

# **2023 - 2024 Best of Erie** **City Guide**



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Thank you to the Erie Reader community for your continued support.

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Breanna Bush

## Erie, Pennsylvania: The Flagship City

A flagship is generally known as the ship in a fleet that flies the commander's flag. Here in Erie we are known by many names, and among them: The Flagship City. This name is derived from Commodore Oliver Hazard Perry's flagship during the Battle of Lake Erie in the War of 1812, the U.S. Brig *Niagara*, and the flag he famously flew from that ship which read: "Don't Give Up the Ship."

Our downtown is in the midst of an exciting renaissance with new buildings, businesses, and public art popping up regularly to help make Erie a vibrant, exciting, interesting place to visit.

And we most certainly have not. Here in Erie, like many other American cities, times have changed, industry has moved on, businesses open and close, but through it all we have not lost sight of what makes Erie special. Our downtown is in the midst

of an exciting renaissance with new buildings, businesses, and public art popping up regularly to help make Erie a vibrant, exciting, interesting place to visit.

The word flagship is also defined as "the finest or most important one of a group of things," and we like to think both definitions apply to our city - in particular to our standout natural geographic feature Presque Isle, which represents the finest we have to offer. Not only does it boast the third-best sunsets IN THE WORLD, but also miles of sandy beaches, acres of wilderness providing a home to hundreds of native species of flora and fauna, and convenient and well-planned multi-use trails—all of which go into making a visit to the peninsula worth the trip.

Our finery certainly doesn't stop at Presque Isle, and within this guide you will find a fleet of activities, restaurants, parks, attractions, festivals, and entertainment to have you flying our flag and joining the brigade of proud Erieites in emphasizing that we have not given up our ship, our pride and joy, our Flagship City.

### How to Use This Guide

An annual tradition instituted in 2014 by the Erie Reader – Erie's only independent, locally-owned alternative newspaper – Best of Erie polls Erieites on their favorite people and places, cultural and nightlife activities, and food and drink options, with over 100 categories to voice their opinions. Both nominations and voting are open to the public, making the year-end list a genuinely crowd-sourced product.

Over 500,000 votes were cast for the 2022 Best of Erie awards and those results form the foundation of this 2023-24 Best of Erie City Guide, a locally and publicly curated guidebook to all the best to eat, drink, see, and do in Erie, PA. As you flip through these pages, look for the icons indicated in the legend as a starting point for your explorations. They'll definitely show you the best Erie has to offer.

Best of Erie Winner 🏆

Best of Erie Runner-up 🥈



# navigating **IMPACT**

**THANKS TO GENEROUS DONORS,  
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**Last year, The Erie Community Foundation embraced an ambitious strategic planning process that engaged many voices and informed our thinking in new ways. The result is an inspiring and actionable three-year plan, a new mission statement and a bold vision.**

## **MISSION:**

The Erie Community Foundation's mission is to inspire, engage and empower donors and communities across the region, today and tomorrow.

## **VISION:**

We envision a united, vibrant and thriving region for all.

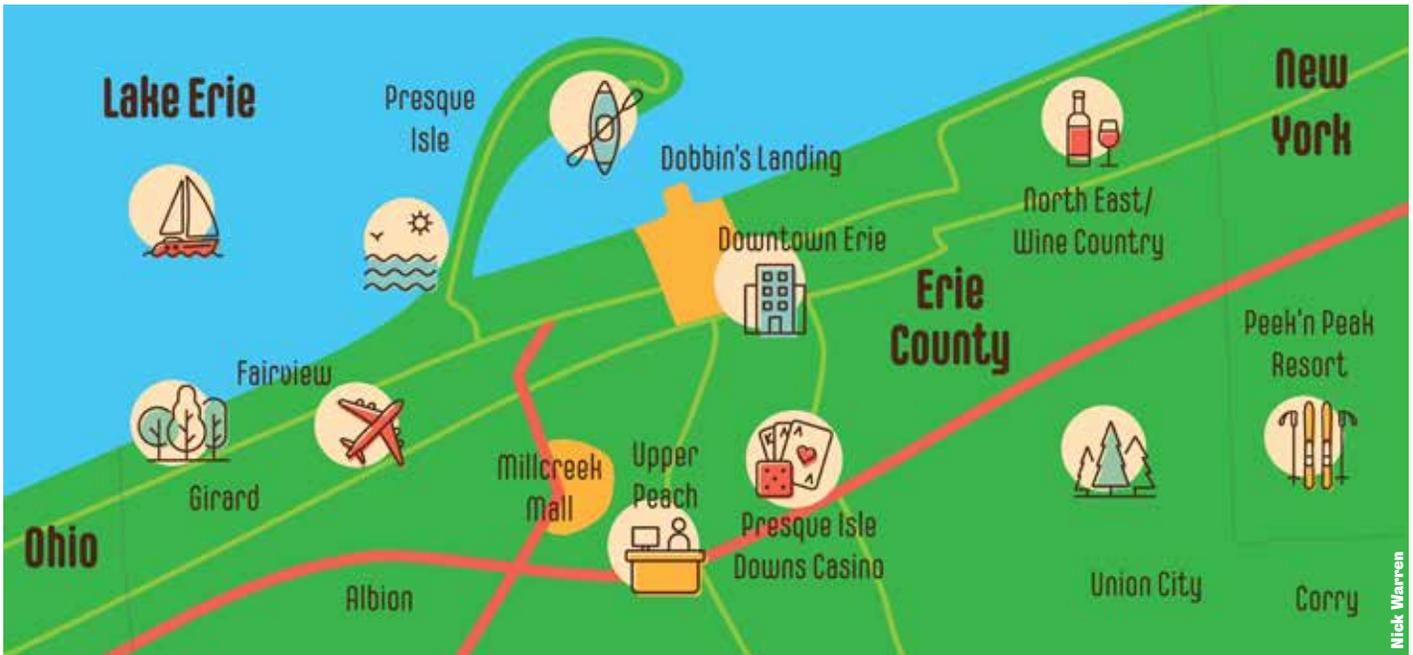
**YOU, TOO, CAN MAKE AN IMPACT.**  
**VISIT [ERIECOMMUNITYFOUNDATION.ORG](https://eriecommunityfoundation.org)**  
**OR CALL US AT 814-454-0843.**

## **IN 2022, AT THE ERIE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION:**

- Donors made 32,734 gifts totaling over \$62.7M
- Donors supported Erie Gives by giving over \$8.1M to 468 nonprofits
- On behalf of donors, we awarded:
  - 2,639 grants valued at \$20.3M to nonprofits
  - \$775K in scholarships to 500 students



Save the Date for Erie Gives | Tuesday, August 8, 2023 | [ErieGives.org](https://ErieGives.org)



## Best Sunset Spots

Many say Erie has some of the most spectacular sunsets in the world. With the stunning backdrop of Lake Erie and miles of shoreline, Erie sunsets set the perfect scene for romantic proposals, friendly gatherings, or a place for quiet reflection after a long day.

### Bayview Park

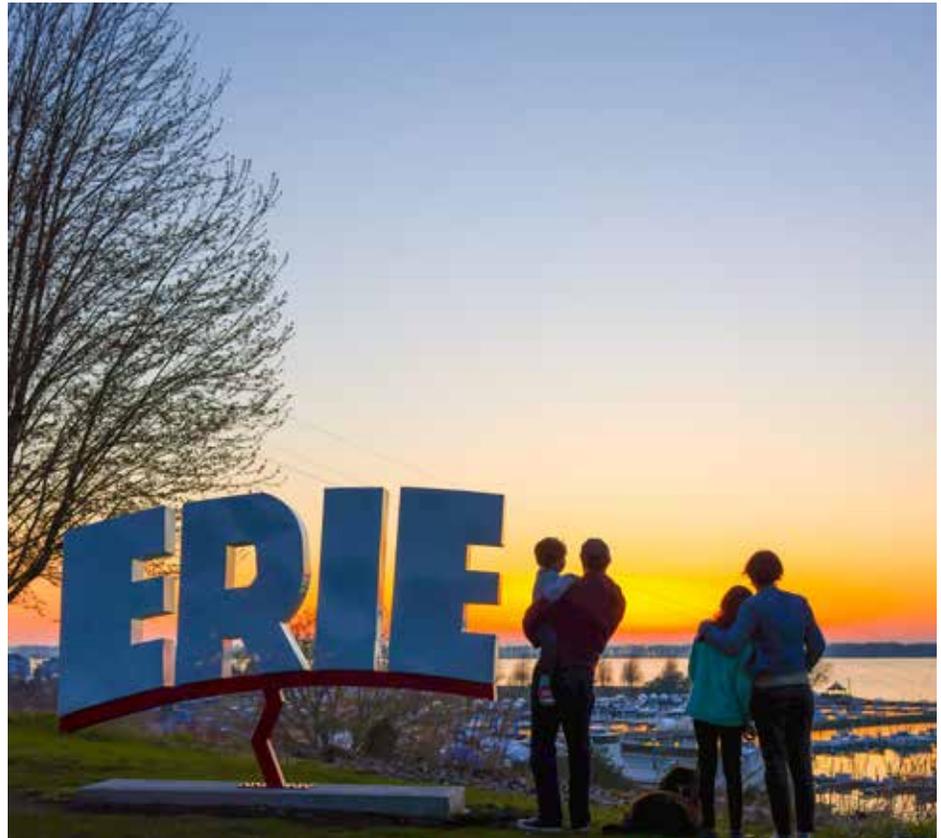
Set in the popular West Bayfront neighborhood, Bayview Park offers a sunset view from a higher perspective. Sitting on the bluff overlooking Presque Isle Bay, the park features a 10-foot-wide, 5-foot-high, 500-pound steel “Erie” sign. This spot is perfect for photo ops and a walk along the trails or relaxing on the giant swings. The park also has a splash pad, playground, picnic pavilions, a baseball field, and basketball courts.  
592 W. 2nd St.

### Presque Isle State Park

Framed by beautiful sandy beaches and Lake Erie, Presque Isle is a peaceful place to watch the sun go down. Although pretty much anywhere along the beach is a good spot, the appropriately named Sunset Point beach is the most photogenic. Sunset Point is located between Beaches 9 and 10. Other great points of view can be found on the Lighthouse Beach, Waterworks (Beach 7), or Pettinato (Beach 8) areas.  
301 Peninsula Dr.

### Waldameer Park's Ferris Wheel

Travel to the top of Waldameer Park's ferris wheel for breathtaking views of the sunset, Lake Erie, and the park's



Ravine Flyer II coaster. The giant gondola wheel leisurely carries its riders to its maximum height of 100 feet, pausing long enough so you can snap a bunch of photos.

220 Peninsula Dr.

### Shades Beach Park

It may be small, but what it lacks in size, it makes up for in viewing area. In addition to being a great sunset spot, it's a popular place to hang out with nature

trails, picnic grounds, woodlands, play areas, and a boat launch.

Shades Beach Rd., Harborcreek

### Sunset Cruises

Set sail on one of the many cruises available on Lake Erie waters. You can take a sunset tour aboard the *Lady Kate*, enjoy a fun night on the *Victorian Princess*, or take the entire family aboard *Scallywags Pirate Adventures*.

2 State St.

## Waterfront Activities

As you've probably learned by now, Erie is perfectly situated on the gorgeous Great Lake of the same name. We've mentioned Presque Isle State Park's miles of sandy beaches—ideal for sunbathing, collecting beach glass, birdwatching, boating, biking, frisbee, and swimming. But there's plenty more to be discovered along our shores, and we invite you to explore.

### Tom Ridge Environmental Center

Headquarters for the PA Department of Conservation of Natural Resources (DCNR), Tom Ridge Environmental Center (TREC) is a great place for visitors to stop and learn about our natural landscape, native species, birdwatch, or enjoy the natural playground. Take the steps or an elevator to the top of the tower for a bird's eye view of the lake and neighboring Waldameer. Then be sure to stop in the gift shop (Presque Isle Gallery and Gifts) for some locally made art and gifts.  
301 Peninsula Dr.

### The Maritime Museum and U.S. Brig Niagara

Get to know a little bit more about the history of Lake Erie, including but not limited to the Battle of Lake Erie in which Oliver Hazard Perry's flagship, the Brig *Niagara* sailed. Tours of the tall ship are included with the price of museum admission.  
100 Blasco St.

### Bicentennial Tower

Standing at the end of Dobbins Landing (once known simply as the Public Dock), the tower is an iconic point of reference for any Erieite. Travel to the top to take in one of the best views in Erie - tickets available from May to September, seven days a week from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.  
1 State St.

### Boating Adventures

Whether it's for a romantic getaway around the bay, for educational purposes, or just for some family fun, Erie is not lacking in options for getting out on the water. Enjoy a dinner cruise at sunset onboard the *Victorian Princess*, or an education in maritime history on the tall ships Brig *Niagara* or *Lettie G. Howard* or learn about the natural landscape of Presque Isle on the *Lady Kate*, or get soaked and silly on the pirate-themed adventure boat, *The Scallywag*.

### Erie's Lighthouses

If you're visiting Presque Isle, you're likely aware of the Presque Isle Light Station that is open for tours all summer long. But Erie has two other lesser-known but just-as-impressive lighthouses, the Erie Land Lighthouse (which was the first lighthouse lit on the Great Lakes), and the North Pier Light.



Stop by all three for some photos and a great historic experience.

*Presque Isle Light Station, Leslie Beach; Erie Land Lighthouse, 2 Lighthouse St.; North Pier Light, near Beach 11*

### Rent a Jet Ski or Boat

Get to know Lake Erie up close and personal by renting a jet ski, speed boat, canoe, or kayak for the day and traversing her shining waters yourself.

*Port Erie Sports // 402 W. Bayfront Pkwy.; Presque Isle Boat Rental // Thompson Dr. on Presque Isle; Hidden Harbor Water Rentals // 12 E. Dobbins Landing*

### Waterfront Dining

When it comes to dining in the summertime, little beats a beautiful restaurant on the water. The sun setting, the gulls flying overhead, a boat off in the distance - it's idyllic, it's romantic, it's beautiful. It's Erie.

### Oliver's Rooftop Restaurant and Beer Garden

Winner for Best Waterfront Dining, Best Patio, Best Romantic Restaurant, AND Best New Restaurant, Oliver's is the place to be if you'd like to dine on the waterfront in Erie. Check out the rooftop for upscale, fine dining with an incredible view, or make it more of a casual night in the beer garden while listening to some live music.  
130 E. Front St.

### Pier 6 Rooftop Bar and Grill

In combination with Bay House Oyster Bar, Pier 6 is a gorgeous spot for viewing the sunset while enjoying upscale casual dining with the freshest seafood around.  
6 Sassafras Pier

### Sloppy Duck Saloon

An Erie icon, Sloppy Duck has a spot for everyone: whether it's sitting on the back deck with a great Long Island iced tea and enjoying the bay view, inside by the bar with a burger, enjoying the view from the

floor to ceiling windows, or on the front patio listening to some live music.  
726 W. Bayfront Pkwy.

### Bayfront Grille

55 W. Bay Rd.

### The Cove Bayside Restaurant and Tavern

2 State St.

### Rum Runners

133 E. Dobbins Landing

### Sara's Restaurant

25 Peninsula Dr.

### Shoreline Bar and Grille

2 Sassafras Pier

### Smuggler's Wharf

3 State St.

### Sunset Grill

12670 Edinboro Rd., Edinboro

### Woody's Backwater BARge and Grill

110 E. Dobbins Landing





Watson-Curtze Mansion

## Lower State Street and Millionaires' Row Historic Walking Tour

**Y**ou have caught us, here in Erie, in the midst of a renaissance. Our downtown and neighboring areas are going through a significant amount of renovation, restoration, rebuilding, and rebranding. While there are many parties at play, one major contributor to our refreshed look is the Historic Erie Preservation Trust (HEPT), helmed by our city's benefactor Thomas B. Hagen, as he has taken on a staggering number of historic properties in the Lower State Street and West Sixth Street corridors (generally referred to as Millionaires' Row) and given them a full top-to-bottom restoration. Many of these buildings sat in peril from years of deferred maintenance or otherwise faced demolition due to their desirable locations, but can now stand as a shining reminder of our city's history.

So take a walk with us and get a glimpse at the grand homes of Erie's past and note their remarkable restorations which will aid in their continuing contribution to Erie's future.

### **1. The Troy Sterrett Building** 414-416 State St. Built in 1820

This was once the home of Erie's first newspaper man, Joseph Sterrett. Built in the Federal style, the oldest building on State Street has been recently restored by the HEPT.

### **2. The Cashier's House** 417 State St. Built in 1839

Built in the Greek Revival style, this building was constructed to be the headquarters of a new bank in Erie and the home of its CEO or "Cashier" William Benson and family. It has been recently restored by the Erie Downtown Development Corporation and currently houses an upscale steakhouse, Bricks at the Cashier's House.

### **3. Old Public Library** 27 S. Park Row. Built in 1899

This building, constructed in the Italian Renaissance style, served as the Erie County Public Library from 1899 until 1996 and is currently part of the Federal Courthouse complex.

### **4. Charles M. Reed Mansion** 524 Peach St. Built in 1848

Grandson of one of Erie's founders, Charles M. Reed was one of Erie's wealthiest citizens and was a brigadier general in the Pennsylvania militia. In 1905, after the death of Charles's wife, the home became the Erie Club, which it remains to this day.

### **5. John Hill House** 230 W. 6th St. Built in 1836

Unique in style and preservation, this home was built in a transitional style

between Greek Revival and Italian Villa. Originally owned by P.S.V. Hamot (of hospital repute), John Hill was a renowned architect and contractor in Erie.

### **6. Downing Galbraith House** 259 W. 6th St. Built in 1892

Richardsonian Romanesque in style, this immense structure was built at the request of J.F. Downing, a prominent business and civic leader, as a wedding gift for his daughter Winifred. This is now home to the Women's Club of Erie.

### **7. Alexander Jarecki House** 305 W. 6th St. Built in 1913

Architecturally unique and taking influence from a number of styles, this period revival home was once the dwelling of Alexander Jarecki, whose family were prominent manufacturers in Erie. This home was recently restored by the HEPT.

### **8. Selden House** 318 W. 6th St. Built in 1892

This home was constructed in the Victorian Eclectic style for the Selden sisters. The Selden family were prominent manufacturers who started (among others) Selden and Griswold Manufacturing (later known as Griswold Manufacturing), which made the famous cast iron cookware. This home was recently restored by the HEPT.



Downing-Galbraith House

### 9. *Canalside Rowhouses*

**328-330 W. 6th St. Built in 1875**

Built in the Second Empire Style (note the signature Mansard roof), these homes were built in the space where the Erie Canal would have flowed only a few years earlier. The canal was closed over in 1871. These homes were recently restored by the HEPT.

### 10. *Wood Morrison House*

**338 W. 6th St. Built in 1849**

This Italianate style house was once home to two pivotal people in Erie's history: Dr. William Wood, who was the first Surgeon General of the United States, and William Morrison, who was the last captain of the U.S.S. *Michigan/Wolverine*. This home was recently restored by the HEPT and is part of the Hagen History Center's campus. One can tour inside with the purchase of museum admission.

### 11. *Watson Curtze Mansion*

**356 W. 6th St. Built in 1891**

Two families (the Watsons and the Curtzes) lived in this mansion from 1891 to 1941, after which the building was donated to the people of Erie as a museum. The home was built by local manufacturer Harrison Watson (roofing and industrial supply). This building is now the home to the Hagen History Center and is open for tours.

### 12. *Albert Scheidenhelm House*

**456 W. 6th St. Built in 1925**

This Craftsman style house was designed by the same architects who designed

the Old Public Library building (Alden & Harlow). Albert Scheidenhelm worked for the William Scott Coal Company and lived in the home until his death in 1960. This home was recently restored by the HEPT.

### 13. *Julius Siegal House*

**459 W. 6th St. Built in 1906**

This well preserved house was built in the Beaux Arts Classicism style by Julius Siegal, who was a partner with Erie Oil Works. This building (as well as what was known as a "barn" in the rear) is now home to the Erie Community Foundation.

### 14. *Addison Leech House*

**462 W. 6th St. Built in 1872**

Another great example of the Second Empire style of architecture, the namesake of the Addison Leech house was a real Renaissance man. Dabbling in farming, real estate, milling, civic duties, management, the Civil War major ultimately landed in the grain elevator business. This home was recently restored by the HEPT.

### 15. *William Spencer House*

**519 W. 6th St. Built in 1876**

This home was built by prominent Erie banker Judah Colt Spencer for his son William in 1876. It is a great example of Stick Style architecture, and has been well preserved. Note the roof cresting, decorative exterior woodwork, and brickwork. This building is currently a bed and breakfast.

### 16. *Jarecki Collins House*

**620 W. 6th St. Built in 1923**

Right across the street from Erie's first planned subdivision in Garden Court, this home was built as a wedding present for Alexander Jarecki's daughter and is a great example of Tudor Revival architecture. This home is currently a private residence and was recently restored by the HEPT.

*We would like to thank Preservation Erie for providing the historical information on the properties listed. They are a non-profit dedicated to preserving the built history of Erie and can be found at [preservationerie.org](http://preservationerie.org)*

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WALKING TOUR,  
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## Art Galleries and Creative Spaces

Part of what makes Erie so special is our stunning amount of artistic talent and creativity, and the unique spaces we have built to highlight it all. In recent years there has been a boom in the number and quality of galleries, studios, and creative spaces throughout Erie, adding to those that have been making their marks for generations and contributing to what the art scene has become today.

### Erie Art Museum

Winner of 2022's Best Museum, The Erie Art Museum is a true gem in the Erie cultural scene. A world-class art museum, combining the space of the historic Customs House with a new, modern addition. They offer classes and workshops, many of which are family-friendly. The Erie Art Museum has an expansive, impressive collection of local, national, and global art in turn. 20 E. 5th St.

### Glass Growers Gallery

Voted Best Art Gallery in 2022, this well-established downtown gallery hosts shows from local artists of all media, while featuring creative, locally-made gifts for everyone on your list. 10 E. 5th St.

### City Gallery

City Gallery was born from the entrepreneurial spirits of local artists Lena Logvina and Steve Trohoske. Featuring an ever-changing display of local art with live music on the regular, you'll want to stop in for a dose of creative energy. 1503 State St.

### Performing Artist Collective Alliance (PACA)

While mostly known for their innovative performing arts, PACA is also home to a number of visual artists' studios and showcases the artwork of artists in the local community, from high school students to seasoned professionals, as well as renowned international artists. 1505 State St.



### 10|20 Collective

A community of artists housed in a historic, multi-use building – the 10|20 Collective has multiple galleries, event spaces, a recording studio, a cafe and gathering space, and a store. 1020 Holland St.

### Allen Stoneware Gallery

This gallery offers local, handmade pottery perfect for gifts (or something special for yourself). They also offer classes, so you can learn the craft. 2602 W. 8th St.

### D' Hopkins Denniston Gallery

5 W. 10th St.

### Dovetail Gallery

352 E. 18th St.

### Erie Center for Arts and Technology (ECAT)

650 East Ave.

### Erie Clayspace

1505 State St. 3rd Floor

### FEED Media Arts

1307 State St.

### Foundation Art Academy

1505 State St. 4th Floor

### Grounded Print Shop

1902 Cherry St.

### Kada Gallery and Frame Shop

2632 W. 8th St.

### Main Street Art

138 Main St. W., Girard

### Neighborhood Art House

201 E. 10th St.

### Painted Finch Gallery

32 N. Center St., Corry

### Presque Isle Gallery & Gifts

301 Peninsula Dr.

### Relish Studio & Gallery

3835 W. 12th St.

### RLB Art Studio

2016 Peach St.

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## Local Eats

The best part of visiting any city or town is getting to know that place through the food they offer. Erie is certainly no different and our culinary personality is on full display in the smattering of local award-winning restaurants featured herein. Our regional fare runs the gamut from fine dining to good old, sloppy, smoky barbecue, and spans locales from Downtown Erie, the waterfront, and throughout the city and county - wherever you are, you'll find something delicious waiting for you around the corner.

### Bro-Man's Sammiches 🍷

Starting out as a food truck, Erieites quickly realized that Bro-Man's was onto something. They've since expanded to include a brick and mortar restaurant to serve their unapologetically sloppy, undeniably delicious burgers and birria. Bro-Man's sammiches are finger-licking, arm-dripping good, and actually award-winning. 8228 Peach St.

### Federal Hill Smokehouse 🍷

Consistently voted Erie's Best Barbecue, Federal Hill Smokehouse presents unpretentious, gratuitous slabs of smoke in meat form. Classic barbecue favorites like brisket, pulled pork, and ribs are met with (actually delicious) vegetarian wings and specials like fried mac and cheese balls and brisket cheesesteaks. There's something for everyone. 2609 Peach St.

### Firestone's 🍷

Featuring open fire cooking in an open kitchen, upscale bar food turns into an unforgettable meal. 4823 Peach St.

### Odis 12 🍷

Ask anyone where you can get the best wings in town, the answer is invariably Odis 12. 3702 W. 12th St.

### Oliver's Rooftop Restaurant 🍷

Voted Best of Erie 2022 in a staggering four categories: Best Patio, Best New Restaurant, Best Waterfront Restaurant, and Best Romantic Restaurant, the people of Erie agree: Oliver's Rooftop is not one to pass up. With upscale fare rivaled only by the view, Oliver's will not disappoint. 130 E. Front St.

### Picasso's 🍷

Turning sandwich making into an art, Picasso's consistently delivers masterpieces. 960 Millcreek Mall Blvd.

### Plymouth Tavern 🍷

The Plymouth is like the Erie version of Cheers. You'll always find a familiar face

alongside a frothy mug of beer and tasty comfort food, like fried pretzels and reuben sandwiches.

1109 State St.

### Pineapple Eddie Southern Bistro 🍷

Best of Erie 2022 winner in the Best Restaurant, Best Chef (Chef Jean Paul's sixth win in this category), AND Best Seafood Restaurant categories, Pineapple Eddie dominates with their American Southern/Haitian fusion cuisine. A unique menu featuring well-loved classics like fried chicken and shrimp & grits, big bold flavor is the name of the game.

1402 W. 10th St.

### Teresa's Deli 🍷

Winner for Best Deli and runner-up for Best Sandwich Shop, Teresa's is a classic Italian deli that also provides some incredible catering options for your next event. 810 E. 38th St. // 3201 Greengarden Blvd.

### Bar RONIN

Creating an unforgettable experience is what Bar RONIN is all about, and the people of Erie have not forgotten them. Runner-up for both Best New Business and Best New Restaurant in 2022, this modern Japanese restaurant boasts inventive dishes and otherworldly cocktails sure to make even the most untethered samurai come back for more.

948 W. Erie Plaza Dr.

### Bayhouse Oyster Bar + Pier 6

While shucking away the winter inside at Erie's only oyster bar, summertime brings the return of the outdoor rooftop at Pier 6. 6 Sassafras Pier

### Calamari's Squid Row

A great downtown spot with outdoor seating available, a fresh, local menu, and plenty of libations.

1317 State St.

### Colony Pub & Grille

The eponymous restaurant within the Colony Plaza - stop in for great food, drinks, live entertainment, or have them cater your next event.

2670 W. 8th St.

### The Cork 1794

Upscale dining that's great for a special occasion but still casual enough for a week-night meal. The Cork is as well known for their inventive cocktails as they are for their impressive menu.

900 W. Erie Plaza Dr.

### Erie Food Co-Op

With two convenient locations, the Erie Food Co-Op offers fresh, healthy sand-



Bay House Oyster Bar

wiches, wraps, and salads, smoothies and juices, daily soups, and bakery items.

1341 W. 26th St // 34 N. Park Row

### Juice Jar

With freshly squeezed juices, custom smoothies, bowls, wraps, vegan fare, and baked goods, Juice Jar has a fresh, healthy option for everyone.

2620 W. 8th St.

### Outlaw Barbecue Revolution

Slow smoked, carefully crafted barbecue that brings people together.

3802 Elmwood Ave.

### Smuggler's Wharf

A classic favorite for seafood right on the water, Smuggler's Wharf is an Erie staple that has remained great for a reason.

3 State St.

### Sloppy Duck Saloon

Waterfront dining at its best - enjoy the sunset over the water while enjoying your meal, drinks, and live local music.

726 W. Bayfront Pkwy.

### Sullivan's Pub & Eatery

Sullivan's is the seventh oldest Irish pub in America and truly authentic. Located in the heart of Downtown Erie, it's got a cozy historic atmosphere and an ample menu.

301 French St.

### U Pick 6 Tap House

Conveniently located on State Street, U Pick 6 Tap House offers an inventive menu featuring wood-fired pizzas and a large variety of craft brews from which to choose.

333 State St. #110

### Andy's Pub

3866 Peach St.

### Avanti's

1662 W. 8th St.

### Bayfront Grille

55 W. Bay Rd.

**BIGBAR**  
14 E. 10th St.

**Buffalo Wild Wings**  
2099 Interchange Rd.

**Butch's Place Family Restaurant**  
3330 W. 26th St.

**The Cab**  
5442 W. Ridge Rd.

**Chippers Seafood and Southern Fusion**  
1023 State St.

**The Cove**  
2 State St.

**Edinboro Hotel Bar**  
100 Meadville St., Edinboro

**Engine House 39**  
1000 Washington Dr., Edinboro

**Fat Willie's Wing House**  
205 Waterford St., Edinboro

**Firebirds Wood Fired Grill**  
680 Millcreek Mall

**Hook's Catfish Kitchen**  
38 N. Park Row

**John Russell Brewing Company Brew House & Restaurant**  
7520 Peach St.

**Lorie's Wildridge Restaurant**  
5455 W. Ridge Rd.

**New Harvest Restaurant & Pub**  
11019 Sidehill Rd., North East

**New York Lunch**  
1005 Parade St. // 1525 Peninsula Dr.

**New York Lunch East Ave.**  
922 East Ave.

**One Way Inn**  
4344 Peach St.

**The Pittsburgh Inn**  
3725 W. Lake Rd.

**Presque Isle Downs and Casino**  
8199 Perry Hwy.

**Pub 20 / The Ruffed Grouse**  
10326 W. Main St., North East

**Que Abides Pit Stop**  
6990 W. Lake Rd., Fairview

**Ringside Restaurant**  
3202 Sterrettania Rd.

**Shoreline Bar and Grille**  
2 Sassafras Pier

**The Skunk and Goat Tavern**  
17 W. Main St., North East

**Storming Crab**  
7791 Peach St.

**Sunset Grill**  
508 Erie St., Edinboro

**Syd's Place**  
2992 W. Lake Rd.

**Ugly Tuna Tavern**  
1010 Peninsula Dr.

**U Pick 6 Harbor House**  
4454 Buffalo Rd.

**U Pick 6 Public House**  
4575 W. Ridge Rd.

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## Asian, Indian, and Nepali Cuisine

Erie may not seem a cosmopolitan melting pot at first glance, but our rich immigration heritage combined with our current immigration boom has created a melange of Asian restaurants featuring cuisine from Thailand, Vietnam, India, Nepal, China, Japan, and more. Flavor is king and the options are numerous, so let's eat!

### Samurai Kitchen + Sushi 🍣

Winner of both Best Asian Restaurant and Best Sushi, Samurai Kitchen + Sushi should definitely be a stop on your culinary tour of Erie. The local husband-and-wife team behind the restaurant have a clear edge on the local competition. 2767 W. 12th St.

### Ichiban

Runner-up for Best Sushi restaurant, Ichiban is known for its quality, fresh ingredients, friendly atmosphere, and excellent service. With a full menu that offers everything from sushi and sashimi, classic entrees, hibachi, tempura, bento boxes, and dessert, you're sure to find something to satisfy. 4041 Buffalo Rd.

### Imperial Buffet

Order your favorite classic Chinese dish off the menu, sit and indulge in all the expansive buffet has to offer, including fresh sushi and dessert items, or enjoy freshly made Mongolian barbecue. 7200 Peach St.

### Like My Thai

Runner-up for Best Asian Restaurant, Like My Thai is a Downtown Erie staple: great for a quick, spicy lunch or an intimate or celebratory dinner. With an open kitchen offering bar seating, or more private tables, the experience at Like My Thai is as multidimensional as the cuisine's flavor profiles. 827 State St.

### Saigon Nights

New to the Erie restaurant scene, but already receiving multitudes of glowing reviews, Saigon Nights offers the Erie area's only restaurant dedicated to Vietnamese cuisine. One slurp from a big bowl of pho or a low-and-slow stewed bun bo Hue and you'll be coming back for more. 2430 W. 8th St.

**Acme Chinese Restaurant**  
2301 Broad St.

**Annapurna Kitchen**  
1315 Parade St.

**Cathay Express**  
3 E. 18th St.

**China Jade**  
14 E. Main St., North East

**China Star**  
566 Millcreek Mall

**China Royal Buffet**  
9139 Ridge Rd., Girard

**Chopstix Express**  
3842 Liberty St.

**Curry Point**  
562 E. 12th St.

**Erie Curry House**  
3740 Peach St.

**Everest Restaurant**  
222 W. Plum St. Edinboro

**F & F Poke Bowl**  
2501 W. 12th St. // 6831 Peach St.

**Fine Restaurant & Bar**  
2330 E. 38th St.

**Fortune Garden**  
1210 W. 26th St.

**Golden Wok**  
3202 Pittsburgh Ave.

**Great Wall Restaurant**  
1326 E. Grandview Blvd.

**Happy Garden**  
418 State St.

**Happy Wok**  
1537 W. 38th St.

**Hibachi Japanese Steak House**  
3000 W. 12th St.



**Hong Kong Chinese Restaurant**  
2887 W. 26th St.

**Imperial Palace**  
4646 Buffalo Rd.

**Jade Garden**  
2034 E. 38th St.

**Ling Ling**  
1526B W. 26th St.

**Main Moon Chinese Restaurant**  
102 Erie St., Edinboro

**Maggie's China Inn**  
201 High St., Waterford

**My Way Bar and Grill**  
2218 E. Lake Rd.

**Namaste Indian-Nepali**  
5901 W. Ridge Rd.

**Noodlelove**  
22 N. Park Row

**Osaki**  
970 Millcreek Mall

**Peking**  
5526 Peach St.

**Royal Chopstix**  
3444 W. Lake Rd.

**S&S Super Buffet**  
1960 Rotunda Dr.

**Tandoori Hut Indian Cuisine**  
2605 Washington Ave.

**Tasty Bowl**  
7400 Schultz Rd.

**Thai Eatery**  
5641 Peach St.



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## Italian Restaurants

### Valerio's Italian Restaurant & Pizzeria

Best of Erie winner for Best Italian Restaurant in 2022, Valerio's has been a mainstay in Erie for decades. With a wide-spanning menu and three area locations, Valerios also offers catering.  
2179 W. 32nd St. // 1803 E. 38th St. // 724 Powell Ave.

### Colao's Ristorante

Find fresh pasta and authentic Italian fare at this intimate, romantic corner establishment.  
2826 Plum St.

### Mi Scuzi

Runner-up in 2022 and voted Best Italian Restaurant in Erie in 2021, this cozy spot is a favorite fine dining establishment in Erie.

The family-owned eatery is also considered one of the most romantic restaurants in Erie according to our voters.  
2641 Myrtle St.

### Barbato's Italian Restaurant

Locally established restaurant since 1955 that offers classic pies and casual Italian eats in a cozy atmosphere.  
7472 Perry Hwy.

### La Nuova Aurora Club

1518 Walnut St.

### Michael's Restaurant & Pizzeria

20 S. Lake St., North East

### Peppino's Italian Chop House

6590 W. Lake Rd., Fairview



Colao's Ristorante

### Ricardo's Restaurant

2112 E. Lake Rd.

### Skippereno's Italian Restaurant

1604 W. Grandview Blvd.

## Mediterranean & Middle Eastern Restaurants



Casablanca Grill

### Bistro 26

Mediterranean food is the specialty at Bistro 26, our 2022 winner for Best Mediterranean/Middle Eastern Restaurant. Lots of herbs, with fresh, flavorful meals that take reference from cuisines from around the world. Hummus plates, Caprese salad,

kabobs, and whole bronzini are among the standout Mediterranean fare.  
3557 W. 26th St.

### Casablanca Grill

Casablanca is one of the longest operating Syrian spots in Erie. With an eclectic menu that spans lighter lunch dishes like shawarma and tabouli to more elaborate, slow stewed dinner options with varying countries of origin: you'll get a true taste of the Middle East at Casablanca.  
2174 W. 8th St.

### Habibi Mediterranean Cuisine

Traditional Mediterranean dishes meet up with a cozy, intimate vibe in this Union Station restaurant. Fresh, light, and flavorful

dishes are sure to satisfy.  
127 W. 14th St.

### Fadak International Food Market

Fresh market serving prepared specialty Middle Eastern food.  
2601 Parade St.

### Palm Tree Market

Serving hummus, kabobs, falafel, and dinner entrees.  
2702 Parade St.

### Sham Market

760 E. 12th St.

### Shawarma King

1042 W. 26th St.

### Shish Kabob Restaurant

1202 French St.

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Ryan Hoover

## The Flagship City Food Hall: Our Community's Dining Room

**D**ining out in Erie recently got a boost of new options with the opening of the Flagship City Food Hall at 22 N. Park Row in 2021. A brainchild of the Erie Downtown Development Corporation, the food hall sits in a completely renovated space, connecting two historic properties that were most recently bars - one with an entrance on North Park Row and one with an entrance on State Street. And inside... think mall food court but way better and totally local. The food hall is proving to be a must-stop destination for truly experiencing what the Erie food scene has to offer: a diverse array of culinary creations that will have you coming back to try something new and different. Here's a rundown of all of the businesses that have found their place within the Flagship City Food Hall. You should definitely set a goal of trying them all. Learn more about all these restaurants, view menus, and order online at: [flagshipcityfoodhall.com](http://flagshipcityfoodhall.com).

**Dina's Authentic Dominican Kitchen**  
Dinanyili (Dina) learned to cook traditional dishes from her mother and grandmother growing up in the Dominican Republic. Slowly stewed, perfectly seasoned meats including chicken, pork, and beef marry with seasoned rice with beans to make the perfect flavorful dish. Vegan-friendly options are available as well (around here, we call that option the "Brian Special," and it was included on our 2023 list of Can't Miss Dishes). If anyone asks where to eat, just say "Vamos Donde Dina's."

**Jo's Brooklyn Bagel Too**  
The second location of the original Jo's Brooklyn Bagel, their presence in the food hall is a welcome sight. A bagel sandwich works anytime: for breakfast, lunch, or dinner. And with a Jo's bagel as the base,

you can't go wrong. Baked fresh daily and featuring unique flavors like Dilly Swiss and Spinach Asiago alongside tried and true favorites like Cinnamon Raisin and Sesame Seed, you're sure to find a flavor combination to satisfy.

**Noodlelove**  
Who doesn't love a giant bowl of noodles? Noodlelove embraces that universal enchantment with their fully customizable, totally craveable noodle bowls. Inspired by the Korean-American heritage of founder Natalie Camerino - at Noodlelove you pick your noodle, protein and vegetables, sauce flavor, and crunch factor to create a bowl that is totally, 100 percent yours. OR you can choose from their scrumptious Chef Selections menu instead.

**North Row Philly**  
We may not be in Philadelphia, but the guys at North Row Philly are bringing the flavor of Southeastern Pennsylvania to the Erie food scene. Shaved sirloin stacked up on a locally baked bun, grilled peppers and onions, all slathered in a rich cheese sauce from a recipe that took years to perfect: you've got a sandwich that invites you to dig in with abandon. Tip: be sure to grab some napkins.

**Perry's Pizza and Tavern**  
Perry's Pizza's namesake is our ubiquitous naval commander, Oliver Hazard Perry, who famously implored his crew: "Don't Give Up the Ship." And in that spirit, the presence of Perry's Pizza as a business contributing to the revitalization of our downtown is welcome. Taking up the State Street portion of the food hall, Perry's Pizza and Tavern offers a fully stocked, cozy bar atmosphere in which to enjoy some seriously good pie. Fresh dough, brick oven,

with a crisply charred bubbly crust, this tavern-style pizza created by James Beard award-winning chefs is definitely one you won't want to give up.

**The Straw Hat** 🍷  
Winner of 2022's Best of Erie award for Best Ice Cream Shop, the original Straw Hat location has been a staple in North East for generations. Lucky for food hall visitors, you can now enjoy Straw Hat's year-round delights right in the heart of the city. Famously featuring ice cream from the legendary Penn State Creamery, you'll be able to scratch that itch for Peachy Paterno or Grilled Stickies without having to put it on dry ice all the way from State College.

**Taste of Love**  
Taste of Love chef Natasha Pacely feels connected to her family through her food. "My Grandmother always said that good food will always bring people together as long as it's made with love," Pacely said. And love is the first ingredient in all of Pacely's culinary creations. Featuring southern fusion dishes like Garlic Parm Shrimp Boil and Southern Fried Chicken, flavor, family history, and, of course, love makes all the food at Taste of Love special.

**Taste and See Fruit and Veggie Bar**  
Taste and See was an idea born from owner Krystal Chanel Robinson, who was a full-time employee at neighboring Erie Insurance. Wishing for healthy options downtown during her lunch break, this Pittsburgh native decided to make it herself and Taste and See was born. Featuring nutrient dense smoothies and freshly squeezed juices, healthy breakfast bowls and wraps, as well as lighter lunch options: you'll be feeling great after you taste and see.

## Mexican Restaurants

### El Canelo

Erie's Best Mexican Restaurant can be experienced at one of three different locations, each offering a plethora of authentic and Tex Mex dishes at reasonable prices – fresh, fast, and casual. If you're making a night of it, be sure to try one of their delicious margaritas.

4236 Peach St. // 2709 W. 12th St. // 4459 Buffalo Rd.

### El Amigo Mexican Grill

Located in the heart of downtown, this is a favorite weekday lunch spot for Erieites. Not only was it runner-up for 2022's Best Mexican Restaurant, but their Birria Tacos were featured as a 2023 Can't Miss Dish. The menu is ample, so you're sure to find a favorite.

333 State St.

### Torero's

Consistently in the top three Mexican restaurants, Torero's offers up fast, delicious, generous portions of your Mexican favorites. Conveniently located on upper Peach Street, it's an easy family favorite.

1940 Douglas Pkwy.

### Julius

Housed in the historic Maennerchor building, Julius fuses traditional food from Mexico City with global cuisine featuring a freshly made sauce or salsa with each dish. A fine dining spot serving authentic



El Amigo Mexican Grill

food made from scratch and with careful attention to detail.

1607 State St.

### Amigo Taqueria & Botanas

5630 Peach St.

### Compadres Mexican Restaurant

220 W. Plum St., Edinboro

### Enrique's Southeast Mexico Taqueria and Tortilleria

1801 Liberty St.

### La Chona Movil

1512 Poplar St.

### La Cocina Coqui (Puerto Rican)

653 W. 26th St.

### Lucky's Mexican Food

1719 Parade St.

### Pueblo Real

9155 W. Ridge Rd., Girard

## Pizza

### John's Wildwood Pizza

John's Wildwood Pizza is well-known in Erie as being difficult to beat. A staple in Edinboro since 1979, they now have a second location in Knowledge Park closer to town. John's has consistently won the Best Pizza category year after year – their fresh dough is hand-stretched for that perfect thickness and chew. One bite and you'll be a loyal customer.

105 Erie St., Edinboro // 6008 Knowledge Pkwy.

### Firestone's

Winner for Erie's Best New Business for 2022, Firestone's pizza has made quite an impression on the restaurant-goers of Erie. With super fresh dough and equally fresh, unique ingredients, Firestone's pies rise to the top.

4823 Peach St.

### Sticks and Bricks Wood Fired Pizza

What's better than a true wood-fired pizza with those slightly burnt bubbles around the edges that make every bite



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#### **Valerio's Italian Restaurant & Pizzeria**

Full-service Italian restaurant, with traditional pie options in addition to their Old Italian Style.

2179 W. 32nd St. // 1803 E. 38th St.

#### **ippa Pizza Napoletana and Gommie's Hand Pressed Pizza**

A semi-permanent food truck at the former site of George's Restaurant, ippa offers wood-fired pizza, Napoletana style: full of flavor with a ton of topping options. While inside at Gommie's, get a hand-pressed pie to bake at home.

2614 Glenwood Park Ave.

#### **Virgil's Plate**

The ideal choice for those who value individualization, with out-of-the-box styles and customizable pie options.

1001 W. 6th St.

#### **Alfee's Pizza & Sub Shop**

3001 Glenwood Park Ave.

#### **Colony Pizza & Catering**

2666 W. 8th St.

#### **Crazy Oven**

35 Peninsula Dr.

#### **La Casa De Pizza**

13 E. Main St., North East

#### **Lucky Man's Restaurant**

3651 W. 12th St.

#### **Mama Mia's Pizzeria**

1529 W. 38th St.

#### **Maria's Pizza**

2340 W. Grandview Blvd.

#### **MC's Pizzeria**

1400 E. Lake Rd.

#### **Meeker's Main Street Pizza**

9003 Main St., McKean

#### **Mike N' Dangelo's**

137 Main St. E., Girard

#### **My Dad's Pizza & Deli**

4535 Buffalo Rd.

#### **Passalinqua's Pizza**

2319 W. 38th St.

#### **Patti's Pizza**

3403 W. 38th St. // 3700 Pine Ave.

#### **Perry's Pizza**

Flagship City Food Hall, 22 N. Park Row

#### **Pizza Pete's**

2823 W. 26th St.

#### **Porky's Pizzeria**

302 W. 8th St. // 3512 Buffalo Rd.

#### **Presque Isle Pizza**

3150 W. 32nd St.

#### **Skippereno's Italian Restaurant & Pizzeria**

1604 W. Grandview Blvd.

#### **Steel City Sandwich Company**

4801 Peach St.

#### **Stevo's Pizza**

1019 State St.

#### **Yonkers NY Style Pizzeria**

3701 W. Lake Rd.

## Coffee Shops, Cafes, & Dinors

Let's be honest. What really gets you out of bed in the morning? Ostensibly it may be work, children, pets, etc. But what really makes waking up worth the effort is that dark, steaming mug of motivation: coffee. And what better way to start your day in Erie than with a mug of a great local brew next to a hearty dinor breakfast (and yes, the misspelling is intentional - here in Erie, it's a tradition based on a mystery). Let's dig into some traditional Erie breakfast dishes and don't forget that coffee!

#### **Flip Cafe**

This Edinboro dinor serves up both a scrumptious breakfast and lunch, but it is the mid-morning meal that had Best of Erie voters stoked enough to vote it Best Brunch. Flip's creative spin on classic dinor fare has everyone coming back for more. With vegetarian, vegan, and gluten-free options, there's something to fill everyone up. 103 Meadville St., Edinboro

#### **Gem City Dinor**

If you're looking for a modern spin on classic breakfast fare, make sure to stop in to Gem City. Erie-centric decor, tasty smashed potatoes, seriously good coffee, and a charming secret outdoor patio, you'll agree with the majority of Best of Erie voters: Gem City takes the cake. 3545 W. 12th St.



#### **Tipsy Bean**

Nestled in the historic Federal Hill neighborhood, Erie's Best Coffee Shop is worthy of its fame. Gorgeously creative coffee drinks co-mingle with sweet and savory baked goods made in-house. With indoor and patio seating available, the Tipsy Bean is a great place to meet up or enjoy a quiet moment alone with an exceptional coffee. 2425 Peach St.

#### **The Breakfast Place**

Two locations bring plenty of breakfast bang for your buck. Known for their mammoth frittatas, you'll surely leave satiated. 4108 Peach St. // 2340 E. 38th St.

#### **Brew Ha Ha at the Colony**

Espresso, treats, and tea from the Colony Plaza location just five minutes south of

Presque Isle State Park.  
2612 W. 8th St.

**Ember + Forge**

Downtown Erie's favorite locally-owned coffee shop, set up in a historic ship chandlery, brings artful coffee and a chill vibe.  
401 State St.

**Lawrence Park Diner**

This historic prefab diner finds itself on the National Register of Historic places and famous for its Greek omelet, an Erie specialty (warning: no feta or olives involved).  
4019 Main St., Lawrence Park

**Andora's Bubble Tea Shop**  
516 State St.

**Avanti's**  
1662 W. 8th St.

**Bakes and Wakes Super Secret Coffee Shop and Cereal Bar**  
664 W. 26th St.

**Butch's Diner**  
10651 W. Main St., North East

**Butch's Place Family Restaurant**  
3330 W. 26th St.

**Cafe 7-10**  
7 W. 10th St.

**Coffee In The Park**  
4007 Main St., Lawrence Park

**The Crick Coffee House and Eatery**  
236 Main St. W. Girard

**Erie Food Co-op Cafe & Bakery**  
1341 W. 26th St. // 34 N. Park Row

**Dominick's Diner**  
123 E. 12th St.

**Franco's Cafe**  
1001 State St. #106

**Main Street Cakery Cafe**  
7403 W. Ridge Rd., Fairview // 2900 Copperleaf Dr.

**Purrista Cat Café**  
30 W. 8th St.

**Premium Coffee Company of Erie**  
1220 W. 38th St.

**Pressed Cafe**  
1535 W. 8th St.

**Romolo Cocoa Cafe**  
1525 W. 8th St.

**Rose Garden Cafe**  
815 State St.



Ember + Forge

**Russ' Diner**  
2902 Buffalo Rd.

**Shirley's**  
5924 Old French Rd.

**Zodiac Diner**  
2516 State St.

A vibrant, cartoon-style advertisement for 'Bro Man's Super Sammiches'. The central figure is a character with a red cap featuring a white 'B', a mustache, and a thumbs-up gesture. To his left is a question mark icon, and to his right is a yellow character with a single eye. Below the character is a burger. The text 'BRO MAN'S' is written in large, colorful, block letters at the top, and 'SUPER SAMMICHES' is written in similar letters below. At the bottom, it says 'LOCATED IN THE GULF STATION 8228 PEACH STREET ERIE, PA 814-480-9119 BROMANSSAMMICHES.COM'. The background is a dark blue with a brick pattern at the bottom.

An advertisement for 'Rally Fuel' featuring a variety of food items. In the foreground, there are several burgers, a large bowl of fried chicken, and a tray of nachos. In the background, there are more burgers, a bowl of salad, and a tall glass of beer. The text 'RALLY FUEL' is written in large, bold, yellow and white letters at the top, with 'CALL UP THE CREW' in smaller white letters below. The background is a dark, textured surface.

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### Art’s Bakery 🍷

Elderberry pie? Homemade sandwich cookies? Pepperoni cheese bread? Why choose one, get them all at Art’s. A fixture on West Ridge Road for generations, Art’s is the clear winner for Best Bakery in Erie and for good reason. A wide variety of any kind of baked specialty: Art’s has got it and you better believe you’ll be going back again and again.

4380 W. Ridge Rd.

### Mighty Fine Donuts 🍷

It goes without saying in Erie that it doesn’t get much better than Mighty Fine. If you’re looking for a donut, go no further than this shop, a mainstay on Parade Street since 1967. Unpretentious but outside the ordinary – whether it’s a classic glazed twist or a chocolate covered custard-filled, you can’t pick the wrong one. They’re all perfect.

2612 Parade St.

### Romolo Chocolates 🍷

No one does it better than Romolo Chocolates. A staple in Erie, the work of Master Confectioner Tony Stefanelli carries on the legacy of his grandfather, Romolo Stefanelli by making the best chocolates in Erie. Don’t take our word for it, the people of Erie voted Romolo Best Chocolates and Best Local Business in 2022.

1525 W. 8th St.

### Straw Hat Sundae Shop 🍷

Expanding their long-standing shop in North East, the Straw Hat Sundae Shop now supplies those nearer to Downtown Erie with their location inside the Flagship City Food Hall. Their creamy delights include legendary favorites from the Penn State Creamery like Peachy Paterno and Bittersweet Mint in homemade waffle cones, and ice cream-stuffed Mighty Fine Donuts. We can sum it up in one word: yum.

207 S. Lake St., North East // 22 N. Park Row

### Pulakos

Established in 1903, generations of Pulakos owners have made their mark on the confectioner business in Erie. That legacy is carried on today at two locations serving up melt-in-your mouth chocolate goodness.



Mighty Fine Donuts

380 Millcreek Mall Blvd. // 2530 Parade St.

### Sara’s Restaurant

Not much is more iconic than an orange vanilla twist cone from Sara’s at the entrance to Presque Isle.

25 Peninsula Dr.

### Whippy Dip

Two locations serving up traditional soft-serve, Perry’s hard scoop ice cream, sundaes, treats, and snacks.

2527 Chestnut St. // 3100 W. 12th St.

### Ye Olde Sweet Shoppe

Nestled in a historic downtown storefront, Ye Olde Sweet Shoppe is always a good choice. With their classic dome-shaped cookies and perfectly decorated cupcakes, along with custom made cakes and confections as well as a selection of delicious coffees, you’ll have many reasons to stop in.

402 State St.

### Bill’s Bakery

1825 W. 26th St.

### Cafe 7-10

7 W. 10th St.

### Castle Custard

7334 W. Lake Rd., Fairview

### Connie’s Ice Cream

3150 W. 32nd St.

### Creamland Drive-In

6221 W. Ridge Rd.

### Denny’s Ice Cream Stand

929 Parade St.

### The Double Dipper

5320 Buffalo Rd.

### Edinboro Chocolaterie

114 Erie St., Edinboro

### Flower Kitchen

Gannon University, 900 State St.

### The Freezerie

4393 W. Ridge Rd.

### H & K Donut Shop

3712 W. Lake Rd.

### Herb & Honey Bakery

310 E. 24th St.



Romolo Chocolates



Sara's Restaurant

**International Bakery**  
610 W. 18th St.

**Lake Erie Candy Company**  
Village West, 3330 W. 26th St.

**Little Shop of Donuts**  
45 E. Main St., North East

**Mad Millz Ice Cream Shop**  
443 W. 8th St.

**Majestic Baking Company**  
1501 Walnut St.

**Maria's Tasty Delights**  
1701 W. 26th St.

**Mr. Shiver's Custard Treats**  
11220 Old Rte. 19 N, Waterford

**Pinkberry**  
906 W. Erie Plaza Dr.

**Rex Brothers Bakery**  
3558 W. 26th St.

**Rita's Italian Ice**  
1406 W. Gore Rd. // 427 State St.

**Rocky Mountain Chocolate Factory**  
5800 Peach St., Millcreek Mall

**Sontheimer's Country Bakery**  
3720 Sterrettania Rd.

**Stefanelli's Candies**  
2054 W. 8th St. // 3732 Sterrettania Rd. //  
7200 Peach St. // 4500 Buffalo Rd.

**West Lake Bakery & Deli**  
3443 W. Lake Rd.

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## Let's Go for Drinks: Wine, Cocktails, Brewpubs, and More!

Erie County is known for a number of things, but high among them is our idyllic Wine Country, which comprises most of Harborcreek and North East in the countryside and along the lake shore, extending eastward into New York State. There are two “trails” that cater to the fermented and brewed varieties of imbibe-ables: The **Lake Erie Wine Trail** and the **Lake Erie Ale Trail**. And for those of you who prefer more mixability to your drinks: we offer a growing number of craft distilleries, specializing in creative and flavorful cocktails. Cheers!

### Wine and Spirits

#### Altered State Distillery 🍷

Since opening in 2019, Altered State Distillery has quickly become Erie's jam – both for its handcrafted spirits (Best Distillery winner) and its stacked performance schedule, with live music virtually every night. Savor some of Erie's most artful cocktails while soaking in the sounds. 1535 W. 8th St.

#### Arundel Cellars and Brewing Co. 🍷

Selected as Erie's Best Winery, Arundel Cellars in North East brings the atmosphere of a Tuscan vineyard to the shores of Lake Erie. While offering the best local vintages, they are also renowned for their beer brewing and small plate menu to accompany a day of sipping. 11727 E. Main St., North East

#### Erie Distillery

Located near Presque Isle, Erie Distillery serves up artfully crafted, award-winning spirits. 1101 Peninsula Dr.

#### Heritage Wine Cellars

Heritage Wine Cellars began making wines 150 years ago and three generations later they're still at it, bringing the largest selection of wines to the region. With fruit-based wines, as well as traditional whites and reds, there is something to satisfy any palate. 12160 E. Main St., North East

#### Luminary Distilling

Small batch artisan distilling happening inside a traditional restaurant and bar.



8270 Peach St. // 34 N. Park Row

#### Mazza Vineyards

When an Erieite thinks of local wine, Mazza is the first word that comes to mind. 11815 E. Lake Rd., North East

#### 6 Mile Cellars, Inc.

5727 Firman Rd., Harborcreek

#### 21 Brix Winery

6654 W. Main Rd. Portland, N.Y.

#### Arrowhead Wine Cellars

12073 E. Main St., North East

#### Burch Farms Country Market & Winery

9210 Sidehill Rd., North East

#### Cart/Horse Distilling

12030 Edinboro Rd., Edinboro

#### Cellar '54

9368 W. Law Rd., North East

#### Cloud 9 Wine Bar

25 E. 10th St.

#### Courtyard Winery

10021 W. Main Rd., North East

#### Driftwood Wine Cellars

20 E. Main St., North East

#### Five & 20 Spirits & Brewing

8398 W. Main St., Westfield, N.Y.

#### Ironstone Meadery

9333 Tate Rd.

#### Johnson Estate Winery

8419 W. Main St., Westfield, N.Y.

#### Lakeview Wine Cellars

8440 Singer Rd., North East

#### Liberty Vineyards & Winery

2861 US-20, Sheridan, N.Y.

#### Noble Winery

8630 Hardscrabble Rd., Westfield, N.Y.

#### Penn Shore Winery and Vineyards

10225 E. Lake Rd., North East

#### Presque Isle Wine Cellars

9440 W. Main Rd., North East // 2658 W. 8th St.

#### South Shore Wine Company

1120 Freeport Rd., North East

#### Sparkling Ponds Winery

10661 W. Lake Rd., Ripley, N.Y.

#### Willow Creek Winery

2627 Chapin Rd., Silver Creek, N.Y.

#### Yori Wine Cellars

18 S. Lake St., North East

### Craft Breweries

#### Erie Brewing Company 🍷

Conveniently located for collegians who love Erie beer, The Erie Brewing Company has made its mark not only on Knowledge Park, but on all of Erie who voted it Best Local Brewery in 2022. With two locations on opposite ends of Greater Erie, check out the always popular Railbender Scottish Ale which was runner up for Best Local Beer. 6008 Knowledge Pkwy // 4102 W. Lake Rd.

#### Lavery Brewing Company 🍷

Winners in two Best of Erie categories this



**Erie Ale Works**  
416 W. 12th St.

**John Russell Brewing Company**  
7520 Peach St.

**Nostrovia Brewing Co.**  
4415 E. Lake Rd.

**Riverside Brewing Company**  
1 Fountain St., Cambridge Springs

**Orr's Brewing Company**  
109 S. Franklin St., Titusville

**Timbercreek Tap & Table**  
11191 Highline Dr., Meadville

**Twisted Elk Brewery**  
10139 W. Lake Rd., Lake City

year (Best Entrepreneurs and Best Locally Made Beer) Lavery Brewing Company is getting the recognition they deserve upon celebrating the 10th anniversary of their newly remodeled brewpub. The beer that won them the title is their signature IPA Dulachan, an inherently drinkable pale ale worth its clout.  
128 W. 12th St.

former Boston Store and makes the place their own with award-winning microbrews.  
101 Boston Store Pl.

**Black Monk Brewery**  
3721 W. 12th St.

**The Brewerrie at Union Station**  
123 W. 14th St.

**Churchill's Bourbon & Brew**  
8199 Perry Hwy. (inside Presque Isle Downs & Casino)

**Voodoo Brewery Erie**

Expanded to Erie from their flagship brewery in Meadville, Voodoo resides in the



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## Food Trucks

If you happen to be outdoors in Erie during the spring, summer, or fall (or for intrepid souls, in the winter) you're sure to find a food truck nearby. These mobile culinary carts are ubiquitous during major community events like Celebrate Erie or 8 Great Tuesdays, but can also be found parked along State Street during the workweek, at a local bar on the weekends, or in their more permanent spots (listed below as applicable). Some of Erie's most self-identifying food comes out of a truck's window, so don't let this option drive on by.

### The Atacolypse Food Truck 🍌

The Atacolypse Food Truck was born from a love of fresh tacos, and the folks behind the wheel of this wildly successful mobile taqueria bring you the freshest. From your basic ground beef, to smoked meats, chorizo, and shrimp, and including a variety of fresh salsa, sauces, and cremas, this taco truck is a winner.

### Bro Man's Sammiches 🍔

Winner for Best Burger, you HAVE to stop in for a Sooner. Or if you're not feeling a burger, you can try their craveable birria tacos. Originally (and still) a food truck but now with a brick and mortar location. 8228 Peach St.

### The Big Cheese 🧀

This food truck is cheese-centric and we are here for it! Offering countless variations of grilled cheese with tempting combinations like The Holy Banana (peppers, not fruit) or the Flaming Pickle, and even some mac and cheese "boats" with different flavors adorning the cheesiest mac and cheese around. Come on. Get cheesy.



### The Que Abides 🌯

If you're a die-hard fan of the Dude (or El Duderino, if you're not into that whole brevity thing) or not, you'll be feeling as satisfied as a guy who just got his rug back after a trip to the Que Abides food truck. Smokey, fall-off-the-bone BBQ, creative sandwiches, sauces, and homemade sides like gooey mac and cheese will definitely have you back for more. 6990 W. Lake Rd., Fairview

### Cluck Truck 🍗

Subs, sandwiches, and wraps

### Curry Point 🍛

South Indian cuisine  
562 E. 12th St.

### EDogg's Hot Dogs 🌭

Gourmet hot dogs.  
Fridays at Erie Ale Works, 416 W. 12th St.



# FRESH & LOCAL

We opened our doors in 1965 to sell Meadow Brook Milk. The mission was simple—sell local milk to local people. A lot has changed since then, but our mission remains—to offer fresh food, from local brands, at a convenient location. Thank you for making us your favorite one-stop! Together, we make Erie stronger!

## Country Fair

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Sarah Peach

### Food for Thought

Part of the Culinary Arts program at the Charter School of Excellence

### Ippa Pizza Napoletana

Wood-fired sourdough pizza  
2614 Glenwood Park Ave.

### Kona Ice

Hawaiian shaved ice.

### La Chana Movil

Authentic Mexican truck with permanent location  
1512 Poplar St.

### The Mad Tortilla

Mexican-inspired street food

### Northern Scoop Ice Cream

Craft ice cream

### Smiley's Ice Cream Truck

Old school ice cream truck serving Penn State Creamery Ice Cream

### Sticks and Bricks Wood Fired Pizza

Wood fired pizza with a permanent spot.  
1301 E. Grandview Blvd.

### Sundae Vegan Desserts

Shockingly good vegan treats.

### Taco Distro

Federal Hill smoked meats in freshly made tortillas.  
83 Peninsula Dr.

### Tater Tater Food Truck

All things potato

### Tha Flavor Bucket

Burgers, tacos, wraps, and wings

### Triple D's Tasty Grill

Lots of flavor on the road, or at their restaurant.  
3512 Liberty St.

### A Waffle Miracle

100 ways to eat a waffle (spoiler alert: they're all great)

## Local Grocery Stores

When Erie's neighborhoods were first established, having a neighborhood grocer was the norm. They were everywhere - on busy corners throughout the city, offering citizens on-foot the chance at having fresh produce, meats, baked goods, etc. for daily use. While the modern age has given us the convenience of massive, fully stocked, efficient supermarkets, there are still a few holdovers from that bygone era of small markets dispersed throughout the city. Additionally the New American population has created their own community grocery store networks, similar to those that were so ubiquitous a century ago. If you're looking for a different grocery experience, start small and stay there with the following neighborhood grocers.

### Erie Food Co-Op

Voted Best Health Food Store and Best Place for Vegan Food, the Erie Food Co-Op offers high quality, organic, and all-natural produce, bulk grains and spices, local eggs and dairy products, and a full-scale deli offering freshly prepared lunch items, juices, smoothies, soups, and baked goods. With two locations, each bringing unique vibes, the Co-Op is a great place to stop and shop.  
1341 W. 26th St. // 34 N. Park Row

### Urbaniak Brothers Quality Meat

Don't let the name fool you: the Urbaniak brothers started out and continue to excel in the meat market, but their store offers a wide variety of goods. In addition to the full butcher shop, house smoked bacon, sausages, and fish, and an impressive deli counter, they also offer a fresh produce section, homemade canned goods (including their famous horseradish), a fresh fish counter, and a bakery (with goods supplied by Herb & Honey). Shopping at Urbaniak's is a real experience, and one not to be missed.  
310 E. 24th St.

### Bello's Market

A mainstay in the Colony Plaza, Bello's Shur-Fine Market is a fully functioning grocery store with some of the best, most affordable meats in Erie. Produce and grocery staples alongside a deli with fresh offerings, Bello's is a clear Erie favorite.  
2650 W. 8th St.

### Gordon's Butcher and Market

Founded in the 1980s, Gordon's Butcher Shop and Market has been serving Erie for over 40 years. And while their business model has adapted with the times, their commitment to quality service and sourcing the highest quality meats remains unchanged. With two convenient loca-



Erin Phillips

tions to serve Erie, and in partnering with Firestones and Paris Cap & Cork, Gordon's provides their famous "Erie Boxes" to give out-of-towners a taste of that which makes Erie unique, Gordon's is a nose to tail success.

4815 Peach St. // 34 N. Park Row

### Larry's Central Market

A staple on 16th and Sassafras for generations, Larry's boasts homemade sausage and capicola.  
1626 Sassafras St.

### Trawka's Market

Trawka's provides homemade, flavorful sausages and that undeniable Erie favorite: ox-roast.  
712 Payne Ave.

### All in One Supermarket

3304 Pine Ave.

### Almadina Supermarket

2325 Parade St.

### BFA Mart

1511 W. 38th St.

### DK International Foods

2122 Buffalo Rd.

### Erie County Farms

2256 Broad St.

### Fadak International Food Market

2601 Parade St.

### Himalayan Groceries

418 E. 21st St.

### Kamana Asian Food Mart

1230 French St.



Erin Phillips

**Orsini's Corner Market**  
560 E. 5th St.

**Rakan Market Bakery**  
813 East Ave.

**Sander's Market**  
109 W. Main St., North East

**Serafin's Food Market**  
601 E. 24th St.

**Stanganelli's**  
1621 W. 26th St.

**State Street Market**  
1022 State St.

**UK Supermarket**  
1105 Parade St.

## Night-Life and Music Venues

There is no shortage of live music planned for the summer of 2023 in Erie. You're sure to find your jam at one of many venues throughout the county. Erie has a thriving music scene that covers many genres, including acoustic, dance, jam, indie, punk, metal, and cover bands of all sorts.

### Altered State Distillery

This award winning distillery hosts scads of bands all summer long on their ample patio. With jam bands interspersed with jazz and rock – grab a fancy, well-prepared cocktail, and settle in for a night of music in the fresh air.  
1535 W. 8th St.

### The Bunker at Lavery's

With Lavery's award-winning beer on hand, the Bunker as a venue is a recent extension of the ever-expanding local business. Located just north of the building (behind their main brewery) this raw venue space is perfect for local rockers.  
128 W. 12th St.

### Oliver's Beer Garden

Opening in 2021, Oliver's Beer Garden – which is adjacent to Oliver's Rooftop Bar & Grill located at Hampton Inn & Suites – has become a favorite for those who enjoy being outdoors; it's a perfect way to view our picturesque Lake Erie sunsets. During the warmer months you can enjoy a cold one while listening to live music and playing a round of mini golf on their brand new course. With its open-air space and great location, Oliver's Beer Garden puts the gem in Gem City.  
130 Front St.



David Desin

### Basement Transmissions

The premier all-ages venue in Erie hosts local talent from the region's most original artists and bands, as well as national touring acts. Basement Transmissions is reminiscent of the big city clubs where you can catch unique acts right before they get their big break. Along with the variety of music performers, Basement Transmissions also hosts various art nights, where they invite the public to attend and explore their creative side.  
145 W. 11th St.

### The King's Rook Club

One of the longest-running venues in Erie, The King's Rook Club is a private club (that's easy to join) that opens its doors to the public for live music. The Rook, as it is referred to locally, embraces the jam band and DJ crowd, inviting guests to dance late into the evening. Local acts are billed alongside national touring acts, making this a great place to discover new music.  
1921 Peach St.

### BIGBAR

14 E. 10th St.

### Doc Holliday's Country Bar & Grill

7425 Schultz Rd.

### Erie Insurance Arena

809 French St.

### Kellar's: A Modern Magic & Comedy Club

1402 State St.

### Philly On The Rocks

401 W. 18th St.

### Rack N Roll

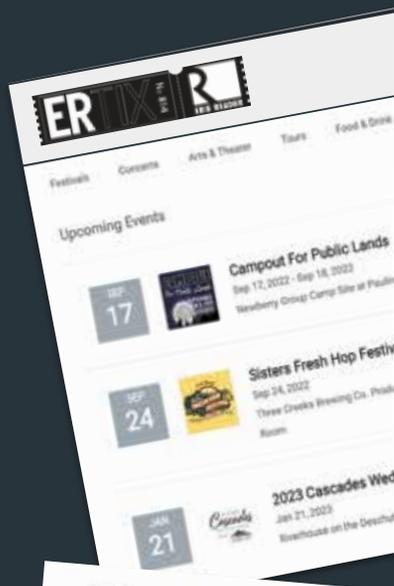
2040 W. 38th St.

### Sloppy Duck

726 W. Bayfront Pkwy.

### The Zone

133 W. 18th St.



## Who is this for?

- live music and comedy
- conferences
- festivals & fairs
- food & drink events
- event venues
- fundraisers
- theater
- classes & workshops
- tours
- races & walks
- non-profits

... and many more!



## ERIE'S ONLY LOCAL EVENT TICKETING

**ER Tix** is the only ticketing platform created exclusively for Erie's local, community events. It's free, easy to use, and fully customizable with all-access ticketing features to meet your event's unique needs.

Most importantly, ER Tix is powered by the same trusted team that operates the **Erie Reader**. We let you tap into our massive audience to attract even more *local* ticket buyers!

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[brewhahacolony.com](http://brewhahacolony.com)



Patrick Orab

## Local Theater Venues

Our city is lucky enough to be filled with a host of talented actors, performers, and playwrights. Be sure to check out these locales where you can see them in action!

### The Erie Playhouse

For over 100 years, The Erie Playhouse has been the cornerstone of community theater. Known for its high-end productions and full-scale musicals, its recently renovated space is home to a full slate of regular performances, with shows running up to four days a week.  
13 W. 10th St.

### Mary D'Angelo Performing Arts Center

With the Mercyhurst Institute for Arts and Culture bringing world-class entertainment to the local university; you can expect the best in music, literary arts, performing arts, and dance.  
Mercyhurst University,  
501 E. 38th St.

### PACA

A welcoming black box-style theater, Erie's Performing Arts Collective Alliance (PACA) hosts top-level productions that raise their DIY ethos to the next level, with a variety of plays, musicals, and special events all year round.  
1505 State St.

### Academy Theatre

Meadville's gorgeous space is home to a slate of fully-produced musicals from every part of the theater world.  
275 Chestnut St., Meadville

### All An Act Theatre Productions

A welcoming gem away from the downtown strip, All An Act

is the place to be for comedies, mysteries, farces, and classics. Their newly remodeled space is now even more audience-friendly as the familial troupe gears up for their 20th anniversary.  
652 W. 17th St.

### Dramashop

Erie's home for avant-garde theater, Dramashop brings some of the most inventive productions, off-Broadway and local scripts alike. Now in their 12th season, its intimate stage and inclusive community showcases their "theatre in process" mantra.  
1001 State St., Second Floor

### Warner Theatre

Erie's best-known and most historic theater, it hosts traveling productions in addition to regular musical performances and Erie Philharmonic events.  
811 State St.

### Corella Productions Children's Theatre Academy and Dinner Theatre

2539 W. 12th St.

### Footlights Theatre Performing Arts Center

945 W. 12th St., Ste. B

### Meadville Community Theatre

400 N. Main St.

### Schuster Theatre

Gannon University, 620 Sassafras St.

### The Station Dinner Theatre

4940 Peach St.

### Studio Theatre

Penn State Behrend, 4701 College Dr.

### Taylor Little Theatre

Mercyhurst University, 501 E. 38th St.

## Think Globally, Learn Locally

The Jefferson Educational Society (JES) describes itself as Erie's Think Tank, and for good reason. Continually promoting creative problem-solving to local and global issues, the organization has made a mark on the Erie community through their well thought out programming, events, and outreach.

And this de facto local think tank is celebrating its 15th Anniversary this year. Throughout those 15 years, the JES has been (according to their mission statement) "dedicated to promoting civic enlightenment, and driving community progress for the Erie region through the study, research, and discussion of ideas and events that have influenced the human condition."

The organization accomplishes this mission through various programs (like the Jefferson **Civic Leadership Academy**, which teaches Eriettes ages 25-45 ways to

make an impact on our local community), events (like the annual **Global Summit**, which brings speakers from around the world to Erie for months of open-to-the-public educational opportunities), and publications (including books, essays, online documents, and the long-running *Journal of Erie Studies*).

While the JES has their home campus in an adaptively reused synagogue at 3207 State St., they have expanded their reach throughout the years to include events at participating community venues, hosting satellite programs across Erie County. Upcoming events include venues like the Erie Center for Arts and Technology on Erie's east side and the Corry Higher Education Council.

To celebrate their milestone this year, the JES is hosting a **15th Anniversary Gala** at Erie's Bayfront Convention Center on June 10. This event



will acknowledge and discuss all the ways the JES has impacted the Erie community throughout the past decade and a half, and will feature one of America's most prominent political commentators, David Brooks as their keynote speaker.

To read through the hundreds of archived publications, watch their digitally recorded programs, to learn more about upcoming events and programs including the 2023 Global Summit lineup, or to learn how to become involved in the Civic Leadership Academy, visit [jeserie.org](http://jeserie.org).



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## Can't Miss Events in Erie 2023

Live music festivals, heritage celebrations, family-friendly events all summer long



Ryan Hoover

There is nothing quite like a community event in Erie as so many people from all walks of life come together to celebrate our city, our art, our music, and our culture. Most of the events that take place throughout the summer and into early fall are free and open to the public: all you need to bring is a lawn chair, blanket, and a willingness to enjoy yourself. Erie will take care of the rest.

### Monday Music in the Woods

Bring a seat and enjoy local musicians filling the forest with sound during this summer music series, set in the enchanting Asbury Woods Celebration Garden.  
*Every Monday, Jun. 5 - Jul. 31 from 6 - 8 p.m. // 4105 Asbury Rd.*

### HistERIE Week

A weeklong celebration of local

history, the Erie County Public Library hosts events all week at various historic locations throughout Erie. Lectures, films, historic walking/biking tours, and workshops - it's a week of educational fun.

*Jun. 5 - Jun. 10 // Various locations*

### Whitford Park Summer Music Series

This Wednesday evening concert series in Harborcreek Township runs every week until the end of August.  
*Beginning Jun. 7 // Whitford Park, 5400 Iroquois Ave.*

### West Bayfit

Wednesday nights mid-June through July, Our West Bayfront hosts West Bayfit events at the stunning Bayview Park, featuring activities to get you moving, farmer's markets, and guided neighborhood walks.  
*Beginning Jun. 14 - Jul. 26 //*

*Bayview Park, W. 2nd and Cherry*

### Gazebo Concerts in the Park

Be sure to make it out to the Gazebo on Iroquois Avenue in Lawrence Park for their concerts every third Thursday through August.  
*Jun. 15, Jul. 20, Aug. 17 // Beute Park, Lawrence Park*

### Goodell Gardens & Homestead Summer Music Series

Bring a picnic blanket or lawn chair and enjoy live music on select Fridays in their beautiful botanical gardens and historic homestead.  
*Beginning Friday, Jun. 9 // 221 Waterford St., Edinboro*

### Erie Art Museum Gallery Night

Think of a bar crawl, but with art galleries instead, and you'll get the picture of this quarterly

event spearheaded by the Erie Art Museum.  
*Jun. 23, Sept. 15, and Dec. 15 // Various locations*

**UPMC Sunset Music Series**  
 Discover Presque Isle, Presque Isle Partnership, and UPMC brings this well-loved concert series to Erie's beaches just in time to catch the third-best sunset in the world.  
*Wednesday Evenings, Jun. 21 - Jul. 26, 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. // Beach 11*

**Riverside Music Festival**  
 In a tribute to the festival at the historic Riverside Hotel, this multi-day packed lineup takes the stage on the former site of the Cambridge Springs icon.  
*Jun. 23 - 25 // Riverside Brewing Co., 1 Fountain St., Cambridge Springs*

**Chautauqua Institute Summer Concert Series**  
 Beginning June 24 with Bonnie Raitt, the hits keep rolling all summer with stars including Natalie Merchant, The Revivalists with Band of Horses,



Ryan Hoover

and Patti LaBelle (among many others).  
*Jun. 24 - Aug. 26 // 31 Roberts Ave. Chautauqua, N.Y.*

**Erie Pridefest**  
 This yearly celebration and parade aims to enhance visibility of Erie's LGBTQIA+ community

and foster rapport between groups and individuals.  
*Jun. 24 // Begins at 11th and State St. and marching to Perry Square*

**Great Blue Heron Festival**  
 A short drive east, The Great Blue Heron is a full-on experi-

ence. With on-site camping and the chilliest vibes, you'll want to jam all weekend long.  
*Jun. 30 - Jul. 2 // 2361 Wait Corners Rd., Sherman, N.Y.*

**8 Great Tuesdays** 🎧  
 On the bay at the Liberty Park amphitheater, this concert

# 2023-2024 MIAC LIVE SEASON



The Mercyhurst Institute for Arts & Culture strengthens the vibrancy of the Erie region by presenting world-class performing arts experiences that lift the spirit, galvanize the intellect, stimulate the imagination, and encourage the free exchange of ideas. By making these programs available and accessible to the broadest possible audience, the Institute strives to create an environment of richly varied, inclusive cultural experiences.



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Mike Conway Photography

Professional hoop dancer Jennifer Dennehy performs at the much anticipated Sunset Music Series, taking place on Beach 11 on Presque Isle on Wednesday evenings through July.

series brings great live music set to the most beautiful backdrop. Catch the sunset while enjoying some tunes on the hill.  
 Jul. 11 - Aug. 29 // 726 W. Bayfront Pkwy.

**WQLN Sounds Around Town**  
 On a stage nestled in the woods behind WQLN's upper Peach Street studio, you'll find a well-curated, Thursday evening, family-friendly concert.  
 Fridays in July // WQLN Studios, 8425 Peach St.

**Panegyri Greek Festival**  
 An Erie summer tradition, Panegyri features a plethora of Greek foods, dinners, and pastries, as well as music, dancing, jewelry, and more at Assumption Greek Orthodox Church.  
 Jul. 7 - 8 // Assumption Greek Orthodox Church, 4376 W. Lake Rd.

**North East Firemen's Cherry Festival**  
 Come for the cherry pie and sausage sandwiches, stay for the rides and games at North East's Heard Memorial Park.  
 Jul. 5 - 8 // 40 N. Lake St., North East

**Waterford Heritage Days - 50th Anniversary**  
 Since 1974, Waterford has been celebrating its history, working with businesses and local organizations for a community-forward event.  
 Jul. 21 - 23 // Parks in downtown Waterford

**The Gathering at Chaffee's**  
 This much-loved, two-day, non-stop outdoor music festival offers camping and the full hippie experience, now in its 43rd year.  
 Jul. 21 - 22 // 8296 Mill St., Girard

**The AmeriMasala**  
 The AmeriMasala is Erie's first multi-disciplinary celebration of ethnic arts, food, and performances from around the world.  
 Jul. 22 // Perry Square

**Botanical Beverages**  
 Savor creatively crafted herb-infused cocktails under an open sky at Edinboro's Goodell Gardens and Homestead. Mocktail versions available.  
 Jul. 22 // 221 Waterford St., Edinboro

**Beer on the Bay**  
 Dozens of regional craft brew-

ers set up shop in Liberty Park on Erie's West Bayfront for the area's largest craft beer festival.  
*Jul. 22 // 726 W. Bayfront Pkwy.*

**Discover Presque Isle**

Activities abound to get you out, appreciating, and raising money for Presque Isle. Enjoy hikes, archery, live music, bonfires, lighthouse tours, and more!  
*Jul. 24 - 30 // Presque Isle State Park*

**Lake Erie Cyclefest**

Biking enthusiasts flock to Erie for the annual Lake Erie Cyclefest with rides planned for all skill levels, from the beginner-friendly Downtown Slow Roll to the hefty 50-mile Tour De West County and everything in between.  
*Jul. 28 - 31 // Various locations*

**Dan Rice Days**

The Borough of Girard celebrates dynamic circus ring-leader Dan Rice (whose fame and wealth greatly contributed to the town's growth in the mid-1800s) with all manner of family fun.  
*Aug. 2 - 6 // 34 Main St. W., Girard*

**31st Annual Blues and Jazz Festival**

World-class blues and jazz musicians, along with some local favorites, play to large crowds at this three-day free concert festival at Frontier Park. It is the hallmark of summertime in Erie.  
*Aug. 4 - 6 // Frontier Park, 1501 W. 6th St.*

**21st Annual Presque Isle Triathlon**

Athletes will begin with a 0.35-mile open-water swim course in Lake Erie off Beach 10, loop counterclockwise around the entirety of Presque Isle for the cycling portion, then close things out with a 5K leading back to Beach 10.  
*Aug. 5 // Presque Isle State Park*

**St. Paul's Annual Italian Festival**

St. Paul's Roman Catholic Church celebrates its heritage all weekend long with Italian

food like pasta fagioli and spaghetti, live entertainment, and more.  
*Aug. 11 - 13 // 1617 Walnut St.*

**Celebrate Erie**

Erie's traditional annual summer street festival promotes civic pride and local visual and musical artists throughout Erie's downtown, while inviting one or two nationally-known touring acts to take the stage and share in the excitement.  
*Aug. 18 - 20 // Downtown Erie*

**Zabawa Polish Festival**

This festival, set at Holy Trinity in Erie's historically Polish east side, features all the favorites, including polka, pierogies, and paczki.  
*Aug. 25 - 27 // Holy Trinity Catholic Church, 2220 Reed St.*

**Erie County Fair**

The 138th iteration of this weeklong celebration caters to all ages - with a rodeo, truck and tractor pulls, a demolition derby, animals, a pageant, musical acts, and more.  
*Aug. 28 - Sept. 2 // 13993 Rt. 8 and 89, Wattsburg*

**German Heritage Festival**

German food, music, dancing, merchandise, and of course, copious amounts of beer, all in honor of celebrating German culture.  
*Sept. 2 - Sept. 3 // St. Nick's Grove, 5131 Old French Rd.*

**Firelights Festival**

This year, just over the Pennsylvania/New York border in Sherman, jam bands and bass music artists perform on the Blue Heron grounds. Camping is available and encouraged.  
*Sept. 8 - 10 // 2361 Wait Corners Rd., Sherman N.Y.*

**Erie Irish Festival**

Irish music, food, art, kids entertainment, and historic St. Patrick's church tours.  
*Sept. 15 - 17 // St. Patrick's Church, 130 E. 4th St.*

**North East Wine Fest**

Sample the fruits of North East and beyond when dozens of wineries take over Gibson Park. With live music, craft, and food vendors.  
*Sept. 22 - 24 // Gibson Park, 44 W. Main St., North East*

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Patrick Grab 814 Photo

## Planning Your Presque Isle Getaway 2023

**T**here's a reason **Presque Isle State Park** is the most visited park in Pennsylvania. It offers a complete range of attractions: beaches, forested trails, diverse recreational opportunities, and stunning natural beauty. Millions visit the park each year, but even on the most crowded beach weekend, quiet corners can be found and explored.

This recurved sandspit has six discrete ecological zones – the shoreline, sand plains and new ponds, dunes and ridges, old ponds and marshes, thickets and sub-climax forests, and climax forests. Because of the diverse habitats, Presque Isle is home to more than 100 rare

species of plants and animals, more than any other area of comparable size in Pennsylvania.

Birding enthusiasts come from all over the world to this **Important Bird Area (IBA)** as designated by the Audubon Society. More than 340 species of birds have been recorded at the park, including state and federally endangered birds like the piping plover, which have again started nesting at **Gull Point**.

Rightly known as a beach destination, Presque Isle's lakeside boasts seven miles of sandy shoreline. Visit **Beach 6** for a game of beach volleyball, pack a picnic for **Beach 7**, or

stop by the western end of **Beach 10** (aka Sunset Point) to see kites swirl in the sky. **Swimming** is permitted only at the eight guarded beaches from Memorial Day to Labor Day. But come back in winter to see the impressive ice dunes that protect the shoreline from winter storms.

The waters of Presque Isle Bay and the lake offer abundant opportunities to play. Registered **motorboats** and **jet skis** are both permitted, although no internal combustion engines are allowed in the interior lagoons. However, you're welcome to rent a canoe or kayak from the **Presque Isle Canoe and Boat Livery** or enjoy any

of several daily free pontoon boat tours. Depending on wind conditions, the waters may be ideal for sailboarding, skimboarding, paddleboarding, and even surfing.

As the "Fishing Capital of Pennsylvania," Lake Erie and Presque Isle Bay offer numerous opportunities to wet a lure. Bank fishing is available in many parts of the park and four boat launches serve various sizes of watercraft. Fuel, bait, and food are available at the **Marina**. Anglers can also try their luck on the frozen bay in winter, too.

The 13.5-mile Karl Boyes Multi-purpose **National Recreation Trail** winds all the way around the park and is utilized



by walkers, joggers, cyclists, surreys, and inline skaters. Bike and surrey rentals are available at the concession in the Waterworks area.

In the interior are 11 miles of **hiking trails**. Watch beavers tend their lodges, or find deer, mink, and about eight species of turtles. Be prepared for ticks by wearing long pants with your socks tucked and keep the bug repellent handy. For adventurous souls, a walk out to the natural area of Gull Point is a must. Views from the observation platform include newly forming sand plains and the

eastern end of Erie's cityscape and bay. In winter, these trails become cross-country skiing or snowshoeing pathways or just a tranquil walkway through a sleeping forest.

History buffs can learn more about Erie's part in the war of 1812 at the **Perry Monument**, where Commodore Oliver Hazard Perry's fleet overwintered in 1812-1814. Be sure to discover why the adjacent water to Misery Bay is called **Graveyard Pond**. Near the monument you can also catch a ride on the 65-foot Great Lakes vessel *Lady Kate*, which

offers a 14-mile, 90-minute narrated tour that ventures out onto the open waters of Lake Erie.

The **Presque Isle Lighthouse**, which went into service in 1873, offers tours that explain the long history of the house and keepers (May-September), as well as a gift shop. A smaller beacon, the **Erie Land Lighthouse**, exists on the north channel.

Presque Isle recently celebrated its **100th Anniversary**, having been set aside as a state park in 1921. Come see this enduring treasure.



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## Local Birding Hotspots

If you enjoy bird watching, whether casually noticing the birds around you or intensely seeking them out with gear, maps, and guides in tow, Erie might just be your bird watching heaven. With our unique positioning on the lake, Erie is a great stopping place for migrating birds of all sorts as well as those native species that call Erie home year round. For more information on bird watching in Erie, please visit the Erie Bird Observatory at [eriebirdobservatory.org](http://eriebirdobservatory.org).

### Presque Isle State Park

The crown jewel of birding in Erie is Presque Isle State Park, a 3,200-acre recurved sandspit jutting out into Lake Erie, and forming Erie Bay on which the city of Erie sits. With seven types of habitats, the park welcomes a wide variety of avian life at all times of the year.

**Within Presque Isle, great spots for bird watching include:**

**Fry's Landing, Pine Tree trail** and **Dead Pond trail** (especially the area around Thompson Circle). Graveyard Pond and Long Pond trails have access to the lagoon system for waders in the spring, summer, and fall and waterfowl in fall, winter, and spring. **Gull Point**, a designated natural area, is partially closed April 1 through Oct. 31 but there is a roped trail leading to an observation deck for spotting migrating and nesting shorebirds. In winter, snowy owls may also be found at Gull Point and sometimes on the beaches and breakwaters of the park. For a full map of the trails at Presque Isle, visit: [dcnr.pa.gov](http://dcnr.pa.gov) 301 Peninsula Dr.

### Erie Bluffs State Park

A good variety of wood war-



blers, thrushes, and other forest birds use this park for resting and feeding during spring and fall migrations just as they use Presque Isle. The former agricultural field in the park – currently being restored into black oak woodland/savannah and Great Lakes region sand barren ecosystems—hosts grassland birds like vesper, Savannah sparrow, and bobolink in the nesting season, and winter species such as horned larks, snow buntings, and Lapland longspurs. A highlight is large colonies of bank swallows along the steep lake banks. 11100 W. Lake Rd., Lake City

### Edinboro Lake

In southern Erie County is Edinboro Lake, a 245-acre lake which has two established beach areas with public access to the lake. As of this writing, there have been 244 different species of birds observed at the lake including wading and

waterbirds like spotted sandpipers, grebes, mergansers, and cormorants, songbirds like bobolinks, orioles, and larks, as well as predators like owls, kestrels, and hawks. Come for the beach, stay for the birds. 12690 Edinboro Rd., Edinboro

### Pymatuning State Park

About an hour's drive southwest, and you'll find this vast human-made waterway known for having the largest concentration of bald eagles in Pennsylvania. Besides these majestic birds, one can find plentiful waterfowl and gulls fall through spring (depending on the ice cover). Nearby, at what birders call Miller's Pond, a nice variety of shorebirds can be found in spring and fall migration. Game lands nearby provide habitat for sandhill cranes and other grassland-loving birds. 2660 Williamsfield Rd., Jamestown, Pa.



## #ErieHistorySelfieSpot

### Perry Monument (Presque Isle at Misery Bay)

Commemorating the victory of Oliver Hazard Perry in the Battle of Lake Erie, Perry Monument is a beautiful selfie spot. Set at the edge of Misery Bay and surrounded by educational signage, you'll learn something you didn't know before about Erie maritime history.

## Kids Zone

If you've come to Erie with your family, you're in luck. Erie is traditionally known as a great place to raise kids and we're in agreement. With easily accessible venues - many of which are free or low cost - there's no shortage of fun activities for kids of all ages that will ensure happy, worn-out kiddos and plenty of fond memories made.

### Asbury Woods Nature Center

The 216 acres of conserved property that makes up the gem of Asbury Woods is free to use and always spells adventure. Whether you hike the varying degrees of trails, visit the nature center to meet their animal ambassadors, or register for a class or guided walk, Asbury always has something fun to offer.

4105 Asbury Rd.

### Erie County Public Library

Our local library and its numerous branches offer fun programming year round for all age groups, as well as children's book sections that are the stuff of dreams (for little bookworms).

160 E. Front St.

### Erie Otters at the Erie Insurance Arena

If you're visiting Erie in the winter, stop by the Erie Insurance Arena for a rousing game of hockey, presented by our local Erie Otters. 2022 winner for



Jeffrey Phillips

Best Team to Root For and runner up for Best Place for a First Date, we're all pretty big fans. 809 French St.

### Erie Philharmonic Pops Series

The Erie Philharmonic presents a Pops Series on their schedule each year that includes beloved classic childhood films with the music performed live by the orchestra. The docket for 2023-2024 includes *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone* and *Home for the Holidays*. The Warner Theatre, where the Philharmonic performs, is worth a visit all on its own: a grand, historic, Art Deco masterpiece - it's the kind of building that wows children and adults alike.

Warner Theatre, 811 State St.

### Erie SeaWolves at UPMC Park

Take me out to the ball game! Nothing says summer in Erie like heading to UPMC Park

to watch the Erie SeaWolves Minor League baseball team in action. Peanuts, Cracker Jacks, meet-and-greets with mascot C. Wolf, bounce houses, contests, entertainment between innings, fireworks, cheers, and a fun run around the bases: a SeaWolves game is childhood summer fun in Erie! 831 French St.

### Erie Zoo

The historic Erie Zoo is the perfect size and easily walkable within an hour or two, but feel free to take your time and spend all day. With many newly renovated areas, our zoo has a wide variety of animals to experience, a carousel, train ride, adventure center, hands-on areas, concessions, and a gift shop featuring art created by the animals themselves. 423 W. 38th St.

### ExpERIENCE Children's Museum

Undergoing extensive renovations, the ExpERIENCE Children's Museum is always fun despite the current dust. With exhibits focusing on STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math), but always made to be hands-on and tons of fun, your kids will never want to leave (or realize how much they're learning). 420 French St.

### Peek'n Peak

A short drive to Clymer in New York state will give you a whole new vibe; like jet-setting to a Swiss chalet. With skiing, snowboarding, and tubing in the winter and golf, kids activ-



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**Play Port**

Rainy day? No worries. Play Port has 100 vintage arcade games, virtual reality, laser tag, glow golf, and more. 2730 W. 12th St.

**Presque Isle State Park**

Obviously. But aside from an expected trip to the beach, there is so much for kiddos to discover on our peninsula. Stop at Sara’s for lunch and an orange vanilla twist cone and snag some photo ops with the props and vintage decor. Rent bikes from Yellow Bike and see Presque Isle at a slower speed, climb up the lighthouse, search for beach glass at Barracks Beach, and – of course – spend the day in the sand, surf, and sun! 301 Peninsula Dr.

**Public Parks**

Erie has no shortage of public

parks for recreation with playgrounds, picnic areas, and hiking trails. Standouts include: Bayview Park (598 W. 2nd St.) which has a free public splash pad and photo ops at the famous Erie sign and Frontier Park (1501 W. 6th St.) which is an official arboretum with a playground, griff slides (three, 40-foot metal slides built into a natural hill), trails, Cascade Creek, and a meditation labyrinth.

**Scallywags Pirate Adventure**

YARRRRR matey! Swashbucklers climb aboard for a wet and wild summer boating adventure on the bay. Secure the treasure from the villainous Captain Skull and have a blast in the process. Opening in late June 2023 // 2 State St.

**Splash Lagoon**

It’s always summertime at Splash Lagoon indoor water park. With tons of slides and water play features for kids of all ages, there’s also an arcade, bowling alley, shopping, and dining. 8091 Peach St.

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### Trampoline, Inflatable, and Tumble Gyms

Bounce out that endless energy at any of the following trampoline/bounce parks:

**Flying Squirrel** (1338 E. Grandview Blvd.), **Vertical Jump Park** (2088 Interchange Rd.), **Flying Monkey Inflatable Park** (3515 McClelland Ave.), **Jumpin' Jungle** (2626 W. 12th St.), and **Tumble 84** (4504 W. Ridge Rd.).

### Tom Ridge Environmental Center (TREC)

Stop by Erie's natural history center and learn about native birds, wildlife, and plants, catch a film on the Big Green Screen, birdwatch, or run around outdoors at the natural playground.

301 Peninsula Dr.

### Waldameer Park and Water World

Established way back in 1896, this world-class amusement and water park keeps growing and upgrading each year. Featuring modern rides like roller coasters, flying swings, and a gondola Ferris wheel with the best view in town, there are also kiddie rides, as well as classics like the Wacky Shack and Pirates Cove (which are vintage "dark rides" designed by Bill Tracy). Water World features an ever growing plethora of water rides for all ages and thrill levels.

220 Peninsula Dr.

### Yahn Planetarium

Catch weekly kid-themed planetarium shows on Penn State Behrend's campus.

4205 College Dr.



## Camping

### Sparrow Pond Family Campground

Located along Route 19 in Waterford, this family-owned and operated campground and RV park has plenty of amenities. Sparrow Pond welcomes pets, and has daily, weekly, and monthly rates. Twenty minutes from Presque Isle, this campground is also home to its titular water feature. 11103 US-19, Waterford

### Camp Sherwin - YMCA of Greater Erie

Since 1912, this lakeside campground has been a local favorite for YMCA members. 8600 W. Lake Rd. #2104, Lake City

### Sara's Campground

Right on the edge of Presque

Isle, near the popular Sara's Restaurant, sits Sara's Campground with its over 200 highly-coveted spots. 50 Peninsula Dr.

**Camp Eriez**  
9356 W. Lake Rd., Lake City

**Camper's Hill**  
12681 Rte. 89, Wattsburg

**Erie KOA Holiday**  
6645 West Rd., McKean

**Family Affair Campground**  
9640 Findley Lake Rd., North East

**Folly's End Campground**  
8600 PA-98, Girard

**Harecreek Campground**  
375 Scotia St., Corry

**Lampe Campground**  
Foot of Port Access Rd.

**Leisure Lake Campground**  
13939 Crosscut Rd., Corry

**Pine Lane Campground**  
11709 W. Lake Rd., East Springfield

**Presque Isle Passage RV Park & Cabin Rentals**  
6300 Sterrettania Rd., Fairview

**Savidge's Creekside Campgrounds**  
10834 PA-89, North East

**Uncle John's Elk Creek Campground**  
575 Elk Creek Rd., Lake City

**West Haven RV Park and Campground**  
6601 Sterrettania Rd., Fairview

## #ErieHistorySelfieSpot

### Pontiac Field (598 W. 2nd St.)

Snap a pic of the mural installed on the baseball field at Bayview Park to commemorate Erie's 1930s Negro League baseball team, The Pontiacs. A few feet away is the iconic Erie sign, which was absolutely made for selfies.



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## Bicycle Rentals and Shops

There is no better way to get to know a landscape than by bicycle. And Erie offers up many ways for you to enjoy that sense of freedom without having to lug your bike along with you from home. Rent a traditional pedal bike, a surrey, a tandem, or an e-Bike and hit the trails! Or check out our local bike shops for gear, maintenance, or a new ride!

### eBike Drop - Electric Bike Rentals

Try before you buy, or just rent it out for a day. A delivery service that brings the bike to you, taking an electrically powered spin around Presque Isle couldn't be more convenient.

*Delivery service*

### Yellow Bike Rental Company

Located conveniently in the midst of Presque Isle, you can rent a single speed, child trailer hitch, a surrey, an aquatic bike, or a tandem bike to see our beaches and trails at a speed more at one with nature. *Presque Isle Bike Trail, 1 Peninsula Dr.*

### 814 Outdoor Sports

*500 W. Plum St., Edinboro*

### A R Adams Cycle

*5651 Peach St.*



### Competitive Gear

*3501 W. 12th St.*

### John Adams Cycling & Fitness

*2774 W. 12th St.*

### Lake Country Bikes

*21 E Main St, North East*

### Lake Erie E-Bikes

*2556 W. 8th St.*

If you're a biking enthusiast in Erie, be sure to check out **Lake Erie Cyclefest** happen-

ing throughout the Erie Area on July 27 - 30. Multiple rides of all skill levels make up a fun weekend all about cycling in Erie (visit [eriesportscommission.com/lakeerie-cyclefest](http://eriesportscommission.com/lakeerie-cyclefest)):

- Downtown Slow Roll, July 27, 6 p.m.
- Grape Escape Ride, July 28, 8 a.m.
- Tour de West County, July 29, 8 a.m.
- Six Mile Creek Classic, July 29, 2 p.m.
- Presque Isle Sunrise Ride, July 30, 6:15 a.m.
- See Spot Ride, Ride for Animal Rescue, July 30, 9 a.m.

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[www.LakeErieRegionConservancy.org](http://www.LakeErieRegionConservancy.org)

## Yoga and Fitness

While on vacation, make sure you don't get off track with your yoga practice or fitness regimen. Erie has a number of locations to relax and calm the mind and body, or get your heart rate up and break a sweat. Whether you are looking for hot yoga, vinyasa, or slow flows, you can find the perfect location here.



### Planet Fitness

If pumping iron, cardio, and interval training is more your speed, Erie has two locations to serve you. With locations near the Millcreek Mall, close to Presque Isle State Park, and in Harborcreek, you can enjoy a workout, tanning, massage chairs, and more.  
1920 Edinboro Rd. // 972 West Erie Plaza Dr. // 4510 Buffalo Rd.

### yogaErie

2022 Best of Erie winner for Best Yoga Studio, yogaErie is conveniently located close to Presque Isle State Park in the Shops at the Colony. This studio specializes in hot power yoga guaranteed to help you get a great stretch and break a sweat.  
2560 W. 8th St.

### Barefoot Buddha

Located in Millcreek, this studio features yoga therapists teaching vinyasa, chair yoga, and therapeutic movement.  
3910 Caughey Rd.

### Erie Fitness NOW

Formerly Iron Oxygen, offering state of the art equipment, group fitness classes, and training services, all in a 30,000-square-foot facility.  
2147 W. 12th St.

### PACA Movement Center

A hidden gem located in the historic Mayer Building in downtown Erie. Enjoy great views of Lake Erie and downtown while practicing slow, mindful yoga, adaptable and suitable for all experience levels, in an inclusive environment.  
1505 State St.

### YMCA

Featuring group classes, a pool, childcare, and other amenities, you're sure to find something here for the entire family.  
3727 Cherry St. // 31 W. 10th St. // 2101 Nagle Rd.

### Erie Fitness Academy

8348 Edinboro Rd.



### Fit Plus

2421 Asbury Rd.

### Fitness U

2312 W. 15th St.

### LECOM Medical Fitness & Wellness Center

5401 Peach St.

### Motivate Studios

1535 W. 8th St.

### Pennbriar Athletic Club

100 Pennbriar Dr.

### Renew Fitness

1359 Marshall Dr.

### School House Yoga Studio

310 E. 10th St.

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## #ErieHistorySelfieSpot

**The Erie Art Museum (411 State St.)**

Located within the historic 1839 Greek Revival Customs House, the steps of the art museum are the perfect selfie spot. Be sure to snap a pic with John Silk Deckard's iconic "Eternal Vigilance" sculpture.



## Staycations and Day Trips

While there are certainly no lack of fun activities to be had in Erie proper, sometimes it's nice to take a drive and explore somewhere new. Erie is situated perfectly between New York State and Ohio, where a short drive allows you to visit someplace totally different. Check out these fun day trips and head out on an adventure!

### National Comedy Center

Just shy of an hour's drive from Erie is an absolute gem of a museum in Jamestown, New York, a must-visit for anyone who enjoys laughter. The 37,000-square-foot National Comedy Center opened in 2018 with over 50 immersive, fascinating, and hilarious exhibits covering the history of comedy. It was named one of TIME Magazine's World's Greatest Places in 2019 and USA Today awarded it Best New Museum in 2020. August 2-6 is also the Lucille Ball Comedy Festival.  
203 W. 2nd St., Jamestown, N.Y.

### Geneva-on-the-Lake

While it's tough to beat Presque Isle right in our own backyard, it can still be fun to explore the various towns on the shores of Lake Erie. One of these popular destinations is about an hour westward into Ohio at Geneva-on-the-Lake, a small resort village of about 900 people, with a unique atmosphere and plenty of food, wine, attractions, and shops. After soaking in some sun and taking a dip in the lake, take the scenic route back and snag some White Turkey Drive-in in Conneaut on the way home.  
Geneva-on-the-Lake, Ohio

### Past Times Arcade

June marks the grand opening of a brand

new retro pinball and video arcade in Girard, Ohio. With over 300 pinball machines and 150 classic arcade games – many of which are rare imported vintage games – it will provide more than enough fun and entertainment for the whole family. It is also home to the Holy Grail Video Game Store.  
419 N. State St., Girard, Ohio

### Riverside Golf Course

Head south to Cambridge Springs and experience the historic and newly renovated Riverside Golf Course. With new ownership in 2021, enjoy the improvements

to the course (including a new golf cart fleet and Finn Cycles) and then swing into their restaurant The Rambler, themed after Leon Ray Livingston, the self-proclaimed "King of the Hoboes," whose travels took him through his favorite stopping ground of Cambridge Springs before eventually settling in Erie.  
24527 US Hwy. 6 & 19, Cambridge Springs

### The Oil Region

One could make a day out of simply driving around Titusville (or nearby Oil City and Franklin) and looking at the historic homes.



A short drive east of Erie takes you to Chautauqua Lake (top) in Western New York for boating, fishing, and water recreation, while about an hour's drive west of Erie lands you in the small resort village of Geneva-on-the-Lake, Ohio (bottom right).



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History buffs can also make a day out of visiting the Drake Well Museum & Park, Tarbell House, and Pithole Center, while also enjoying a train ride, nature trails, and the small-town feel of the region. Snag a bite to eat at Titusville Iron Works and, if you decide to stick around for another day, book a room in the unique Caboose Motel – inside a renovated caboose car.  
*Titusville, Pa.*

### Linesville Spillway

If you're already familiar with the spillway at Pymatuning State Park, you might take for granted that it is absolutely one of the strangest, yet most mesmerizing roadside attractions in America. For many, throwing bread to the thousands of carp (and birds looking to snag it out of the air) is a

childhood rite-of-passage. That's about it for the spillway, so to make a day out of it, be sure to visit one or all of the many nearby small towns such as Conneaut Lake, Andover, or Jamestown.  
*12318 Hartstown Rd., Linesville, Pa.*

**Canadohta Lake**  
*Canadohta Lake, Pa.*

**Chautauqua Lake**  
*Chautauqua, N.Y.*

**Erie Bluffs State Park**  
*11100 W. Lake Rd., Lake City, Pa.*

**Findley Lake**  
*Findley Lake, N.Y.*

**Idlewild**  
*2574 Lincoln Hwy., Ligonier, Pa.*

**Seneca-Iroquois National Museum**  
*82 W. Hetzel St., Salamanca, N.Y.*

**Sunset Bay Beach Club**  
*1028 South Shore Dr., Irving, N.Y.*

**Van Buren Drive-in & Activities Center**  
*5349 Van Buren Rd., Dunkirk, N.Y.*

**Victoria Inn Bed and Breakfast**  
*401 Peach St.*

**Woodcock Creek Lake**  
*22079 State Hwy. 198, Saegertown, Pa.*

## Self-Care and Retail Therapy

If you need a vacation from your vacation, look no further! Erie is home to a great number of relaxing day spas, med spas, salons, and masseuses, not to mention plenty of boutiques and local shops to engage in some serious retail therapy. Breathe it all in!

### Self-Care

#### Coventina Day Spa 🍷

Voted Best Spa in 2022, Coventina Day and Med Spa offers "the pinnacle of advanced beauty and relaxation care." Located within seven wooded acres in a breathtaking establishment, you're sure to be whisked away from your cares.  
*10747 Peach St.*

#### Panache Salon and Spa 🍷

Winner for Best Salon every single year since Best of Erie's inception, Panache's customer satisfaction is clear. A full service salon and day spa offering makeup, nails, skincare, massage, and aromatherapy, in addition to a full range of hair styling services, Panache is a one-stop self-care shop.  
*2501 W. 12th St.*

#### Ambridge Rose

Offering full salon and spa services, as well as hosting and primping for bridal parties or proms.  
*3344 W. 26th St.*

#### Moxi Hair Salon

With two convenient locations, Moxi Hair Salon is an eco-friendly, sustainable, and certified Green Circle Salon specializing in creative color and blonding services.  
*1722 W. 8th St. // 1335 W. 38th St.*

#### Compassionate Hart

Massage therapy that offers Swedish, deep



tissue, trigger point work, and Ashiatsu therapies, as well as couples and canine massage.  
*2005 W. 8th St.*

#### European Wax Center

Offering both men and women's full body, leg, arm, Brazilian, bikini, or eyebrow waxing.  
*6660 Peach St.*

#### Massage Envy

Featuring massage, stretching, and facials, Massage Envy will get you relaxed and destressed.  
*2070 Interchange Rd.*

#### Charisma Salon

*406 State St.*

**Cool Renew MedSpa**  
*1811 Kuntz Rd.*

**Hair-Cutz**  
*4060 W. Lake Rd.*

**Headcases Salon**  
*1508 W. 38th St.*

**Lena Salon**  
*521 W. 10th St.*

**Massage Erie**  
*2220 W. 8th St.*

**Monacella Massage & Kinesiology**  
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**Nailology**  
*1831 W. 26th St.*

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### Retail Therapy

#### Grasshopper 🐛

Erie's own Hip-nique Boutique, Grasshopper is a family-owned staple in the Federal Hill district offering handmade goods, apparel, and supplies to nourish your inner hippie.  
2518 Peach St.

#### Sassy Peacock 🦚

Consignment has never looked so good. Sassy Peacock features a unique blend of new and gently-loved ladies apparel and accessories including handbags, jewelry, shoes, scarves, and belts in well-established brand names.  
845 Pittsburgh Ave.

#### Lollie & Co.

Located in the increasingly impressive

Shops at the Colony, Lollie & Co. offers boutique-style apparel for men and women, as well as uniquely curated home goods. Lollie & Co. will have you looking and feeling your best.  
2566 W. 8th St.

#### Cobb's Second Time Around Thrift Shop

Multiple floors of items waiting for you to find them. What, what!  
1215 Parade St.

#### Copper Carriage

Uniquely curated antiques with a focus on local historic items.  
1909 Chestnut St.

#### The Dollhouse at Pointe Fourre

Glamorous vintage clothing meets sustainable fashion.  
423 State St.

#### Erie Apparel and City Supply

Erie's most iconic places and things, em-

blazoned on quality shirts and collectibles.  
2309 W. 12th St. and 431 State St.

#### Kraus Department Store

If you can't find it at Kraus's, it doesn't exist. The historic Erie staple on Parade Street has knowledgeable employees and generations worth of backstock.  
810 Parade St.

#### AJ's Classic Clothing

2636 W. 8th St.

#### Claudine's Consignment

2208 W. 8th St.

#### Dahlkemper's Jewelry Connection

6845 Peach St.

#### Dotigan Clothing

1150 W. 26th St.

#### E. Lane Boutique

956 West Erie Plaza Dr.

#### Isaac Baker Menswear

1001 State St. #110

#### Iron Empire Clothing

503 Millcreek Mall

#### Izzy & Gab

964 West Erie Plaza Dr.

#### Oregon Antiques

3436 W. Lake Rd.

#### Primo Tailoring

421 State St.

#### SHE Vintage

419 State St.

#### Trellis

1535 W. 8th St.

#### Vintage Soul and Home

916 West Erie Plaza Dr.

#### World of Music

1355 W. 26th St.

## #ErieHistorySelfieSpot

### The Watson Curtze Mansion (356 W. 6th St.)

Erie's 1890 Richardsonian Romanesque crown jewel, the Watson Curtze Mansion overflows with great selfie spots - perhaps snag one in front of the cauldron that boiled the bones of General Mad Anthony Wayne.

# #ECGRAWorks

An impact investor, ECGRA's mission is to elevate Erie County by galvanizing nonprofits and small businesses toward economic and community development. ECGRA's Impact Investing Policy focuses in on five areas: Small Business, Youth & Education, Neighborhoods & Local Communities, Municipalities, and Quality of Place.

In the last 15 years, ECGRA has invested over \$77 million to non-profits and municipalities throughout Erie County. In 2023, \$211,997 was invested in Special Events grants to 49 organizations in support of special events that improve quality of place for Erie Residents.

## IMPACT: Quality of Place

Events like parades and festivals are part of the social fabric that enhance the attractiveness of a region, while elevating our pride in Erie County. Special events grants are driving tourism, attracting talent to the region, and helping sustain some quintessential Erie traditions.



# ERIE COUNTY SPECIAL EVENTS

## Make Erie a Special Place to Visit and Call Home



Albion Area Fair



The AmeriMasala



2023 Series of Events



Boro with the Works



UC Police Department National Night Out



Wesleyville Community Days



CelebrateErie 2023/ Lights Over Lake Erie



Donor Appreciation Day



50th Anniversary Celebrations



Gibson Park 2023 Open Market



Barber National Institute Events 2023



2023 Edinboro Highland Games & Scottish Festival



Celebrate Spring Birding



Dedication of Erie County Veterans Memorial Park



2023 Event Series



Golden Gatsby Gala/Victory Ride/MOVE Show of Talents



Save An Eye All-Star Football Game



Erie Homecoming 2023



ERIEBANK 8 Great Tuesdays



Eerie Horror Fest



2023 Series of Events



Harborcreek Community Events



Concert in the Park, Light Up Night



30th Annual Zabawa Polish Heritage Festival



Oktoberfest 2023



The Mutt Gala, Rock & Rescue, Trails & Tails 5K



Panegyri



Laser Lights and Music Events



JES Programming/Global Summit



40th Annual Drum Corps Competition; 27th Annual German Heritage Festival



McKean Community Day



Women Making History, Pedal for Mercy, Music Trivia Night



Troika Festival



Guys & Dolls



RACK PROJECT



Community Outreach Fair



22nd Annual Keystone Nonprofit Conference



Erie Irish Festival



Saint Paul's Annual Italian Festival



2023 Series of Events



Global Youth Service "Health Awareness Day"



Corry: Block Party Chainsaw Carving & Music Festival



Greater Erie: YMCA Apple Festival



Waterford Community Fair



Erie County Fair at Wattsburg



Erie County Fair



Erie County Fair



Erie County Fair



Erie County Fair



### Dates & Locations



Corry: Block Party Chainsaw Carving & Music Festival  
Greater Erie: YMCA Apple Festival



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