

GOOD TIMES

Calhoun County



ESCAPE WITH FRIENDS

An itinerary for those who need a break.
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DOUBLETREE BATTLE CREEK

Don't miss the best view in Battle Creek.
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PLAN A TRIP WITH TODDLERS

Keep your little one active while traveling.
page 55

THE ACTION OF THE STRIP, WITHOUT THE TRIP.



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Welcome!



Hello and welcome to Calhoun County, Michigan – home to Battle Creek, Marshall, Albion and surrounding communities. We are so glad you are here! I would like to personally invite you to experience all the good times Calhoun County has to offer. We pride ourselves on our creativity, inclusiveness and Midwest hospitality.

You can experience the outdoors along miles of trails and beautiful parks. The Kalamazoo River connects our three major cities and is great for kayaking. There's something to do in nature no matter what time of year.

We are also proud of our history and legacy. We have the largest statue dedicated to the Underground Railroad. Cereal titans such as W.K. Kellogg are buried alongside Sojourner Truth and Ellen White, the founder of Seventh-day Adventism, at Oak Hill Cemetery.

You'll never go hungry in Calhoun County, with an abundance of restaurants. There's something for everyone on the menu at Clara's on the River, where the building was converted from an old train station. Schuler's Restaurant and Pub has 100 years of history (plus an incredible cheese dip). And the best burger in Michigan can be found at Albion Malleable Brewery.

We hope you will use this Visitor Guide as a tool to help you plan your own visit, discover new experiences and create lifelong memories. While in the area, please stop by our Battle Creek Welcome Center for maps, souvenirs, and planning assistance. It is conveniently located in downtown Battle Creek.

On behalf of the entire hospitality and tourism industry, welcome to Calhoun County!

Linda Freybler, CEO

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With two major water ways, there's a path for everyone to take.

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BATTLE CREEK WELCOME CENTER

Your first stop in Battle Creek should be the Welcome Center. It's run by the Calhoun County Visitors Bureau. We're downtown, in the building with the blue roof. Look for cereal mascots painted on the windows.

PHOTO OP

Now that you have your souvenirs, take a photo with Tony the Tiger. He's right by the front door, against a backdrop of old cereal boxes. And yes, those are cereals that existed at one time or another. There actually were a Kellogg's Bat Bites Justice Breakfast and Post Corn Crackos.



MAPS & INFO

You have questions and we have answers – at least, answers about experiencing Calhoun County. Please don't ask any questions about solving calculus problems. As you enter the door to the Welcome Center, a bell rings and you'll be greeted by staff. You may notice a gold star on our name tags. Those are given to Certified Tourism Ambassadors. Besides the Welcome Center staff, there are more than 270 people who have been certified in the county.

GIFTS & SOUVENIRS

Once you know where you're going, take a minute to look at the store. We have a lot of great items, curated by our store manager. See the necklaces, hanging by the counter? They have little Michigan ornaments and they're made by a Battle Creek artist. Flip through the T-shirts by the stairs. You'll find cereal mascots, Mitten Love and Battle Creek shirts in all colors and sizes.

PIN THE MAP

Before you leave the store, put a pin in our map board for travelers. The Michigan area is bristling with pins, but you'll also see visitors from as far away as India.



CEREAL FACTS

It took four years before Kellogg's was able to frost the Pop-Tart. *In 1967 they were finally able to frost the Pop-Tart without making the frosting melt when toasted.*

There were once 268 cereal mascots?

Yes, there have been that many breakfast mascots. Few are still in use today. Those in use include Tony the Tiger, Toucan Sam and Sugar Bear.

In 2024, Netflix developed the movie "Unfrosted" with Jerry Seinfeld.

The movie depicts the rivalry of Post and Kellogg's during the development of the Pop-Tart. While the movie is mostly fiction, the rivalry was real.

CEREAL HISTORY EXHIBIT

What does a world-famous spa and Corn Flakes have to do with each other? Stop by the Cereal History Exhibit to find out. We're located right next to the Battle Creek Welcome Center.

Here, you can learn how cereal became a phenomenon. It's a fascinating story. Maybe you'll be inspired to invent your own cereal at home, just like the Kellogg brothers.



CEREAL MASCOT WINDOWS

Take a moment to linger outside of the exhibit. Some of the mascots on our windows are still famous, such as Fred Flinstone. But do you know where Bigg Mixx came from? There's information about each mascot next to the painting.

Family Fun

Depending on how much time you have, choose your family adventure.

4 HOURS If you're here for half a day, catch some waves.

Flash Flood Water Park

More than a pool, Flash Flood has indoor and outdoor equipment. In the summer, whoosh down the twists and turns of the outdoor slides. Indoors, there are courts that can be rented for basketball, floor hockey, volleyball and more.

Have a Tasty Lunch

Sandwiches are delicious and portable – it makes lunch easy for anyone who has to juggle bags and young children. At **Barista Blues Café** ask for the peanut butter and banana sandwich. The quiche and spaghetti are good options, too.

Mill Race Park

This large green space in the middle of downtown has an eye-catching water feature. Feel the spray of the waterfall on your face while checking out icons explaining Battle Creek's industrial history. The kids, however, are going to want to go straight to the play structure, which features towers and slides. The park includes picnic benches.



8 HOURS

Sticking around the whole day? The zoo is a must-see.

Binder Park Zoo

Have you ever been up close to a giraffe before? Their big eyes and long lashes make them look sweet, but if you aren't paying attention, they'll snatch lettuce right out of your hand. The zoo is a great place for such animal encounters, whether it's standing face-to-face with a giraffe or watching the bear siblings wrestle. Go back into the past with life-sized dinos at Zoorassic Park. Also plan for a carousel, a whimsical train ride and a zipline course.

Torti Taco

If you need food that appeals to kids, preteens and teens, you can't go wrong with tacos. Torti Taco is near the zoo and the mall. The food is fresh and authentic, with a salsa bar. Teenagers (or crazy adults) might want to try the super-hot Torti Burrito Challenge.

Critchlow Alligator Sanctuary

If you loved Zoorassic Park, then swing by this sanctuary in Athens to meet some modern-day dinosaurs. Critchlow is home to more than 200 reptiles, the majority of them alligators. These are gators that started as pets but needed a new home when they became too big or difficult. At the sanctuary, you can share treats with baby alligators or feed carrots to tortoises and learn their stories.



STAY Good Morning! Let's eat and then play some more.

Lux Cafe

When families gather for breakfast, they do it at Lux Cafe. The traditional diner food comes in big portions and ranges from sweet to savory. Stop by in the morning for pancakes, skilletts and French toast served with a side of bacon or sausage.

Kids 'N' Stuff Museum

There's still time to play! Head over to Albion for a hands-on museum. Kids can build, pretend, experiment and create. It's aimed at preteen ages and younger, but even older siblings can be engaged in playtime. There's also a room for babies, who might not be able to keep up yet.

See it!

Flash Flood Water Park
35 W. Hamblin Ave., Battle Creek

Barista Blues Cafe
91 W. Michigan Ave., Battle Creek

Mill Race Park
11 Capital Ave. S.W., Battle Creek

Binder Park Zoo
7400 Division Drive, Battle Creek

Critchlow's Alligator Sanctuary
1698 M-66, Athens, MI 49011

Torti Taco
5275 Beckley Rd., Battle Creek

Lux Cafe
2587 Capital Ave. S.W., Battle Creek

Kids 'N' Stuff Museum
301 S. Superior St., Albion



Trip for Two

Schuler's Restaurant

Plan a romantic getaway with your sweetheart.

4 HOURS

If you're here for half a day, try something sweet.

Coffee and chocolate

Brunch up the date at **Cafe Rica** with a mimosa sampler and an order of waffles or the breakfast quesadilla. The old-fashioned cocktail flight is another classy addition to any date. Or stick with the excellent coffee, made with beans from Costa Rica – one of the best places in the world to grow coffee beans. Buy something sweet for your sweetheart at **Simply Sensational Berries**. The grab-and-go display changes every day. Chocolate-covered strawberries are a no-brainer, but a whimsical cupcake is also a nice surprise. **Ciao Bella Chocolat** is another great choice, with handmade chocolates and marshmallows. Order a pot of tea with an assortment of goodies.



Cafe Rica



Ciao Bella Chocolat

A love in bloom

Buy flowers from **Horrocks Farm Market**. There are always buckets of fresh blooms, so make your own bouquet or pick one that's been curated by the store's experts. Grab a drink at the bar and listen to live music on the weekends.



Horrocks Farm Market

8 HOURS

Sticking around the whole day? Add Station 66 to your itinerary.

Station 66

This vintage roadside attraction is a blast from the past. Buy your date a glass bottle of pop from the old-fashioned Coke cooler. The shop has Michigan-made products while the diner serves up hot dogs, soup and sandwiches. The big draw is dessert, though. Have ice cream in the summer and doughnuts with cider in the fall.



Station 66

Twisted Rivers Winery

Stop by Marshall's Twisted Rivers Winery and you'll be treated like family. Try the rotating selection of wines and a charcuterie board. There's also a homey gift shop to pair with your drink. A bottle of wine is a good souvenir.

Sleep like royalty

Have dinner at **Schuler's**, where a classic roast prime rib with wine can be followed by splitting the signature coconut snowball. And you don't have to go far, with the **Royal Hotel** right next door. The boutique hotel is attached to Schulers.



Royal Hotel

STAY

Good Morning! Take time for breakfast.

Breakfast

A trip to downtown Marshall isn't complete without a nut roll from **Louie's Bakery**. This classic Marshall treat is cinnamon dough smothered in icing and nuts. If you're a Bloody Mary fan, then plan your stay around the weekend and go to brunch at **Grand River Brewery**. It has a free-range Bloody Mary bar along with ricotta pancakes, eggs benedict and poutine for breakfast.

Marshall Riverwalk

To help digest your breakfast, go for a walk along the river. Marshall has an easy 1.6-mile path that includes paving and a boardwalk. It's a peaceful stroll no matter the season.

See it!

- Cafe Rica**
62 E. Michigan Ave. Battle Creek
- Simply Sensational Berries**
80 W Michigan Ave., Battle Creek
- Ciao Bella Chocolat**
296 E. Emmett St., Battle Creek
- Louie's Bakery**
144 W. Michigan Ave., Marshall
- Horrocks Farm Market**
5801 Beckley Rd., Battle Creek
- Twisted Rivers Winery**
131 W. Michigan Ave., Marshall
- Schuler's Restaurant**
115 S. Eagle St., Marshall
- Royal Hotel**
115 S. Eagle St., Marshall
- Grand River Brewery**
101 W. Michigan Ave., Marshall
- Marshall Riverwalk**
South Kalamazoo Avenue to Stuart's Landing on Homer Road, Marshall
- Station 66**
4588 D Dr. S., Battle Creek

Art Lovers Experience

We know what you like: Artwork, coffee, music and the smell of books.

4 HOURS

If you're here for half a day, look for our biggest art pieces.

Color the Creek Mural Tour

This yearly festival has generated more than 30 murals in Battle Creek. Artists come from all over the United States to create larger-than-life paintings. Our favorites include a tribute to Sojourner Truth, a mural of a young girl painting a wall and an abstract prism burst. See page 64 for more information.



A. Lincoln

ArtPrize Winner

It's possible you've seen photos of A. Lincoln, the giant portrait made out of pennies. It won ArtPrize's public vote in 2017. Trust us, though, it's even more impressive in real life. You can see it in all its shiny glory in the Lincoln Room.



Fantasy Forest

Fantasy Forest

The perfect place to take your picnic lunch is Leila Arboretum. At the front of the park are fantastical sculptures, such as a centaur and a fairy. When the emerald ash borer destroyed a grove of trees, artists were invited to turn the trunks into wizards and mythical creatures.

Kitchen Proper

Want to feel like you're in the South of France or Italy? You can eat dinner like you're by the Mediterranean Sea at Kitchen Proper, where the food is a work of art. Order a glass of wine with your pasta or seafood. Speaking of wine, the themed travel wine dinners are also a big hit.

8 HOURS

Sticking around the whole day? Hit the local galleries.

Art Center of Battle Creek

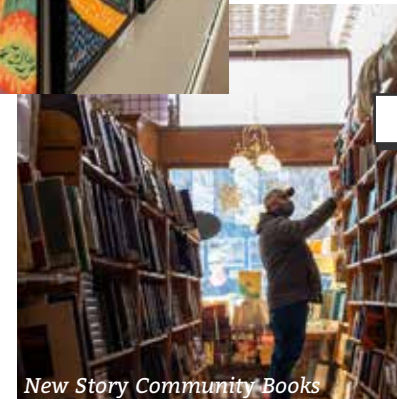
Local artists have a chance to shine at the Art Center's rotating exhibits. While you'll usually see art exhibit displays, like paintings and photographs, sometimes collectors get in on the act. Action figures or World Fair memorabilia can challenge what you think about art.



Art Center of Battle Creek

New Story Community Books

New and used books fill the shelves of this store, so you're likely to find a good deal on a good read. The storeowners are proud book nerds, and besides paperbacks, there is artwork, T-shirts and other trinkets that celebrate stories.



New Story Community Books

EastEnd Studio Gallery

EastEnd Studio has all kinds of art for sale. If you're looking for something to hang on a wall or something to hang around your neck, you'll find both at EastEnd. The exhibit space features a different theme every month.

STAY *Good Morning! Start the day with coffee and architecture.*

The Alloy

Grab your breakfast from The Alloy, in the DoubleTree by Hilton. The croissant sandwich goes well with coffee, or try the Crab Cake Benedict for something rich and savory. The Apple Jacks pancakes give a local twist to an old breakfast stand-by – Apple Jacks were invented in Battle Creek, after all. After breakfast, admire the art in the glass atrium.

Architecture Walk

Take your breakfast for a walk around downtown Battle Creek. Head west down Michigan Avenue to admire the architecture, which ranges from beaux arts to art deco. You can pop into The Milton's lobby to see the newly restored art deco ceiling murals.

See it!

Color the Creek Mural Tour
Brochure at the Battle Creek Welcome Center, 34 W Jackson St, Suite 1A, Battle Creek

ArtPrize Winner
32 W. Michigan Ave., Battle Creek

Fantasy Forest
Leila Arboretum, 928 W Michigan Ave, Battle Creek

Kitchen Proper
34 W. Michigan Ave., Battle Creek

Art Center of Battle Creek
265 E. Emmett St., Battle Creek

New Story Community Books
114 W. Michigan Ave., Marshall

EastEnd Studio and Gallery
143 W. Michigan Ave., Marshall

Café Rica
62 E. Michigan Ave., Battle Creek

The Alloy
50 Capital Ave. SW, Battle Creek

Escape With Friends

Take a break from the routine with your favorite people.

4 HOURS

If you're here for half a day, catch dinner and a movie.

Albion Malleable Brewing Co.

Malleable serves good food in a chill environment. The burger was voted best in Michigan by Mlive and the Belgian-style beer has won at the Great American Beer Festival. On some nights you'll find live music, or pick a board game from the shelves. It's a brewery that invites you to hang out.



Albion Malleable Brewing Co.

Bohm Theatre

Take your group down the street to the Bohm Theatre for a movie or concert. After all, it was a favorite spot for the notorious Purple Gang in the 1930s. The restored movie palace plays the current blockbusters on the weekend. Or you can rent a theater for movies or big-screen video game sessions. Blues at Bohm happens on the second Monday of the month, with professional musicians taking the stage, then inviting the audience for a jam.



Sweetwater's Donut Mill

8 HOURS

Sticking around the whole day? Get active.

Kayaking

The Kalamazoo River is a fairly smooth ride and you'll see lots of wildlife. If you don't mind carrying your kayak down some stairs, start at **Ceresco Green**. For a long trip – we're talking about three and a half hours without stops – go all the way to **Paddler's Grove**. You can take a break at **Historic Bridge Park**, which has bathrooms and a kayak launch, so it's easy to get on and off the river.

Disc Golf

People take their disc golf seriously in Battle Creek, so prepare to be challenged. We recommend **Territorial Brewing Co.** to start. The backyard has streams and grassy hills, surrounded by mature trees. It's a beautiful place to play. And if you want another challenge, Territorial has axe-throwing on certain nights. For more courses, look up **Irving Park**, **Begg Park**, **Dexter Lake Church** and **Leila Arboretum**.



Begg Park Disc Golf

Taqueria San Francisco

This Mexican food restaurant is so popular, they have two locations. The original restaurant is at 691 Capital Ave. S.W. There's a large selection of ice cream, paletas, chocolate-covered bananas, elote and more. You can't leave without trying a sweet-salty-spicy-tart mangonada.

STAY Good Morning!
It's time for donuts.

Sweetwater's Donut Mill

Swing by in the morning for something sweet. There's a specialty doughnut every week, where the bakers flex their creativity. Rice Kripies and marshmallows on top of a doughnut? Yes please. But you can't go wrong even with a simple glazed doughnut or apple fritter at Sweetwater's.

Foundry Bakehouse

Foundry sells homemade baked goods to the Albion community. While doughnuts and Danishes are a no-brainer, we won't tell if you decide to have a decadent brownie for breakfast. For those who prefer something savory, the breakfast sandwiches are served on freshly baked bread.

See it!

Albion Malleable Brewing Co.
420 S. Superior St., Albion
Bohm Theatre
201 S. Superior St., Albion
Ceresco Green
Near 230 C Drive N., Battle Creek
Paddler's Grove
S River Drive, Battle Creek
Historic Bridge Park
S. Wattles Road, Battle Creek
Territorial Brewing Co.
1600 Avenue A Springfield
Irving Park
311 N. East Ave., Battle Creek
Taqueria San Francisco
691 Capital Ave. S.W., Battle Creek
Sweetwater's Donut Mill
2807 Capital Ave. S.W., Battle Creek
Foundry Bakehouse
400 S. Superior St., Albion



Girls Trip

Get the girls together for a fun weekend.

4
HOURS

Only have half a day? Relax in Marshall.

Pure Eden Salon & Spa

Banish stress at **Pure Eden Salon & Spa** with a session designed to help you unwind. This treatment includes hot towels and a light massage for the scalp, face, shoulders, back, hands, arms and legs. If those tense muscles need more work, Pure Eden has a full menu of massage therapy. It's also a great time to get a classic manicure.

Shopping

Find something unique in downtown Marshall. Locally owned stores line the street, where you can find everything from puzzles to Christmas ornaments to dog treats. For any crafters in the group, Marshall is a great place to shop and look for experiences. **Just Bead It** and **paper & i** have tons of supplies and offer instruction.

For quilters, everything a fiber artist needs to create beautiful mosaics can be found at **Quilts at the Marshall House**. Popular fabrics include William Morris prints, whimsical designs by Kaffe Fassett and re-production prints from the Civil War. The shop also has a workroom for classes or group projects.



8
HOURS

Want to make a day of it? Head to Battle Creek after shopping.

FireKeepers Casino Hotel

Let loose at **FireKeepers**. The gaming is hot, with 70 game tables, a poker room and more than 2,900 slots. What might be even hotter, however, is the food. Seven restaurants serve some of the best food in Battle Creek. There's everything from filet of beef navarin at Nibi to peanut chicken at Fortune 8 Noodle Bar. Check the casino's event schedule for big name acts, like Patti Labelle, Boyz II Men and Reba.

Cocktails

Get a great view (and a great cocktail) at 50 Beacon, the top floor bar of the **DoubleTree Hotel by Hilton**. Or if you want to make your own, sign up for a cocktail making class at **New Holland Brewing Co.** Classes happen once a month. New Holland distills their own spirits and you can pick some up from the front store after finding inspiration in their classic cocktail list at the bar.



STAY Good Morning!
Start your day with brunch or yoga.

Brunch Weekend

If you want a late breakfast indulgence on Sunday, try **Copper Athletic Club** in Marshall. Their menu changes every month with exciting new options and creative cocktails. For something more traditional, try the buffet at **Clara's on the River** in Battle Creek. You can eat as much bacon and mini waffles as you want.

Goat Yoga

Head to Albion for some stretching and adorable animals. **Esham Family Farm** has baby goat yoga classes – indoors when it's cold, outdoors when it's warm. An expert will lead you through moves to help relax your body and release tension, while curious baby goats do what they do best: Be adorable and climb on everything. New goats are born every spring and fall, so they never get too big for hugs.

See it!

Pure Eden Salon & Spa
213 W. Michigan Ave. #1523,
Marshall
Just Bead It
125 W. Michigan Ave., Marshall
Glass Act
113 W. Michigan Ave., Marshall
Paper & I
102 E. Michigan Ave., Marshall
Quilts at the Marshall House
100 Exchange St, Marshall
FireKeepers Casino Hotel
11177 E. Michigan Ave.,
Battle Creek
DoubleTree Hotel by Hilton
50 Capital Ave. S.W., Battle Creek
New Holland Brewing Co.
64 W. Michigan Ave., Battle Creek
Esham Family Farm
166 N. Concord Rd., Albion
Copper Athletic Club
133 W. Michigan Ave., Marshall
Clara's on the River
44 McCamly St., Battle Creek



PICK YOUR PAIRING

The craft brewing trend proves a pub is more than its beer. Attitude is everything, and craft breweries in Calhoun County have personalities as strong as their drinks. Here we suggest some pairings for travelers who aren't just looking for a pit stop, they're looking for an experience.

American Spirit ALBION MALLEABLE

Albion Malleable Brewing Company has the warmth of the city's industrial past, balanced with the bright notes of future possibilities. "Porter" used to be a physically demanding job, and the workers were known to like dark beer. So it's fitting that AMBC calls their porter "American Molder." It honors the iron company that put Albion on the map while using hops grown by a local farm. Snack on some fried cheese curds while toasting industries of the past and present.

Adventure DARK HORSE BREWING COMPANY

Dark Horse pairs well with a sense of adventure, really bringing out a zest for life. They're serious about making beer and serious about having fun. The beer garden is a great spot to find live music and dogs are allowed. We suggest starting with the Crooked Tree IPA for a dry and crisp ale.

Coziness GRAND RIVER BREWERY

The rich flavors of Grand River Brewery will soothe anyone looking to come in from the cold. Warm up with a cocktail made with spirits from the distillery. The food menu is heavy on comfort too: chronic fries with garlic brown butter and Balsamic reduction, poutine covered in Small Town Brown Ale gravy, a burger with bacon jam, or mac 'n' cheese topped with pulled pork. Wash it all down with the award-winning Monkey Mouth IPA.

Style NEW HOLLAND BREWING

Smooth and sophisticated, New Holland Brewing goes down easy. The light-filled space is just as good for a date night as a business lunch meeting. The covered beer garden is open year round. There is more than beer to imbibe, with cocktails made from spirits distilled on site.

Mitten Love HANDMAP BREWING

For a relaxed taste and down-to-earth finish, Handmap Brewing has the essence of Michigan. Look at your right palm and point to the bottom left -- that's where you'll find this brewery serving up craft beer in a renovated historic space on the banks of the Battle Creek River. Try the fruity Two-Can beer, inspired by cereal.

Travel Lust TERRITORIAL BREWING COMPANY

Raise a glass at this brewery with undertones of nostalgia. Even if you've never been to Europe, you can crave the German-inspired menu. Pilsner tops the list of mainstay beers, but you'll also see lagers and a rotating list of whatever is currently striking the brewers' fancy. The backyard has a large disc golf course, and there's ax-throwing on warm Thursday nights.

Mix it up!

There's more fun brewing in Calhoun County. Here are some suggested cocktails:

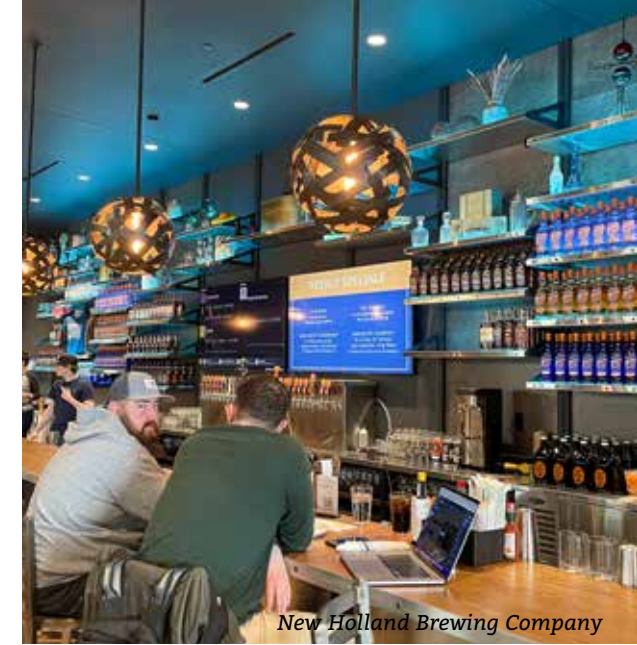
LUCKY ROOSTER **COPPER ATHLETIC CLUB**
Ginger lime fizz mocktail The Curse of Bobby Lane

TWISTED RIVERS WINERY **GRIFFIN GRILL & PUB**
Chocolate and wine Creative moscow mules

CLARA'S ON THE RIVER **SCHULER'S RESTAURANT**
Spiked milkshakes The Schuler's Cosmo

50 BEACON LOUNGE **THE BASE BAR AND GRILL**
A classic Manhattan Whiskey or bourbon

See it! Scan the QR code for addresses and more information about Calhoun County's amazing breweries.



New Holland Brewing Company



Territorial Brewing Company



Handmap Brewing



Handmap Brewing



Albion Malleable



BINDER PARK ZOO

Starting as a small roadside attraction in the '70s, Binder Park Zoo is now one of the largest zoos in Michigan. It's open May through October. From the blue poison dart frog to the reticulated giraffe, animals are given natural environments large enough for them to play, learn and be themselves.

AUSTRALIA

If you hear someone laughing at you when you enter the zoo, don't take offense – that's just the kookaburra. The first animals to greet you are from Australia. Everyone has heard of dingoes, wallabies and kangaroos, but what about wallaroos? Watch them hop around in the morning.

SOUTH AMERICA

Drop by the Conservation Discovery Center. That's where the sloths hang out, literally. The Discovery Center is also where you'll find tiny technicolor frogs and slithery snakes.

ASIA

If you spot a hut with colorful flags, you've made it to the Himalayas. From inside, you can encounter Raj, the snow leopard. He is both majestic and playful, like a house cat but much, much bigger. Another popular furry face native to Asia is Tushar, the red panda. Red pandas are arboreal, so you'll most likely see them lounging in trees. Tushar likes to stick his tongue out at humans.

NORTH AMERICA

Follow bear footprints to the North American woods. Take a turn and you can observe three American black bears. These siblings were rescued as cubs in Alaska. Like a lot of kids, they have a treehouse and want to wrestle. Stop by the lodge to see the Mexican wolves. They have a big patch of forest to explore. Wolves born in Binder Park Zoo have been released into the wild.

AFRICA

Now it's time to hop on the international tram for a trip to Africa. Pick up a few words of Swahili in the ranger station and then head out for a wildlife journey on the savanna.

Along the shaded walkways, stop at the Twiga overlook, where you'll come face-to-face with giraffes. They're always looking for a lettuce treat, so buy a few leaves from zoo staff. Have your camera ready before approaching the overlook – if you're not paying attention, the giraffes will snatch the lettuce right out of your hand!

Farther along, you'll come to Chai Pride Tea Co. There's no actual tea, but you'll be able to see the African painted dog pack on the left, and a very vocal lion pride on the right.

MICHIGAN

Once you arrive back from your trip to Africa, it's time to explore more of the zoo. Do you hear the train whistle? Head toward the children's area to catch a ride on the Z.O. & O. Railroad.

You'll easily spot Skylark Ridge. This aerial structure is as tall as two adult giraffes. It has three stories of rope ladders, suspended bridges, cargo nets and more to climb. Five zip lines curve around the structure, so you can soar through the air like a bird.

While it's discouraged to hop on animals at the zoo, an old-fashioned carousel gives everyone a chance to ride on a cheetah or flamingo. The Binda Conservation Carousel features a menagerie of 36 animals, all hand-carved.

Nearby is the goat enclosure. While the goats have lots of space to frolic and play, they're always excited to be fed treats from the dispenser.

ZOORASSIC PARK

Now that you're finished traveling around the world, take a trip through time. Go to the Zoorassic Park to meet dinosaurs and play games. It's a great photo opportunity -- kids can climb on the back of a triceratops or get a Jurassic Park-style souvenir photo.

Binder is accredited with the Association of Zoos and Aquariums and it is active in programs to save threatened animals.

See it! **Binder Park Zoo** 7400 Division Drive, Battle Creek, MI 49014
(269) 979-1351 • www.BinderParkZoo.org





LEILA ARBORETUM

Drive past Leila Arboretum and you will be hailed by the mighty centaur. He's raising a sword, but don't worry – he just wants you to stop by the park and enjoy all of the nature, history, horticulture and art it has to offer.

FANTASY FOREST

Get an up-close look at the centaur. After a beetle destroyed trees near the entrance, artists were invited to carve up the trunks into fantastical sculptures. Find wizards, creatures and a UFO in the garden. Take a shot for Instagram while sitting in the monster mouth or in front of the castle.

KALEIDOSCOPE GARDEN

The enclosed garden is educational for kids and adults alike. Rising above the garden is the Bee-Loon sculpture. It shows the different kinds of bees and their life cycle. How sweet!

WALKING PATHS

Explore the arboretum's walking paths, which meander through the park. You'll find treasures such as a native flower garden, metallic sculptures, a perennial garden and groves of evergreen trees.

DISC GOLF

For a unique way to explore the arboretum, follow the disc golf course. The 18-hole course takes advantage of the arboretum's rolling hills and shaded groves. You'll start out by the sumac trees and end on Fragrant Hill.

FRAGRANT HILL

This part of the park received its name from the magnolia, cherry and other flowering trees that have been planted around the hill. When they bloom in spring, it's like clouds of blossoms are floating along the hill. The pavilion is available for event rental.

See it! **Leila Arboretum** 928 W Michigan Ave, Battle Creek, MI 49037 (269) 969-0270 • www.LASgarden.org



CRITCHLOW'S ALLIGATOR SANCTUARY

It's not exactly Jurassic Park, but there are a lot of reptiles with large teeth at Critchlow's Alligator Sanctuary.

A FOREVER HOME

Critchlow's takes in alligators and other reptiles that have nowhere else to go. Sometimes people realize they can't take care of hundreds of pounds of gator as a pet and sometimes the reptiles are found abandoned.

No matter what, alligators, tortoises and even a couple crocodiles have a home at Critchlow's. The public is invited to meet them.

Awake in spring and summer, dozens of alligators can be found lounging in their habitats. They have plenty of pools, because water is an alligator's happy place.

LOVE FOR GATORS

Walk along the viewing platform to see them from up above. For a closer look, buy a bucket of food – the gators will come running if you toss out some treats.

Lina Critchlow, who once dreamed of training dolphins, puts on demonstrations with Goliath and Medusa, the two biggest gators at the sanctuary.

She says that alligators are like toddlers -- they know their name, but they're still going to do what they want and that's okay. After all, who can say no to an alligator who is 11 feet long?

The young alligators are especially cute. But even Medusa and Goliath are sweet when they cuddle.

The sanctuary has 180 domesticated alligators, around 70 turtles and tortoises, and more animals coming in every year.

See it! **Critchlow's Alligator Sanctuary** 1698 M-66 Athens, MI 49011 (269) 729-4802 • facebook.com/alligatorsanctuary





CORNWELL'S TURKEYVILLE

It's Thanksgiving all year round at Cornwell's Turkeyville U.S.A. That means family, homemade treats and lots and lots of turkey.

MENU

Cornwell's is committed to its concept: Turkey everything. You'll find the traditional turkey dinner, just like Great-Grandma Cornwell made for her family and the farmhands. There's also turkey pot pie, turkey salad sandwiches and a turkey burger. In the spirit of Thanksgiving, Cornwell's also has great pie, which you can pick up by the slice.

GIFT SHOP

Have spare change jingling around in your pocket? The coin-operated piano is just waiting to clang out a tune. The gift shop is around the corner. When Turkeyville bakers are at work in the kitchen, the shop smells like cinnamon and sugar. A fan favorite is the breakfast bread. Someone had the genius idea of cutting up pie and baking it in a loaf of bread. Browse decorations for the holidays or stock up your pantry with jams and pickles made by Cornwell's. Don't miss the old-fashioned candy counter.

DINNER THEATRE

If you're looking for an extra-special experience, Cornwell's serves dinner and a show throughout the year. Eat at the buffet and then enjoy a presentation that's part theater, part concert.

RV RESORT

Camp Turkeyville is a getaway for family fun. The RV resort has full hook-ups for vehicles. Kids will love the splash park pool. Bring your fishing rod for an afternoon by the pond. There's a camp store for all your snacks and supplies, even firewood. Each site has a fire pit, so you can sit around the flames at night, roast marshmallows and swap some stories.

See it! Cornwell's Turkeyville 18935 15 1/2 Mile Rd, Marshall, MI 49068 (269) 781-4293 • www.Turkeyville.com

KIDS 'N' STUFF MUSEUM

Walk through the front doors of Kids 'N' Stuff and there's a village spread out in front of you. In this village, everything is built low to the ground and made for little hands.

JOBS

Explore different jobs in the village. At Willie's Auto Shop, pull gadgets from the tool box or take a spin behind the wheel of a green vehicle. Your Doc McStuffins can use a stethoscope on stuffed animals or a PAW Patrol fan can put on a helmet and slide down the fire pole.

DRESS UP

Speaking of helmets, dress-up clothes are available at The House of Mitchell Costume Shop. Kids can wear whatever strikes their fancy, like a frog outfit with a fedora and gladiator shield. Then they can take the stage at the mini-theater.

PLAY WITH YOUR FOOD

Farm-to-table dining isn't exactly a buzzword among the toddler set, but they're going to love gathering their own "food" for dinner. They can drive a tractor, feed the stuffed animals in the barn and then fill a basket at the farm stand. Next stop is the Feldpausch grocery store, where plastic food is stacked on shelves. Little checkout counters have cranks, so the conveyor belt works. After the cart is full, kids can head to the kitchen.

HANDS ON

Kids 'N' Stuff isn't afraid of a mess. Smocks are offered as a precaution against soaked clothing at the water table. They can splash around or experiment with floats. Things can get messy in the art room, too, where there's everything from construction paper to paint.

See it! Kids 'N' Stuff Museum 301 S Superior St, Albion, MI 49224 (517) 629-8023 • www.KidsNStuff.org



Photos courtesy of Kids 'N' Stuff Museum



DISCOVER OUR HISTORY



Underground Railroad Monument

INNOVATORS

Early Industry

The waterfall at Mill Race Park in Battle Creek creates a pretty backdrop for photos, but it's also a reminder of why a city is here in the first place.

People have always built around waterways, and Battle Creek was no different. The convergence of two rivers attracted government surveyors. They were working near the water when two Potawatomi natives came to ask for food. The surveyors argued and sent them away and made a note of the encounter by simply writing "Battle Creek" on the map they were making.

It was land speculator Sands McCamly who bought the water rights and built a millrace between the rivers. Like an early version of a generator, the millrace provided power for businesses in the village. Battle Creek became an industrial city and shipped out farming equipment, printing presses, bicycles, cigars and more.

If history is your jam, then Calhoun County is the place for you. We are rich in people and stories. From the bravery of Sojourner Truth to the lawlessness of the Purple Gang, here are some of the places that honor the past.

"I prescribed zwieback for an old lady, and she broke her false teeth on it. She demanded that I pay her ten dollars for her false teeth. I began to think that we ought to have a ready-cooked food which would not break people's teeth. I puzzled over that a good deal."

— Dr. J.H. Kellogg

Adventist History

Ellen White was a prophet and leader for the Seventh-day Adventists. She and her family moved to Battle Creek in 1855 and ten years later, she shared a Christmas Day vision: The Adventists should create a health institute.

Adventists were ahead of their time in promoting exercise, fresh air and plant-based diets for health. In 1866, the Western Health Reform Institute opened and grew into the Battle Creek Sanitarium, run by Dr. Kellogg. It attracted people from all over the world.

Invention of Cereal

Battle Creek is the Cereal City and that's because of two brothers who didn't clean up their mess in the kitchen.

Dr. J.H. Kellogg and W.K. Kellogg were cooking with wheat when they had to abandon it before the process was finished. They left the wheat mixture out, so it was stale by the time they returned.

Hoping it would still make dough, they ran the wheat through rollers: what came out was thin flakes. Once cooked, the flakes became cereal. In 1898, wheat was traded for a new ingredient and Kellogg's Corn Flakes were born.

C.W. Post started his own health food company. The first thing it sold was Postum, a caffeine-free coffee substitute. He then branched into Post Grape Nuts and a flake cereal that was eventually called Post Toasties.

The food innovation caught on quickly. In the early 1900s, there were more than 100 cereal companies in Battle Creek. Nowadays, it's back to the first two: W.K. Kellogg Co. and Post Consumer Brands.



Kellogg Discovery Center



C.W. Post Monument

RISK TAKERS

The Purple Gang

The Purple Gang were the most merciless crooks in Detroit during Prohibition. When someone made even Al Capone nervous, then you know they had a tough reputation.

It's suspected the gang was part of the Valentine's Day Massacre. In 1945, the gang's leader and his brother were convicted for the murder of Senator Warren G. Hooper.

Albion was a convenient meeting point for smuggling booze from Detroit to Chicago. When alcohol became legal in 1933, the Purple Gang ran a very efficient bank-robbing operation from an Albion junkyard. There was even a custom-built bulletproof car.



Heinz Hoffman, Purple Gang, 1931, silver print. Detroit Institute of Arts, Gift of The Detroit News, 74.154

RESILIENCE

Underground Railroad

Calhoun County was a hub for African Americans who were escaping slavery.

Adam Crosswhite and his family had settled to live in Marshall, until one night, when slave catchers arrived to kidnap them. The city's residents arrested the men, and the family was able to escape to Canada.

The Federal Court was not happy and fined the citizens. This was one of the deeds that led to the Fugitive Slave Act of 1850, which said African Americans were not people in the eyes of the law, and they should be treated as property even if they managed to free themselves from enslavement.

Crosswhite returned to Marshall after the Civil War and you can find his grave at Oakridge Cemetery.

Sarah and Erastus Hussey were conductors on the Underground Railroad in Battle Creek. The Quaker store-owners helped an estimated 1,000 people find freedom. Erastus became a state senator and in 1854 he wrote and passed the Personal Liberty Law. It made it illegal to capture people in Michigan and take them back to slavery. Then, what happened to the Crosswhites and many other African Americans who thought they had found safety was no longer legal.



Underground Railroad Monument

SOJOURNER TRUTH

Sojourner Truth was a woman of extraordinary abilities. She escaped slavery in her 30s, but had to leave most of her family behind. When her son was illegally sold to a plantation in Alabama from New York, Truth found a lawyer and successfully sued for the freedom of her son. She was the first Black woman to win against a white man in court.

In her 40s, she started speaking out in public for equal rights. She chose the name "Sojourner Truth" for herself. She used her words to fight for abolition and women's suffrage. Her autobiography, dictated to a writer because Truth had never learned to read or write, was a bestseller.

It was the 1850s when Truth joined her daughters in Battle Creek. The next decade would bring a Civil War and then the work of helping African Americans find employment after emancipation.

Truth returned to Battle Creek and died in 1883. She's buried in Oak Hill Cemetery.



Sojourner Truth Monument

*"Look at me! Look at my arm! I have ploughed and planted, and gathered into barns, and no man could head me! And ain't I a woman?
I could work as much and eat as much as man – when I could get it – and bear the lash as well!
And ain't I a woman?
I have borne five children, and seen most all sold off to slavery, and when I cried out with my mother's grief, none but Jesus heard me! And ain't I a woman?"*
— Sojourner Truth

See it!

Mill Race Park
11 Capital Ave SW, Battle Creek

Stone History Tower
Monument Park, corner of Division St and Hamblin Ave, Battle Creek

Historic Adventist Village and Kellogg Discovery Center
411 Champion St, Battle Creek

Oak Hill Cemetery
255 South Ave, Battle Creek

Cereal History Exhibit and Battle Creek Welcome Center
34 Jackson St W, Battle Creek



Scan!

For a full listing of historical attractions in Calhoun County.

BEYOND THE BURGER

Get a taste of the world in Calhoun County.



Suiپی's East End Eatery



Free Range Pancake House



New Asian Taste



Lucky Rooster



El Tajin

Suiپی has been voted Best Chef in Battle Creek. Try her classic Burmese food at **Suiپی's East End Eatery**. The pork curry melts in your mouth, while the noodles will please any garlic lover. The portions are generous, but make sure to leave room for dessert: Burmese rice cakes.

If you've ever watched a travel show visiting Southeast Asia, you've probably seen dishes such as Tom Yum noodle soup, pineapple fried rice and Singapore noodles. **New Asian Taste** captures those flavors and other staples of Malaysian Chinese cuisine. Be adventurous or stick to comfort food – they serve up both.

If you're in the mood for a Guinness, head to **Griffin Grill & Pub** for a good time. Did you know Spain invaded Ireland? They didn't stick around, but now you can start a pub meal with Black Irish Dip, which has roasted garlic, cheese and pesto. For an entree, try fish and chips, bangers and mash or shepherd's pie.

Style is what you get at **Sakura Sushi Bar & Grill**. Sushi rolls are served with splashes of color and zest. Try a locally inspired house special, such as the Battle Creek roll with shrimp tempura, crab salad, avocado and spicy mayo. If you want fried rice, go across the street to **Kume Hibachi & Steakhouse**. Diners sit around a sizzling grill while the cook puts on a show.

Lucky Rooster got its name from an old Italian story about a rooster thwarting an assassin. On the menu, you'll find dinner entrees fit for a Medici. There's seafood spaghetti, chicken marsala and pesto tortellini that can be ordered with a glass of wine.

El Tajin is known for its big portions and fresh flavor. Order your seafood tacos with a full order of nachos to share with the table. The nachos carbon are topped with three kinds of meat (steak, grilled chicken, chorizo) and covered in cheese dip. Accompany it with a sweet horchata drink.

Free Range Pancake House serves olive oil straight from the Balkan Peninsula. The owner receives bottles of it from his family's farm in Greece. You'll find it in many of the dishes, such as the Olympus salad, the olive tapenade pita and the Sparta power bowl.

The Greece-inspired menu at **Galazio of Albion** will have you crying "opa!" Classic dishes include avgolemono soup, flambe saganaki and souvlaki. Or go for some locally inspired dishes, like the Bohm slider.

See it!

Scan the QR code for addresses and more information.





“We perfected the coffee side and have put a lot of work and effort into that, so we wanted to have the food to match it,” Tristan said.

Flavor Profile
CAFE RICA KEEPS IT FRESH



“We got a lot of feedback from customers inquiring about if we were going to have food. It was our plan to have light pastries, maybe a bagel, nothing too crazy. But obviously the market was demanding more of a lunch spot,” Tristan said.

Sensing a void, they moved into a permanent location with a small kitchen and considered what kind of cuisine to add to the area.

“We perfected the coffee side and have put a lot of work and effort into that, so we wanted to have the food to match it,” Tristan said.

It had to be fresh, to be shareable and to be available for customers on the go.

On the menu is Maria’s tortillas, named after the grandmother who made tortillas for the boys every time they visited her in Costa Rica.

Also, be sure to try the handmade salsa and sauces -- an afterthought in some places, but not for the detail-oriented Bredehoft brothers. Add a kick to your tostada or cheese steak with the red chili sauce.

There’s a new menu every season, which allows the staff to continue engaging creatively with the food. Try a smoked salmon wrap in summer or a kickin’ grilled cheese with jalapenos and red chili mayo in winter.

What do you get when two brothers decide to combine the perfection-driven attitude of baristas and a love of home cooking? A menu that’s both fun and ideal to pair with the coffee-drink of your choice.

When Tristan Bredehoft and his brother, Jackson, went from selling coffee beans online to a cafe business, they were focused on the drinks.

See it! **Cafe Rica** 62 E Michigan Ave, Battle Creek, MI 49017 (269) 441-0205 • Cafe-Rica.com

TRAVEL THE WORLD WITH UMAMI RAMEN

Peecoon Allen started selling noodles at the farmers market and her business has thrived since then.

Now located in a renovated building with chic decor, Umami Ramen is as stylish as it is tasty.

Make your own noodle bowl by picking what elements go into it, like rich tonkatsu broth, delicate rice noodles and spicy kimchi.

For a treat, try the current board special. It could be adobo from the Philippines

one week or Southern barbecue the next. A local produce delivery might prompt a gourmet mushroom stir fry with udon noodles or dumplings in a ginger lemon broth.

Peecoon was born in Thailand and her cooking has been influenced by her family, her travels and her culture. She describes Battle Creek as hard-working, tenacious and diverse.

“I’m proud of the customers because they’re giving my food a chance,” Peecoon said. “They’re embracing the food, and



therefore they’re embracing the message of cohesiveness and culture.”

Sit down and join our community at the table.



*“I’m proud of the customers because they’re giving my food a chance.”
 Peecoon said.*

See it! **Umami Ramen** 215 Michigan Ave W, Battle Creek, MI 49017 (269) 441-0015 • umamiramenbc.com



Flavor Profile

CLARA'S MENU HAS SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE

Ross Simpson has been in the restaurant business since he was 15. The shy teen earned \$1.50 an hour as a dishwasher and learned how to get out of his shell.

Now Simpson does a little more than wash dishes. The owner of Clara's on the River runs a fun dining establishment located in what was once a turn-of-the-century train station.

The extra-large menu represents the trove of Simpson's experience. There's something for everyone: zucchini noodles, sizzling fajitas, a cherry and chicken salad and what some say are the best hamburgers in town.

Simpson loves food and has final say on the Clara's menu, but is always open to staff creations.

See it! Clara's on the River 44 McCamly St, Battle Creek 49017
(269) 963-0966 • Claras.com

"I'm smart enough to surround myself with fantastic people,"
Ross said.

"I'm smart enough to surround myself with fantastic people," Ross said.

Take the bronzed salmon – topped with red pepper coulis – which was suggested by a former assistant manager. Or the popular spinach dip, which has artichoke hearts, crab meat, onion, Monterey Jack and cream cheese.

There's always room for something new at Clara's.



ISLAND STYLE BRINGS TASTES & SOUNDS OF THE CARIBBEAN

Island Style BBQ is a family business in the best sense: Flavors come from Haiti and Guyana and America, just like the Jean-Jules family.

Juliano met his wife, Daleth, at a Brooklyn block party and wooed her with cooking and a charming smile.

It was always a dream of Juliano's to open a restaurant, using the Hatian recipes he had grown up with. Now living in Battle Creek, there was a void of Caribbean flavor and the time seemed right.

He has the recipes down to a

science, to the point where he could make it all with his eyes closed.

Juliano's family helped make his dream come true, and that family feeling carries to the restaurant for an encouraging, uplifting environment.

"We're sharing what we love, what's second nature to us," Daleth said.

Walk into Island Style, and you can instantly smell the spices, which come from all over the world: thyme, paprika, garlic, cumin, curry and more. Take a trip with recipes like Guyanese

dahl, mais-mouline' and cornbread.

There's also music, the kind played at family gatherings for that true island flair. After all, the motto for Island Style is "Bringing the Taste & Sounds of the Caribbean."

The meat is slow cooked and wood smoked. The spice rub will hit your palate a little different from typical BBQ, and has enough flavor in its own right, but the sauces are a must-try. Especially the jerk sauce – homemade and authentic, sweet and spicy.



"We're sharing what we love, what's second nature to us."
Daleth said.

See it! Island Style BBQ 2245 W Columbia Ave, Ste 121, Battle Creek
(269) 282-6050 • IslandStyleBBQBattleCreek.com



“This beer is that project, an accumulation of our thought process,” McCleary said.

Flavor Profile

FIND A SYMPHONY OF FLAVOR AT HANDMAP



Chris McCleary plays with flavor the way a concert pianist plays piano. At Handmap Brewing Co., you’ll find a wide range of flavors in the beers, seltzers and ciders -- everything from a light golden ale to a barrel-aged imperial stout with cherries, toasted coconut and cinnamon.

Flavors can be smokey or citrusy or tart. The popular beers are made with blood orange, cherry or raspberry -- although a juicy plum kettle-sour brew is creating a splash right now.

There are no shortcuts. All of the fruit comes from Coloma,

Michigan. “We don’t use any extracts or essences in the beer,” McCleary said.

The flavor mixture people around Battle Creek like is the Two-can. It plays on the area’s cereal history by flavoring an IPA with Froot Loops. When they brew it, there’s a sweet, hoppy smell around the building – which is only a block away from Kellogg’s World Headquarters.

“I think it’s popular because of the neighborhood we’re in,” McCleary said.

While at Handmap, you should

try the OTIS. It’s a beer that can appeal even to wine lovers. McCleary made it with a buddy and former co-worker. They dreamed of a brew that used all of their knowledge and memories from working together at Goose Island.

“This beer is that project, an accumulation of our thought process,” McCleary said.

The end result is a multi-dimensional beer, a symphony of flavor that encapsulates a love of brewing.

Don’t skip the fries at these 5 restaurants



Albion Malleable Brewing Co.

Copper Athletic Club is known for their signature fries, which are different from anywhere else you go. They are natural cut fries drizzled with garlic mayo, hoisin sauce, sriracha, red onions, crushed peanuts, parmesan cheese and cilantro. It’s a deliciously savory combination.

For the best steak fries, go to **Smoke ‘n Fire at FireKeepers Casino Hotel**. These potato slices are fried and seasoned for a hearty side to any of the barbeque on the menu. Or have your meat and potatoes together, with a loaded fries featuring smoked beef brisket.

Albion Malleable Brewing Co. has perfectly fluffy potatoes within a seasoned crispy shell. You can choose between flavorings: sriracha, cajun, chili-lime, salt & vinegar and western BBQ. The truffle fries come topped with fresh-grated parmesan. It’s almost a shame to skip the flavors and have a poutine – almost. The fries are the perfect texture to stand up to gravy and cheese.

Griffin Grill and Pub sells “fish and chips,” like what you would get in an Irish pub. The Griffin is excellent at frying things, so their crinkle-cut fries are crispy on the outside and soft on the inside. The fried fish is really good, too, whether you eat it with malted vinegar or tartar sauce.

One thing good fries need is an awesome milkshake, and **Speed’s Koffee Shop** has been serving the best for decades. The diner fries are served with a hamburger and malt or milkshake, making this a nostalgic food experience. If you like olive burgers, the Speed’s version is not to be missed.



Smoke ‘N Fire

See it! Handmap Brewing 15 Carlyle St, Battle Creek, MI 49017 (269) 441-0028 • HandmapBrewing.com

See it! Scan the QR code for addresses and more information.



EVENTS

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269.963.4800

FEATURED EVENTS



1 Leilapalooza - July
Leila Arboretum - Battle Creek

Leila Arboretum is the perfect place for an outdoor concert – the rolling hills and gardens have a laid-back vibe in summer. The park stage is part of the Fantasy Forest sculpture collection.

2 Calhoun County Fair - August
Calhoun County Fairgrounds - Marshall

Starting in 1848, the county fair has been around for generations. Even if you're not a farm family, it's a fun chance to meet animals, indulge in fair food and ride a Ferris wheel at the carnival.

3 Backyard Burgers & Brews - August
Festival Market Square - Battle Creek

Backyard Burgers & Brews Fest is not just about burgers – this gathering of more than 50 food trucks has elephant ears, paella, gumbo and curry. Travel the world and experience a taste of everything.

4 Home Tour - September
Marshall Area

The lovingly preserved architecture of Marshall is on full display during Home Tour weekend. Included in your ticket is access to the many museums, the Honolulu House and an art show.

5 Festival of the Forks - September
Downtown Albion

While Festival of the Forks refers to the fork in the river where Albion resides, it can also apply to the amazing food you can eat during the festival it's Albion College's homecoming weekend, so the schedule includes a parade, carnival rides, football game and more.



Scan for a full listing of area events!

FIELD OF FLIGHT AND BALLOON FESTIVAL



Every year, Battle Creek looks to the sky. Field of Flight Air Show & Balloon Festival takes place around the Fourth of July. During the day, you'll see aerial acrobatics and whimsical hot air balloons. At night, there's pyrotechnics. Kids of all ages enjoy the carnival and treats that happen every day of the festival.



See it! Scan the QR code for a full list of activities and more information.



THE NATIONAL CEREAL FESTIVAL



Join us at the World's Longest Breakfast Table for a free bowl of cereal. It's a community tradition, with games for the kids and live performances. Say hi to Tony the Tiger and Sugar Bear!



See it! Scan the QR code for a full list of activities and more information.



COOL WEDDING VENUES FOR ANY TIME OF YEAR

Plan something extraordinary for your events



Gilmore Car Museum

The large museum campus provides six different spaces for your events. The ballrooms are adjacent to the Main Gallery, where restored cars gleam under the lights.



Venue 19 Zero 9

19 Zero 9 is owned by Schuler's Restaurant so you will have great food and a beautiful venue in a historic building.



Of the Land

Farm living has never looked so romantic – with rolling hills, greenhouse flowers, fresh food and fairy lights.



Wagner Ballroom

Old-school elegance has been restored to this 19th century ballroom, including crystal chandeliers.



Dreamfield Acres

Dawn and Don Worthington can offer you a venue in a turn-of-the-century barn, along with a bundle that includes photography, video, DJ services and coordination.



Record Box Loft

The Record Box Loft is very Instagram-friendly, with hardwood floors, exposed brick and a view of the river.



The Medalist

The Medalist throws stylish weddings in their beautiful outdoor facility. The 300 rolling acres includes woods and wetlands, so it feels like a private Michigan nature preserve.

For help with hotel blocks, please contact our Sales Director:

269-962-2240

sales@battlecreekvisitors.org





Accommodations

A room for every kind of traveler



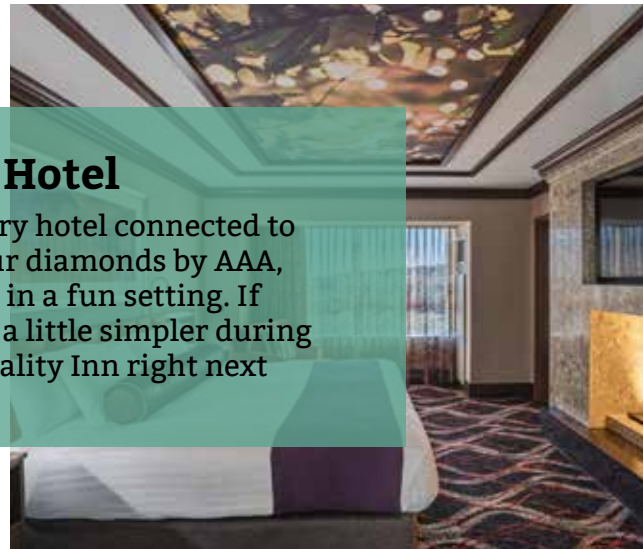
Villa on Verona

This boutique hotel is an elegant Italian Villa that was built in 1860. The historic home now has modern facilities, including a pool, tennis court and luxurious bed linens. The old-school charm of downtown Marshall is only a short bike-ride away, and the Villa will rent you the transportation.



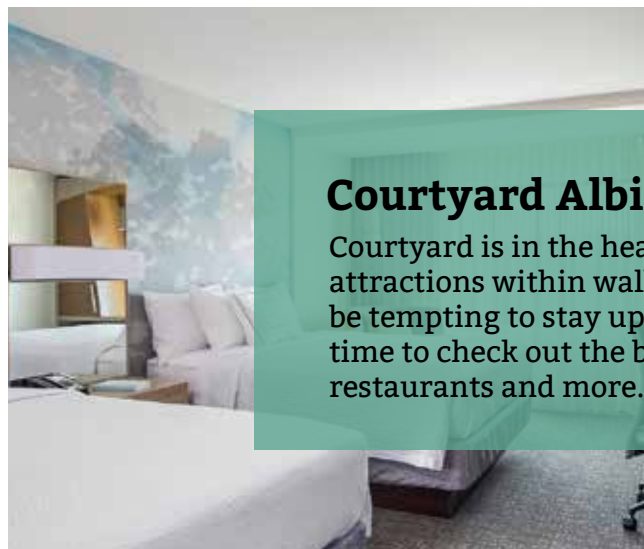
FireKeepers Casino Hotel

Get your Vegas on at the luxury hotel connected to FireKeepers Casino. Rated four diamonds by AAA, you can expect refined rooms in a fun setting. If you're looking for something a little simpler during your casino trip, there is a Quality Inn right next door.



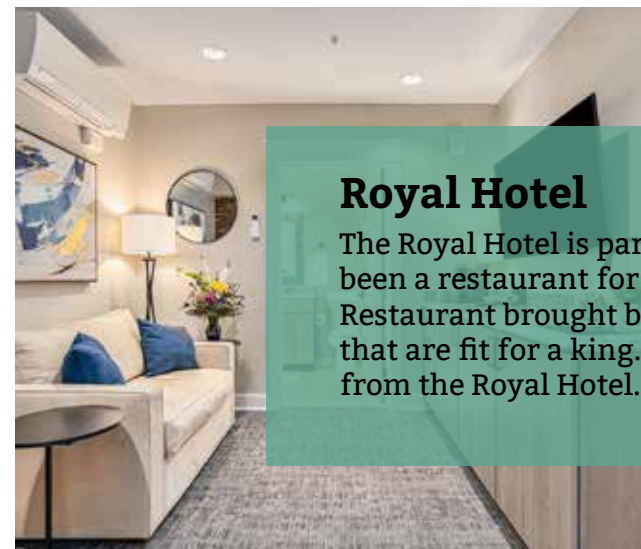
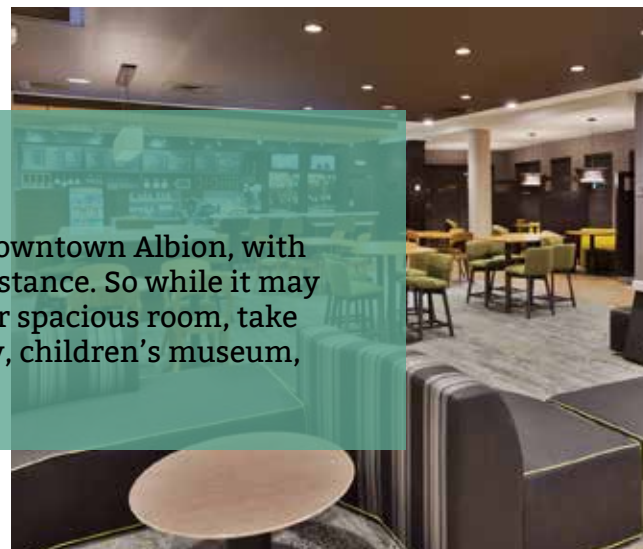
Palmer House Inn Bed & Breakfast

Palmer House combines 19th century style with 21st century comfort. The Victorian mansion has WiFi and Jacuzzi baths, while also serving breakfast on fine china and linen. It's not only a destination for a cozy weekend, but for events like a wine tasting. It's dog friendly, too.



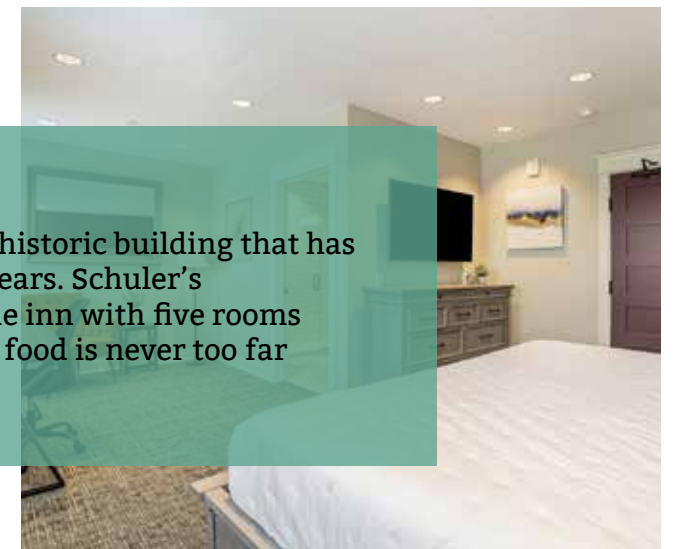
Courtyard Albion

Courtyard is in the heart of downtown Albion, with attractions within walking distance. So while it may be tempting to stay up in your spacious room, take time to check out the brewery, children's museum, restaurants and more.



Royal Hotel

The Royal Hotel is part of a historic building that has been a restaurant for 100 years. Schuler's Restaurant brought back the inn with five rooms that are fit for a king. Good food is never too far from the Royal Hotel.





DoubleTree by Hilton

DoubleTree by Hilton is more than a hotel. It's home base to your Battle Creek adventure, whether ziplining at Binder Park Zoo or dining at Kitchen Proper. It's a place to gather, where big events are given first-class treatment or friends can order photo-worthy cocktails and appetizers to share.

With more than 240 newly renovated rooms, you'll have a comfortable place to return to.

A RELAXED STAY

It all starts with a warm cookie when you check in. Order a Starbucks coffee from the Revus Cafe to go with that cookie. Guest rooms are upscale and welcoming, so you'll be comfortable in style. Leave for a day of adventure, then return for a late-night drink.

BRING YOUR APPETITE

The Alloy is open throughout the day, ready to feed you from breakfast to dinner. Start the morning with Apple Jacks pancakes and order a wood-fired pizza for lunch. Get your appetizers and an aperitif at 50 Beacon Lounge on the top floor, then indulge in braised beef short rib at the Alloy. And don't miss dessert – in honor of Cereal City, try the homemade s'mores pop tarts.

EXPLORE DOWNTOWN

DoubleTree is conveniently located in the heart of downtown Battle Creek. There are more restaurants to try, such as Kitchen Proper and Griffin Grill & Pub. Get a drink at Handmap Brewery. Check out the local culture at Cafe Rica. All are within walking distance of the hotel.



ATTEND CONVENTIONS

Kellogg Arena is conveniently attached to the hotel. Just walk through the sun-filled atrium to reach the arena, which can hold up to 6,200 people. Kellogg Arena has hosted everything from volleyball games to weddings. Whether you have to push a robot from your room to the arena or you're wearing those nice shoes you bought for the conference, don't worry about traffic, wind and snow.

HOST AN EVENT

DoubleTree has 20,000 square feet of event space, flexible for any kind of event. Wedding receptions have stunning views from the Stratus Ballroom on the 16th floor. The Novus Ballroom is big enough to host your awards event. Expand your convention from Kellogg Arena to the hotel for breakout sessions or cocktail hours. The sales team makes it all easy to plan.

See it! 50 Capital Ave, Battle Creek, MI 49017
(269) 380-0320



VENUES

Convenience on I-94

There is a cluster of hotels on Beckley Road, right off of I-94. They are surrounded by restaurants, shopping and grocery stores – so it's all within easy reach.

Home2 Suites by Hilton:

The perfect mix of nature and retail, you can watch deer in the nearby meadow or kick back on the patio with fireplaces.

TownePlace Suites by Marriott:

Balance work and life, with the comfort, flexibility and affordability of an extended stay. Feel at home with a fully equipped kitchen.

Courtyard by Marriott:

A stylish, tech-savvy hotel with options for working and relaxing. Take advantage of The Bistro, which serves Starbucks coffee.

Holiday Inn Battle Creek:

Bring the family – kids stay free at Holiday Inn. They'll love the indoor pool and the nearby Binder Park Zoo.

Hampton Inn Battle Creek:

Make Hampton Inn your home base for all the fun things to do in Battle Creek. Rooms are pet friendly, so you can bring the entire family

BATTLE CREEK

America's Best Value Inn

4775 Beckley Rd • 888-315-2378

Baymont Inn & Suites

4725 Beckley Rd • 800-337-0550

Baymont Inn & Suites Downtown

182 W Van Buren St • 800-337-0550

Best Western Executive Inn

5090 Beckley Rd • 800-780-7234

Country Inn & Suites

2590 Capital Ave SW • 269-965-3201

Courtyard by Marriott

12891 Harper Village Dr • 800-321-2211

Fairfield Inn

4665 Beckley Rd • 269-979-8000

FireKeepers Casino Hotel

11177 E Michigan Ave, Battle Creek • 877-352-8777

DoubleTree by Hilton Battle Creek

50 Capital Ave SW • 269-963-7050

Hampton Inn

1150 Riverside Dr • 800-426-7866

Home2Suites by Hilton

13350 6 1/2 Mile Rd • 269-883-8300

Hometown Inn

90 N Division St • 269-966-4000

Knights Inn

2595 Capital Ave SW • 800-843-5644

Michigan Motel

20475 Capital Ave NE • 269-963-1565

Quality Inn & Suites Next to the Casino

11081 E Michigan Ave • 800-424-6423

Red Roof Inn

5050 Beckley Rd • 800-733-7663

TownePlace Suites

12917 Harper Village Dr • 855-402-5086

TravelLodge

5395 Beckley Rd • 800-525-4055

MARSHALL

Arbor Inn

15435 W Michigan Ave • 269-781-7772

Hampton Inn

325 Sam Hill Dr • 800-426-7866

Holiday Inn Express

329 Sam Hill Dr • 800-465-4329

Howard's Motel

14884 W Michigan Ave • 269-781-4201

Imperial Motel

14978 W Michigan Ave • 269-781-2841

National House Inn

102 South Parkview • 269-781-7374

Riverside Retreats

418212 B Drive North • 269-420-2724

The Royal Hotel

115 S. Eagle St., Marshall, MI 49068

Quality Inn

204 Winston Dr • 800-424-6423

Villa on Verona

1110 Verona Rd • 269-832-1796

ALBION

Courtyard Albion

200 S Superior St • 517-629-8520

Days Inn

27644 C Drive North • 517-629-9411

Palmer House Inn Bed & Breakfast

108 W Erie St • 517-629-0001

Scan!



HOTELS

NEW VENUE.



A premier event venue with 3 hotel rooms opening in 2025.

SAME ELEVATED HOSPITALITY.



5 boutique hotel rooms located above Schuler's.

SchulersRestaurant.com

19zero9.com •

Marshall, MI 49068

Scan!



B & B's

Spend a day with us at Michigan State University's
W.K. KELLOGG BIOLOGICAL STATION

W.K. KELLOGG
BIRD SANCTUARY



See a variety of resident and migratory birds as you walk our trails, and join us for special events.

Grounds are open Wednesday-Sunday. Visit our website for seasonal hours.

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12685 East C Avenue
Augusta, MI 49012
birdsantuary.kbs.msu.edu
(269) 671-2510

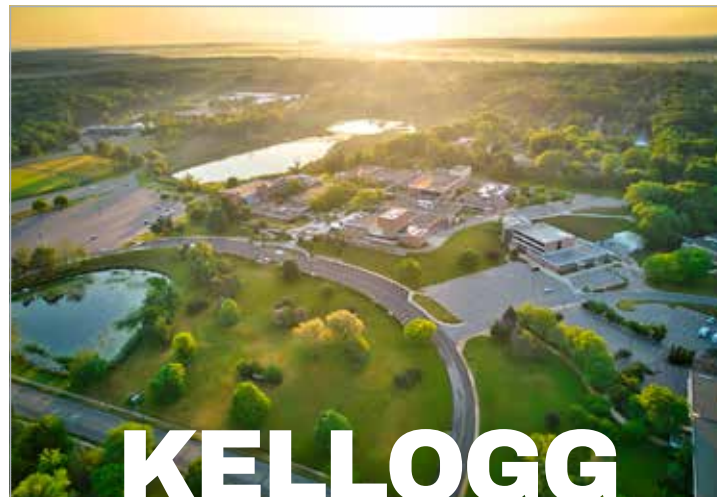
W.K. KELLOGG
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Explore W.K. Kellogg's historic former summer home and estate with a self-guided tour.

Host your next meeting or conference at our full-service conference center.

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Hickory Corners, MI 49060
conference.kbs.msu.edu
(269) 671-2160



KELLOGG COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Ranked the No. 1 Best Community College in Michigan by WalletHub

kellogg.edu

ATTRACTIONS

Art Center of Battle Creek



FIND THE

Creative Pulse IN CALHOUN COUNTY

*It's time to get out of the house
and find your own beat.*



Art Center of Battle Creek

EXPRESS YOURSELF

We all have that project that's ready to go, but not the time. Schedule a crafting vacation with **Riverside Retreats**. Each house provides bedrooms, a kitchen and a crafting studio. They've thought of everything, even down to cupholders on all of the craft tables. Riverside is geared for scrapbooking, so each studio has supplies like a scanner and Cricut machines and hole punches. But if you want to get together with friends for a weekend of crochet or miniatures or even just making signs, then Riverside Retreats makes it easy.

STROLL THE GALLERY

Appreciate the acumen of **EastEnd Studio and Gallery**. They host a rotating show of artists curated from Michigan. There's a variety of mediums and something for everyone's price range. While paintings and photography are popular, there's also art you can use in your

everyday life, such as pottery and glass.

For a spotlight on local work, check out the **Art Center of Battle Creek**. Exhibits change throughout the year. One of our favorite annual events is when kids get a chance to display their best work for Class Act. It's an exhibit that can inspire the entire family.

Kellogg Community College is where people learn to express themselves, through music, theater, graphic design and art. To explore the art world, visit the **Eleanor R. and Robert A. DeVries Gallery**. Rotating exhibits feature professional artists in 2-D mediums. One month could be experimental photography, while the next is painted portraits.

GO TO CENTER STAGE

Magic is the art of illusion, and some of the greatest artists are celebrated at the **American Museum of Magic** in Marshall. Learn how magicians have used perspective, design and theatricality to amaze audiences for centuries. One of the highlights is the collection of show posters that can be both beautiful and bizarre. Or if you check the schedule on the museum website, you can catch a magic act on the stage!

Speaking of stages, **Franke Center for the Arts** is the best music venue in the county. It was once a church before being converted to a performing arts center. They've developed an impressive roster of acts, with an emphasis on Americana and Blues music. Sometimes it even spills into the street of Marshall, like with the Blues Festival or the Ice, Wine & Blues event.

Once upon a time, the **Bohm Theatre** was a movie palace where the Purple Gang would meet. While it still shows weekend movies, the Bohm has also developed a strong open mic scene. Every month, Blues at the Bohm invites a band to play, followed by a jam session. Located halfway between Chicago and Detroit, it's a convenient spot for musicians to perform.

WHAT'S HOT?

Keep an eye on our calendar at battlecreekvisitors.org/events. The **Battle Creek Symphony** performs several times a year, and the **Brass Band of Battle Creek** is known for their stellar Christmas concerts. For something a little more intimate, **Blvcksheep** music hosts Rehearsal Room concerts with local musicians. The concerts are also recorded and shared online. Another not to miss event is the **Que Calor** art series at **Cafe Rica**, which combine different expressions of art with music and cocktails.



Bohm Theatre



American Museum of Magic

See it!

Scan the QR code for more information.





Ceresco Park



Historic Bridge Park



Historic Bridge Park



BC Linear Park

FOLLOW THE RIVER

The sparkle of sunshine, the smell of growing things, the burble of water as it flows on by – we love a day by the river.

Calhoun County has numerous river trails, so you can hike, ride a bike, or find a boat launch just about anywhere.

Ceresco Park is one of the best spots to start your kayak trip. We recommend launching here and ending at Paddlers Grove for an easy trip. It's a peaceful stretch of the Kalamazoo River and you'll see lots of wildlife.

Bring your bike to the **BC Linear Park**. It has 26 miles of paved trail through Battle Creek. You can ride from Bailey Park all the way to Leila Arboretum, and much of it goes alongside rivers.

The trail's proximity to water means you'll find boat launches on Jackson Street West and at Verona Dam, near Bailey Park. Instead of riding, you can paddle your way downtown from there. The downtown part of the river is unique, because you'll head through the urban area of Battle Creek, paddling past murals, the old train station and Kellogg World Headquarters.

One of the best stretches for a walk goes through downtown Battle Creek. Start at South Washington Avenue, then follow the Battle Creek River past Kellogg World Headquarters, the Math and Science Center, and then loop back to the Kellogg House gardens and stop at the Underground Railroad Statue on Division Street North. That's about a mile of walking.

The Calhoun County Trailway is a 5.6-mile stretch in Battle Creek, from Ott Biological Preserve to Historic Bridge Park. The trail takes you along the river and into the woods. Keep an eye out for wildflowers and frogs.

Historic Bridge Park sits on the banks of the Kalamazoo River, where old truss bridges have been relocated and restored. It's one of the most popular places to take photos in Battle Creek. There's also a bathroom, playground and kayak

launch. During the summer, there's a constant flow of people getting on and off the river. Innertubes are just as popular as boats.

Marshall's Riverwalk has some lovely overlooks. The 1.6-mile boardwalk runs alongside a paved path following both Rice Creek and the Kalamazoo River. Keep an eye out for the South Marshall Dam waterfall and a Chinese pagoda. At Stuart's Landing there is a fishing dock and boat launch onto the Kalamazoo River, as well as bathrooms.

Not too far from the Riverwalk is a mountain bike trail called **The Dump**. Experienced bikers will love the challenge.

Albion has more city parks per capita than any other city in America. The **Albion River Trail** will take you by three of them, starting with Victory Park and ending near Lloyd Park. It's 1.6 miles of paved pathway along the Kalamazoo River. Turn left, and you'll be on the main street for downtown. Turn right on the pedestrian bridge by the farmers market and you'll be at the Porter Street canoe dock.



Albion River Trail

Albion locals like to use a spot at the end of Brownswood Drive, which is also near the **Albion River Trail**. From there you can paddle all the way to Marengo Township.

The Iron Belle Trail will one day weave across the state of Michigan, and then the Albion River Trail will be connected to the **Homer Bike Path**. The bike path is about two miles long – it's wide and paved to make it easy for bicycles and hikers. You'll find parking at Grist Mill Park. The Grist Mill is also the spot to put in your kayak if you want to head towards Albion on the Kalamazoo River.



Calhoun County Trailway



Marshall Riverwalk

See it!

Scan the QR code for addresses and more information.





Ott Biological Preserve

4 FAMILY FRIENDLY HIKES IN CALHOUN COUNTY

Brooks Nature Area

You can find this nature area to the north of Stuart Lake, off of Stuart Lake Road in Marshall. Fields, wetlands and stands of hardwood trees are all part of the park's ecosystem. Some of the huge hardwood trees located along the edge of Stuart Lake are estimated to be more than 300 years old.



Brooks Nature Area

Whitehouse Nature Trail

Albion College created this nature area to serve double duty as an outdoor classroom and a place to enjoy being outdoors. These trails average about one mile and go past water, prairies, a wildflower garden and forest.



Marshall Riverwalk

Ott Biological Preserve

Park at Edgewood Avenue for the most popular trailhead. If you go to the right, the trails are broader and more cultivated with a boardwalk through the wetlands (you might spot a beaver dam!). Trails on the left are a little more wild, with tree roots, a muddy lake and a sharp incline.

Marshall Riverwalk

There are some lovely overlooks along the 1.6-mile boardwalk. It runs alongside a paved biking path following both Rice Creek and the Kalamazoo River. Keep an eye out for the South Marshall Dam waterfall and a Chinese pagoda. At Stuart's Landing there is a fishing dock and boat launch onto the Kalamazoo River, as well as bathrooms.

Stuart's Landing at Marshall Riverwalk



PLAN A TRIP WITH TODDLERS

Toddlers are full of energy and Calhoun County has plenty of opportunities to get your kids moving.

Anybodies Playground

Any kid can play on this large play structure, designed to be accessible for wheelchairs. It's at Bailey Park, where baseball games go all summer. There's even a dog park for your furry friends.



Grandma's Toys and Treats

This old-fashioned toy store is full of thoughtful toys. There's a lot of the popular Melissa and Doug items. There are sections for crafts, stuffed animals, dolls, playing pretend and little towns.

Binder Park Zoo

The giraffes at Binder Park Zoo will eat lettuce leaves right out of your hand. It's a cool opportunity to get a close-up of the unique animals. There's more than animals at the zoo, though. Go for a carousel ride or ride a miniature train through the forest. There's a small zipline course for little kids. And don't miss Zoorassic Park, where the dinosaurs live.



Kids 'N' Stuff

Toddlers play hard, like it's their job. At Kids 'n' Stuff, you can be sure that not only are they having fun, but they're learning, too. The water tables are a big attraction, as is the wind tunnel wall – put scarves in a tube and then try to catch them as the scarves are blown out at the top.

Bridge Park

This park is an outdoor museum, dedicated to old bridges. It's a great place to play Pooh sticks, as well as explore nature by the river. A playground offers extra fun, and there are grills and picnic tables for lunch.



Station 66

Let the kids run around as much as they want at this restaurant and market. The tables are outdoors, so there's plenty of room. Dessert is the main attraction of Station 66, so save room for ice cream.

Flash Flood Water Park

Full Blast has a jungle gym in shallow water. They can cool off under sprays of water. It's a walk-in pool so little ones can walk in and splash around!



In the fall, they have the best doughnuts and cider, along with a non-scary hayride.

Michigan's SOUTHERN SWING



Plan your golf getaway with Southern Swing

Golfing should be fun and relaxing – so take the stress out of planning your trip with Southern Swing.

Our golf coordinator will help you plan a trip that fits your budget (and energy level). You can choose from premium courses, all within half an hour of Battle Creek. Set up base at one of our hotels. We'll take care of the bookings.

GOLF COURSES

- ANGELS CROSSING - 3600 East W Avenue, Vicksburg, MI 49097
- BEDFORD VALLEY GOLF CLUB - 23161 Waubascon Road, Battle Creek, MI 49017
- BINDER PARK GOLF COURSE - 7255 B Drive South, Battle Creek, MI 49014
- CEDAR CREEK GOLF CLUB - 14000 Renton Road, Battle Creek, MI 49015
- GLENDARIN HILLS GOLF CLUB - 3333 Glendarin Way, Angola, IN 46703
- GULL LAKE VIEW EAST GOLF CLUB - 7417 North 38th St., Augusta, MI 49012
- GULL LAKE VIEW WEST GOLF CLUB - 7417 North 38th St., Augusta, MI 49012
- ISLAND HILLS GOLF CLUB & RESORT - 61809 Stonegate Dr., Centreville, MI 49032
- LYNX GOLF COURSE - 900 Lincoln Road Otsego, MI 49078
- THE MEDALIST GOLF CLUB - 15701 N Drive North, Marshall, MI 49068
- RIVERSIDE GOLF COURSE - 245 East Columbia Avenue, Battle Creek, MI 49015
- STOATIN BRAE GOLF CLUB - 15579 E. Augusta Dr., Augusta, MI 49012
- STONEHEDGE NORTH GOLF CLUB - 15330 M-89, Augusta, MI 49012
- STONEHEDGE SOUTH GOLF CLUB - 15330 M-89, Augusta, MI 49012

FEATURED COURSES

The Medalist Golf Club

Start with one of Golf Advisor's top courses in Michigan. The Medalist Golf Club is set among 250 acres of Michigan woods and wetlands. You'll feel alone in the wilderness, as 14 of the 18 holes cannot be seen from the rest of the golf course. But don't worry – food and drinks are only a tap away. Order from the golf cart menu and have it delivered straight to you on the course.



Binder Park Golf Course

Head to Binder Creek Golf Course for an entire day of golf. This city-owned course has great golf at affordable prices. Located near the zoo, you're in the Michigan wilderness. It's also a good compromise if you want more than one round but traveling to two courses is too much – Binder offers 27 holes. That's three 9-hole rounds, which you can mix and match or go for all of them.

Stoatin Brae

You can't come all the way here and not give Stoatin Brae a try. The links-style course was designed with Scotland in mind. It's a world-class challenge, chosen as the 2021 National Course of the Year by the National Golf Course Owners Association. Located at the highest point in the county, you'll get stunning views and a windswept heath.



Gull Lake View

Stoatin Brae is one of six golf courses at Gull Lake View Golf Resort. For an approachable course, try **Stonehedge North**, with a Par 4 of six. Nearby **Stonehedge South** will make you feel like you're in the Carolinas, going through woods and elevation changes. **Bedford Valley** has a classic risk-reward hole at #13. **Gull Lake East** and **West** offer more of a challenge, at prices lower than **Stoatin Brae**. Navigate more than 10 unique water hazards.

Call or email us today!



misouthernswing.com
southernswing@battlecreekvisitors.org

Find a field of play in Calhoun County



Volleyball at Kellogg Arena



Baseball at Bailey Park



Bowlero Lanes



Gymnastics at Kellogg Arena

Whether you want to compete or cheer on your team, Calhoun County has a field of play for you.

Albion College

Catch a game at this small liberal arts college. They have facilities that meet the approval of the Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association. The crown jewel is the Nancy G. Held Equestrian Center. Student competitors come from all backgrounds, but what unites them is their love for horses and the sport of riding. The equestrian center also offers onsite boarding facilities for the community.



Kellogg Arena



Nancy G. Equestrian Center

Bailey Park

The crack of the bat can be heard all summer long in Bailey Park. Boasting more than 80 acres, the park features three full-sized baseball stadiums, including the 6,000-seat C.O. Brown Stadium; nine diamonds; four sand volleyball courts; and 12 shuffleboard courts. Don't miss the Battle Creek Battle Jacks Baseball team. Watch a game played by some of the top college players from across the nation.



MCCU Field

Bowling

Bowlero Lanes has more than bowling – there's an arcade, laser tag and escape room. M-66 Bowl is a favorite of local leagues, if you're looking to host your big bowling tournament. Marshall Lanes is an old-school bowling experience for everyone.

Kellogg Arena

The crew at Kellogg Arena are magicians, changing the arena into whatever kind of venue you need for your competitive event. They've done everything from bull riding to billiards to gymnastics to arm-wrestling. Kellogg Arena is also where dreams are made for volleyball players at the MHSAA volleyball finals.

Full Blast

While Full Blast is known for its outdoor pools and water slides, there's a lot going on indoors, too. The multi-purpose recreation facility features a full-service fitness center, indoor walking track, three large gymnasiums, batting cages and multi-purpose space. It hosts a variety of tournaments including basketball, volleyball and floor hockey. Which is fitting, because floor hockey was invented in Battle Creek.



Disc Golf

Disc Golf

Battle Creek loves disc golf – you can see people playing out in any kind of weather. Look to Begg Park, Dexter Lake Church, Irving Park, Leila Arboretum and Territorial Brewing Company.

Pickleball

Kellogg Community College has 12 pickleball courts with windbreaks, enough for a friendly game or for a tournament.



Pickleball Courts at KCC



Scan!

For a full listing of sports and recreation attractions.



Serendipity & The Brew



Pawfitters & Trailblazers



Amazing Grace Antiques

FIND TREASURE WHILE SHOPPING IN DOWNTOWN MARSHALL

Look around downtown Marshall, and you'll see a lot: books, doughnuts, antique chandeliers, toys, artwork and wine.

What you won't see is big box stores.

Each small business is thoughtfully curated, ideal for an afternoon spent looking for treasures.

Start with a meal at **Schuler's Restaurant and Pub**, which has been in business for more than 100 years.

Right around the corner is **Pawfitters and Trailblazers**. One part of the store is dedicated to tasty treats for pups. The rest of the store will help you gear up for outdoor activities.

Nearby is **EastEnd Studio & Gallery**, where you can look at exhibits or browse the rotating stock of fine art.

Great Lakes Candy & Cones is a recent addition. Confectionary aficionados can pick a mix of their favorite gummies and chocolates.

Crafters will love **Just Bead It**, and **Paper & I**: two stores that offer creative creations and a chance to make your own.

Next to Paper & I is **Amazing Grace Antiques**. It's a co-op for eight different sellers. Maybe you'll find a velvet dress or a bronze chandelier.

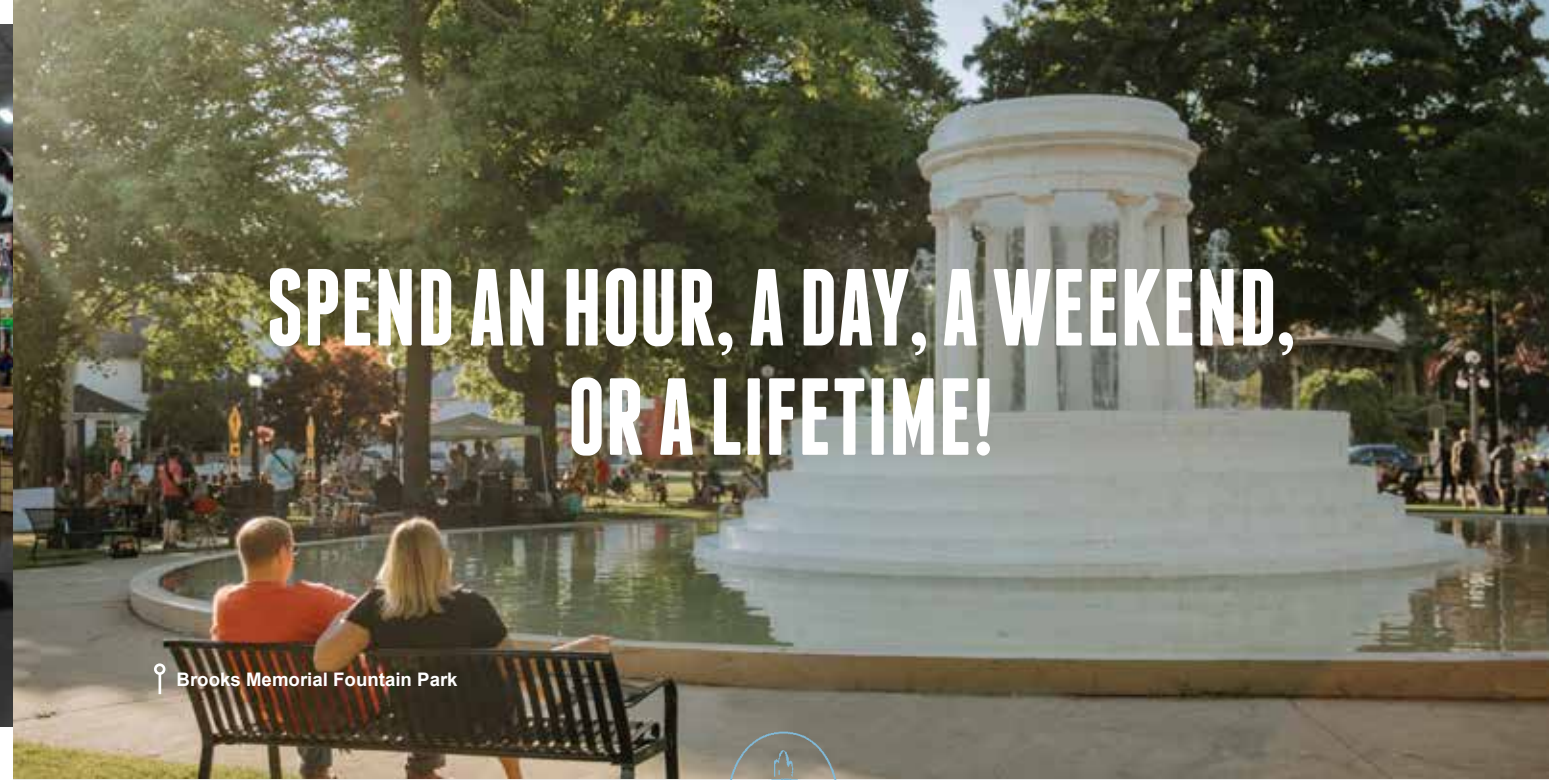
El Tajin Mexican Restaurant is there, for a taco break. **Camp Barber** can provide you with a hot towel shave.

Serendipity & The Brew has a coffee bar front and center. Serendipity is all about being cozy, from selling blankets and candles to kitchenware.

Celebrate the Mitten State at **Living MI**, which specializes in products made here. Where else are you going to buy a candle that smells like Faygo pop?

Next door is **New Story Community Books**, with a whimsical selection of reading material.

Prepare for one last sugar rush, as **Louie's Bakery** and **Grandma's Toys & Treats** are next to each other. Indulge in a sugar cookie, then shop for toys.



SPEND AN HOUR, A DAY, A WEEKEND, OR A LIFETIME!

Brooks Memorial Fountain Park



WELCOME TO MARSHALL, MI

Nestled in the heart of Southern Michigan, Marshall is a hidden gem that perfectly blends small-town charm with a rich history and innovative spirit. Known for its beautifully preserved 19th-century architecture and picturesque downtown, Marshall invites visitors to explore quaint boutiques, delightful eateries, and inviting parks. Looking for a fun festival or your next outdoor adventure? **Choose Marshall!**



SHOPPING

Visit our unique retailers to find something special for you and yours. Choose Marshall for items you won't find anywhere else. From local art to treats for your furry friends, you're sure to find the perfect gift.



HISTORY

With eight museums, two home tours, historic trolley tours, and the largest National Historic Landmark District in the Small Urban Category in the nation...you might say **Marshall Knows History!**



EVENTS

Several performance venues showcase live theater and concerts, making Marshall an events destination. Don't forget annual events such as BluesFest, MotorFest, SkeletonFest, and Christmas.



CHOOSE MARSHALL

Learn more at CHOOSEMARSHALL.COM today!
323 West Michigan Ave | Marshall, MI 49068 | (269) 781-5163

BATTLE CREEK'S UNIQUE STORES HAVE SURPRISING FINDS

Find the unexpected in Battle Creek's most unique stores.

Bread & Basket curates products from small businesses, many of them owned by women and people of color. Space is given for local entrepreneurs, while owner Tiffany Blackman offers mentoring to new businesses.

Shoppers will find a lot of self-care products, things that will make you look good and feel good. The candles are always a big hit. It's easy to put together a bath time routine with lotions, soaks, tea and even books picked for ideal tub reading.

Speaking of bath time, **Aspidistra** makes its own soaps from natural ingredients. Stepping into the gift shop is an aromatherapy experience. Aspidistra also stocks small items from makers in the area, like hot sauce and wood carvings.

Aspidistra and Bread & Basket both have roots with **BC Cargo**, open during the summers. Cargo crates have been painted bright blue and small businesses can use them for pop-up spaces. There have been all kinds of things sold through there, from coffee to tie-dye.

New Holland Brewing Co. has a sizable downtown store, in addition to its brewpub. If you love cocktails, try a Fitzgerald at the bar then buy some Knickerbocker gin to make your own. The most popular item is the Dragon's Milk Origin Small Batch Bourbon Whiskey. Pick it up when you see it, because it'll soon be gone.

Across town is **Plumeria**, for all of the plant lovers. Besides a floral shop, Plumeria sells house plants and they'll answer any questions about plants that need some extra care. There's also a cuttings wall, if you want to grow from scratch.

Farmer Grey's is in an unusual building – the 1859 schoolhouse has been converted into an antique store. That's lots of fun treasures to discover, like bobbins or tiny candelabras or a taxidermy chicken.



Bread & Basket



BC Cargo



Farmer's Grey



Plumeria



Aspidistra



4 THINGS WE LOVE ABOUT HORROCKS

Step into Horrocks Farm Market and the options seem limitless.

Do you start with the rows of produce or go straight to mountains of candy? Do you head to the back to get a beer or wine or a free coffee to sip while you shop? Or do you grab lunch and sit at the bar?

Horrocks has been a Battle Creek institution for more than two decades. It's now part of Lakeview Square Mall. The store is certainly big — they fit a small airplane near the bar! Let us help you navigate the space. Horrocks is an adventure as much as it is a grocery store.

Outdoors is inside

Walking down the center aisle of Horrocks is like strolling through a verdant garden. Leafy plants surround a tall fountain and gather in green, ferny clusters among the aisles. The houseplant section is so thick, it's a forest.

By Mother's Day, the Horrocks greenhouse fills up with perennials, shrubs, trees, vegetable vines and more.

Serve yourself

Build your own bouquet in the floral department. Carnations and roses come in a rainbow of colors, or choose something like irises with some green and purple fillers and yellow puffball flowers.

Grab an empty bottle and fill it with your choice of oil or vinegar. Add a taste of Italy or Spain to your cooking with specialized blends.

Create your own signature scent at the potpourri station, or serve yourself coffee beans or freshly made peanut butter.

The bar

Take a moment to relax in the gathering area by the bar. They call it a tavern, but it feels more like a day by the lake. The bright lights, picnic tables and lawn furniture give it a festive vibe for any time of the year.

Before getting your drink, swing by one of the other bars for some food. There's a soup bar, salad bar and sushi bar. Pick out some marinated olives from the appetizer bar and enjoy an aperitivo with wine from the tavern.

Snack central

Anyone with a sweet tooth will be blown away by all of the candy at Horrocks. The shelves are packed with everything from gummy sharks to chocolate-covered ginger to candy bars from around the world.

There's also nature's candy, with all kinds of dried fruit. It's alongside the snack mixes and other salty, crunchy goodies. Horrocks is known for its popcorn department, with fresh popcorn made daily.



CZR PRZ

Battle Creek Mural Tour COLOR THE CREEK

Color the Creek has utilized public art as a way to turn blank building walls into works of art.

Once a year, artists come to paint murals and it's an art celebration. Kids can get in on the action on Kids Day, or adults can party at the Que Calor Art Series.

It's a city-wide exhibition, full of color, imagination and ideas. Hop in your car and take a tour of more than 30 murals. Remember to #ColorTheCreek.

See it!

Scan the QR code for addresses and more information.



HIDDEN GEMS OF *Calhoun County*



Chad Hart

Sales Manager, Cafe Rica

I know that the standard thought when thinking of Battle Creek is it being Cereal City. But, when I think of Battle Creek I think of the community and the different outdoor places that can be explored! A perfect day in Battle Creek for me would involve either going to Binder Park Zoo and being able to spend hours there seeing the animals and feeding the giraffes, or walking one of our many outdoor trails including the Historic Bridge Park, and ending the day at our local cafe (Cafe Rica) or Battle Creeks first microbrewery, Handmap Brewing.

Nancy Chapman

Director of Camps and Conferences, Albion College

Being in nature has so many benefits to your overall health. I am fortunate to live near Brooks Nature Area in Marshall and welcome you to enjoy trails that walk along Stuart Lake, take in the gorgeous wildflowers, rest at one of the many park benches, and use the gazebo that overlooks the lake to birdwatch. Whether walking, jogging, cross-country skiing or taking the dog for a walk, trust me, you will not be disappointed.



Jade Bolden

Marketing & Promotion Specialist, Small Business Development

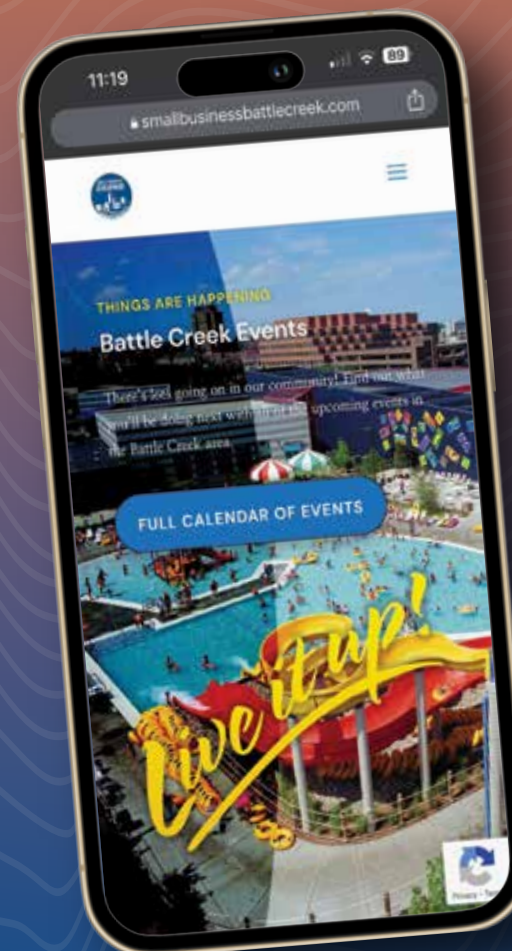
My favorite thing to do in Calhoun County is visit the Kid N' Stuff Children's Museum with my godson. It has all the perfect hands-on learning experiences that promote creative-thinking, problem-solving, physical and social skills through play! I love their hours of operation and it's an affordable half day of fun!



Look for the star pin!

The greatest advocates for Calhoun County are the people who live and work here. The Calhoun County Visitors Bureau offers a training program for Certified Tourism Ambassadors. The CTAs range from college students to hospitality workers to retirees who want to know more about the area. For more information, email CTA@battlecreekvisitors.org.

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Battle Creek

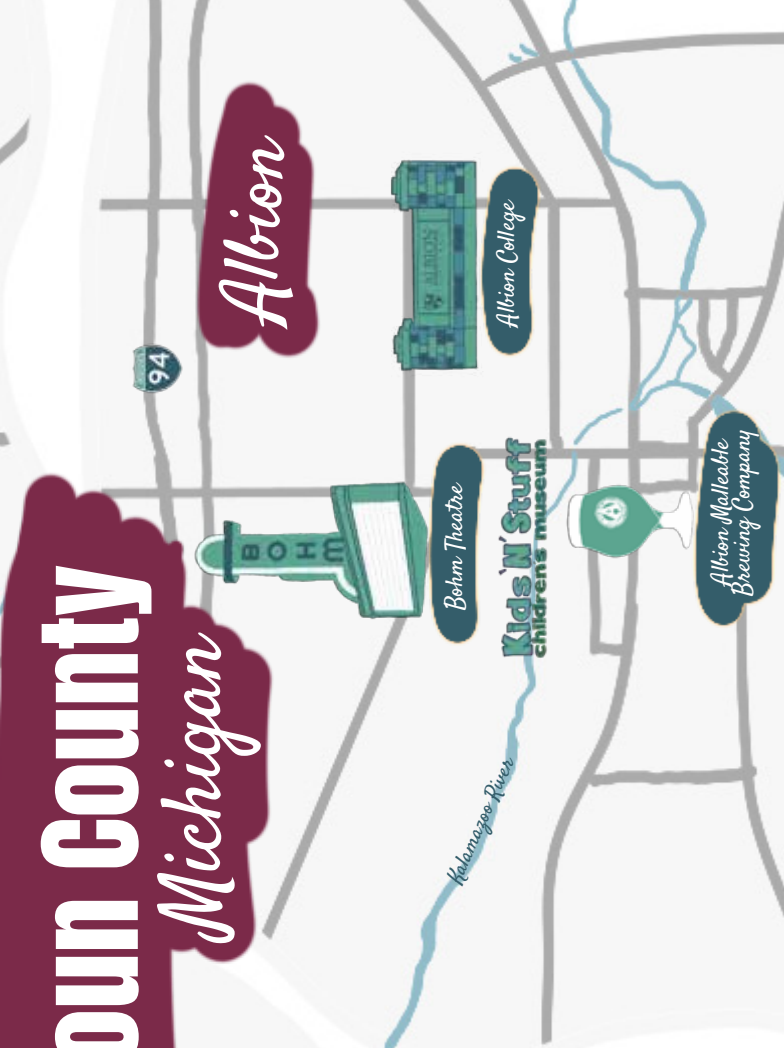


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