwave. The fresh new colors, the comfortable beds, everyone is saying they have had the best nights sleep that they have had in a very long time. Plus the entire hotel is now non smoking.

A Deluxe Continental Breakfast is included in your room rate. There is even a complimentary laundry facility and your room rate is exempt from taxes because the hotel owners are Native American.

The spacious lobby features comfortable chairs, a stone fireplace and decor reflective of the Seneca Nation.

Canadians crossing the border at Niagara Falls may just want to take short detour for some shopping. Whether you are just browsing or looking for great deals, shopping in Niagara Falls NY is an absolute must. Only 5 minutes away from one of the world's natural wonders, shopping at the *Fashion Outlets of Niagara Falls* is a wondrous indoor/outdoor experience.

Expose yourself to 150 designer outlets offering fantastic savings on name brand apparel with up to 75% off. Shoppers save money because they are buying directly from the manufacturer. The same items cost more at a department store, as the department store has to "mark up" the price. Enjoy huge savings at Coach, Aeropostale, Burberry, Banana Republic, Michael Kors, Hugo Boss, Cole Haan Outlet, Kate Spade, Saks Off Fifth Ave, Nike and much more!

Fashion Outlets of Niagara Falls also offers a food court with several sit down restaurants, including Tim Hortons, Ben & Jerry's and Applebee's Neighborhood Bar & Grill.

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BY ADELINA IRVINE

The Tall Ship Lynx.

Amherstburg has Sails to See

The fleet is in! Amherstburg — one of the oldest and prettiest communities in Southwest Ontario — will commemorate the 200th anniversary of the *Battle of Lake Erie* in high style. Come out to the very grounds that the soldiers and seamen stood on during the War of 1812.

Amidst beautiful and award-winning gardens in the legendary Kings Navy Yard Park you can visit two unique tall ships, the privateer *The Lynx* and schooner *Friends Goodwill*. The Lynx is a topsail schooner and an exact reproduction of the original privateer of the same name that sailed during that time period.

Board the two ships with your commemorative boarding pass and have a great time at all the waterfront festivities!

As part of the *Coastal Trails ~ Sails to See Festival*, Amherstburg will host fun, family activities that will be sure to make your weekend a memorable one. Start your weekend with a free outdoor movie “Hook” and *Flames of War!* On Saturday, join “Little Mates” kid’s zone with lots of fun and cool activities for the kids. Sunday, don’t miss the live reenactment of the Women’s March; a unique story about freedom and peace followed by a free concert in the park. Visit *Fort Malden National Historic Site* where it all began; it’s just down the road from the Navy Yard Park and dock.

You will be charmed by the cobblestone

streets and unique, quaint restaurants. Have tea at an authentic tea house or a cold draft at one of the English pubs. Visit Boblo Island’s new restaurant by ferry, or take a free horse-drawn carriage ride while viewing century old architecture. You will be amazed at what Amherstburg has to offer. Make this a memorable weekend filled with history and excitement. The only thing you have to bring is your camera! Lawn chairs are welcome to the concert.

Visit www.1812amherstburg.com for a complete schedule of events, or call 1800.413.9993 for your boarding pass information.

Amherstburg hosts a variety of events during the summer. Stroll downtown and view the most magnificent line up of collectible cars from various eras during the *Amherstburg Car Gone Crazy* show July 28. Live entertainment, food, stunning ambiance and cars, cars, cars!

Discover history as it comes to life at Fort Malden National Historic Site, during *Military Heritage Days*, August 3 and 4. Experience tactical demonstrations, military encampments and unique children’s activities! Bring the whole family to an astounding weekend of fire power and fun!

Diners will find a variety of choices to suit their palate. *Artisan Grill* is a premium causal restaurant located in Historic Downtown Amherstburg. Owner/operator Matthew Johnston’s goal is to show

people a good time with fresh hand-crafted food. Johnston is a trained chef with a passion for guest services and 15 years of intense culinary training. He has created a wonderful menu with something for everyone. Entrees include Chipotle Roasted Salmon, Chicken Marsala, Baby back Ribs, and New York Steak. The service is friendly, the atmosphere elegant, and the food is amazing. Matthew operates the restaurant with his trusty team who are all dedicated to making your visit one to rave about. For more information visit their website at www.artisangrill.ca

Shoppers in Amherstburg will find many unique shops, cafes and boutiques. *A La Mode*, ladies fashions, shoes and accessories, is located at 52 Richmond St. They also have a second location at 3869 Dougall Ave. in Windsor.

Fashion is their passion and *A La Mode* is passionate about making the shopping experience comfortable, personable and affordable, while selecting colorful tops, dresses, skirts, necklaces, earrings, shoes and much more.

Clothing lines include fashion forward labels like Spanner, Joseph Ribkoff, Animale, Simon Chang, Tiny Bowls, Montage and Not Your Daughter’s Jeans. ✍️

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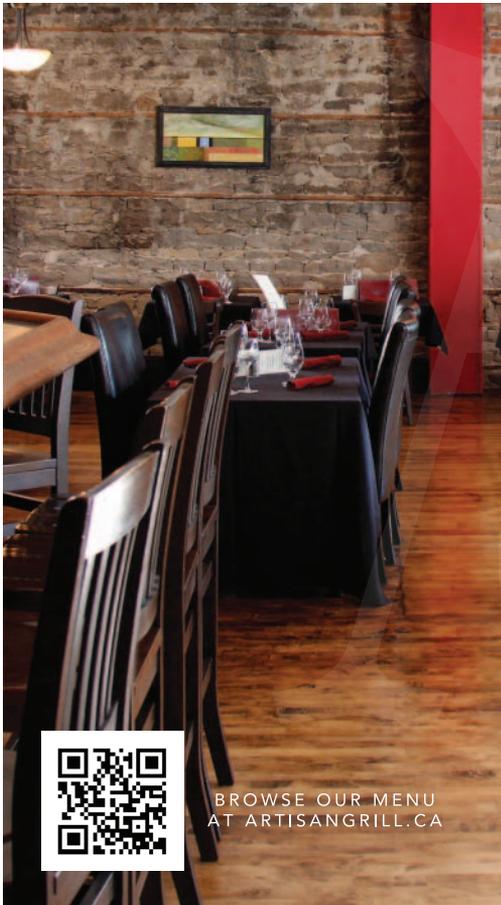
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Visit www.1812amherstburg.com for a schedule of events.



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Canatara Beach. Photo: Tourism Sarnia Lambton.

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Sarnia and Lambton County has a distinguished place as a region passionate about sports and recreational play. No matter which jersey you wear or clubs you swing, they have a proven track record for delivering a multitude of sports and recreational options to challenge you.

This outdoor playground boasts 600 km of trails, both on and off the road, challenging golf courses, state of the art sport facilities, miles of scenic shoreline, lush gardens and 116 public parks.

Thinking about a weekend away with the kids that's long overdue or it's time to plan the annual guys' only trip — they are your play destination. Here are some popular themed experiences from Tourism Sarnia-Lambton to help kick start your summer vacation plans.

Get Wet

You can swim in it, sail on it, gaze upon it and cast a fishing line in it, whatever way you choose to savor the blue waters of Lake Huron and the St. Clair River; it will be a memorable time you won't soon forget. You are in the heart of the Great Lakes and home to one of the busiest recreational boating and shipping regions. Pack up the family and don't forget the beach towels and spend a day at one of

the white sandy beaches. If that's a little too laid back for you; let's pump up the adrenaline with a trip to Sarnia Boarder Pass. They are the 1st and only straight line cable systems in Ontario and a fully

BY ADELINA IRVINE

functional wakeboard, wake skate and water ski course located at Sarnia Bay Marina. This summer the Boarder Pass Triple Crown competition comes to Sarnia on August 31. This unique competition is a must-see. No matter which water activity you want to try, it's guaranteed to get you wet!

Pine Tree Paradise

Over half a million visitors can't be wrong. That's how many enter the gates of Pinery Provincial Park each year in Grand Bend. Southern Ontario's largest and most ecologically diverse natural environment boasts 6,000 acres of paradise and over 9 kilometres of pristine Lake Huron beach. Find the nature enthusiast in yourself and hike one of the 10 different nature trails or gaze upon some of the oldest and most spectacular sand dunes in North America. Rent a bike (or bring your own) to explore 15km of trails.

The park features 1,000 campsites and offers year-round camping, so book a campsite early. When's the last time you roasted marshmallows over a camp fire? Start planning your Pinery adventure now and remember to turn off your cell phone, you won't need it here.

Bring Your Best Driver

Polish up your clubs and get ready to tee off at one of the 22 incredible golf courses



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POSITIVE ACTION ... SUPPORTIVE ADVICE ... PRACTICAL ANALYSIS OF YOUR OPTIONS

Sarnia-Lambton

in Sarnia and Lambton County. Sarnia is home to 2003 Masters Champion Mike Weir and played host to the Canadian Tour's Bayer Championship at Huron Oaks. Established in 1938 on the shores of beautiful Lake Huron, the property was once the summer home of Canadian beer baron John Labatt. Huron Oaks has since evolved into one of the premiere golf facilities in Lambton County.

Whether it's an 18 hole Championship course or 9 hole executive play you are looking for. Challenge your game with

dramatic beauty featuring old growth forest, sand traps, hills, water and on occasion, wildlife.

Bring your foursome for a great game of golf at *Sawmill Creek Golf Resort and Spa*. Located just east of Sarnia adjacent the blue waters of Lake Huron, the resort is anchored by an exceptionally conditioned par 71 Links style course. An original Rene Muylaert design, now refreshed with touches by Doug Carrick on several holes, the course offers playability and challenge to all levels of golfers from 4 tee locations. The 6,445 yard championship layout features bent grass on the tees, fairways and greens.

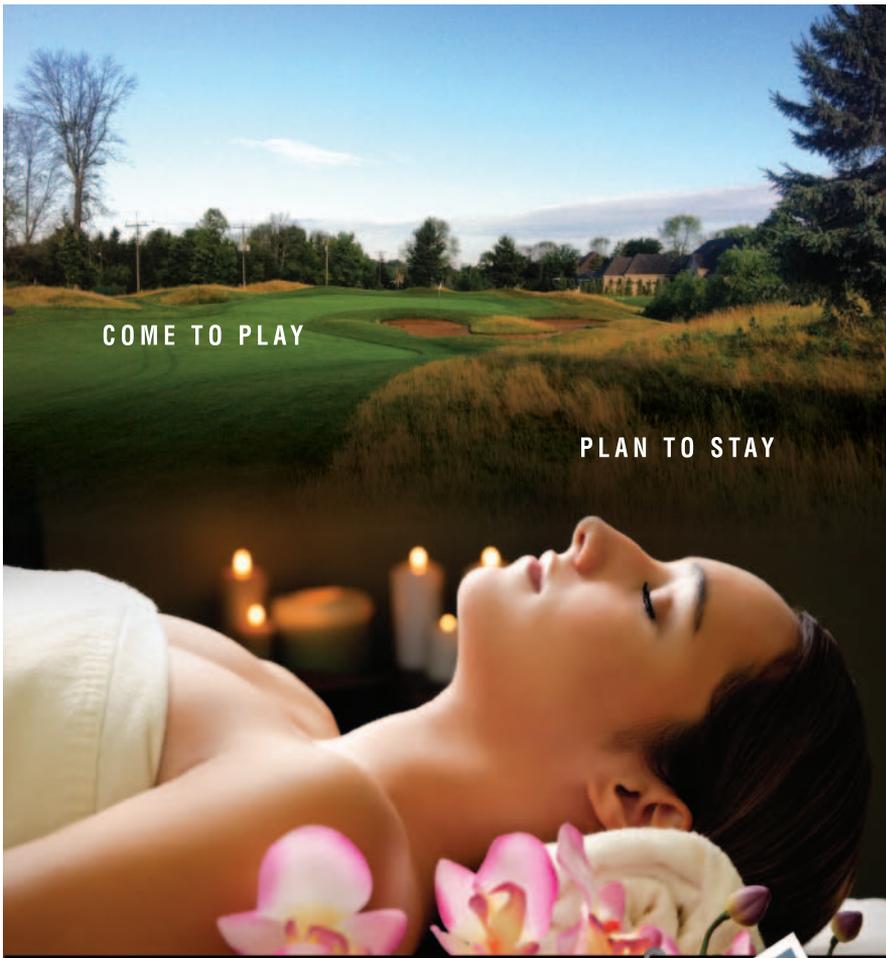
Over 1-million tons of earth were moved to create the course and mounding between holes is spectacular. From the Championship tees, huge bunkers, and desert-like waste areas make its layout a great test of golf. Sawmill Creek comes into play on 13 of the 18 holes.

The Golf Academy at Sawmill Creek Resort and Spa offers an unparalleled learning experience with the combination of a world-class facility including a large grass hitting deck, two putting greens, hitting target greens, practice bunker, coaching programs, state of the art technology, and premium instruction. A team of C.P.G.A. instructors use the best teaching equipment available including the V1 Swing Analysis Software, which is used by many touring professionals. Everyone can improve their game with the right instruction and have fun doing it.

Sawmill Creek Golf Resort and Spa can accommodate your party in seven elegant Bed & Breakfast suites. All feature designer finishes, luxurious ensuites and comfy queen beds. The *Residences of Sawmill Creek* is a resort style community nestled within the golf course and in close proximity to the clubhouse. Your choice of homes can vary from an attached manor home to a detached home with loft, from 1,329 square feet to 2,354 square feet. Owners can customize their homes to create their ultimate dream home.

The Spa is a sanctuary created to heal both mind and body, an escape where therapists and aestheticians provide unique and pampering spa treatments in a peaceful and gracious environment. It's the ideal escape for a relaxing couples getaway and individual retreats. This is a great place for golfers and golf widows to revitalize both mind and body.

Weddings at Sawmill Creek Golf Resort and Spa are a very special affair, from the wedding gazebo, to the poolside ambience and wedding photos, and a variety of dining and entertainment venues. The wedding gazebo overlooks a scenic pond with a fountain and is surrounded by manicured lawns and colourful landscaping. There's also a honeymoon suite that includes a Jacuzzi for two, and a romantic canopied bed. 



COME TO PLAY

PLAN TO STAY

PREPARE TO ESCAPE

GOLF | RESORT | SPA | DINING

JUST EAST OF SARNIA

ON THE BLUE WATERS OF LAKE HURON

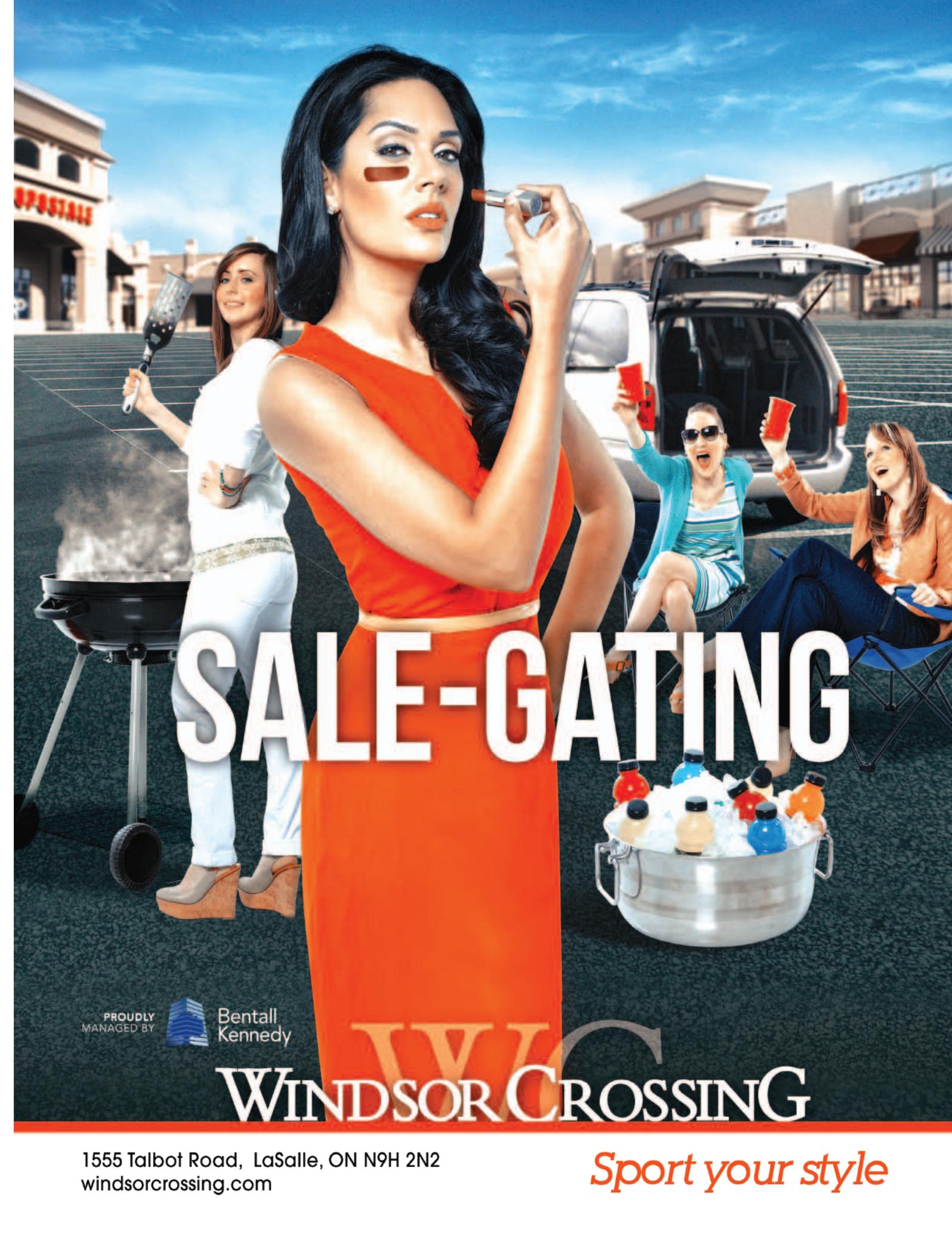


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FOR MORE INFO

For more information and for assistance planning a stay or just some great times in Lambton County click on www.tourismsarnialambton.com

A woman in a red dress is the central focus, applying makeup. In the background, a woman grills, two women sit in chairs with drinks, and a car trunk is open. A large pot of drinks is in the foreground.

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BY GAIL MERO-O'NEIL



Budapest is actually two cities spread along the banks of the Danube.

name from the guild of fishermen who were responsible for defending the city in the Middle Ages. Built between 1895 and 1902, it offers breathtaking views of the city.

Trinity Square is dominated by one of Budapest's most iconic buildings, the 700-year-old *Mathias Church*. Many kings and emperors left their mark on the church, and during the Turkish occupation it was converted into a mosque in the 15th century.

The churches' gargoyle laden Gothic spire with the Fishermen's Bastion in the background, is one of the most frequently photographed sites in Hungary. Trinity Square also boasts the Baroque-style former Town Hall and a statue of St. Stephen.

One of the most scenic ways of getting to the palace is via the *Buda Hill Funicular*, which has a steep, 48 percent grade and offers one of the most astonishing panoramas in Europe.

The *Children's Railway* is a fascinating survivor of the Communist era for visitors of all ages. Children or 'Pioneers' as they were called back then, operate the narrow gauge trains, they take your tickets and

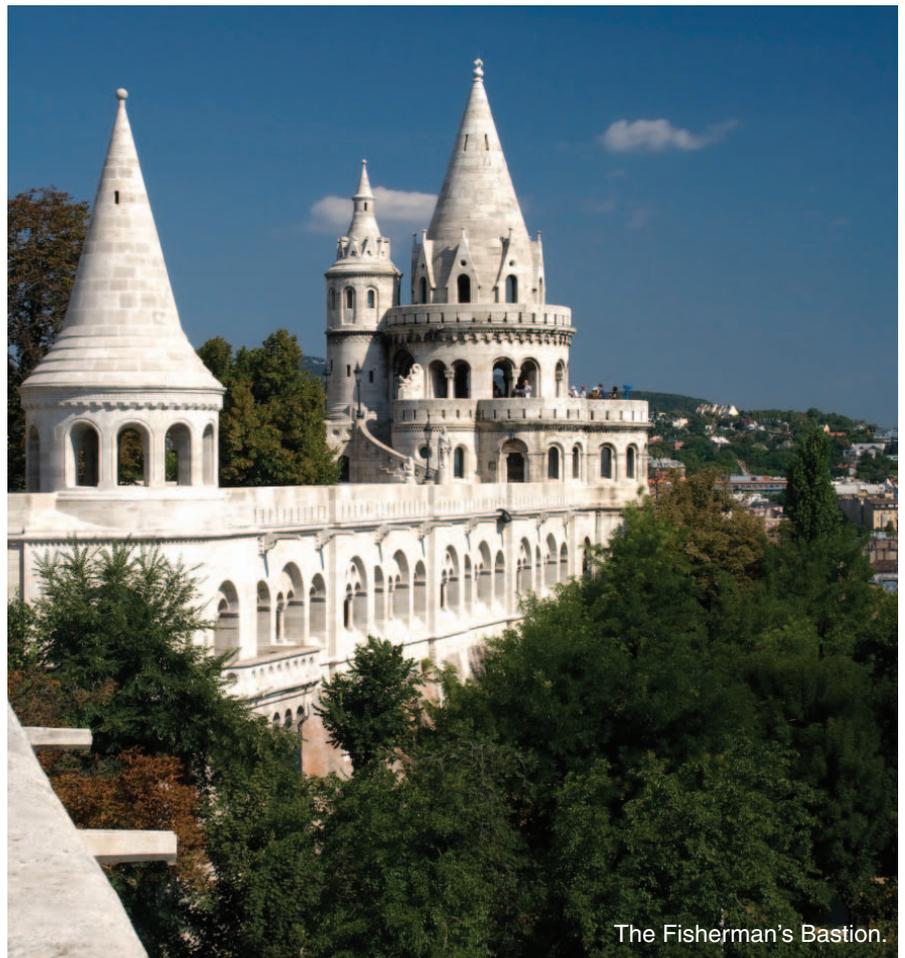
An Hungarian Rhapsody

Beautiful Budapest is a tale of two cities

With its incredible architecture and rich cultural patrimony, Budapest is known as the "Queen of the Danube". The twin cities of Buda and Pest are spread over opposite sides of one of the Danube River's loveliest stretches. Together they offer travelers a unique atmosphere influenced by Viennese and Parisian architecture. Hungarians are proud of what their beautiful capital has to offer and its contributions to European culture, especially in the field of music, and sciences. They also take some pride in their language which is unrelated to languages of the Indo-European family such as English, French or Russian

Castle Hill, known as *Várhegy* in Hungarian, was first settled in the thirteenth century. Historic *Buda Castle*, offers a splendid view of the twin cities of Buda and Pest. Construction began around 1247, and it is unusual because it was never occupied by the Hungarian Royal family. Today the magnificent, U-shaped Baroque palace houses the National Gallery, and the Historical Museum.

The seven towers of the Fisherman's Bastion symbolize the seven chieftains, who conquered the land for the Hungarians, and offer a breathtaking panorama of the Pest side. The Bastion takes its



The Fisherman's Bastion.

Budapest

salute you at the station.

The sixties wouldn't have looked the same without Hungarian artist *Victor Vaserey*, who created what we know as Op Art. These are images designed to trick the brain and make your eyeballs throb. Situated in a charming square in Obuda (Old Buda), the *Vaserey Museum* has a huge collection of his also huge works. The bold geometric images make a refreshing break from all that Austro-Hungarian opulence.

The *Labyrinth of Buda Castle* is a 1,200-metre maze of caves and tunnels once used by the Romans and Celts and latter the Nazis. It offers a nerve-testing series of delights including strange music, gargoyles projectile vomiting blood and a terrifying, pitch-black section called the "Labyrinth of Courage."

While Buda is a stately city of castles and cathedrals, across the Danube trendier Pest has become a magnet for artists and bohemians. The two cities are linked by the monumental *Chain Bridge*, constructed in 1849, and guarded by two stone lions. Not far from the bridge are

imposing House of Parliament, and St. Stephen's Basilica, the biggest church of Budapest.

Leafy *Andrássy Avenue* links the City Centre with the City Park. At one end of the avenues is *Heroes' Square*, the biggest and most impressive square in Budapest. In the middle stands the *Millennium Monument* topped by the Archangel Gabriel, holding the double cross of Christianity and the Holy Hungarian Crown. Surrounding the square is the *Museum of Fine Arts*, housing the world's second largest collection of Spanish Art.

Pest is home to a number of Kerts or Ruin Bars. As the name suggests, these are drinking establishments set up in abandoned buildings, or the courtyards of a derelict apartment blocks. They're famous for their cheap beer, hip music and interesting surroundings.

A good way to see the city is aboard one of the many river boats which shuttle along the River Danube. Take in the history of the nine bridges each with their own story or go up to Óbudai or Margaret Island, both with breathtaking gardens.

Visitors can also tour Budapest in an authentic Trabant 601. This rolling tribute to Soviet era incompetence features a 26

horsepower 2-stroke engine, taking it from 0 to 100 km/h in 21 seconds. The Trabant's body consisted of compressed plastic and cotton panels attached to a galvanized steel chassis. Be sure to check the fuel dipstick before you drive off.

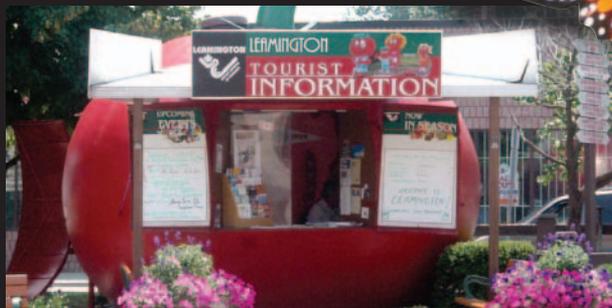
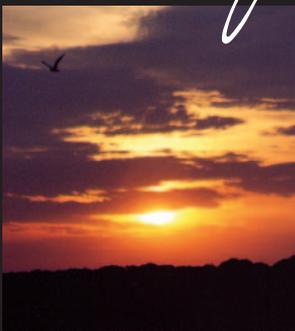
Liszt Ferenc tér or *Franz Liszt Square* is party central in Budapest. It is a tree-lined pedestrian area in the heart of Pest. During the warmer months, the square is packed with locals and tourists enjoying gypsy music and jazz, good coffee or a glass of Palinka, the national drink in the presszó bars and cafes.

Diners can sample great Hungarian food like crisp duck leg with spicy red cabbage, or boiled beef with a range of sauces (gooseberry, sour cherry, horseradish) served on wooden plates.

Spa lovers looking for hot and healing waters will find it at the *Gellert Baths*. Revered by many for their grandeur the still blue waters are flanked by magnificent pillars, Art Nouveau furnishings, mosaics, stained glass windows and sculptures.

In nearby Ivacs, the *Medve Otthon* or Bear Sanctuary, is home to rescued brown bears — some of which have come from circuses. You can even feed them honey from a wooden spoon! 🍯

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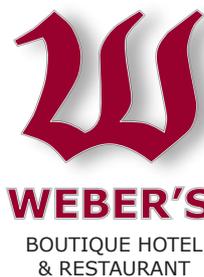
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