

Fort Wayne, Indiana

Where Hidden Gems Flourish

Fort Wayne, the second largest city in Indiana, is one of the fastest-growing metros in the Great Lakes region, continuing to capture visitors' hearts with our affordability, accessibility, and convenience.

In 2024, Fort Wayne is set to open several new attractions - including the mixed-use downtown development at The Pearl, the region's only planetarium at Science Central, and the continuation of our riverfront redevelopment with a universally-accessible bouldering mound, hammock grove, and more.



Fort Wayne Children's Zoo

The **Fort Wayne Children's Zoo** has recently added new developments, including Bamboo Forest and Coastal Cove. Bamboo Forest adds an adventure play area for kids of all ages featuring a two-story ropes-style course and a free-flying sky rail. They've also added new animals (Harbor Seals), and a feeding experience at Coastal Cove – opening Spring 2024.



The Biggest Vera Bradley Sale is Back!

The **Vera Bradley Annual Outlet Sale** is back May 1-5, 2024! A one-of-a-kind event, the sale offers more than 400 different pattern styles in a 100,000-square-foot space. A nationally recognized brand, headquartered here in Fort Wayne, Vera Bradley was co-founded by Barbara Bradley Baekgaard who also co-designed The Bradley Hotel in downtown Fort Wayne. The Bradley emulates the design style of Vera Bradley with an expert mixing of patterns and colors.



Digging into the Flavor of Fort Wayne

One of the best-hidden gems of Fort Wayne is our developing food scene, home to classics including a more-than-100-year-old hot dog stand, alongside new destinations at Union Street Market - the only food hall and market in Northeast Indiana. We are also home to a Burmese community sharing their culture through food, and reconnecting with their farming roots. In 2024, Fort Wayne will add a dozen new restaurants that are redefining Midwest cuisine, including a coffee lab, a restaurant concept by a James-Beard-nominated chef, and a cocktail bar.



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Our History

of Cultivating Creativity

From our professional ballet, philharmonic, and theatre companies, to our numerous galleries, exhibits, and concerts, Fort Wayne's rich art scene lives at the heart of our community. Dating back to 1921 when ten humble paintings started the Fort Wayne Museum of Art, today Arts Campus Fort Wayne is a designated Cultural District, anchored by our resident arts organizations and a seven-venue complex offering events and experiences.

Architectural Gems

Celebrating its 50th anniversary, Arts Campus Fort Wayne will undergo major renovations to the **Arts United Center**, designed by world-renowned 20th-century architect, Louis Kahn - his only theatre and project in the Midwest. The renovation will focus on modernizing the facility and improving the theatre's accessibility for theatergoers, production, and performances.

Fort Wayne is also home to historical treasures including a replica of our original Historic Fort Wayne, the Allen County Courthouse - home to one of the world's largest collections of scagliola, and a preserved seminary campus designed by Eero Saarinen.

Becoming the Midwest Center for Glass

Another fixture of Arts Campus Fort Wayne is the **Fort Wayne Museum of Art**. Becoming the Midwest center for glass, the Fort Wayne Museum of Art started its collection ten years ago with the Habatat Galleries' International Glass Invitational Exhibit and is continually building upon its collection.

Making Music

At the convergence of indie, hip-hop, and rock and roll, **Middle Waves Music Festival** returns in 2024. This music festival celebrates the momentum of Fort Wayne: the music, art, food, and community.

Sweetwater, the largest music store in the country, offers nearly 40,000 square feet of top gear on-site at their Fort Wayne headquarters. What started in 1979 in the back of a VW bus has grown into a \$1.4 billion company providing audio gear and musical instruments to hobbyists and professionals across the country.

Adding to our existing line-up of music venues and businesses, you will find The Clyde Theatre (a renovated 1951 movie theatre now a music venue), The Brass Rail, and **Pearl Street Arts Center** (opening in 2024) which will bring a music academy, auditorium, classrooms, performances, galleries, and exhibits to The Pearl's mixed-use development opening next to The Bradley downtown.



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