

Tourism begins at home:

St. Joseph County has something for everyone

This year, instead of traveling far away, visit areas in your back yard in St. Joseph County! With an abundance of cultural, educational and outdoor attractions as well as several unique shopping areas, you'll be sure to find something of interest to do.

Start with the downtown area of South Bend, comfortably nestled along the banks of the St. Joseph River. Imagine the pioneer fur traders and American Indians who populated this area more than 150 years ago. Famed explorer LaSalle negotiated a peace treaty between the Miami and Illinois tribes under the spreading limbs of the historical Council Oak tree in the northwest area of South Bend in 1681. Preserved for their historical tradition are the cabin of Pierre Narvarre, a pioneer fur trader; the Old Courthouse Museum, designed by Chicago architect John Van Osdel in the mid-1800s; and the homes of early South Bend residents, such as the Studebaker and Oliver who were famous American manufacturers.

Located in downtown South Bend, the Century Center occupies the spot where the city's first schoolhouse was located. A modern complex of five buildings under a common glass roof, Century Center overlooks whitewater rapids. Excellently suited for convention and cultural activities, the center contains a large Conven-

tion and Exhibit Hall, 11 meeting rooms of varying sizes, a Rectal Hall, a small auditorium with excellent acoustics, a 700-seat Performing Arts Center, the Studebaker National Museum - home of the only industrial museum in Indiana, an Art Center, a courtyard and Island Park. The Studebaker National Museum has a second location, known as the Archives, with a large display of motorized and non-motorized Studebaker vehicles.

A short distance away is the East Race Waterway, the only artificial whitewater course in North America, where national and international kayak competition is scheduled. It is open in suitable weather for residents and visitors interested in canoeing, kayaking and rafting.

Treasure the historical past with a visit to the Northern Indiana Historical Society building at 112 S. Lafayette Blvd. Here American Indian artifacts and costumes are on permanent display as well as many objects of early American life that were brought from the old country. A second museum of great importance is located in Miles, eight miles north of South Bend, where outstanding pictographs of Sitting Bull and the Battle of Bull Run, famous legends in American history, are on permanent display.

Walk through the neighborhoods bordering South Bend's downtown area and see the

many mansions and homes occupied by settlers who established businesses here in the early days of the community. Have lunch or dinner at Tippecanoe Place, a home built in 1888 and occupied by world-renowned Clement Studebaker and his family. Two blocks west is the Oliver Mansion, Copaholm, built in 1895 for the son of the founder of Oliver Plow Works. The mansion has been open for tours since the summer of 1990.

Sculptures in the downtown area are of great interest to many visitors to our community. Of particular interest is "Keeper of the Fire" located in the St. Joseph River behind Century Center. This 8.5-ton expressionistic sculpture moves with the wind and takes its name from a translation of Potawatomi, one of the American Indian tribes living in the area.

Recreation features include more than 90 parks, four 18-hole golf courses, four outdoor swimming pools, and more than 50 freshwater lakes and streams within an hour's drive of the South Bend/Mishawaka area. Potawatomi Park is the location for major picnic and sports facilities. The 22-acre Potawatomi Zoo is also located in the park. Additional recreation areas are located in Rum Village, Merrifield Park, Howard Park, Leeper Park, and the many parks in adjoining rural areas. There is Bendix Woods to the west, Potato Creek to the south, Ferretie-Baugo to the east, and St. Patrick's on the north side of South Bend.

Entertainment and culture abound in the area, where major art exhibits are open to the public at the Snite Museum of Art on the Notre Dame campus and the Art Center in the Century Center.

Mishawaka is the site of the new Japanese gardens, Shiojiri Niwa, an outgrowth of a successful sister city program with Shiojiri, Japan.

Choosing a place to eat is hard



Stanley Covaleski Regional Stadium, home of the South Bend White Sox Class A minor league baseball team.

for local residents and visitors as the area has an array of quality restaurants offering Continental, Mexican, Oriental, American and other types of cuisine.

The area is also a shopper's delight with everything from small specialty shops to large discount malls, including the Mishawaka's historical 100 Center Complex and South Bend's

Scottsdale Mall.

Coming to the South Bend Mishawaka area is easy, whether by plane, train or car. The Michigan Regional Airport has an average of 21 commercial flights arriving and departing daily. Amtrak makes stops at nearby Niles, and the South Shore Railroad makes round trips daily, connecting South Bend and Chicago.

Visit the Tourist Center

Looking for things to do in the Michiana area? If you are, your first stop should be at the St. Joseph County Tourism Center located in South Bend.

Conveniently located in the Studebaker Museum, 525 South Main Street, the center offers travelers

maps and brochures, as well as sample menus from area restaurants.

Hours are 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and noon to 4 p.m. on Sundays.

The Chamber of Commerce of St. Joseph County would like to thank the following organizations who supported the "Tourism Begins At Home" badges that were recently distributed during Tourism Week, May 5 through 11. The badges were used for a variety of purposes to improve local awareness of tourism, which included various discounts at area merchants and attractions during tourism.

South Bend White Sox
Century Center
City of South Bend
Princess Wray Sports & Activities Center
City of Mishawaka
St. Joseph County Parks
100 Center
Studebaker Museum
Northern III Historical Society
South Bend Art Center

Healy Produce Inc.
Oscoda Business Association
Rumland Business Association
Julia Habel & Carl Butcher
Hanges & Handies
Shunk & Hochstetler Print
Hop's Powerland Parachutes, Inc.
Potato Creek Antique & Collectible Mall
The Convention & Visitors Bureau

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ROSELAND FRUIT AND GARDEN CENTER, INC.
RELMONT BEVERAGE
GREAT WALL CHINESE AMERICAN RESTAURANT
POH OFFICE PRODUCTS

SPECIAL THANKS TO COUNTRY BAKE SHOP

BEIGER MANSION BED & BREAKFAST

Stay in the 22,000 square foot turn of the century Mansion. Full Breakfast included. All rooms with standard beds and Victorian furnishings. We are a non-smoking facility.

FABLES GALLERY

The Gallery Where Gift Giving Is An Art. Located on the main level of the Mansion, representing over 80 fine craft artists from around the country.



A must-see place for anyone out of town.

317 Lincolnway East
Mishawaka, Indiana
256-0365 255-9191