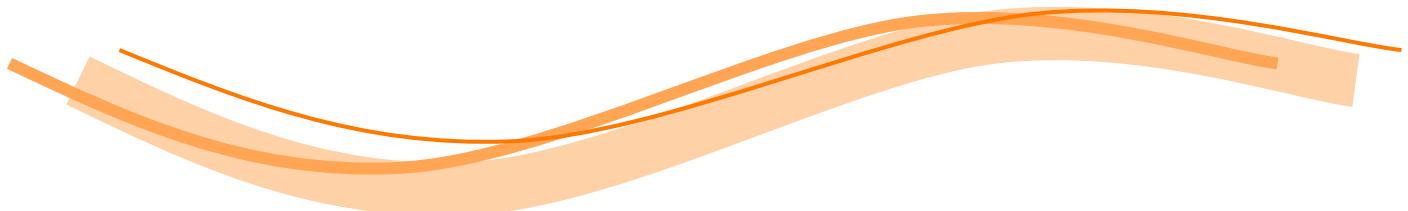




DETROIT





DETROIT	<h3>Detroit – America's Comeback City!</h3> <p>If you think you know Detroit – think again! In the last two years \$11 billion in new private economic investment and development has helped transform America's comeback city. With revitalized downtown buildings, growing businesses and riverfront improvements, Detroit is now a lively and appealing urban centre.</p> <p>Plans are afoot to construct a \$140 million light railway system that will connect residents and visitors to restaurants, shopping, sporting venues and cultural activities along a five kilometer span. The railway will link downtown Detroit with the New Centre area – which has in the works a \$650 million Red Wings Hockey Arena as the centrepiece of a new entertainment and retail development. And did you know that Detroit has one of the largest theatre districts in the US with over 13,000 seats in just a two-block radius? Including the historic gem, the Fox Theatre, built in the late 1920s by film pioneer William Fox.</p> <p>Detroit is a fabulous destination for holiday shopping with a wide range of retail opportunities. From upscale malls to walkable downtown shopping districts, premium outlets and boutiques – and with a strong Canadian dollar that buys you more. Detroit's sales tax is only 6% (by comparison, Buffalo and New York have an 8.75% sales tax). Spend 24 hours or more in the States and the duty-free and Canadian tax exemptions on purchased goods get better and better; \$200 for 24 hours and \$800 for 48 hours.</p> <p>The beautiful towns and neighbourhoods that surround the city of Detroit provide a range of unique shopping options. For example Oakland is one of the wealthiest counties in the US and is dotted with upscale shopping. Historic and hip Rochester has boutiques offering everything from handmade gifts to scratch-made torte.</p> <p>Then there is plenty more history to discover in Detroit. For example, just to mention a couple, the Motown Museum preserves the birthplace of a musical legacy and the story of a Detroit entrepreneur who created "The Sound of Young America." And the Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History is an amazing adventure of history, art and achievement.</p>
Location	Detroit is the principal city in Metro Detroit and Southeast Michigan situated in the Midwestern United States and the Great Lakes region. It lies on the opposite side to Windsor, Ontario of the connecting waterway between Lakes Huron and Erie.
Geography	The city slopes gently from the northwest to southeast on a till plain

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	<p>composed largely of glacial and lake clay. The most notable feature in the city is the Detroit Moraine, a broad clay ridge on which the older portions of Detroit and Windsor sit atop, rising approximately 20 meters above the river.</p> <p>Detroit is the only major city along the U.S.–Canadian border in which one travels south in order to cross into Canada.</p>
Name	The city's name originates from the Detroit River (French: le détroit du lac Érié, meaning the strait of Lake Erie), linking Lake Huron and Lake Erie; in the historical context, the strait included Lake St. Clair and the St. Clair River.
Population	Approximately 700,000 for the City of Detroit with 4.3 million in the Metro area.
Language	English
Currency	US Dollar – currently (November 2013) close to par with the Canadian Dollar
Tipping	Tipping is common practice in Detroit: 15% to 20% for waiters; 10% to 15% for taxi drivers; \$1 per bag for bellmen. Occasionally gratuities are automatically added to restaurant checks, but not usually.
Government	The city government is run by a mayor and a nine-member city council and clerk elected on an at-large nonpartisan ballot. Mike Duggan has just been elected Mayor on November 5 th 2013.
Documentation	Passports are required for all Canadian visitors arriving by air or land.
Time zone	Eastern Standard Time, same as Toronto and Montreal.
Health	Excellent services available but ensure that you have travelers health insurance as health costs in the US can be very high
Safety tips	Detroit is relatively safe for the tourist. One should use the same precautions as when traveling anywhere - try not to travel alone and avoid deserted areas at night.

CLIMATE	
General climate	Detroit has a humid continental climate which is influenced by the Great Lakes. Winters are cold, with moderate snowfall and temperatures at night dropping to around -18°C around three times a year, while summers are warm to hot with temperatures exceeding 32°C on 13 days a year on average.
Today's weather	The weather is similar to Toronto and today (November 9 th , 2013)
Best time to visit	Detroit is a year round destination and is particularly pleasant as a spring and fall getaway.

GETTING AROUND	
Getting There	Detroit has four border crossings: the Ambassador Bridge and the Detroit–Windsor Tunnel provide motor vehicle thoroughfares, with the Michigan Central Railway Tunnel providing railroad access to and from

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	Canada. The fourth border crossing is the Detroit–Windsor Truck Ferry, located near the Windsor Salt Mine and Zug Island.
Distances	Detroit is less than five hours drive away from Toronto via Sarnia or Windsor.
Trains	An elevated rail system known as the People Mover, completed in 1987, provides daily service around a 4.7 km loop downtown. A proposed bus rapid transit may serve as a link between the Detroit People Mover and SEMCOG Commuter Rail which extends from Detroit's New Center area to The Henry Ford, Dearborn, Detroit Metropolitan Airport, Ypsilanti, and Ann Arbor. Amtrak provides service to Detroit, operating its Wolverine service between Chicago and Pontiac.
Car Rental	All major North American car rental companies are available in Detroit if you want to fly to the city and drive yourself around.
Buses	Mass transit in the region is provided by bus services. The Detroit Department of Transportation (DDOT) provides service to the outer edges of the city. From there, the Suburban Mobility Authority for Regional Transportation (SMART) provides service to the suburbs. Cross border service between the downtown areas of Windsor and Detroit is provided by Transit Windsor via the Tunnel Bus. It is also possible for those who cross to Detroit on the tunnel bus to use a Transit Windsor transfer for transfers onto Detroit Smart buses, allowing for travel around Metro Detroit from a single fare.
Deals	For current deals on attractions, hotels and more, go to http://visitdetroit.com/deal-search?searchword=&destination_district=&category=&search_type=deals

ACCOMMODATION TYPES	You can choose from 40,000 hotel rooms when you stay in metro Detroit, so you know there's a perfect match for you whether you like your accommodations ultra-chic and luxurious, quaint and charming or affordable and basic. The following are a few possible places to stay in Detroit that are worth noting: 1,000-square-feet casino corner suites, historical home reproductions of famous folks such as dark poet Edgar Allan Poe and renovated downtown architectural beauties with legendary glamour and modern-day room amenities. And all the big names you'd expect are in metro Detroit, too, including Marriott, Hilton, DoubleTree, Days Inn and Holiday Inn.
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LIFESTYLES	
Kids	Michigan Science Center Downtown Detroit The Michigan Science Center is a dynamic hands-on museum with hundreds of exhibits, live stage shows, IMAX and a planetarium,

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	inspiring all ages to explore science (STEM) principles. Fun for all ages, the museum strives to inspire the next generation of engineers, scientists and innovators.
Teens	Segways2U Downtown Detroit Segways2U helps you see Detroit in a new way. Offering tours and rentals on the fun, exciting Segway® Personal Transporter. Experienced guides live in the city and can tell you just about everything - including how to ride safely. Automotive Hall of Fame Dearborn, MI Dearborn/Wayne See the heroes of the auto industry and learn about the pioneers and leaders of the global motor vehicle industry. The Automotive Hall of Fame preserves the history of mobility by celebrating the creativity, toil and genius of the individual. The Automotive Hall of Fame is both a visitor attraction and an educational resource for inspiring others to higher levels of achievement in their own work and lives. Experience automotive history through visual and interactive exhibits, automobiles and authentic artifacts. Gift shop. \$8 adults, \$6 seniors & students 13-18, \$4 youth 5-12, under 5 free.
Romance	If you're in the mood for love, there are plenty of places to cozy up for some true romance in The D. Anchor Bay from MacRay Harbor http://www.macray.com/ Prep for a view into yachting life: dinner at Harbor Grille Bistro overlooking the marina on Lake St. Clair. (Macomb District) Detroit Princess Riverboat http://www.detroitprincess.com/ Charter a paddle boat ride to romance. (Downtown District) Dinner at The Lark http://www.thelark.com/ This award-winning restaurant is the premier place for a dinner-to-impress. (Greater Novi District) Friday Night Live! http://www.dia.org/calendar/friday-nights.aspx The DIA stays open late for music, art-making and tours to inspire your muse. (Downtown Detroit District) Show at the Fisher Theatre http://www.broadwayindetroit.com/ Take you and your date to enjoy "Broadway in Detroit." (Downtown)

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	Detroit District) Woodhouse Spa Duet Massage http://www.detroit.woodhousespas.com/ Share in some R&R for a rejuvenating date. (Downtown Detroit District)
Seniors	The many festive events around Christmas, together with excellent city infrastructure make Detroit a good choice for Seniors.
UNIQUES	Near Zug Island, the southwest part of the city sits atop a salt mine that is 340 m below the surface. The Detroit Salt Company mine has over 160 km of roads within.
Surprising	<p>Detroit shares an international waterway with Windsor, Ontario, Canada. And Canada is south of Detroit.</p> <p>The nation's first soda drink, Vernor's, was created by pharmacist James Vernor in 1862.</p> <p>Detroit was the first city in the nation to assign individual telephone numbers in 1879.</p> <p>The world's first convention and visitors bureau — the Detroit Metro Convention & Visitors Bureau was founded in 1896.</p> <p>The world's first auto traffic tunnel between two nations — the Detroit/Windsor Tunnel; opened in 1928 below the Detroit River.</p> <p>Detroiter Joe Louis Barrow — The Brown Bomber — won the world's heavyweight boxing championship in 1937.</p> <p>The nation's first shopping mall, Northland Mall, opened in Southfield in 1957.</p> <p>The Marriott at the Renaissance Center is the tallest hotel in North America. When it was opened in 1977, it was the tallest hotel in the world.</p> <p>Detroit is the potato chip capital of the world, based on consumption.</p> <p>Home to the world's only floating post office, the J.W. Westcott II, serving international freighters on the Detroit River.</p> <p>Detroit has the most registered bowlers in the United States.</p>
History	The French officer Antoine de La Mothe Cadillac, along with fifty-one additional French-Canadians, founded a settlement called Fort

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Ponchartrain du Détroit, naming it after the comte de Pontchartrain, Minister of Marine under Louis XIV. France offered free land in an effort to attract families to Detroit, which grew to 800 people in 1765, the largest city between Montreal and New Orleans.

By 1778, its population was up to 2,144 and the third largest city in the Province of Quebec.

During the French and Indian War (1760), British troops gained control and shortened the name to Detroit. Several tribes launched Pontiac's Rebellion (1763), including a siege of Fort Detroit, but failed to capture it. Detroit passed to the United States under the Jay Treaty (1796).

In 1805, fire destroyed most of the settlement. A river warehouse and brick chimneys of the wooden homes were the sole structures to survive.

From 1805 to 1847, Detroit was the capital of Michigan. As the city expanded, a geometric street layout plan developed by Augustus B. Woodward was followed. Detroit surrendered without a fight to British troops during the War of 1812 in the Siege of Detroit, was recaptured by the United States in 1813 and incorporated as a city in 1815.

Prior to the American Civil War, the city's access to the Canadian border made it a key stop along the underground railroad. Many Detroiters volunteered to fight during the American Civil War, including the 24th Michigan Infantry Regiment (part of the legendary Iron Brigade) which fought with distinction and suffered 82% casualties at Gettysburg in 1863.

During the late 19th century, several Gilded Age mansions were built east and west of the current downtown. Most notable among them was the David Whitney House located at 4421 Woodward Avenue. It was restored in 1986 & is now known as The Whitney Restaurant. During this period some referred to Detroit as the Paris of the West for its architecture, and for Washington Boulevard, recently electrified by Thomas Edison. The city had grown steadily from the 1830s with the rise of shipping, shipbuilding, and manufacturing industries.

Strategically located along the Great Lakes waterway, Detroit emerged as a major transportation hub. In 1896, a thriving carriage trade prompted Henry Ford to build his first automobile in a rented workshop on Mack Avenue. During this period, Detroit was allowed to expand its borders annexing all or part of several surrounding villages and townships.

In 1903 Ford founded the Ford Motor Company. Ford's manufacturing—and those of automotive pioneers William C. Durant, the Dodge brothers, Packard, and Walter Chrysler—reinforced Detroit's status as the world's automotive capital; it also served to encourage truck manufacturers such as Rapid and Grabowsky.

With the factories came high-profile labour unions such as the American

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Federation of Labor and the United Auto Workers, which initiated strikes and other tactics in support of such things as the 8-hour day/40-hour work week, healthcare benefits, pensions, increased wages and improved working conditions. The labour activism during those years increased influence of union leaders in the city such as Jimmy Hoffa of the Teamsters and Walter Reuther of the autoworkers. The introduction of alcohol Prohibition from 1920 to 1933 turned the Detroit River into a major conduit for illegal Canadian spirits, organized in large part by the notorious Purple Gang. The 1940s saw the construction of the world's "first urban depressed freeway" ever built, the Davison, and the wartime retooling of the American automobile industry in support of the Allied powers during World War II which led to Detroit's key role as an element of the American Arsenal of Democracy. There have been six ships of the United States Navy named after the city, including USS Detroit (LCS-7). Industry spurred growth during the first half of the 20th century as the city drew tens of thousands of new residents, particularly workers from the Southern United States, to become the United States' fourth largest.

Books	Frommer's USA has some useful information pages 504-510.
1000 Places to See Before You Die	The USA and Canada edition lists: The Charles H Wright Museum Detroit Institute of the Arts Detroit's Auto Museums Motown Museum Automakers' Mansions
Must Sees	The Henry Ford Museum is unmissable!

SPORTS ACTIVITIES	You can't think of Detroit without its passionate fans and professional sports teams. The Detroit Tigers baseball team play at Comerica Park and this year have gone all the way to the American League Championship Series. The Detroit Lions football team play at Ford Field. And the January 1, 2014 NHL Winter Classic will be played at Ann Arbor featuring the Detroit Red Wings and their arch rivals the Toronto Maple Leafs.
Golf	Shepherd's Hollow Golf Club Clarkston, MI Oakland The 42nd best public golf course in the country according to Golf Digest. Featuring 27 holes of championship golf and a wonderful clubhouse, Shepherd's Hollow has something for everyone. Host your next corporate event and banquet with us or come to enjoy a leisurely dinner in our fantastic restaurant. Shepherd's Hollow offers a unique and exceptional experience from start to finish. Cherry Creek Golf Club takes pride in being one of the finest public

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	<p>golf destinations in metro Detroit/Michigan. The natural beauty of a gentle rolling terrain and a variety of oak, ash and cherry trees, combined with 18 magnificent holes of championship golf makes Cherry Creek a truly unique golfing experience. 52000 Cherry Creek Drive, Shelby Township , 48316 Phone: (586) 254-6001 http://www.cherrycreekgolf.com</p>
Fishing	<p>Booking a charter-fishing trip is the fast track to zeroing in on the best fishing in most bodies of water. Licensed captains are not only knowledgeable about the waters they fish, but also typically provide all the needed gear, lures and bait.</p> <p>Depending on the type of fishing, a charter trip can last a few hours or be an all-day adventure.</p> <p>It never hurts to ask what's included in a charter fishing trip. Generally, captains provide the boat, fuel, fishing equipment, terminal tackle (the end-of-the-line equipment such as hooks, weights and bobbers), bait and fish-cleaning services upon trip end. Food, drinks and snacks are normally the responsibility of the charter guests.</p> <p>The Great Lakes connecting waters – which include the St. Clair River, Lake St. Clair and the Detroit River – are home to countless fish species and angling opportunities. The many varieties found in these waters vary by the season.</p> <p>In the spring, the most abundant and sought-after species include walleye, yellow perch, northern pike and steelhead. As spring eases into summer and, later, fall, the fishing focus changes to include a mix of warm-water kinds such as smallmouth and largemouth bass, white bass and the region's famed mega-sized muskies.</p> <p>Walleye are best teased with medium-action spinning tackle, armed with 8- to 10-pound test braided fishing line and lead head jigs, or lures, ranging in weight from 3/8 to 3/4 ounce. Putting a live shiner minnow on the jig is customary, but many anglers prefer to use soft plastic minnow imitations. Smallmouth bass are also targeted with spinning tackle.</p> <p>A suitable rod and reel combination for bass fishing includes a medium to medium-heavy action rod from six to seven feet in length matched to a spinning reel capable of holding 150 yards of 10- to 15-pound test super braid line.</p> <p>Bass anglers will find that a mixture of jigs tipped with soft plastic grubs or jigs and tube baits work wonders. Spinnerbaits are also important bass lures when fishing in or around weed cover. Diving crankbaits rank high on the list of bass lures when fishing sea walls, docks and rocky shorelines.</p> <p>Captain Gerry Gostenik of Gerry Gostenik's Great Lakes Bass Fishing Guide Service is the leader of the pack in terms of charters that specialize in catching smallmouth and largemouth bass on Lake St.</p>

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	<p>Clair, the St. Clair River and the Detroit River. He also runs spring walleye trips on the Detroit River. Gerry Gostenik's Great Lakes Bass Fishing Guide Service (313)319-0100 www.greatlakesbassfishing.com</p>
Hockey	<p>Detroit is Hockeytown USA with 11 Detroit Red Wings Stanley Cup championships. And the Winter Classic is taking place here in January 2014.</p> <p>Detroit will host the SiriusXM Hockeytown Winter Festival at Comerica Park beginning mid-December. It will feature an outdoor rink placed on the infield of the ballpark and will host games representing every level of hockey as well as open public skating. You can buy tickets to OHL games and to the showcase event, which is the Alumni Showdown between veterans of the Leafs and Red Wings.</p>
Hiking	<p>Detroit's waterfront trails are being expanded and are a good way of seeing the city skyline. Also explore the hiking opportunities on Belle Isle in the Detroit River.</p>
Cycling	<p>Plenty of retail and rental bike shops and organized bike rides can be found in Detroit. Here are a few of them:</p> <p>Wheelhouse Detroit</p> <p>Conveniently located on the Detroit RiverWalk at Rivard Plaza, Wheelhouse rents and sells bikes. Guided city bike tours with cool themes ranging from Detroit architecture, Eastern Market and automotive heritage are also offered.</p> <p>1340 Atwater St.Detroit, 48207 DD (313) 656-2453 www.wheelhousedetroit.com</p> <p>Motor City Bike & Brew Tours</p> <p>If you like bikes and beer, this tour, put together by the Motor City Tour Company, is for you. Learn about Detroit's beer history, get some exercise along the way and, of course, drink a few brews.</p> <p>Motor City Tour Company (248) 850-2563 www.motorcitybrewtours.com</p> <p>Critical Mass Detroit</p> <p>Critical Mass is a huge bike ride that takes place the last Friday of every month in cities all over the world, and Detroit is part of the scene. The Motor City version of this ride really feels like a celebration. People are in good spirits, and neighbourhoods are happy to see riders. Cyclists meet at the corner of Trumbull and Warren in the Woodbridge neighbourhood at 6:30 p.m. Ride departs at 7 p.m.</p>

CULTURE	
Arts	Detroit's Cultural Center is home to the Detroit Institute of Arts , and its collection is among the top six in the United States.

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	<p>Watch Me Move: The Animation Show, an eccentric compilation of artistic masterpieces from the last 150 years, will be on display at the Detroit Institute of Arts Oct. 6, 2012 – Jan. 5, 2014. It includes characters from over 100 animated films across several generations including Betty Boop and a number of Pixar creations. Keep an eye out for Walt Disney and Tim Burton animations.</p>
Music	<p>The city of Detroit has a rich musical heritage and has contributed to a number of different genres over the decades leading into the new millennium.</p> <p>Important music events in the city include: the Detroit International Jazz Festival, the Detroit Electronic Music Festival, the Motor City Music Conference (MC2), the Urban Organic Music Conference, the Concert of Colors, and the hip-hop Summer Jamz festival.</p> <p>In the 1940s, Detroit blues artist John Lee Hooker became a long-term resident in the city's southwest Delray neighborhood. Hooker, among other important blues musicians migrated from his home in Mississippi bringing the Delta Blues to northern cities like Detroit. Hooker recorded for Fortune Records, the biggest pre-Motown blues/soul label.</p> <p>During the 1950s, the city became a center for jazz, with stars performing in the Black Bottom neighborhood. Prominent emerging Jazz musicians of the 1960s included: trumpet player Donald Byrd who attended Cass Tech and performed with Art Blakey and the Jazz Messengers early in his career and Saxophonist Pepper Adams who enjoyed a solo career and accompanied Byrd on several albums. The Graystone International Jazz Museum documents jazz in Detroit.</p> <p>Other, prominent Motor City R&B stars in the 1950s and early 1960s was Nolan Strong, Andre Williams and Nathaniel Mayer – who all scored local and national hits on the Fortune Records label. The Fortune label was a family-operated label located on Third Avenue in Detroit, and was owned by the husband and wife team of Jack Brown and Devora Brown. Fortune, which also released country, gospel and rockabilly LPs and 45s, laid the groundwork for Motown, which became Detroit's most legendary record label.</p> <p>Berry Gordy, Jr. founded Motown Records which rose to prominence during the 1960s and early 1970s with acts such as Stevie Wonder, The Temptations, The Four Tops, Smokey Robinson & The Miracles, Diana Ross & The Supremes, the Jackson 5, Martha and the Vandellas, The Spinners, Gladys Knight & the Pips, and Marvin Gaye. Artists were backed by the Funk Brothers, the Motown house band that was featured in Paul Justman's 2002 documentary film Standing in the Shadows of Motown, based on Allan Slutsky's book of the same name. The Motown Sound played an important role in the crossover appeal with popular music, since it was the first African American owned record label to primarily feature African-American artists. Aretha Franklin,</p>

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	<p>another Detroit R&B star, carried the Motown Sound. Local artists and bands rose to prominence in the 1960s and 70s including: the MC5, The Stooges, Bob Seger, Amboy Dukes featuring Ted Nugent, Mitch Ryder and The Detroit Wheels, Rare Earth, Alice Cooper, and Suzi Quatro. The group Kiss emphasized the city's connection with rock in the song Detroit Rock City and the movie produced in 1999. In the 1980s, Detroit was an important centre of the hardcore punk rock underground with many nationally known bands coming out of the city and its suburbs, such as The Necros, The Meatmen, and Negative Approach.</p> <p>In 1990s and the new millennium, the city has produced a number of influential hip hop artists, including Eminem, the hip-hop artist with the highest cumulative sales, hip-hop producer J Dilla, rapper and producer Esham and hip hop duo Insane Clown Posse. Detroit is cited as the birthplace of techno music.</p>
Theatre	Detroit is among the largest theatre districts in the country with over 13,000 theatre seats. Major Broadway productions, top headliner entertainers, opera, dance, symphony, and other performing arts light up marquees.
Museums	<p>The Henry Ford Museum commemorates pioneering American achievements as well as preserving the minutiae of everyday life. Visit Edison's lab and the Wright Brothers' home. Ride in a Model T and a steam locomotive. See JFK's limousine, Rosa Park's bus, vintage cars and more! Just opened at the museum is James Cameron's "AVATAR: The Exhibition," which takes you deep into the world of Pandora and the making of this extraordinary film. Explore Pandora's Na'vi inhabitants, the groundbreaking technology that brought the blockbuster film to life, and the creative inspiration that fueled it all. Then see "AVATAR the Special Edition: an IMAX 3D Experience" in The Henry Ford IMAX Theater.</p> <p>James Cameron's AVATAR: The Exhibition will take Henry Ford Museum visitors on a dive deep into the world of Pandora and the making of this extraordinary film. On display Oct. 26, 2013-Jan. 26, 2014 the exhibit will explore Pandora's Na'vi inhabitants, the groundbreaking technology that brought the blockbuster film to life, and the creative inspiration that fueled it all. Interactive displays will allow museum-goers to direct the three-dimensional orientation of a virtual camera and shoot a computer-rendered scene, interact with touch tables to explore concept art used in creating AVATAR, create their own plant life based on scientific/biological principles used in the film and much more. AVATAR the Special Edition: an IMAX 3D Experience will also be shown at The Henry Ford IMAX theatre. Don't miss this exciting exhibit; go to www.thehenryford.org for more information.</p>

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	<p>The Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History is the largest museum of its kind in the world. Celebrate Kwanzaa with friends and family at the Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History Dec. 26 - 29, nightly from 6 - 9 p.m. Each evening will feature a candle lighting ceremony beginning at 6 p.m., followed by that night's festivities, including storytelling, musical and dance performances and a Kwanzaa marketplace. For more information, go to www.TheWright.org</p> <p>Other museums include:</p> <p>Detroit Historical Museum</p> <p>Motown Historical Museum</p> <p>Arab American National Museum</p>
Festivals & Events	<p>Annual summer events include the Electronic Music Festival, International Jazz Festival, the Woodward Dream Cruise, the African World Festival, the country music Hoedown, Noel Night, and Dally in the Alley. Within downtown, Campus Martius Park hosts large events, including the annual Motown Winter Blast.</p> <p>As the world's traditional automotive centre, the city hosts the North American International Auto Show. Held since 1924, America's Thanksgiving Parade is one of the nation's largest. River Days, a five-day summer festival on the International Riverfront lead up to the Windsor-Detroit International Freedom Festival fireworks, which draw crowds ranging from hundreds of thousands to over three million people.</p> <p>The Winter Classic in Ann Arbor is sold out, but tickets for the Alumni Game being played at Comerica Park on Dec 31st 2013 at 1pm in Detroit go on sale next Monday Nov 4</p> <p>The Red Wings today announced that tickets for the 2013 Maple Leafs vs. Red Wings Alumni Showdown™ on Tuesday, Dec. 31, at Comerica Park are on sale from Nov. 4th. The event marks the final day of the 2013 SiriusXM Hockeytown Winter Festival in Detroit, leading up to the 2014 Bridgestone NHL Winter Classic between Detroit and Toronto on New Year's Day at Michigan Stadium in Ann Arbor, Mich. Each ticket is good for both games of the New Year's Eve doubleheader (1 p.m. and 3:30 p.m.) and provides free access to the Coke Zero Fan Zone in the parking lots just outside Comerica Park. Tickets can be purchased at www.DetroitRedWings.com/2014WinterClassic or by calling 313-471-7575.</p> <p>A highlight of the event will be a celebration of the players' storied histories with the two clubs, including individual player introductions and a special video displayed on Comerica Park's giant left field scoreboard.</p>
2013 SiriusXM Hockeytown Winter	Schedule of Events

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Festival	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Monday, December 16: Sled Hockey, Media Kick Off, High School and College Hockey Games- Tuesday, December 17: Open Skate, Men's League Games- Wednesday, December 18: Red Wings Open Practice (Free), High School Hockey Games- Thursday, December 19: High School Hockey Games- Friday, December 20: Open Skate- Saturday, December 21: Youth Hockey Games, USA Adult Hockey- Sunday, December 22: Youth Hockey Games- Monday, December 23: USA Hockey Clinic, Youth Hockey Games, High School Hockey Game- Tuesday, December 24: Open Skate- Thursday, December 26: GLI Practice (Free), Open Skates- Friday, December 27: GLI Double Header- Saturday, December 28: GLI Double Header- Sunday, December 29: OHL Double Header- Monday, December 30: AHL Game- Tuesday, December 31: Red Wings vs. Maple Leafs Alumni Double Header <p>Free Activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Alumni Q&A sessions- Hockey Hall of Fame Memorabilia and Trophy Exhibit- Red Wings and Maple Leafs replica locker room display- Molson Hockey House with concert stage and live music- Snowzilla toboggan slide- Outdoor fire pits- Sponsor activation booths- Caricaturists, balloon twisters and other family activities- Ice Sculptures
ATTRACTIIONS	<p>Detroit is called Motor City – with good reason:</p> <p>Detroit is headquarters for Chrysler, Ford, and General Motors and hundreds of tier one and two suppliers.</p> <p>It is home of the North American International Auto Show, with more than 500 vehicles on display representing more than 50 world-wide companies.</p> <p>In 1896 Henry Ford built his first car in Detroit.</p> <p>The world's first concrete road was built in Detroit in 1901.</p>

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	<p>In 1913 Henry Ford introduced an improved assembly line, revolutionizing the auto industry.</p> <p>Detroit's Ford Piquette Avenue Plant is the birthplace of the Model T. Today, it is the only example of an early Detroit auto factory open to visitors.</p> <p>Detroit is home of the nation's first urban freeway, the Davison, completed in 1942.</p> <p>Metro Detroit is home of the auto barons. Historic homes include Fair Lane (Henry and Clara Ford); Fisher Mansion (Lawrence Fisher), Ford House (Edsel & Eleanor Ford); and Meadow Brook Hall (Matilda Dodge Wilson).</p> <p>Home of the world's largest tire, 12 ton and 80 feet tall. It was originally built as a Ferris Wheel for the 1964 New York World's Fair.</p>
Beaches	Yes, there are beaches to enjoy in the summer! The closest are on Belle Isle in the Detroit River. But strung out along the entire West Michigan shoreline is a long strip of white sand beaches which have the reputation as being the very best in the Midwest.
Wildlife	Detroit Zoo Royal Oak, MI Oakland An animal-lover's paradise, the Detroit Zoo is situated on 125 acres with many naturalistic habitats. Major exhibits include the Arctic Ring of Life, Australian Outback Adventure, Great Apes of Harambee, National Amphibian Conservation Center, Holden Reptile Conservation Center, Penguinarium and Butterfly Garden.
Parks	Belle Isle , the USA's largest island park within a city, was designed by Frederick Law Olmsted, landscape architect of New York's Central Park. Belle Isle Park is a 982-acre (397 ha) island park in the Detroit River, between the Detroit and Windsor, Ontario. It is connected to the mainland by the MacArthur Bridge in Detroit. Belle Isle Park contains many sites of interest including the James Scott Memorial Fountain, the Belle Isle Conservatory, the Detroit Yacht Club on an adjacent island, a beach, a golf course, a nature centre, monuments, and gardens. The city skyline may be viewed from the island.
Gardens	The gardens throughout the parkland on Belle Isle provide a splash of colour throughout much of the year.
Historical Sites	Edsel & Eleanor Ford House Grosse Pointe Shores, MI Macomb Experience the elegant lifestyle of a bygone era at Edsel & Eleanor Ford House in scenic Grosse Pointe Shores. At the home of Henry Ford's only child, Edsel, you'll see original antique furnishings, an impressive

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	<p>collection of fine and decorative art, and much more in a breathtaking 60-room Cotswold mansion. Stroll 87 acres of lakefront gardens and grounds. Fees are \$6 for adults, \$5 for seniors and \$4 for children. Children 5 and under are free. Jan.-March Tue.-Sun 1-4pm; April-Dec. Tues.-Sat. 10am-4pm, Sun. 12:00 noon-4pm.</p> <p>Historic Fort Wayne 6325 W. Jefferson Ave, Detroit , 48209 Phone: (313) 224-6385 http://www.historicfortwaynecoalition.com This Civil War-era fort is opened to the public on special occasions and during the annual celebration of Detroit's birthday.</p>
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OTHER ACTIVITIES	
Shopping	<p>Detroit is a fabulous destination for holiday shopping with a wide range of retail opportunities. From upscale malls to walkable downtown shopping districts, premium outlets and boutiques – and with a strong Canadian dollar that buys you more. Detroit's sales tax is only 6% (by comparison, Buffalo and New York have an 8.75% sales tax). Spend 24 hours or more in the States and the duty-free and Canadian tax exemptions on purchased goods get better and better; \$200 for 24 hours and \$800 for 48 hours.</p> <p>Less than half an hour outside of Metro Detroit just off I75 – Great Lakes Crossing Outlets has over 50 stores and restaurants that can't be found anywhere else in Michigan, including Bass Pro Shops Outdoor World, Disney Store Outlet, Rainforest Café, Saks Fifth Avenue Off 5th, Neiman Marcus Last Call Clearance Center and Victoria's Secret Outlet, just to name a few! Be sure to take advantage of the great deals coming up on Black Friday, 29 November, 2013, when traditionally there are amazing bargains to lure shoppers in the US.</p> <p>Great Lakes Crossing Outlets is home to Michigan's largest food court (1,000 seats) and eight full-service restaurants ranging from Toby Keith's I Love This Bar & Grill, offering southern-style fare and live entertainment, to Miyako Japanese Steakhouse, where hibachi chefs prepare the food right in front of you!</p> <p>www.greatlakescrossingoutlets.com</p> <p>Metro Detroit truly is your one-stop shop for holiday shopping!</p> <p>Christmas Wonderfest at the Suburban Collection Showplace December 5 - 8, 2013 will display handmade gifts from more than 60 Michigan artists. And another place to find unique holiday gifts is Greenfield Village and The Henry Ford Museum. Take a fascinating journey through American history and also find unique handmade gifts of glass and pottery created by the artisans at Liberty Craftworks.</p>
Markets	<p>Detroit Eastern Market Each week thousands of people flock to Eastern Market for its Saturday</p>

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	<p>Market to enjoy one of the most authentic urban adventures in the United States. The market and the adjacent district are rare finds in a global economy - a local food district with more than 250 independent vendors and merchants processing, wholesaling, and retailing food. At the heart of Eastern Market is a six-block public market that has been feeding Detroit since 1891. Every Saturday it is transformed into a vibrant marketplace with hundreds of open-air stalls where everyone from toddlers to tycoons enjoy the strong conviviality served up along with great selections of fruits, veggies, fresh-cut flowers, homemade jams, maple syrups, locally produced specialty food products, pasture and/or grass-fed meat and even an occasional goose or rabbit.</p>
Nightlife	<p>Home of Kid Rock. More than 50 major entertainment, literary, and sport figures made Motown their hometown — from Tim Allen to Stevie Wonder.</p> <p>Home of the Motown sound founded by Berry Gordy Jr.</p> <p>Birthplace of Techno Music and home of Movement: Electronic Music Festival.</p> <p>The Detroit Jazz Festival is the largest free jazz festival in the world. Detroit's Corktown, Greektown and Mexicantown districts offer up a menu of authentic foods and spirits. That's just part of downtown Detroit's more than 100 restaurants, bars and clubs.</p>
Casinos	<p>There are three major casino complexes in the downtown area: Greektown Casino, MGM Grand Detroit and Motor City Casino.</p>
The Holiday Season in Detroit	<p>Featuring more than 45 giant animated displays and more than one million lights, the Wayne County Lightfest will illuminate Hines Drive Nov. 14-Dec. 31 (closed Christmas Day). The Wayne County Lightfest is the Midwest's largest and longest light show and runs each night from 7-10 p.m. Bikers will have the opportunity to bike through the lights on Nov. 13 before the Lightfest opens to the public. For details, go to www.waynecounty.com/events/2731.htm</p> <p>Join in the holiday spirit at Detroit's Tree Lighting Ceremony in Campus Martius Park on Nov. 22. Each year there is a hunt for the perfect tree to fill the big shoes of park holidays past. Watching the 60 foot high tree being lit has become a true Detroit tradition for metro Detroiters and visitors alike. Detroit's city center, Campus Martius Park, morphs into an ice rink that makes for a fantastically frigid family getaway, fun time for friends or romantic date night. The rink opens for all your ice skating needs Nov. 22. For more informational on Campus Martius Park, go to www.campusmartiuspark.org .</p> <p>This Thanksgiving Day marks the 86 year tradition of a Detroit favorite, America's Thanksgiving Parade. Parade goers of all ages will line Woodward Avenue to see the floats, balloons, marching bands, clowns,</p>

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Big Head Corps and the long awaited arrival of Santa Claus. One of the country's oldest parades, American's Thanksgiving Parade starts at 9:05 a.m. on Thursday, Nov. 28 and will be broadcast live on WDIV Local 4 and on WJR 760 AM. For more on the Parade, go to www.theparade.org.

Metro Detroit is your one-stop shop for **holiday shopping**. From Great Lakes Crossing Outlets, the Somerset Collection and the Mall at Partridge Creek to multiple downtown shopping districts, such as Birmingham, Royal Oak, Plymouth and Rochester, metro Detroit has got you covered. Be sure to take advantage of all the great deals on Black Friday, Nov. 29. For more on where to shop, go to www.visitdetroit.com.

Don't miss out on handmade gift items from more than 60 Michigan artists and historical museum gifts from the Motorcity Marketplace at this year's **Christmas Wonderfest**. The festival runs Dec. 5-8 and has a new location at the Suburban Collection Showplace. Also be sure to enjoy tasty snacks like roasted chestnuts and shortbread while you meander from vendor to vendor. For more details, go to www.christmaswonderfest.com.

The **Detroit Zoo** will light up the night this holiday season with Wild Lights, a spectacular holiday light display of more than a million LED lights illuminating trees, buildings and animal sculptures throughout the front of the zoo. Take in the lights and the sights while enjoying holiday entertainment and activities for guests of all ages, including live performances, arts and crafts, storytelling, ice carving and a holiday train display. For event dates and ticket information, go to www.detroitzoo.org/events/wild-lights.

More than 1.4 million holiday lights will illuminate the streets of Downtown Rochester for the **Big, Bright Light Show** on display Dec. 2, 2013 – Jan. 4, 2014 from 6 p.m.-midnight each night. Breathe in the holiday cheer and be dazzled by some seriously festive decorations. For more details, go to www.downtownrochestermi.com/events/big-bright-light-show.

Create lasting memories at one of the many special events hosted by the Edsel & Eleanor Ford House this holiday season. Enjoy tasty treats and warm holiday drinks at a nutcracker tea, sing carols, enjoy hot chocolate and holiday desserts, and listen to a Christmas story favorite in the Ford House Gallery next to a twinkling tree at Christmas story time, or enjoy a candlelight stroll at the Ford Family Home. For event

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dates, go to www.fordhouse.org .

Celebrate the season at Meadow Brook Hall all aglow with historic and holiday treasures. The great estate presents its 42nd annual **Holiday Walk** Nov. 29- Dec. 23. Be sure to stop by the 3/4-scale playhouse built for Frances Dodge. Other special events are also scheduled this December, such as a starlight stroll, holiday high tea, holiday shops and visits with Santa. For ticket information, go to www.meadowbrookhall.org .

Join in the Christmas celebration this December at **Holiday Nights at Greenfield Village**. Watch as costumed presenters do Charles Dickens proud with a round of caroling in top hats, cravats and petticoats. Holiday Nights takes place December 6-8, 13-15, 19-23 and 26-28, from 6:30–10 p.m. No classical Christmas would be complete without a horse-drawn carriage ride, ice skating, live reindeer, and of course Santa. Also true to the Motor City, take a ride in a Model T. Purchase tickets at www.thehenryford.org .

Explore Midtown Detroit's Cultural Center area this Dec. 7 for the **41st Annual Noel Night**. For one evening cultural center institutions such as the Detroit Institute of Arts, The Michigan Science Center, The Charles H. Wright of African American History, The Detroit Historical Museum, The Detroit Public Library and many others offer free access to visitors. Other activities include horse-drawn carriage rides, holiday shopping, family craft activities, live performances and a community sing-along on Woodward Avenue led by the Salvation Army Band—a long-standing Noel Night tradition. For a complete list of participating venues, go to <http://midtowndetroitinc.org> .

CUISINE	
Food	<p>While dining in metro Detroit, you can sample Middle Eastern, Greek, Mexican, Italian and Polish cuisines right alongside culinary creations from renowned master chefs such as Wolfgang Puck and Michael Symon. In between, you can also grab some unforgettable barbecue, maybe a little soul food, and wash it down with a great selection of Michigan-crafted brews and crisp vinos.</p> <p>As if that's not enough yummy goodness, there are also two unassuming downtown Detroit restaurants living next door to each other that both sell a little piece of heaven tucked in a bun (aka the Coney dog). No trip to Detroit is complete without sampling these dueling world-famous, chili-smothered concoctions. Soooo good. With such a cornucopia of casual and fine dining experiences on the menu, this</p>

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	<p>section is sure to help you pick and choose the metro Detroit restaurants, delis, joints, cafes, taverns, etc. that you won't want to miss.</p>
Wine	<p>Filipo Marc Winery Clinton Township, MI Macomb Filipo Marc Winery was established in October of 1999. They make all the wine right at the facility. They also offer visitors the option to sample before you buy their products.</p>
Restaurants	<p>Detroit Seafood Market Downtown Detroit The Detroit Seafood Market has long enjoyed a reputation with the locals and the food critics alike for serving the area's freshest fish and pristine seafood. Landlubbers will enjoy aged steaks, chops and fresh poultry dishes; all served at a tremendous value by a knowledgeable yet friendly staff.</p> <p>Andiamo Detroit Riverfront and Andiamo St. Clair Shores Italian may not seem like a typical after-fishing meal, but these two Andiamo locations are on the water, with the St. Clair Shores location situated within the Nautical Mile on Lake St. Clair and the Detroit location set on the banks of the Detroit River. And not to worry, both offer excellent seafood options. 400 Renaissance Center, Detroit, 48243 DD (313) 567-6700 24026 Jefferson Ave. St. Clair Shores, 48080 M (586) 773-7770 www.andiamoitalia.com</p> <p>Portofino Italian Restaurant Located downriver in Wyandotte, Portofino has plenty to offer aside from great ambience. Fish dishes include whitefish (from the Great Lakes) and lake perch (which the restaurant dubs "A Downriver Classic"). And if you're not yet tired of boating, you can even hop on Portofino's Friendship cruiser for yet another river romp. 3455 Biddle Ave. Wyandotte, 48192 DW (734) 281-6700 www.portofinoontheriver.com</p> <p>River Crab Restaurant at the Blue Water Inn Located on the banks of the St. Clair River, this restaurant offers plenty of food, drinks and good times. And its front porch, which is a popular dining spot during the warmer seasons, is almost within arm's reach of the water. 1337 River Road, St. Clair, 48079 BD (810) 329-2261 www.muer.com</p>

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	<p>Sindbad's Restaurant & Marina Located just a mile east of Belle Isle, Sindbad's is a great, laid-back place to hold out your hands and exclaim over a fine surf or turf meal, "It was this big!" Oh, and it has up-close views of the Detroit River. 100 St. Clair St. Detroit, 48214 DW (313) 822-7817 www.sindbadsdetroit.com</p>
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MORE INFO	
Brochures	Order your brochure on Detroit here: http://www.visitdetroit.com/detroit-travel-contact
Website	Follow Visit Detroit on Twitter and Instagram, join the conversation on Facebook and check out their videos on You Tube. Enter your best pictures of The D in the Depict The D photo contest. For easy access to online communities simply go to www.visitdetroit.com and click on the icons at the top of the page. Sign up here to receive our monthly online newsletter and also check out the bi-weekly blog at www.blog.visitdetroit.com .

HOTEL PRIZE PARTNER	<p>The Best Western Greenfield Inn 3000 Enterprise Drive · Allen Park, MI 48101 · Phone & Fax: (313) 271-1600 · Email: info@bestwesterngreenfield.com Website: http://www.bestwesterngreenfield.com/</p> <p>The Best Western Greenfield Inn surrounds you with its distinctive Victorian architecture and old world charm while offering the modern-day conveniences such as free high-speed internet access and a premium cable package. The hotel also offers a fitness centre, indoor swimming pool, oversized hot tub, and sauna! O'Henry's Restaurant is available for full service dining: breakfast, dinner, take out, and room service.</p>
Location	Less than 15 mins from downtown Detroit, The Best Western Greenfield Inn is located in Dearborn, just minutes from the "must visit" Ford Motor Company's World Headquarters, The Henry Ford Museum, Greenfield Village, Ford Rouge Factory Tour and IMAX Theater, as well as other attractions.
Facilities	Spa Services Indoor pool, large hot tub, & sauna Arcade games and ping pong table in the pool area. Fitness centre with a Universal machine, 3 treadmills, exercise bike, and elliptical machine. Guest laundry Complimentary Lending Library Pets welcome

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	Complimentary shuttle service to airport and Greenfield Village
Accommodation	There are many room types available and each features: Refrigerator Microwave 42" Flat Screen TV Hair dryer Keurig Coffee Makers Wall safe Iron and Ironing board Room Service Internet Access
Restaurants	O'Henry's Restaurant & Squires Pub – Dine in a lovingly restored Victorian atmosphere. Open for breakfast, dinner and late night.
CURRENT PROMOTION	Register online at http://www.shopgreaterdetroit.com between November 15 th and December 31 st 2013 for a chance to win a \$1,000 Visa Gift Card.

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