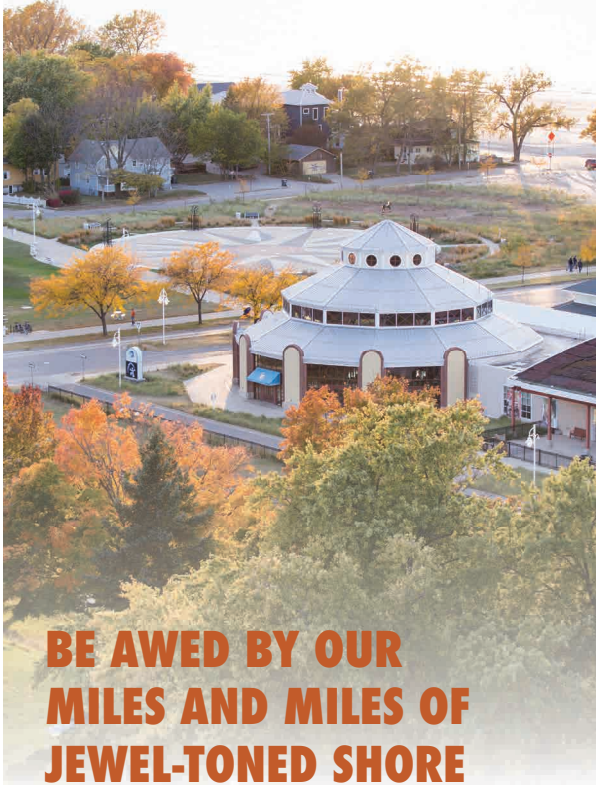


FALL COLOR Guide



Southwest
MICHIGAN
BENTON HARBOR • SAINT JOSEPH
SWMICHIGAN.ORG



BE AWED BY OUR MILES AND MILES OF JEWEL-TONED SHORE & COUNTRYSIDE

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 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.

On the inside pages are a few routes that will invigorate your mind and spirit. Typically, our fall color peaks from the second week to the end of October. But starting in September, call us at 269-925-6301 or scan the QR code on the back for an update on nature's schedule through early November this year.



REST ALONG THE SHORE

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

FALL COLOR REPORT

Scan the QR code or visit
swmichigan.org/blog/fall-color-report



Southwest
MICHIGAN
BENTON HARBOR • SAINT JOSEPH
SWMICHIGAN.ORG

JUMP INTO OUR FALL COLOR

Here are some popular routes

WEST MICHIGAN PIKE - RED ARROW HWY.

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:

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

WEST MICHIGAN PIKE - BLUE STAR HWY.

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

SIDE TRIPS:

- Harbor Shores Nature & Fitness Trails, Benton Harbor
- The Golf Club at Harbor Shores, Benton Harbor
- Kal-Haven Trail State Park - biking, hiking and equestrian trails, South Haven

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 four miles of hiking trails, a trout stream and woods. It is one of the top fall color destinations in Cass County. Take I-94 to Exit 56, Decatur.

Follow M-51 south to Decatur. Turn left on Decatur Road, then left on Marcellus Hwy.

ST. JOSEPH RIVER

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

SIDE TRIPS:

- Fernwood Botanical Garden and Nature Preserve, Niles
- River St. Joe Brewery, Buchanan
- Lehman's Orchard, Niles

NORTH BERRIEN COUNTY TOUR

From downtown St. Joseph, take Main St. to I-94 Business Loop East (Ship St.) to downtown Benton Harbor. Turn left on Water St. and right on Territorial Road to pass through the Benton Harbor Arts District. Turn left on N. Benton Center Road and right on Red Arrow Hwy. to Coloma and Watervliet.

MAKERS TRAIL SIDE TRIPS:

- Vineyard 2121 Winery, Benton Harbor
- Filkins Vineyards, Coloma

CREATIVE CONNECTIONS SIDE TRIPS:

- Water Street Glassworks, Benton Harbor
- North Berrien Historical Museum, Coloma

SOUTH BERRIEN COUNTY TOUR

Take 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 Road. Left on Flynn Road. Right on Brownstown Road. Left on Hills Road. Left on Lemon Creek Road, then left on Red Arrow Hwy. to Bridgman and south to Union Pier.

MAKERS TRAIL SIDE TRIPS:

- Tabor Hill Winery & Restaurant, Buchanan
- Haymarket Brewing, Bridgman

CREATIVE CONNECTIONS SIDE TRIPS:

- O & Co., Bridgman
- The Acorn Theater, Three Oaks



MORE ROADS, MORE STOPS

Earn prizes and Makers Trail swag for visiting any of our more than 40 breweries, wineries, distilleries and cideries. Download the FREE passport app at [MakersTrail.org](https://www.makerstrail.org) to get started!



DISCOVER CREATIVITY TOO

Enhance your visit with our rich culture, history and art scene. Connect with artists of all kinds and earn artsy rewards! Visit [swmichigan.org/creative](https://www.swmichigan.org/creative) to start playing the Creative Connections game.