



• VISITORS GUIDE •

Discover JACKSON, MICHIGAN

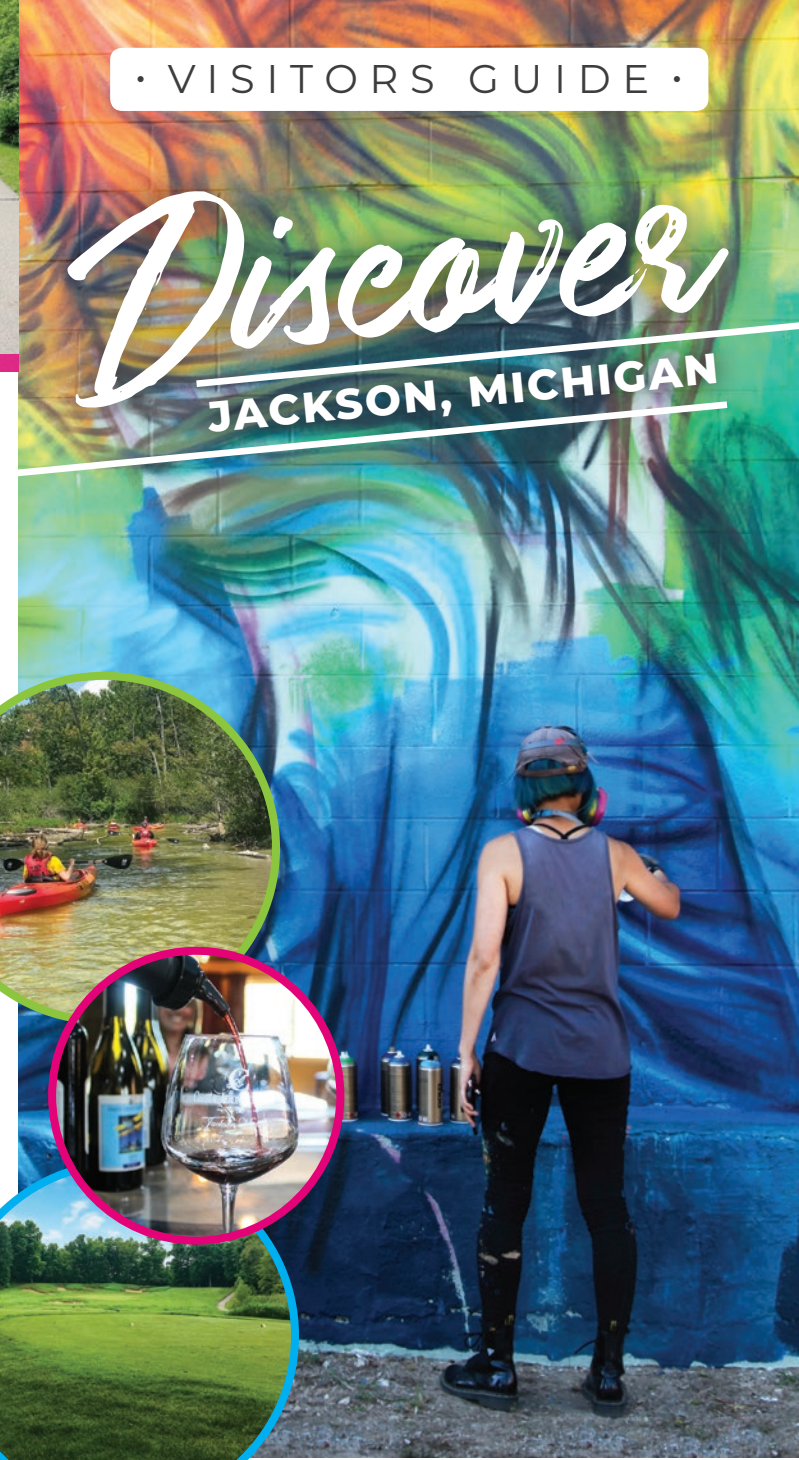
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EXPLORE ALL THAT IS JACKSON, MICHIGAN

Spend the weekend here and you'll feel like it was made just for you.

Culture, nature and nourishment — there's always something to do here. Good eats with great people. Cold beer and delicious wine. Art. Museums. Trails. Shopping. Did we mention the Republican Party was born here and the first state prison was built here? And don't forget 20-plus golf courses, miles of trails, and so much fishing you might sprout gills yourself. There are enough attractions to go around in Jackson, so take a deep breath and get ready to discover what's in store for you.



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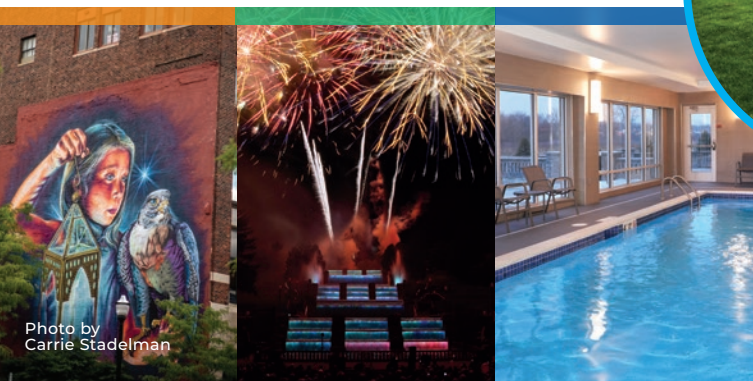


Photo by
Carrie Stadelman

You don't have to have a PhD to appreciate Jackson's impact on American culture.

We wasted no time leaving an impression on both state and national culture. Jackson was the birthplace of the Republican Party and represented a turning point in the events leading up to the Civil War. Michigan even selected Jackson to house its first state prison in 1837. Museums, monuments and historic buildings pepper the city, harboring stories and artifacts that are waiting to be discovered!

Unlock this cultural revolution at ExperienceJackson.com/Culture

Unveil your connection to Jackson's historic past by taking the Art & Culture Character Quiz at **ExperienceJackson.com/Quiz**

PRISON HISTORY

With over a century of prison history comes notorious criminals, incredible stories of escape, and more tales of daily life behind bars than you can image!

Jackson owes almost 200 years' worth of growth and success to something many people wouldn't suspect: prisons. Early penitentiaries led to railroads — the largest stop between Chicago and Detroit — and those railroads led to an economic boom in the 19th century and beyond. See how it all started with a fascinating tour and extraordinary experiences that highlight our deep-rooted history.



The Jackson Historic Prison Tours

You can walk the grounds of what was once the largest walled prison in the world! The magnitude of this prison's importance will hit you once you are behind the 25-foot-tall stone walls that resemble a castle from yesteryear. The huge building you will tour was once Michigan's first penitentiary cellblock but has now been converted into the Armory Arts Village. On your tour, guides will share captivating tales of this iconic landmark and much more!

From riot to reform, crime to corruption, the echoing sounds of the famous and infamous await you.

Contact the Jackson Historic Prison Tours to make your reservation at 517-817-8960.

This is the only old prison in the world re-purposed as a residence with a focus on the arts - a unique blend with prison past.

Start your sentence at ExperienceJackson.com/PrisonHistory



BIRTHPLACE OF THE REPUBLICAN PARTY

Join the list of presidents and dignitaries who have visited this piece of American history.

Unsuspecting as it is, **Under the Oaks City Park** is one of the most significant spots in American political history. More than 150 years ago, the conversations held on this now quiet street corner would set the stage for the Civil War — and the end of slavery.

Compelled by nothing more than to do what was right, thousands of men and women gathered on the outskirts of Jackson to form a new political party. One that stood strong against slavery and fought for equality for all. This gathering marked the first Republican convention and the birth of the Republican Party.



See the resolution table used during the Republican Party's first official meeting at Ella Sharp Museum.

Experience the significance at ExperienceJackson.com/RepublicanParty



Discover a weekend picked just for you with our Weekend Adventure Planner! The tool will point you in the direction of the best activities, sites, and tastes Jackson has to offer.

Start your adventure at ExperienceJackson.com/planner

CIVIL WAR ERA

Home of Michigan's first Civil War volunteer regiment, Civil War history runs deep in Jackson.

Explore the pivotal role that Jackson played in the anti-slavery movement of the 1850s, leading up to four years of American Civil War. From striking monuments to widely attended events that continue to honor an undeniable impact, the stories of the Civil War hold a special significance within Jackson's heart.

Explore the pivotal role that Jackson played in the anti-slavery movement of the 1850s.

Several spots around the county provide invaluable reminders of the courageous people of Jackson, who made a lasting impact on the history of our nation during the Civil War. Visit **Withington Park** to see an impressive monument dedicated to Jackson's Civil War soldiers gifted by General William H. Withington. General Withington was key to the Union's success during the war. He received the highest and most prestigious personal military decoration due to his bravery during the First Battle of Bull Run. Discover the untold stories from Michigan's veterans, see uniforms that were once worn on the battlefield, and so much more at **Michigan Military Heritage Museum**.



Jackson Civil War Muster

In honor of the area's widespread history, the Jackson Civil War Muster started in 1984. It runs in August, featuring more than 1,500 reenactors and 30,000 spectators. Visit a re-creation of the original village of Jacksonburgh, watch an artillery "night fire," and enjoy live period music at this summer tradition.

The next battle begins at ExperienceJackson.com/CivilWar

UNDERGROUND RAILROAD

Until its recent discovery, one of the most popular routes through Jackson remained the most unknown.

Hidden in plain view since the early to mid-1800s, Jackson's stretch of the underground railroad was once the holy road to the promise land for an untold number of slaves. Although the exact details and inner workings of the system remain in a shroud of secrecy, many conductors left behind a trail that can still be followed.

Start your journey where the entire movement began, at **Under the Oaks City Park** – the location of the 1854 gathering that launched the Republican Party. What was once a piece of farmland on the outskirts of town, is now the centerpiece of a neighborhood that has been visited by presidents for more than a century. Next, you'll find yourself in a place of worship, where Sunday services were very different from the services provided the rest of the week. Founded by several conductors, the **First Congregational Church** acted as a temporary place of refuge, hiding people within the Romanesque revival church until it was time to move to continue their journey.



Their next stop may have just been another religious group on the west side of the county. Well known by the enslaved for their commitment to the anti-slavery movement, it was no surprise Quakertown was once the site of an active Underground Railroad community. Your historic journey would be incomplete without touring **Jackson Station**. Not only is this the oldest continually operating passenger train station in the country, many slaves boarded trains here to escape the United States for the Canadian border.

Your journey to freedom starts at ExperienceJackson.com/Culture

GRAB YOUR PHONE, YOUR HISTORIC TOUR BEGINS NOW!

Uncovering historic Jackson has never been easier with our self-guided tour. Spend the day exploring some of Jackson's unique museums or take a few days and experience them all!

Get your free guide to Jackson's museums at ExperienceJackson.com/Museums

A TRIP THROUGH TIME

Step inside one of Jackson's preserved properties and experience a time before cars, technology, and almost every convenience we often take for granted.

It's no secret that Jackson's history has played a role in the development of the region and the state. From Michigan's first state prison to what was once the largest stop on the Detroit-to-Chicago rail line, little pieces of Michigan history are waiting to be uncovered within the county's museums and historic places.

A Look at the 19th Century

Costumed guides lead the way on a tour of the **Waterloo Farm Museum** and its 10-room farmhouse, working blacksmith shop, granary and several other



Ella Sharp Museum

Little pieces of Michigan history are waiting to be uncovered.

buildings needed to support a 19th century farm. The nearby **Dewey School Museum** paints a picture of a mid-1800's school day. Make an appointment to experience life on a 175-acre Centennial Farm at **Tompkins Historical Stewart Farm Museum**. For a look at what life was like off the farm, head over to the picturesque Village of Concord, where you'll find the **Mann House**. As soon as you step inside this preserved property you'll feel like you are truly back in the Victorian era. Built in the stunning Tuscan Vernacular style, the **Coe House Museum** provides another snapshot into the late 1800s.

Stroll through the **Ella Sharp Museum** and see what several aspects of daily life were like during the Civil War era. The museum's Hillside Farm Lane looks just like the village would have back then, featuring a 150-year-old log cabin, schoolhouse, doctor's office, print shop, country store, wood shop, and farmhouse. The main galleries tell the story of Jackson's remarkable impact on history and a variety of changing exhibits.



Coe House Museum



Ye Ole Carriage Shop



Lost Railway Museum

An Exhibit for Every Interest

Jackson's museums are as diverse as its cultural influence. Head over to **Michigan Whitetail Hall of Fame Museum** for a display of more than 50 Boone and Crockett world record buck racks and the chance to feed real whitetail deer. Gaze up at the cosmos under **Hurst Planetarium's** 30-foot dome or gaze down at **Ye Ole Carriage Shop's** seriously sleek display of 60-plus classic cars – including 18 that were made right here in Jackson. Be sure to make your appointment for this Jackson treasure.

Musicians and music lovers will appreciate **Conklin Reed Organ & History Museum**, where 100 antique organs are on display — many in playable condition! In addition to this unique collection, the museum has 87 acres dedicated to agricultural and rural history, which includes a newly built antique farm equipment barn, a maple sugar shack, and a sawmill. Be fascinated by the war stories and interesting artifacts of Michigan's average Joe and Jane at **Michigan Military Heritage Museum**. Stop over to the **Lost Railway Museum** to see the progression of transportation from horse and buggy to the automobile. While you're there you'll discover a nearly forgotten mode of transportation—the electric interurban railway.

Discover your next exhibit at
ExperienceJackson.com/Museums

ORIGINAL ODDITIES

For a touch of quirkiness, swing by the giant Paul Bunyan statue in front of **Knutson's Sporting Goods**.

For the hunter, a unique opportunity awaits just southwest of the city — a chance to hunt on land owned by rocker, Ted Nugent. Head to **Pulaski Township's Sunrize Acres** for a Sunrize Safari among all kinds of wild game. Or show off your skills at **Axe Play**, an axe throwing bar that offers a good time with a little bit of friendly competition.



One of the area's most creative ways to have fun is at **Cascades Foot Golf Course**. Or put your mental skills to the test as you use clues to solve a series of puzzles to make your daring escape at **EpiQ Escapes**. Stop by **Nostalgia Ink** and browse an impressive comic book selection, then head to an outdoor movie in our downtown park to see all your favorite characters come to life. And of course, transportation is always close by at the **Jackson County Airport** or **Jackson Station**, the oldest continually operating passenger train station in the country.

An adventure that can only be found in Jackson starts at
ExperienceJackson.com/UniquelyJackson



Pique your interest with these one-of-a-kind spots around Jackson.

If you have an appreciation for the arts, then you're in luck. For starters, the **Armory Arts Village** is the only old prison in the world to be repurposed as a residence with a focus on the arts. Next door, you'll find **Art 634 studios**. What was once a wagon wheel factory staffed by prisoners from Michigan's first state prison, is now a place to experience and create art.

The architecture throughout the county pays tribute to several iconic eras. Explore the 1920s on a self-guided walking tour of downtown Jackson. While you're there,

stop by **Michigan Theatre** for a cinema experience unlike any other. Originally built in Spanish Renaissance style with an ornate polychrome terracotta façade, heavy damask draperies, and stained-glass light fixtures, Michigan Theatre is considered one of the most splendid theaters in the state!



For another visual experience, the creations of the **Bright Walls** mural festival can be seen all around the downtown area. Although this popular festival only happens once per year, it covers Jackson's cityscape with lasting artwork. While downtown, you can also stand in the shadow of Louise Nevelson's 30-foot **Summer Night Tree** sculpture for a steely glimpse of abstract art.

Your artistic adventure starts at ExperienceJackson.com/Art



Photo by Bright Walls Photographer Lindsay Goodrich

MEDITERRANEAN EXPERIENCE IN THE MIDWEST

The Cascades, also known as Cascade Falls, is one of Jackson's most spectacular attractions. Modeled after a Spanish landmark, this illuminated, man-made waterfall has stood as a symbol of Jackson for over 85 years. The colors in its cascading waterfalls are as unique as the area's personality.

While you're at The Cascades, stop by the splash pad for some fun in the sun!

Religious artistry is easy to spot when you make an appointment at **St. Demetrius Orthodox Church**. Graced with floor-to-ceiling Byzantine frescoes, this is an Eastern European art experience right in America's heartland. The technique of two-dimensional painting has been used for over 1800 years in cathedrals and churches across the world.



Explore Jackson's art scene at your own pace with the free Experience Jackson Tours app! On the tour you will discover what influenced our architecture and so much more!

Download now on the Google Play Store and Apple App Store



The sky is your ceiling among miles of trails, forests, and fairways.

Jackson's great outdoors are the perfect prescription for the four-wall blues, with all sorts of sports and recreation to cure what ails you. Miles of trails and thousands of acres of protected forest surround Jackson's city center. Take a fishing trip on some of the area's bountiful lakes or grab your binoculars for birdwatching in the presence of hundreds of native bird species.

The cure to your four-wall blues is at ExperienceJackson.com/Outdoors

TRAILS

From paddling to pedaling, venture through miles of pristine paths.

Reconnecting with nature is easy when you're in Jackson. If you're looking for an all-day hike, the **Waterloo Recreation Area** is just the spot. With more than 20,000 acres and 47 miles of trails, it's the largest park in the Lower Peninsula! **MacCready Reserve** is just miles from the city but feels like

TRAIL MAPS AND MORE!

Explore Jackson's hiking, mountain biking, road biking and running trails like a pro with the help of our free Ultimate Trail Guides. The free guides give you trail maps, parking info, awesome attractions nearby, and so much more!

Get your free guides today at ExperienceJackson.com/Trails










Jackson's great outdoors are the perfect prescription for the four-wall blues.

you are a world away. The trail winds around the 408-acre forested park, overlooking ponds and marshes. With plenty of challenging hills, this shaded trail is perfect on a hot summer day. If you're up for an adventure, explore the mountain biking trails at **Ella Sharp Park** or try the **DTE Energy Foundation Trail**. For a relaxing ride, the **Falling Waters Trail's** miles of paved paths are the perfect way to unwind.

Walking, hiking, and biking are only a few of the ways you can make use of Jackson's abundance of trails. Take a horseback ride through **Waterloo State Recreational Area** or bring your cross country skis for an exhilarating ride among beautiful snow-tipped pines at **Dahlem Conservancy**.

Explore snowshoeing, cross country skiing, and fat tire biking trails at ExperienceJackson.com/WinterTrails

Find your next trail at ExperienceJackson.com/Trails

-  Enjoy over 60 miles of fairways
-  Drop a line in one of 188 lakes
-  Paddle, hike, bike or cross country ski 100s of miles of unique waterways and trails
-  Spot 1,000s of Sandhill Cranes each fall
-  Discover more than 10,000 acres of lakes
-  Go horseback riding on 100s of acres
-  Explore 20,000 acres at the Lower Peninsula's largest state park

WATERWAYS

Set your sails on more than 200 miles of waterways and more than 100 lakes. Enjoy a self-guided tour down the **Grand River**, or opt for a kayak or stand up paddle board lesson from an expert at **Quiet World Sports**. Don't have a kayak or room to pack it? No worries. **Quiet World Sports** rents them and other water equipment.

No matter your fitness level, Jackson's trails give you a hundred great excuses to get out and experience nature in its purest form.

FISHING

Grab your tackle box and lucky pole because our lakes are swimming with activity – all 188 of them.

You can almost hear the catch of the day calling your name, from the wide-open waters of **Center Lake**, to the pier at **Sparks Park Urban Fishery**, and even on all 11 lakes at the 20,000-acre **Waterloo Recreational Area**. Our fish-stocked waters provide the perfect getaway for a seasoned fisherman or pint-sized beginner. No matter your skill level, when you're in Jackson your fishing gear will be begging for a rest.



ICE FISHING

If there's nothing better than being warmed up by the adrenaline rush you get feeling a tug on your line, then Jackson is just the place for you! With more than 10,000 acres of lakes, there is plenty of room to pitch your shanty. Think you've got what it takes to fish among North America's best? Enter the **Midwest Open Ice Fishing Tournament**—you just might take home the \$20,000-plus cash prize.

With more than 10,000 acres of lakes, there is plenty of room to pitch your shanty.

Visit ExperienceJackson.com/Fishing to find the next catch.



BIRDING

In Jackson, any season is a good season to be a bird lover.

Whether you're an expert packing a top-of-the-line scope or a novice with a pair of binoculars, the widely inhabited forests, fields, marshes and lakes make Jackson a birding paradise. Home to hundreds of native bird species and a flyover state for those in migration, viewing opportunities are always changing here.

Some of the richest wildlife resides within the **Kate Palmer Sanctuary**, containing 50-plus acres of protected forest. With a wide variety of ecosystems, it's no surprise more than 100 species of birds have been identified in the sanctuary!

Get your free
bird-sighting checklist at
ExperienceJackson.com/Birding

Waterloo Recreation

Area, the largest park in the lower peninsula harbors 47 miles of hiking trails and an encyclopedia of species within its massive reserve — over 20,000 acres worth! You don't have to be on foot to check another bird off your list. **The Falling Waters Trail** lets birdwatchers explore different habitats by way of a lengthy paved bike trail, while many scenic waterways offer unique birding vantage points by canoe or kayak.

Birds of a feather flock together.

The rare and elusive can be spotted in Jackson, like a gathering of 8,000 Sandhill Cranes! In the fall these elegant creatures gather in Jackson's countryside before their southern migration. The **Haehnle Memorial Sanctuary** is known as a hotspot for these birds, who stand four feet tall and have an impressive wingspan measuring six feet across. According to the Michigan DNR, the highest concentration of Sandhill Cranes can be found in Jackson.

Spot elusive birds at
ExperienceJackson.com/Birding



Ella Sharp Golf Course

TAKE ON THE GREENS

Golfers from across the Midwest flock to Jackson to hit their first hole-in-one or to master their bunker shot—with more than 60 miles of fairways, there’s plenty of opportunity! If putting is your specialty, we’ve got you covered. Putt your way to victory at all 387 holes.

A Course for Every Skill Level and Preference.

Golf has been a part of Jackson’s personality for a long time—we’re talking late 1800s. We love it so much, only one city has more courses per capita than we do! With so many options, we’ve got just the course for you, no matter your handicap. For starters, **Grande Golf Club** was awarded an impressive 4.5 stars from Golf Digest, **Cascades’** course is consistently listed as one of the top public courses in Michigan, and **Arbor Hills** offers the unique experience of a country club-turned-public.

Golf Getaways

The challenging variety and number of courses paired with additional activities makes Jackson an ideal location for your next golf trip. We even have special hotel rates and complimentary help getting groups together. Told you we love golf!



360+ holes to play



More than 60 miles of fairways



20 + courses for any golfer



4+ Star Ratings



Great golf at an amazing value

DAY ONE

First Stop, the Grande Golf Club

Located in the heart of Michigan, the Grande has been awarded 4.5 stars from Golf Digest Places to Play. The **Grande Golf Club** offers 18 holes of spectacular play that will challenge golfers of any skill level. Opened in 2001, this Raymond Hearn design has delighted golfers from around the country with challenges on every hole and the scenery that surrounds the course. Features of this club include an award-winning practice facility and driving range, championship level course conditions, and beautiful scenery.



DAY TWO

Morning at Calderone

Start your morning round at **Calderone**, one of Southern Michigan’s top affordable public golf courses. The course is a mixture of links style holes, similar to St. Andrews, and traditional style holes. Several of the greens at Calderone provide a challenge not unlike what you would expect if you were playing at the Masters in Augusta, Georgia. Calderone features wide landing areas, large greens, and five sets of tees ranging from 5,800 to over 7,000 yards.



Calderone

Afternoon 18 at Arbor Hills Golf Club

Designed in 1925 by Arthur Hamm, this masterpiece offers a golf experience in the grand traditions of the game. With a classic design winding through tree lined fairways and up to our perfectly manicured greens, **Arbor Hills Golf Club** will test your nerves on this ultimate risk/reward golf course. The course features 3 sets of tees for different skill levels; whether you are looking for a tournament or just a casual game, Arbor Hills has the perfect golf experience for everyone! Features include an on-site driving range, two practice holes, putting greens, and a full-service golf shop.

DAY THREE

Start in Town at Cascades Golf Course

The **Cascades Golf Course** was established in 1929 and is operated by the Jackson County Parks Department. The Cascades is challenging, long by most standards, and features waterways and beautiful scenery. The signature hole is #17, a par four measuring 383 yards from the white tees. A creek runs across the fairway 240 yards out and the approach is played to a severely sloped green guarded by trees and bunkers.

Afternoon at Ella Sharp

Ella Sharp Golf Course is located on 562 acres along the banks of the Southwest Branch of the Grand River in beautiful Jackson, Michigan. The various topographies of the park range from relatively flat to heavily rolling and hilly, the perfect location for a golf course. This 18-hole golf course provides a challenge for golfers of all levels. The course touts two of Jackson County’s most challenging golf holes (2nd & 12th holes) along with an array of other well-manicured fairways and greens.

Score your next hole-in-one at ExperienceJackson.com/Golf

DAY FOUR

Get Started at Concord Hills

Concord Hills Golf Club is situated along a varied topography with some significant elevation changes from tee to green. The beginning holes of each nine play along a level terrain before elevated tees and raised green complexes come into play. The property also includes a grass range and putting/chipping green.



Arbor Hills Golf Club

Afternoon at Waterloo Golf Course

This course is situated at the center of the 20,000-acre **Waterloo Recreation Area**. The natural landscape and mature trees make this course exceptionally serene, while adding some elevation challenges from the rolling hills. Be prepared to tackle several uneven lies, a few blind shots, and your skills to be tested on the tree-lined fairways.

Want an inside look at Jackson's most popular courses from the golf pros themselves? Download Jackson's Golf Tips Guide for free ExperienceJackson.com/GolfTips

DAY FIVE

One More Round

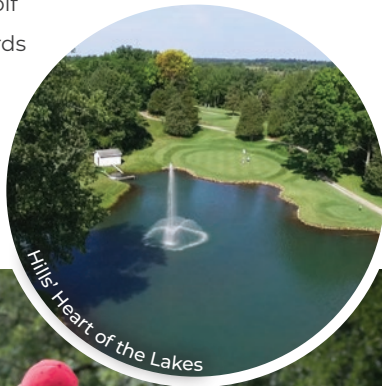
You've spent a great week in Jackson playing some of the best courses in Michigan, and now, before you leave, head out to one more course to complete your trip. No matter which direction you're heading, there is a course to play a final 9 or 18 holes before leaving Jackson.

Hankerd Hills Golf Course

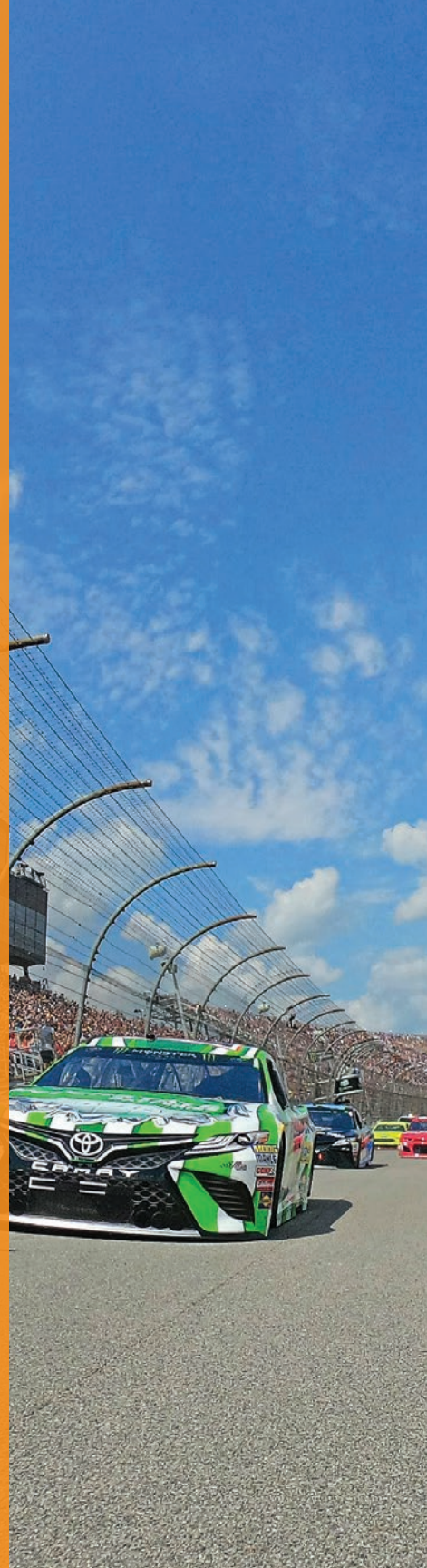
If you're heading north on US 127, you can stop at **Hankerd Hills Golf Course**. Close your eyes and picture a scenic layout with Northern Michigan charm; a variety of bunkers, water hazards, and narrow driving holes. Hankerd Hills Golf Course is located in Pleasant Lake and features 27 holes for every level of player.

Hills' Heart of the Lakes

Heading south on US 127? Then stop by **Hills' Heart of the Lakes** in Brooklyn. Designed by professional golfer Mike Hill, Hills' Heart of the Lakes Golf Course measures 5,472 yards from the longest tees. The course features two sets of tees for different skill levels.



WHAT DRIVES YOU?



From classic to modern, two to four wheels, flathead or Hemi, Jackson's got it all.

When you're this close to **Michigan International Speedway**, it's hard to deny that racing is a part of the local culture. In addition to the state's premier NASCAR venue, Jackson hosts stock car, modified and late model races at **Springport Motor Speedway**.



Try your hand at the sport in a go-kart or mini sprint car on **Jackson Speedway's** paved and dirt tracks. Or, head to Grass Lake for a different kind of adrenaline rush:

Hydroplane Boat Racing. For more than 30 years the Michigan Hydroplane Racing Association (MHRA) has brought its annual power boat races here to tally up points in the race for the association's annual driver of the year trophy!



Unleash your need for speed at ExperienceJackson.com/Motorsports

Sports, music, festivals, beer and wine: big events are rolling through Jackson all year long.

WINTER EVENTS

Midwest Open Ice Fishing Tournament

This annual competition is for serious anglers. Two-man teams from across the US and even Canada flock to the Jackson area for their hand at the \$20,000-plus grand prize.

Nite Lites

From late November through December, Nite Lites flickers with holiday spirit at Michigan International Speedway. This two-decade tradition features a drive-through display of millions of lights arranged as recognizable characters and dazzling tunnels that surround your car on all sides. Relive memories and create new ones at this holiday event that bridges generations young and old. Stretch your legs in Winter Wonderland with a mug of hot cocoa, a snack, and of course, Santa himself — even his reindeer visit on certain weekends!



Southern Michigan Winter Beer Festival

Participating breweries usually number well over 50, and often include Michigan staples like Bell's, Founder's and New Holland — in addition to out-of-state favorites like Deschutes, Ballast Point and Dogfish. You'll even have the chance to go hyperlocal with brews from Jackson's very own Grand River Brewery, 127 Brewing, and Ironbark Brewing Co.

SPRING EVENTS

Museum Day

American history has deep roots here and the Jackson County Museum Day is the perfect time for you to enjoy it all. Each spring, participating museums throughout the county will be open to the public free of charge. Museums will be hosting festivals, open houses, historical demonstrations, and tours for all ages.

SUMMER EVENTS

Art, Beer & Wine Festival

Kick off summer with more than 35 Michigan-based breweries, wineries, distilleries, over 15 food vendors, and 50-plus artists at the Art, Beer & Wine Festival. This event outdoes itself every year, as a rising number of festivalgoers enjoy live music and artist booths on Ella Sharp Museum's manicured grounds.

Childrenz Challenge

Designed specifically for kids, this mud-filled obstacle course's mounds, slopes, tunnels, and swings are a blast! Features two courses: a 1.5-mile course for ages 4-8 and a 2-mile course for ages 9-13.

Jackson Blues Fest

Warm summer nights set the stage for at least 10 blues bands and musicians playing to a packed crowd. Top talent and low admission prices make the Jackson Blues Fest a prime event for anyone who appreciates great live music. Bring the kids along for a Harmonica Hounds session, where they'll get to jam with the musicians.

NASCAR Races

Twice a year racing fans descend upon NASCAR's fastest track, Michigan International Speedway, for a couple of unforgettable NASCAR Cup Series experiences. Michigan has been a hotspot for racing almost as long as the automobile has been in production, and NASCAR is no exception!

Hot Air Jubilee

A jaw-dropping showcase of hot air balloons fill the morning and evening sky during the Hot Air Jubilee. This 30-year tradition includes carnival rides, live entertainment, pilot meet and greet, craft booths, a car show, and so much more!

Faster Horses

Experience one of America's premier country music festivals with three full days of concerts from country's top artists! Past acts include Carrie Underwood, Luke Bryan, and Miranda Lambert. Throw in two stages, nine campgrounds, food trucks, water slides, and jam sessions and you've got one can't-miss staple of summertime.

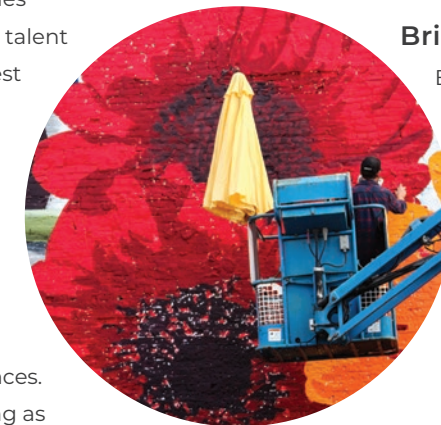


Civil War Muster

The 1860s come to life as 1,500 living historians reenact battles of the Civil War. During the two-day Muster, walk through the battle encampment and join the reenactors for a concert, military ball, and artillery "night fire". The Civil War Muster is one that few reenactments can beat—just ask one of the 30,000 spectators.

Bright Walls

Bright Walls is a public art and mural festival which hosts artists from across the globe and brings them to the downtown district. Throughout the festival, Bright Walls showcases the artists' talents alongside musicians, local artists and many other community organizations.



Find your next event at
ExperienceJackson.com/FeaturedEvents



CRAFT BREW FEVER

The secret is out—a tasty batch of breweries call Jackson home; each with a personality as unique as their beer menus.

Your microbrewery journey begins in **Grand River Brewery's** spacious taproom for a sampling of craft beers (wine and spirits, if you dare) in the heart of downtown Jackson. Just a short walk from **Omega Brewing Co.** (opening 2020) also located in downtown Jackson. Next, make your way to **Ironbark Brewing Co.** for a brew or hard cider. After that, have a pint within **127 Brewing's** old world-inspired interior.

BREWS JUST DOWN THE ROAD

Lone Oak Vineyard and Brewery is serving up ales brewed with hops grown in their very own Grass Lake vineyard. Travel south through rolling country hills to **Shady's Tap Room** and sample assorted Michigan beers on Brooklyn's quaint Main Street. While you're down there, pop in and get your daily serving of fruit at **Cherry Creek Old Schoolhouse** and **Meckley's Cidery**, where they've been perfecting hard ciders for years.

Pick your next pint at ExperienceJackson.com/Breweries



WINERIES

Southeast Michigan's fertile vineyards set the stage for a heavenly selection of local wineries.

Many popular wineries round out Jackson; all within a 20-minute drive of each other. Starting downtown, **Grand River Brewery** features an award-winning selection of their own wines, in addition to Sleeping Bear wines, a Michigan winery that partnered with the brewery. On the outskirts of town, **Sandhill Crane Vineyards'** charming location and large deck overlook a sprawling vineyard, while the quaint tasting room at **Chateau Aeronautique** feels like a little trip to Europe.



World-class grapes will treat your taste buds at **Lone Oak Vineyard Estate and Brewery**, the oldest and largest commercial vineyard in Southeast Michigan. Zip down to Brooklyn's **Cherry Creek Old Schoolhouse** and sample four generations of winemaking prestige inside a former schoolhouse built in 1870.

The Pioneer Wine Trail

The Pioneer Wine Trail features nine area wineries — four in Jackson, four in the Tecumseh-Adrian area, and one just outside Lansing. They partnered up to bring wine aficionados great wine at colorful events throughout the year, like a trail-wide chili cook-off, a summer art display and Valentine's Day chocolate pairings. Many of the events feature tour buses, but you can always drive yourself.

Uncork your next adventure at ExperienceJackson.com/Wineries



Business or leisure, Jackson’s lodging options can accommodate any traveling style you desire.

Check out the area’s local hotels, motels and B&Bs below and find a spot that fits your solo, couple or family travel plans. For group lodging accommodations, please fill out our Group Hotel Block Request Form at **ExperienceJackson.com/Lodging** or call **(517) 764-4440**.

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Wi-Fi | Whirlpool |
| Guest laundry | Meeting room |
| In-room microwaves & refrigerators | On-site restaurant |
| Pets welcome* | Conference center |
| Fitness center | Business center |
| Breakfast | On-site catering |
| Indoor pool | Banquet space |
| | Outdoor pool |

America’s Best Value Inn & Suites
830 Royal Dr., Jackson, MI 49202
(517) 783-1900

Baymont Inn & Suites
2035 Bondsteel Dr., Jackson, MI 49202
(517) 789-6000

Colonial Inn
6027 Ann Arbor Rd., Jackson, MI 49201
(517) 764-3820

Courtyard by Marriott
2010 Bondsteel Dr., Jackson, MI 49202
(517) 768-0088

Comfort Inn & Suites
2435 Shirley Dr., Jackson, MI 49202
(517) 768-0088

Fairfield Inn & Suites
2395 Shirley Dr., Jackson, MI 49202
(517) 784-7877

Hampton Inn
2225 Shirley Dr., Jackson, MI 49202
(517) 789-5151

Hankerd Inn & Resort
10350 Hankerd Rd., Pleasant Lake, MI 49272
(517) 769-6153

Holiday Inn Express & Suites
3506 O’Neill Dr., Jackson, MI 49202
(517) 788-6400

Holiday Inn Jackson NW
2696 Bob McClain Dr., Jackson, MI 49202
(517) 789-9600

Home 2 Suites by Hilton
2704 Bob McClain Dr., Jackson, MI 49202
(517) 998-7000

Joy Motel
7657 Ann Arbor Rd., Jackson, MI 49201
(517) 522-8402

Super 8 Brooklyn
419 S. Main St., Brooklyn, MI 49230
(517) 592-0888

Super 8 Jackson
2001 Shirley Dr., Jackson, MI 49202
(517) 788-8780

TownePlace Suites by Marriott
2002 Bondsteel Dr., Jackson, MI 49202
(517) 780-0065

Travelodge of Jackson
901 Rosehill Dr., Jackson, MI 49202
(517) 787-1111

TRU by Hilton
2401 Shirley Dr., Jackson, MI 49202
(517) 867-5000

*Contact hotel directly for pet qualifications