

OUR LAKES

THE GENEVA LAKE SHORE PATH

The Geneva Lake Shore Path is a 21-mile public footpath created by early settlers of the region. The path meanders along the lakeshore, crossing the front lawns of historic estates, marinas, beaches and public parks. The terrain is suitable for walkers, and varies from grass and dirt to brick and concrete. Here are some of our top recommendations for what to see.

6. PIER 290

PIER 290 is the only restaurant on the lake where you can sit in the sand and have a cocktail, or dine just steps from the lake. Slips are available for those who prefer to travel here by boat. [SEE AD P. 62](#)

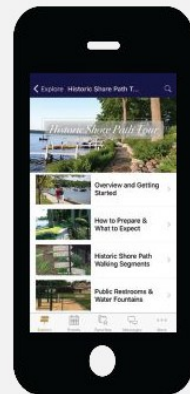


7. AURORA UNIVERSITY

Established over a century ago as a YMCA training facility, George Williams College of Aurora University continues to instruct students in a variety of disciplines. The headquarters of the Water Safety Patrol is also located here. Founded in 1920, the mission of this private, nonprofit organization is to keep Geneva Lake safe and enjoyable for all.

A SHORE THING

Navigating the Shore Path has never been easier thanks to the VISIT Lake Geneva app. Available free in the App Store or through Google Play, it will direct you to public access points and restrooms, as well as share the history of the homes and points of interest you'll see from the path. When opening the app, just choose "Historic Shore Path Tour."



4. ELGIN CLUB

In 1873, two friends from Elgin, Illinois, purchased 16 acres here for \$400. They recruited other friends and the group grew to 20 families, each possessing a 50-foot lot of lake frontage. The oldest residence still in use dates back to 1878.



5. CEDAR POINT

This park was founded in the 1920s and overlooks Williams Bay. According to legend, the ground is sacred for Potawatomi ceremonies.

8. THE ECHOES

This beautiful Queen Anne-style mansion was designed in 1896 by Henry Lord Gay for George P. Braun, one of the founding fathers of oleomargarine. In 1913, the property was bought by Amariah Cox, owner of Zeno Manufacturing Company, which made chewing gum. Cox and William Wrigley Jr. eventually joined forces to create the Wrigley Chewing Gum Company.



1. LAKE GENEVA PUBLIC LIBRARY

Built in 1954 and designed by the late James R. Dresser, a protégé of Frank Lloyd Wright, this Prairie-style building offers some of the best views on the lake. This is a good public access point to begin your walk; the path continues at the west end of Library Park, past the public boat slips.

3. GLANWORTH GARDENS

Also known as the Drlehaus Estate, this Georgian Revival, built in 1906, has been painstakingly restored, and is now home to lavish parties and events throughout the year, raising money for a variety of charities.

2. WYCHWOOD

Charles and Frances Hutchinson built Wychwood in 1901, donating the property in 1932 to the University of Chicago for use as a wildlife refuge. But in 1957, the university auctioned it off. It has been in the Wrigley family since 1960 when it became the summer home of William Wrigley.



9. BLACK POINT

Barely visible above the trees, Black Point was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1994 and is open for public tours, accessible only by tour boat. The home was commissioned by beer baron Conrad Seipp in 1888 as a summer cottage enjoyed by four generations of Seipp descendants. [SEE AD P. 46](#)

10. LAKE GENEVA COUNTRY CLUB

Established in 1895 and built by Richard Soutar, this was the first golf course in Wisconsin. Because Newport, Rhode Island, had become a popular summer vacation destination in the late 1800s, Lake Geneva decided to build its own country club.

11. CASA DEL SUEÑO

This estate was built in 1929 and its name means "house of dreams." Bill Bell and Lee Phillip Bell, the husband-wife creators of "The Young and the Restless," called this estate home and wrote many of the first scripts for the long-running soap opera here.

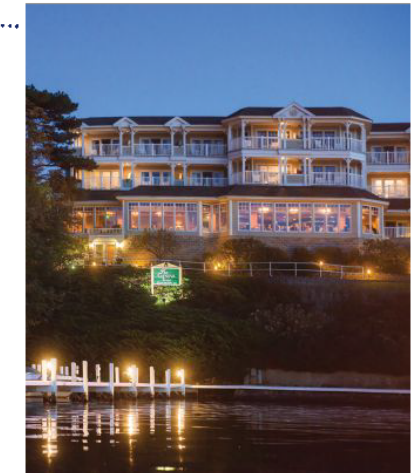


13. BIG FOOT BEACH STATE PARK

Nestled against Buttons Bay, Big Foot Beach State Park welcomes campers, swimmers, picnickers and hikers. The lagoon, a replica of Geneva Lake, was created by the Maytag family (of washing machine fame) when they owned the property.

12. THE GENEVA INN

This boutique hotel offers stunning panoramic views of the lake and downtown Lake Geneva from the restaurant, patio and many of its rooms. [SEE AD P. 87](#)



ACCESS POINTS

- A LAKE GENEVA*
- B CHAPIN ROAD
- C WILLIAMS BAY*
- D FONTANA*
- E SHADOW LANE
- F LINN ROAD
- G BIG FOOT BEACH STATE PARK*

*PARKING AVAILABLE