

FREE
2023 EDITION

Shoreline

visitors guide
Southwest



*Distributed by
Southwestern Michigan
Tourist Council*

St. Joseph • Benton Harbor • Stevensville • Berrien County • Cass County • Van Buren County

Shoreline²⁰²³

visitors guide
Southwest

COMMUNITIES TO VISIT

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& Stevensville 6

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Assistant Publisher

& Graphic Design: Megan Gugel

Sales: Pam Preston

Office Manager: Sandy Dykstra

Creative & Graphic Design :

Angie L. East-Martinez

Writers: Sally Zarafonetis & Rhonda Cobb

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SOUTHWEST MICHIGAN *Calendar*

We suggest that you call ahead to confirm the details before finalizing your plans. You can contact the Southwestern Michigan Tourist Council at 269-925-6301 or visit www.swmichigan.org.

January

January 14, February 11, March 11, April 8, May 13, June 10, July 8-9, August 12, September 9, October 14, November 11, December 9

Free Family Day

Artmaking activities

Krasl Art Center, St. Joseph, MI

January 19

Colorization: One Hundred Years of Black Films in a White World with Wil Haygood, Acclaimed Biographer, Author & Reporter
The Mendel Center at Lake Michigan College, Benton Harbor, MI

January 22

Disney's Winnie the Pooh: The New Musical Stage Adaptation
The Mendel Center at Lake Michigan College, Benton Harbor, MI

January 27

Chili Tour
Downtown St. Joseph, MI

January 28-April 9

'The World After Us: Imagining techno-aesthetic futures' exhibition
Krasl Art Center, St. Joseph, MI

January 28

St. Joe Winter Beer Fest
Downtown St. Joseph, MI

February

February 3-5

Ice Fest
Downtown St. Joseph, MI

February 10

National Geographic Live-Greenwood: A Century of Resilience with Archaeologist Alicia Odewale
The Mendel Center at Lake Michigan College, Benton Harbor, MI

February 18-April 16

'The Lab' exhibition
Krasl Art Center, St. Joseph, MI

February 25

Winter Delights with Shining Star: A Tribute to Earth, Wind & Fire
The Mendel Center at Lake Michigan College, Benton Harbor, MI

March

March 10

March Mannequins
Downtown St. Joseph, MI

March 14

When "No" Leads to Innovation with Debbie Sterling, Founder & CEO of GoldieBlox
The Mendel Center at Lake Michigan College, Benton Harbor, MI

March 19

Shostakovich's 5th
Howard Performing Arts Center, Berrien Springs, MI

April

April 15-June 4

'Andy Sweet's South Beach' exhibition
Krasl Art Center, St. Joseph, MI

April 22

The Perondi's Stunt Dog Experience
The Mendel Center at Lake Michigan College, Benton Harbor, MI

April 29

National Geographic Live: Improbable Ascent with Paraclimber Maureen Beck
The Mendel Center at Lake Michigan College, Benton Harbor, MI

April 30

The Righteous Brothers
The Mendel Center at Lake Michigan College, Benton Harbor, MI

April 30

An American In Paris
Howard Performing Arts Center, Berrien Springs, MI

May

May 7

Antiques on the Bluff
Lake Bluff Park, St. Joseph

May 26

Memorial Day Parade
Lake Boulevard, St. Joseph, MI

May 27

Farmers Market
Lake Bluff Park, St. Joseph, MI

Shoreline Calendar continued on page 13





welcome to

Southwest Michigan

Southwest MICHIGAN
Tourist Council

2300 Pipestone Road • Benton Harbor, MI 49022
269.925.6301



Discover a place of endless beauty along the Lake Michigan Coast. Southwest Michigan will dazzle you with its great beach towns, culture and art, and beautiful hotels and lodging. There are plenty of places to explore and play, or simply relax along a sandy beach. Whether you're eager to try out the championship golf courses or a great marina, Southwest Michigan offers a variety of experiences and special amenities for everyone.

Come to a place where sunsets are the norm, and the beach town vibe will help you relax and breathe in the wonder of each season. Enjoy outdoor experiences on the water. Immerse yourself in nature on a bike, a kayak or on foot along beautiful rivers and country trails. Tour exquisite wineries, breweries, cideries and distilleries open for tasting experiences any time. Come for the fresh produce and products abundant throughout the growing season at quaint farm stands, outdoor markets, and U-pick farms.

Visit art galleries, outdoor sculpture parks, art museums, and artist studios to see creative energy in action. Walk along friendly downtown streets to shop one-of-a-kind boutiques and taste the freshest produce and local flavors at area restaurants. Enjoy music and entertainment at cool bistros, breweries, and cozy pubs.

As cooler breezes drift in, the towns and cities of Southwest Michigan burst into dazzling color. See brilliant landscapes and engage in autumn adventure and fall color touring. Bring or rent kayaks to discover the beauty along the water, or bike along country roads ablaze in rich reds, oranges, golds, and burgundies.

During the winter, Southwest Michigan gets abundant snow cover bringing adventure seekers to snowmobile, ski, snowboard, snowshoe, and explore the trails on fat tire bikes. While you're visiting, snap a photo of the amazing ice formations along the lighthouses and piers! Experience St. Joe's Beer Festival in January and Ice Festival in February, as well as numerous other seasonal events that take place all year long.

Whether you're here to experience the energy or want to get away from the city for relaxation and bliss, Southwest Michigan offers something special for everyone.

Create your special experience and plan your getaway to Southwest Michigan online at swmichigan.org, or call (269) 925-6301.



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welcome to

St. Joseph, Benton Harbor & Stevensville

St. Joseph, known as “The Riviera of the Midwest,” is an historic town along the Lake Michigan shore. The city, which sits high on a bluff overlooking Lake Michigan, is home to craft-brew pubs, wine tasting rooms, fun restaurants, cafés, art galleries, boutiques, shops and Silver Beach Park. Gaze down at the park below and you’ll see 1,600 feet of glistening beach, two historic lighthouses, and plenty of year-round family experiences. In the summer, jump over to the Whirlpool Compass Fountain splash pad to enjoy water cannons that spray 35 feet into the air providing a refreshing reprieve during hot sunny days. Don’t miss visiting Lake Bluff Park for amazing sunsets over Lake Michigan, as well as hip summer concerts and craft fairs. As fall rolls in, visitors come from far and wide to experience spectacular autumn color tours, the annual Pumpkin Parade and Halloween activities. The holiday season begins with exciting events including Luminary, a downtown walking tour filled with luminaries lighting your way to shops, restaurants, and beverage tastings. Santa’s House and the Reindog Parade are events in December to celebrate the Christmas season. To bring in the new year, come for the annual Chili Tour & Beer Fest in January, Ice Fest in February, and fun shopping events and an indoor Artisan Fair in March.

Benton Harbor sits right across the St. Joseph River, north of St. Joe, on the shore of Lake Michigan. Benton Harbor is known for its historic Jean Klock Park, a popular gathering place for the summer crowd who love the white-sandy beach, perfect for sunbathing, swimming and relaxing. Make sure to spend time in Benton Harbor’s happenin’ downtown where you’ll discover artists galleries and studios, eclectic boutiques, craft-brew pubs, and trendy hip cafés. Sarett Nature Center draws hikers and nature lovers who want to explore. This special place has eight miles of trails through 1000 acres including boardwalks, observation platforms, and an easily accessible barrier-free walkway. Hikers also love the trails that run along the Paw Paw River bluffs providing great views of the river valley below.

Stevensville, a charming resort town along the Red Arrow highway is a popular place to stay while visiting Southwest Michigan. Stevensville is home to the beautiful Grand Mere State Park featuring one-mile of Lake Michigan shoreline, more than 1,000 acres of magnificent towering sand dunes, and miles of beautiful hiking trails that wind through tall forests and inland lakes. Stevensville is family friendly with a cozy vibe, delightful breakfast spots, a café and espresso bar, and charming locally-owned restaurants. Antique and artisan shops prevail in Stevensville, a part of its unique charm.

For more information about Benton Harbor, St. Joseph, and Stevensville, visit www.swmichigan.org, or call (269) 925-6301.

Meet me in
ST. JOSEPH

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Make special moments together

Silver Beach Carousel

The Silver Beach Carousel in St. Joseph, Michigan, turns an ordinary day into an extraordinary one for all ages. Pick your favorite figure to ride from 48 magnificent choices and two chariots (one is just right for wheelchairs). Then let your spirit soar as you whirl merrily under 1,000 twinkling lights.

But that's only a fraction of the fun. You can play games together and watch a toy train whistle through a miniature village. Explore the mesmerizing interactive exhibits in our museum such as the diorama of the Silver Beach Amusement Park and the Great Danzini who will tell your fortune for a few coins. Buy a bag of fresh popcorn or cotton candy at the refreshment stand or toys and treasures in The Brass Ring Gift Shop (which is also open 24/7 online).

The Carousel does the most amazing events throughout the year and decorates with a new theme each season. Be sure to come this summer when they go "Under the Sea."

Across the street, you can splash on warm days in the Whirlpool Compass Fountain or play all four seasons on one of Lake Michigan's best beaches. To make happy year-round memories, visit www.silverbeachcarousel.com or follow them on facebook.com/silverbeachcarousel.



★ Come with us *Under the Sea*

Our Carousel may spin by the shores of Lake Michigan, but our summer decor will surround you with your favorite deep sea characters. Sea us soon and make **your** special memories with us.



Get up-to-date details by visiting our website: www.silverbeachcarousel.com

Family & Friend Experiences

There is something for everyone in Southwest Michigan!

In Southwest Michigan, there's lots to be excited about in every season – from summertime beaches to fall bonfire, winter wonderland to springtime festivals.

Discover the Makers Trail offering gourmet cheeses, locally produced chocolates and other food delights while tasting wines, brews, ciders, and spirits at dozens of stops along the way. History buffs will be thrilled with museums and historic sites, while gals will love the idea of a getaway with their besties to shop, dine, explore, and relax beside a roaring fire or on a relaxing Lake Michigan beach. There are pet friendly activities for those who have fur babies in tow and great kid-friendly places to inspire a youngster's mind.

Fun family experiences include the museums and attractions along Silver Beach. Children love to play at the **Whirlpool Compass Fountain**, a free interactive splash pad where shooting water jets and cool mists feel heavenly on hot summer days. The **Silver Beach Carousel** is also a favorite, featuring a classic restored merry-go-round with painted horses and other animals twirling to tunes from a vintage band organ. Discover the award-winning **Curious Kids' Discovery Zone** where learning is fun. Relax at Silver Beach County Park, named one of the "Top Ten Family Beaches in the U.S." by *Parents Magazine*. In warmer months, you'll find miniature golf, arcades, laser tag arenas, batting cages, go-kart tracks, and nature centers. Travel to area farms and orchards for fresh-picked fruits of the season or try a U-pick experience to show the family where their food comes from. In the fall, take a family color tour exploring the beautiful backroads of Southwest Michigan

Winter is prime in Southwest Michigan with lots of outdoor recreation, warm indoor fireplaces and cozy inns. Come to Southwest Michigan in the winter to cross country ski, snowshoe, ice skate, snowmobile, and fat tire bike. In the spring and summer, you'll find plenty of great hiking and biking trails and area rivers and inland lakes for canoeing, kayaking, and paddleboarding. Golfers will be in ecstasy at Southwest Michigan area courses including **Lost Dunes Golf Club** in Bridgman, and **Point O'Woods Golf & Country Club** and **Harbor Shores Golf Club & Resort** in Benton Harbor. Boating and charter fishing on beautiful Lake Michigan is always a thrill. And of course, the many Southwest Michigan beaches are hard to top for summer relaxation and adventure along the water.

Southwest Michigan Tourist Council has created 14 self-guided itineraries showing where to go and what to do based on your interests. These itineraries will get your creative juices flowing for your next vacation or a short getaway to this beautiful destination.

Fall Color Tour: Fall brings a kaleidoscope of colors to Southwest Michigan. See the trees turning from deep green to brilliant yellows, oranges, and reds between mid-September through October while traveling along the West Michigan Pike.

Beer-illiant Brewery Tour: Those who love to visit Michigan's well-rated breweries will be ecstatic to visit Southwest Michigan's artisan selections along the Markers Trail. Nestled among Southwest Michigan's wineries, sand dunes and hoppin' towns are seventeen breweries, this region's contributions to the Great Beer State.





Chocolate & Wine Tour: Are you a wine lover? Check out some special wineries like 12 Corners Vineyards, Lazy Ballerina Winery and Baroda Founders Wine Cellar to enjoy five wines followed by two chocolate dessert wines. Have dinner at Bistro on the Boulevard, a restaurant & lodging gem on the bluff overlooking Lake Michigan, specializing in delectable meals and desserts prepared with locally sourced ingredients.

History & Architecture Tour: History and Architecture buffs will love to visit Southwest Michigan to explore its intriguing history. Discover unique architecture in St. Joseph and Benton Harbor and dive deeper into history at the Michigan Flywheelers Museum, Michigan Maritime Museum and North Berrien Historic Museum.



Fresh-Air Fun: If you love the outdoors, Southwest Michigan has wide open spaces and unlimited beauty. Kayaking and canoeing the rivers, hiking and biking, and cross country skiing the trails all await you. Southwest Michigan's newest outdoor trail is getting rave reviews. This 3.6-mile trail system meanders through the woods and vineyards between

Tabor Hill Winery & Restaurant and Round Barn Estate. If you are hiking close to dinner time, take the trails' shortest round trip (1.3 miles) and dine at Tabor Hill.

Additional self-guided itineraries to spark your imagination include an **Empty Nester Freedom Tour**, **Arts & Food Tour**, **Heritage Wine, Beer & Spirits Tour**, **Culture & Romance Tour**, **Creators & Makers Tour**, **Girls Getaway Tour**, **Lakeshore Arts Tour**, **Pet-friendly Tour**, and a **Spring Blossom Tour**.



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Southwest Michigan *Beaches*



Silver Beach County Park — St. Joseph

As you approach Lake Michigan on foot while walking in St. Joe, gaze out over the bluff and you'll see the majestic Silver Beach along the mouth of the St. Joseph River. With lively beach volleyball and laughter from children on the beach playground, families find Silver Beach a great gathering place for active adventure and fun. From sunbathing to riding the waves to building sandcastles, daily activities will keep those with abundant energy entertained. For a break from the action, stroll along the shore to the south pier to view the north pier lighthouses. Rent a paddleboard from the beachside concession or take a lake cruise aboard a charter boat. There are lifeguards on duty all summer long. Nearby there is also a friendly visitor's center and pavilion, bike racks, and bathhouses (open May through mid-October). The Park is open year-round with convenient parking off Broad Street (fee charged). *Note: Leashed pets are allowed on sidewalks but are not allowed on the sand or in the water.*

Warren Dunes State Park — Sawyer

One of the most visited and popular beaches in Michigan is located at Warren Dunes State Park. With three miles of beachfront and huge sand dunes to climb, it's perfect for lounging and picnicking with friends and swimming in the refreshing waters of Lake Michigan. Hiking along the park's trails is popular for fitness buffs and nature lovers, offering amazing views of the big lake and the towering dunes. One of the park's many draws is the dog beach just north of the northernmost parking area. Here you can bring your furry friends to swim in Lake Michigan and relax on the shore. Dogs are also permitted on leash on the six miles of trails, boardwalks and in the campgrounds. Arrive at the park to take in a sunset or later, on a clear night, "skygaze" millions of stars, planets, and other celestial objects. In the winter, the six miles of trails also offer great cross-country skiing. Parking is abundant close to the beach and there are renovated bathrooms and showers, a gift shop, concession, and food trucks in the warmer months. *Note: To enter the park, you'll need a Michigan Recreation Passport. Visit Michigan.gov/RecreationPassport for more information and to purchase.*



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Jean Klock Park — Benton Harbor

Jean Klock Park is a historic park and one of the oldest parks in Michigan. One of its many features is the half-mile-long sandy Lake Michigan beach which includes a great bathhouse, food concession and a covered pavilion for picnicking. There's an observation tower which allows visitors a great place to snap photos with lovely views of the shoreline, and a natural boardwalk from the paved parking area to the beach. Jean Klock Park is convenient for the entire family and an easy trip from both downtown Benton Harbor and St. Joseph. All ages will love the kayaks and paddleboards for rent and there are volleyball courts and a nice playground with a slide and swings for young children. There is a charge to park at Jean Klock Park.

Grand Mere State Park — Stevensville

Designated as a National Landmark by the U.S. Congress in 1976, Grand Mere State Park is a hidden treasure for outdoor adventurers. Protected from Lake Michigan by the dunes, Grand Mere offers many natural features not found anywhere else in Michigan. This 985-acre oasis features an unusual set of dunes that have resulted in a diverse ecosystem that is uniquely special. Adventurers will be in their element on the walk from the parking area to the beach. Prepare to climb up and down, about a mile, through gorgeous, forested trails and through the majestic sand dunes. When you arrive, the sight of endless water along the Lake Michigan shore will have you transfixed! In the heated summer months head straight to the water where you'll feel one with nature as you float on your back gazing up at the bright sun and clouds. In the spring and fall, discover hundreds of birds – up to 250 species – that soar through the park on a major migration path. In the winter, cross country skiing and snowshoeing offer a glorious experience for heartier souls who can manage undeveloped areas and wild terrain. Keep in mind that the trails are not groomed and there is no ski rental concession at the park. There is no admission to the park and the bathroom facilities are modest. The park also allows picnicking and dogs on leash.

Weko Beach — Bridgman

Weko Beach in Bridgman is perfect for families and those who prefer a smaller intimate beach setting. Children enjoy Weko Beach for its shallow areas and fun sandbars. Weko's Beach House is perfect for day-long relaxing with nice restrooms, changing rooms, outdoor showers, and a concession. Play all day long and easily transition to an afternoon excursion or an eatery nearby. Plan to be at Weko Beach during a summer sunset to experience the magical sound of Taps being played by buglers who mirror the verses of this Civil War cry from near and far away. Sit in the sand or on your beach chair to view the gorgeous orange sunset as it slowly descends into the vast waters of Lake Michigan while the melody of Taps floats in the breeze.

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February 3 – 5, 2023

Magical Ice Fest

Ice Fest celebrates winter at its best. Always the first weekend of February, Ice Fest will take place February 3rd through 5th, 2023, promising a delightful weekend of frosty fun featuring professional ice carving artists, amazing ice sculptures, and exciting happenings along St. Joseph's downtown streets.

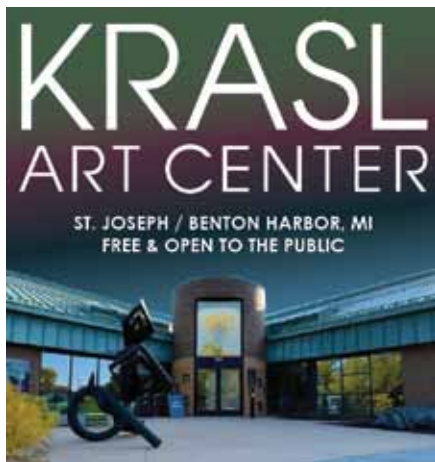
The action begins on Friday evening with ten master carvers competing head-to-head in the Professional Individual Competition. Master ice carvers from all over the country will show their skills using chisels, chainsaws, clippers, and torches to create elaborate art made of ice. After the competition, visitors love to gather around the Fire & Ice Tower, a giant bonfire made with glistening blocks of ice. Stop by the St. Joseph Today Welcome Center, located nearby, to learn more about activities taking place all weekend.

Early Saturday morning, step out onto the snowy streets to watch five professional teams compete in the Team Ice Carving Competition. From 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. master carvers will design intriguing ice objects right before your eyes. Enjoy a magician performing fascinating tricks on the corner of State and Pleasant streets at 1 p.m., and then again at the Shadowland on Silver Beach at 4pm.


Visitors are encouraged to bundle up for the festivities to engage in their own challenges at the Ice Interactives area. Games like frozen Tic-Tac-Toe, the frozen Fish Toss and Ice Bowling will have visitors howling with laughter as volunteers guide them in these amateur competitions!

Don't forget to pick up a Scavenger Hunt map at the St. Joseph Today Welcome Center to search for clues at many local locations for a chance to win an exciting St. Joe Today gift certificate. Throughout your stay, wander into shops and restaurants to experience wonderful food and beverages and unique gift buying.

Admission is free for Ice Fest 2023. See stjoetoday.com for general information and lodging. For specific questions contact info@stjoetoday.com or (269) 985-1111.




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Shoreline Calendar continued from page 3

JUNE

June 3, 10, 17, 24

Farmers Market
Lake Bluff Park, St. Joseph, MI

June 3

Krasl Art Center Summer Art Market
Krasl Art Center, St. Joseph, MI

June 3

Lake Bluff Artisan Fair
Lake Bluff Park, St. Joseph, MI

June 4

Antiques on the Bluff
Lake Bluff Park, St. Joseph

June 10-September 3

'The Art of Elizabeth Catlett, from the Collection of Samella Lewis' exhibition
Krasl Art Center, St. Joseph, MI

June 16-19

Love Local Weekend
Downtown St. Joseph, MI

JULY

July 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

Farmers Market
Lake Bluff Park, St. Joseph, MI

July 12, 19, 26

Wednesday Brown Bag Concert Series
John E.N. Howard Bandshell, St. Joseph, MI

July 2

Antiques on the Bluff
Lake Bluff Park, St. Joseph, MI

July 7

Krasl Art Fair Block Party
Krasl Art Center, St. Joseph, MI

July 8-9

61st Krasl Art Fair on the Bluff
Lake Bluff Park & Krasl Art Center, St. Joseph, MI

July 14

Mike Yore Memorial Car Show
Lake Boulevard, St. Joseph, MI

July 14-16

Love Local Weekend
Downtown St. Joseph, MI

July 14, 21, 28

Friday Night Concert Series
John E.N. Howard Bandshell, St. Joseph, MI

July 15

Krasl Art Center Summer Art Market
Krasl Art Center, St. Joseph, MI

July 15

Lake Bluff Artisan Fair
Lake Bluff Park, St. Joseph, MI

August

August 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

Wednesday Brown Bag Concert Series
John E. N. Bandshell, St. Joseph, MI

August 4-6

Chalk the Block
Downtown St. Joseph, MI

August 4, 11, 18, 25

Friday Night Concert Series
John E.N. Howard Bandshell,
St. Joseph, MI

August 5, 12, 19, 26

St. Joe Farmers Market
Lake Bluff Park, St. Joseph, MI

August 6

Antiques on the Bluff
Lake Park Boulevard, St. Joseph, MI

August 10-13

National Blueberry Festival
South Haven, MI

August 12

Krasl Art Center Summer Art Market
Krasl Art Center, St. Joseph, MI

August 18-20

Love Local Weekend
Downtown St. Joseph, MI

August 19

Lake Bluff Artisan Fair
Lake Bluff Park, St. Joseph, MI

Shoreline Calendar continued on page 19

"To Brighten the Future, We Must Illuminate the Past"

"Lest We Forget" Weekend

Honoring the memory of all veterans of war is celebrated in Southwest Michigan during a special event in June called "Lest We Forget." Throughout the two-day weekend, reenactments of battles, presentations by Medal of Honor recipients, free rides on historic aircraft and watercraft, an inspiring concert, book signings and auctions are some of the featured activities. "Lest We Forget" takes place each year with a different focus on a specific time that war occurred and U.S. armed forces served. It is intended to help preserve, promote, and educate all generations about U.S. military history, profiling the sacrifices made by men and women who fought for American freedom.

"Lest We Forget" weekend takes place in St. Joseph at the St. Joseph River Basin. Since activities are in the early planning stages, check www.lestweforgetusa.org for more information closer to June 2023 or call (269) 429-2098.



Discover the Big Ships and Lighthouses of Southwest Michigan

It's such a thrill to watch the freighters arrive and depart along the St. Joseph River! Elegantly gliding into shore, visitors love to capture this vision and watch as they are expertly navigated through the channel.

The best places for viewing the big ships include Silver Beach County Park along the south pier and Tiscornia Park along the north pier. The Inn at Harbor Shores is also an excellent place for viewing. In fact, as they turn, the ships get extremely close to the Inn, where you can truly appreciate their massive scale. Sip a drink at Plank's Tavern on the Water at the Inn as you watch for big ships passing by. It doesn't happen every day, but when it does, it's a sight to behold!

As you watch the boats large and small navigate through the channel take note of the north pier lighthouses that have been crucial to navigation for at least 190 years and remain so presently to one and all who travel the Great Lakes and stop in these popular ports. The Outer Lighthouse stands 35 feet in height and the Inner Lighthouse also has a critical function for sailors navigating into the channel. Each of the lighthouses consist of two lights known as "Range Lights" that sailors need to align to ensure that they are entering straight into the channel. When the lights align, captains know they are on target to enter the St. Joseph River safely.

St. Joe's fascinating lighthouse history is alive today along the piers. Tour guides from The Heritage Museum & Cultural Center conduct seasonal public tours between Memorial Day and Labor Day, telling the stories about lighthouse keepers who once maintained the lights and guided the vessels that critically relied on them to safely make port.

Information, reservations, events, hours and more about 2023 lighthouse tours are available at www.StJoelighthouseTours.org, or contact The Heritage Museum at (269) 983-1191 with questions.





Explore Art and Culture in Southwest Michigan:
Connect With The Artists, Actors, Musicians and Dreamers
Who Make SW Michigan Special

Creative Connections

Now you can connect with the artists, actors, musicians, and dreamers that make Southwest Michigan their home through a program called Creative Connections. The more you explore, the bigger prize you'll be eligible for while having fun and discovering the creative side of Southwest Michigan. With sixteen destinations to choose from and 75 events to inspire your travel calendar, what could be better?

The Creative Connections game is easy! Here's how to play:

Get your brochure at any of the Creative Connections destinations listed online once you arrive in SW Michigan. The Southwest Michigan Tourist Council at 2300 Pipestone Rd. in Benton Harbor also has brochures for pickup or you can request a brochure from them online at swmichigan.org/creative.

Use the Creative Connections brochure to keep track of where you've traveled. Throughout your journey, collect destination stamps at each of your sites. Each destination has a unique stamp. The more stamps you collect, the more prizes you can earn.

There are different playing levels. Depending on your stay, you can do a little or a lot.

Level 1: Collect 3 different Creative Connections destination stamps.

Level 2: Collect 6 different Creative Connections destination stamps.

Hotel Level: Stay in one of the listed Southwest Michigan hotels on swmichigan.org/hotels. By completing all the levels listed, you'll be allowed to enter the Grand Prize drawing!

Complete Level 1 or 2 for a chance to win a gift card or other great prizes. By completing all three levels, you'll be eligible to enter the Grand Prize drawing for a chance to be one of five winners of an All Inclusive, 2-night hotel package for two, including gift certificates to area restaurants, Merchants and Makers Trail winery, brewery, and distillery destinations.

See more about Creative Connections – basic rules, how to play, 16 destinations and over 75 events at swmichigan.org/creative.



<p>Southwest MICHIGAN IN & AROUND ST. JOSEPH SWMICHIGAN.ORG</p> <p>We hope you enjoy your stay in Southwest Michigan!</p> <p>swmichigan.org</p>	<p>Best Western 1592 Mall Dr. Benton Harbor 49022 269-925-3000</p>	<p>Comfort Suites 2633 W. Marquette Woods Rd. Stevensville 49127 269-428-4888</p>	<p>Hampton Inn 5050 Red Arrow Hwy. Stevensville 49127 269-429-2700</p>	<p>Howard Johnson 798 Ferguson Dr. Benton Harbor 49022 269-927-1172</p>	<p>Red Roof Inn 1630 Mall Dr. Benton Harbor 49022 269-927-2484</p>	<p>Super 8 4290 Red Arrow Hwy. Stevensville 49127 269-429-3218</p>	
	<p>Boulevard Inn 521 Lake Blvd. St. Joseph 49085 269-983-6600</p>	<p>Country Inn & Suites 2276 Pipestone Rd. Benton Harbor 49022 269-927-4599</p>	<p>Hampton Inn & Suites 1921 Pipestone Rd. Benton Harbor 49022 269-927-5878</p>	<p>Inn at Harbor Shores 800 Whitwam Dr. St. Joseph 49085 269-983-1111</p>	<p>Rodeway Inn 2723 Niles Ave. St. Joseph 49085 269-982-3333</p>	<p>Super 8 1950 E. Napier Ave. Benton Harbor 49022 269-926-1371</p>	<p>Travelodge 2063 Pipestone Rd. Benton Harbor 49022 269-925-5100</p>
	<p>Candlewood Suites 1295 Cinema Way Dr. Stevensville 49127 269-428-4400</p>	<p>Courtyard by Marriott 1295 Cinema Way Dr. Benton Harbor 49022 269-210-3000</p>	<p>Hilton Garden Inn 1300 Cinema Way Dr. Benton Harbor 49022 269-926-5000</p>	<p>Mark III Inn 4179 M-139 St. Joseph 49085 269-281-0329</p>	<p>SpringHill Suites 1255 Cinema Way Dr. Benton Harbor 49022 269-338-8300</p>	<p>Tru By Hilton 2683 W. Marquette Woods Rd. Stevensville 49127 269-429-4444</p>	
	<p>Baymont Inn & Suites 2601 W. Marquette Wds. Stevensville 49127 269-428-9111</p>	<p>Comfort Suites 1825 Meadowbrook Rd. Benton Harbor 49022 269-925-8800</p>	<p>Fairfield Inn & Suites 4408 Red Arrow Hwy. Stevensville 49127 269-429-1111</p>	<p>Holiday Inn Express 3019 Lakeshore Dr. St. Joseph 49085 269-982-0004</p>	<p>Quality Inn & Suites 1598 Mall Dr. Benton Harbor 49022 269-925-1880</p>	<p>Staybridge Suites 1275 Cinema Way Dr. Benton Harbor 49022 269-371-0000</p>	



Makers Trail

"Every land has its makers. Ours are masters of wine, beer, ciders and spirits. Come experience their craftsmanship. Taste a liquid masterpiece. Follow the Makers Trail and find the makers of happiness."

Discover the amazing Makers Trail in Southwest Michigan, a 36-mile-long trail with 45 different stops at unique wineries, breweries, distilleries and cideries from Watervliet, Benton Harbor and St. Joe, to Baroda and Union Pier. Sip and sample based on your interests, the unique award-winning wines, beers, spirits, and ciders lovingly created by Southwest Michigan's artisans and craft makers.

To begin, check out the Markers Trail map online at www.makerstrail.org to select your favorite makers, and then design your own map to each location. Consider hiring a tour operator to drive you on a daylong excursion along the Makers Trail. Arrange to have them pick you up at your hotel ensuring that your private tour is both fun and worry-free. Grape and Grain Tours offers an all-inclusive wine tour including transportation, drinks and lunch in a luxury Cadillac Escalade or a roomy private shuttle for personalized wine and beer tours. Hops NoggIn Tours specializes in fun, friendly, and memorable craft beer, wine, and spirit tours year-round in their roomy 12 passenger Ford Transit passenger van with at least one of their stops at a place for lunch to help keep you fueled.

Type in "Visit Southwest Michigan" in your app/play store to download and start your Makers Trail journey today! Once there, the icon labeled "Passport" will have an online map, check-in system, and guide to get you through the levels. The more codes you collect, the more points you'll earn for free cool Makers Trail gear, including an entry into the Grand Prize, "a two-night hotel stay for two and more." When you stay at any of the participating hotels, you'll also receive the Bonus Reward – a Makers Trail YETI glass! "The more you visit, the more you get." You must be 21 years old to participate. For specific rules see www.swmichigan.org/passport.





Social Districts in SW Michigan

Discover the new social districts in St. Joseph, Niles, Bridgman and soon, Buchanan. Each of these four towns and cities have a unique social district footprint where you can graze from restaurants, bistros and bars selecting a variety of items from different menus that tickle your tastebuds. Throughout the experience, eat and drink to your heart's content in outdoor common areas where the mood is lively and the interaction with others is so much fun!

Here's generally how these four social districts work in Southwest Michigan:

Everyone is welcome, but only those of age can drink. Only those 21 years and up can purchase an alcoholic beverage in the social district.

Purchase food and beverages at participating businesses. Think of our social districts as one big food court. Grab a drink while you wait for your seat at a restaurant, or come with a group and grab different things, then reconvene. All participating businesses will have signage and social district cups.

Finish your drink before you leave. Social district alcoholic beverages can't be removed from common area boundaries marked by outdoor district signage. Make sure to look at the specific boundaries before you visit. For instance, in St. Joseph you cannot cross Main Street with your drink even though the social district is on both sides of it.

Enjoy those drinks outside! Alcoholic beverages purchased at one establishment cannot be taken into any other establishment. Lucky for you, all locations have a fun, outdoor atmosphere where you can enjoy your drinks and window shop. If you see something you like, whether it's food or a neat shirt, finish your drink before going into the next business unless they have signage allowing it.

When you finish the last drop, toss the cup. Social district cups are not reusable. If you'd like a souvenir glass or growler, just ask! Several businesses sell their own swag right on site.

Leave your drinks at home, we have plenty here. Outside alcoholic beverages may not be brought into the common areas.

Remember to "Drink Responsibly while having Fun!"

For more about all participants in Social Districts in Southwest Michigan see swmichigan.org/socialdistricts.




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Weddings & Celebrations

Southwest Michigan is the perfect destination to celebrate in style. Whether it's your wedding day, a significant anniversary or birthday, with a gathering of a few or many, come to a place where nature, beauty, culture, and farm-to-table bounty is unsurpassed.

Southwest Michigan scores high with an array of wedding and party venues that blend with the natural beauty that surrounds the region. Not only is Southwest Michigan a perfect destination to highlight your special event, but you and your guests can also enjoy the wonderful beaches, music, food, wineries, breweries, cideries, and distilleries during your visit. Relax and enjoy the before and after glow of this place that shines as one of the best vacation destinations along the Lake Michigan coast. Among Southwest Michigan's many charms, your event will include unique and fresh culinary delights prepared by local caterers, expert wedding planners ready to serve you so that every detail is in place, exquisite floral designers, talented regional musicians, and professional photographers. You can also be sure that there are many great boutique salons to select from so that you and your party look your very best on your special day.

Consider an elegant ballroom at a lovely resort, or a wedding/reception at one of the many cultural art venues. Romance will be the theme within a lovely sculpture garden or overlooking Lake Michigan atop a bluff with majestic views that never end. Imagine a beach wedding where you can step barefoot onto the sand for your vows, or within a lovely pergola in heels overlooking the waves and a brilliant sunset. Plan a wedding among the trees or at a vintage barn where your wedding and reception reflect your natural desires.

During and after your special day, stay at the area's historic hotels, fashionable resorts, or casual inns. You and your guests will have the time of your lives while exploring art and history museums, the Makers Trail, wonderful local restaurants, shops, and spas, farmers markets and amazing white sand beaches. Relax among the dunes, explore the waterways on kayaks or paddle boards, and discover the many beautiful trails on foot or on bikes. End each day enjoying the romance of gorgeous sunsets as you plan your future and the new days ahead.

SW Michigan is your place to get away, a place to discover a new beginning, and a place that will annually be calling you back for more...

For information about planning a wedding, engagement party, family reunion, or any other special occasion in southwest Michigan, visit www.swmichigan.org/weddings. Learn about special off-season opportunities, as well.

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Harbor Shores Resort
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Benton Harbor, MI 49022
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Lake Michigan Hills Golf Club
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269.849.2722

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**Point O' Woods
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SOUTHWEST MICHIGAN GOLF COURSES

Golfing in Southwest Michigan

It's no wonder that SW Michigan is so appealing for the entire family. From Benton Harbor to Bridgman, Buchanan to Dowagiac, golf enthusiasts will love the excellent weather, challenging holes, and picture-perfect greens. Play through tight fairways lined with majestic trees and challenging bunkers. Watch your ball sail to that velvet place waiting for your final putt. Feel your heart swell and your smile light up when you make that perfect shot. Gaze at Lake Michigan in the distance for a moment and then reset your attention on playing like the pros, the ones who designed these courses...the great Jack Nicklaus, Arthur Hills, and Charles Maddox Sr. After a day of great play, meet up with the rest of the family where you'll hear tales about the beautiful beaches, beach town adventures, fun carousel rides, wineries, craft breweries and artists' studios. Play your game while the entire family gets to play theirs. For the best in flexibility and fun while vacationing, head to SW Michigan for the challenge, the variety, the relaxation, and the fun!

Many SW Michigan golf courses have partnerships with local hotels that offer special stay-and-play packages. For more information, visit swmichigan.org/see-and-do/outdoor-recreation.



Shoreline Calendar continued from page 13

September

September 1
Friday Night Concert Series
John E.N. Howard Bandshell, St. Joseph, MI

September 2
Lake Bluff Artisan Fair
Lake Bluff Park, St. Joseph, MI

September 2
Krasl Art Center Summer Art Market
Krasl Art Center, St. Joseph, MI

September 2, 9, 16, 23, 30
St. Joe Farmers Market
Lake Bluff Park, St. Joseph

September 3
Antiques on the Bluff
Lake Bluff Park, St. Joseph, MI

September 15-17
Love Local Weekend
Downtown St. Joseph, MI

September 16
Fall Festival
Downtown St. Joseph, MI

October

October 2
Antiques on the Bluff
Lake Bluff Park, St. Joseph, MI

October 7, 14
St. Joe Farmers Market
Lake Bluff Park, St. Joseph, MI

October 20-31
Pumpkins on Parade
Downtown St. Joseph & Southwest Michigan

October 31
Halloween Trick-or-Treat
Downtown St. Joseph & Benton Harbor Arts District



November

November 17
Luminary
Downtown St. Joseph, MI

November 25
Small Business Saturday
Downtown St. Joseph

December

December 1
Window Wonderland
Downtown St. Joseph, MI

December 1-3
Holiday Open House
North Berrien Historical Museum, Coloma, MI

December 2
Fanny Mae Memorial Reindog Parade
Downtown St. Joseph, MI

December 2-23
Santa's House
Downtown St. Joseph, MI

December 21
The Lights of Winter Solstice
North Berrien Historical Museum, Coloma, MI



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Explore the Natural Route

Explore the Natural Route, a unique community that is growing and creating new products within Southwest Michigan. For remedy and relaxation there are now local dispensaries that are ready to serve your interests with new and amazing products. Along the Natural Route, Southwest Michigan's Cannabis Collective includes Nobo Goods on Main Street in Benton Harbor, and two dispensaries in Niles – Green Stem Provisioning Center and The Relief Center. With high quality products grown in Michigan for medical and recreational use, your questions about what to buy based on how you would like to feel while using their cannabis products will be expertly explained by knowledgeable staff. Southwest Michigan is fostering a new attitude toward cannabis use, one where you'll feel comfortable exploring by using their detailed guide to best practices. Prior to visiting one of these dispensaries, read our online blog with tips at swmichigan.org/dispensary

For important information about laws and regulations in Michigan regarding cannabis use, see swmichigan.org/dispensary and click FAQ's.



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Harvest Time

Harvest time in Southwest Michigan is one of the glorious highlights of visiting this verdant region. From early spring through fall, you'll discover a cornucopia of sustainable treasures grown by Mother Earth at farmers markets, roadside stands, and U-pick farms to take home or to savor during your vacation.

Starting in May, visit Southwest Michigan for the best local berries, fresh rhubarb, wonderful asparagus, potted herbs, flowers, and vegetable plants for growing at home.

In June, July, and August Southwest Michigan's harvest is in full swing with stellar blueberries, raspberries, juicy strawberries, cherries, peaches and more. Fill your basket with flavor-rich vegetables like onions, radishes, broccoli, cauliflower, corn, kale, spinach, carrots, colorful peppers, lettuces, sprouts and exotic mushrooms. Check out the unique farm stands for jams, jellies and salsas, fresh baked bread, and pies, as well as locally raised meats and regional cheeses. Talk to the farmers who grow these products. They love to answer your questions!

Tour the backroads of SW Michigan along the Makers Trail to visit breweries that make their special creations from local grains and hops. Cideries are all the rage with flavorful selections made from local fruits. Discover twenty-eight area wineries, all with intriguing and beautiful tasting rooms featuring award-winning rieslings, chardonnays, pinot grigios, and scores of red and white blends and reserve wines. Discover Southwest Michigan's newest spirits at distilleries offering unique quality vodkas, whiskies, gins, bourbons and more made from locally grown rye and wheat, aged to perfection in oak, bourbon, and maple syrup barrels. Take in music at many of these locations while enjoying regional dishes with local ingredients, cheese and charcuterie, and other delights to pair with your beverages.

Southwest Michigan's autumn season celebrates with harvest festivals, perfect for families and children. Huge pumpkins, crazy gourds, and mums brighten up the roadways. Hayrides and corn mazes dazzle the kids, and crisp apples and pears, potatoes and squash, fresh squeezed cider and locally grown cranberries will entice your taste buds.

Visit Southwest Michigan before and during the holidays for a weekend getaway. Buy presents at area boutiques and shops and stock up on holiday delights like maple syrup and honeys, fresh cured bacon, smoked fish, award winning ice wines, and homemade donuts, coffee cakes and sweet breads, fresh local ice cream and frozen local cherries and berries for festive pies.

In Southwest Michigan the flavors, the smells and the wholesome experiences of harvest time are treasures to take with you and family memories to cherish.

Visit www.swmichigan.org/see-and-do/for-foodies for information about southwest Michigan's farmers markets, u-pick orchards, harvest events, restaurants, wineries, breweries, distilleries, and some great recipes!



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SOUTHWEST MICHIGAN

HARVEST SCHEDULE

	JUNE	JULY	AUG.	SEPT.	OCT.
Asparagus	✓				
Apples			✓	✓	✓
Apricots			✓	✓	
Beans		✓	✓	✓	
Beets		✓	✓	✓	✓
Blackberries			✓	✓	
Blueberries		✓	✓		
Broccoli	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cabbage		✓	✓	✓	✓
Carrots		✓	✓	✓	✓
Cauliflower		✓	✓	✓	✓
Celery		✓	✓	✓	✓
Cider					✓
Sweet Corn		✓	✓	✓	
Cherries		✓	✓	✓	✓
Cucumbers	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Currants		✓			
Dill Weed		✓	✓	✓	
Eggplant		✓	✓	✓	
Gooseberries	✓	✓	✓		
Grapes			✓	✓	✓
Greens			✓	✓	✓
Herbs	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Honey		✓	✓	✓	✓
Lettuce	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Melons			✓	✓	
Nectarines		✓	✓		
Okra			✓	✓	
Peaches		✓	✓	✓	
Pears			✓	✓	✓
Peas	✓	✓	✓		
Peppers		✓	✓	✓	
Plums			✓	✓	✓
Popcorn			✓	✓	✓
Potatoes		✓	✓	✓	✓
Sweet Potatoes			✓	✓	✓
Pumpkins				✓	✓
Raspberries		✓		✓	
Rhubarb-field	✓				
Rutabagas				✓	✓
Spinach	✓		✓	✓	✓
Squash-summer		✓	✓	✓	
Squash-winter				✓	✓
Strawberries	✓	✓			
Tomatoes		✓	✓	✓	✓
Turnips			✓	✓	
Zucchini		✓	✓	✓	✓

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Lake Michigan's vibrancy, our countryside's serenity and our past's rich stories inspire us. Pick up a Creative Connections Brochure today to start connecting with the artists, actors, musicians and dreamers that call this area home.

Southwest
MICHIGAN

SWMICHIGAN.ORG/CREATIVE

PHOTO: WATER STREET GLASSWORKS, BENTON HARBOR