The Essential Guide to Ann Arbor

Think of this as your personal tour guide to Ann Arbor from an otolaryngology-head and neck surgery resident’s perspective. We polled our residents to learn which activities they would recommend to someone who is new to this great city. Have fun exploring!

Ann Arbor Must-Do List

**Ann Arbor Art Fairs**
artfairs.visitannarbor.org

Composed of four independent art fairs, the Ann Arbor Art Fairs draw more than 1,000 artists and more than half a million visitors over four days in July. In addition to the fairs, there are free concerts and a variety of food and drink vendors.

**Ann Arbor Farmer's Market**
annarborfarmersmarket.blogspot.com

Open Wednesdays (May through December) and Saturdays (year-round), the Ann Arbor Farmer's Market offers an incredible diversity of products. Listen to live music while picking up produce, dairy, breads and ready-to-eat meals.

**Ann Arbor Restaurant Week**
annarborrestaurantweek.com

Twice per year, enjoy three-course dinner menus and prix fare lunch menus at Ann Arbor’s best restaurants.

**Ann Arbor Summer Festival**
a2sf.org

The Ann Arbor Summer Festival consists of ticketed music, dance, comedy and theater performances by national and international artists at various U-M campus and downtown venues. The festival also features Top of the Park, a nightly series of free outdoor concerts, movies and family activities at Ingalls Mall on North University.

**Main Street**
mainstreetannarbor.org

Quintessential Ann Arbor awaits you on a stroll down Main Street, home to a variety of unique shops, restaurants and great places to hang out.

**Michigan Stadium**
mgbblue.com

The largest football stadium in the country, the “Big House” has plenty of room for Wolverine fans old and new. Get the ultimate experience on game day.

**Nichols Arboretum**
lsa.umich.edu/mbg

Located within walking distance of the University of Michigan Health System and along the Huron River, the 100-acre “Arb” is a haven for students, hospital staff and visitors year-round.

**State Street**
a2state.com

As the gateway to U-M's central campus, State Street is home to many eclectic restaurants, shops and the renowned Michigan Theater and State Theater.

**Zingerman's Delicatessen**
zingermans.com

Zingerman's Deli features huge corned beef sandwiches, an exceptional array of farmhouse cheeses, estate-bottled olive oils, varietal vinegars, smoked fish, salami, coffee, tea and much, much more.

**Kerrytown**
kerrytown.org

Historic Kerrytown is home to one-of-a-kind shops, restaurants, markets and entertainment.
The Essential Guide to Ann Arbor  A City of Many Seasons

FALL

Our fall color palette is a glorious spectacle to behold. Blazing reds, oranges and golds are the perfect backdrop for a crisp afternoon outdoors. Some popular fall activities include:

- **Canoeing on the Huron River.** The canoe liveries in Gallup Park and Argo Park are open April through October.
- **Mountain biking on the Potawatomi Trail.** Affectionately known as “The Poto,” this 17-mile ride promises to challenge even the most seasoned biking enthusiast.
- **Live performances by artists from around the world.** Choose from music, dance and theater scheduled in the current season of the University Musical Society.
- **Fresh cider and warm doughnuts.** Most area cider mills start their presses around Labor Day and continue through Thanksgiving. A cider mill experience captures that quintessential Michigan fall feeling.

WINTER

The nice thing about wintertime in Ann Arbor is that there are plenty of fun activities to keep you busy, indoors or out. Our top picks include:

- **Staying warm inside any store downtown.** There are plenty of cozy spots to choose from, including bookstores of all kinds, specialty shops, cafés, museums, theaters and restaurants.
- **Ice skating and ice hockey games.** Whether you want to watch or do it yourself, Yost Ice Arena has it all.
- **Cross-country skiing and sledding.** Many parks in Ann Arbor feature ski trails and sledding hills.

SPRING

From first thaw to full bloom, the spring season brings some of the most anticipated events of the year:

- **Ann Arbor Antiques Market.** Open select weekends starting in April, this popular market features over 300 dealers at the Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds.
- **Ann Arbor Book Festival.** Held downtown each May, this festival celebrates the written word and highlights the city’s commitment to literacy.
- **Ann Arbor Film Festival.** The longest running event of its kind, this festival brings a world of cinema to the screens of the Michigan Theater every March.
- **University of Michigan Pow Wow.** Drawing more than 12,000 visitors every spring, spectators can take in performances by skilled singers, dancers and artisans from across the country.

SUMMER

Summer is a lively time of year in Ann Arbor, mostly due to the large number of festivals in the city and throughout the surrounding area. There’s always something to do:

- **Ann Arbor Summer Festival.** Beginning in June every year, this three-week event is an exhilarating celebration of performing arts, outdoor entertainment and community spirit.
- **Ann Arbor Art Fairs.** In July, the streets of downtown Ann Arbor fill with artists and visitors from across the country to attend this nationally recognized event.
- **Golfing.** Take in the beauty of southeastern Michigan on one of the many golf courses in and around the Ann Arbor area.
- **Outdoor fun.** Hiking, horseback riding, biking, swimming in lakes or neighborhood pools, fishing or playing at the park—it’s all here!