

Rest along the shore

While each of these routes can be enjoyed in a day, plan to stay over at one of our nearby lodgings so you can enjoy more fall color and side trips tomorrow. It's easy to find a place that fits your budget and make reservations at swmichigan.org.



- America's Best Value Inn
- Baymont Inn & Suites
- Best Western
- Boulevard Inn
- Candlewood Suites
- Comfort Suites
- Comfort Suites St. Joseph
- Days Inn & Suites
- Econo Lodge
- Fairfield Inn & Suites
- Hampton Inn
- Hilton Garden Inn
- Holiday Inn Express Hotel & Suites
- Holiday Inn Express Hotel & Suites - St. Joseph
- Inn at Harbor Shores
- Mark III Inn
- Motel 6
- Red Roof Inn
- Silver Beach Hotel
- SpringHill Suites
- Staybridge Suites
- Super 8
- The American Inn

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Be awed by our miles and miles of jewel-toned shore and country.

Nature splashes, then drenches our dunes, forests, vineyards, orchards and fields in jewel-toned hues in autumn. You'll see ruby reds, citrine yellows, garnet oranges and emerald greens. While you are in and around St. Joseph, Michigan, you won't drive a road, paddle a river or stream, walk along our sidewalks or comb our beaches without seeing a color display. Breathtaking vistas are everywhere in Southwest Michigan.

Inside are a few routes that will invigorate your mind and spirit. Typically, our fall color peaks from mid-October to the first week of November (but starting in September, call us at 269-925-6301 for an update on nature's schedule this year).



Jump into our fall color. Here are some popular routes.

● West Michigan Pike - Red Arrow Highway

Starting in St. Joseph, take Main St. south to Lakeshore Dr. to Red Arrow Hwy. This coastal road takes you south through the charming resort communities of Stevensville, Bridgman, Sawyer, Harbert, Lakeside, Union Pier and New Buffalo.

Side Trips:

- Grand Mere State Park, Stevensville
- Beaches, lighthouses, St. Joseph River & Victorian-era downtown, St. Joseph
- Warren Dunes State Park, Sawyer
- Warren Woods, Three Oaks

● West Michigan Pike - Blue Star Highway

From St. Joseph, continue north along the serene, tree-lined M-63 to Blue Star Highway. This Lake Michigan shore tour takes you through Benton Harbor, Covert and South Haven.

Side Trips:

- Harbor Shores Walking & Biking Trails, Benton Harbor
- The Golf Club at Harbor Shores, Benton Harbor
- Third Coast Paddling, Paw Paw River kayak and paddleboard rentals, Benton Harbor
- Van Buren State Park, South Haven
- Kal-Haven Trail State Park, biking, hiking and equestrian trails, South Haven

● St. Joseph River

Go south on St. Joseph's Main St./I-94 Business Loop West/M-63. Make a slight left onto Niles Ave/M-63. Continue to follow M-63 to Scottdale. Turn right on M-139, then right on Redbud Trail to Buchanan.

Side Trips:

- Fernwood Botanical Garden and Nature Preserve, Niles
- Lehman's Orchard, Niles

SW Michigan Makers Trail

Every land has its makers. Crafters of wood. Forgers of steel. Ours are masters of wine, beer and spirits. More than 30 makers have put down stakes in Southwest Michigan and their locations are beautiful in the fall. Two colorful routes are:

● North Berrien County Tour

In downtown St. Joseph, take Main St. to I-94 Business Loop East (Ship St.) to Benton Harbor. Turn left on Fair St. and right on Territorial Rd. Turn left on N. Benton Center Rd. and right on Red Arrow Hwy. to Coloma and Watervliet.

Side Trips:

- 12 Corners Vineyards, Benton Harbor
- Vineyard 2121 Winery, Benton Harbor
- Contessa Wine Cellars, Coloma
- Karma Vista Vineyards, Coloma
- The Chocolate Garden, Coloma

● South Berrien County Tour

Turn on I-94 Business Loop East (Ship St.) from Main St. in downtown St. Joseph. Go through Benton Harbor to I-94 West (Chicago). Take Exit 12, Sawyer. Go east on Sawyer Rd. In Sawyer, turn left on Flynn Rd. Right on Browntown Rd. Left on Hills Rd. Left on Lemon Creek Rd., then left on Red Arrow Hwy. to Bridgman.

Side Trips:

- Greenbush Brewing Co., Sawyer
- Hickory Creek Winery, Buchanan
- Tabor Hill Winery & Restaurant, Buchanan
- Round Barn Winery, Distillery & Brewery, Baroda
- Baroda Founders Wine Cellar, Baroda
- Haymarket Brewing, Bridgman

More roads. More stops. Visit MakersTrail.org for a complete list of 30+ brewery, distillery and winery destinations. Printed Makers Trail maps are also available at each destination, the St. Joseph Today Welcome Center or Southwestern Michigan Tourist Council Visitor Center in Benton Harbor.

● Fred Russ Forest Park

As gorgeous as it is to see Southwest Michigan's vibrant autumn colors from your vehicle, it does not compare to hearing the rustling fallen leaves beneath your feet and looking up at the sunbeams streaming down through the crimson-and-gold canopy overhead. This 13-acre park located between Dowagiac and Marcellus, has 4-miles of hiking trails, a trout stream and woods. It is one of the top fall color destinations in Cass County. Turn on I-94 Business Loop East (Ship St.) from Main St. in downtown St. Joseph. Go through Benton Harbor to I-94 East (Detroit). Take I-94 Exit 56, Decatur. Follow M-51 south to Decatur. Turn left on Decatur Rd., then left on Marcellus Hwy.

