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YOU’LL HAVE TO FORGIVE US FOR FEELING A LITTLE EXUBERANT.

After years of showing up on more than our share of “Best Kept Secret” lists, Buffalo steps into the spotlight as one of the hottest destinations on The New York Times’ prestigious “52 Places to Go in 2018” list. In placing our fair city on its list, the Times noted the energy and excitement found on our waterfront and the surge of new dining and drinking establishments makes Buffalo an up-and-coming place to visit. Find out what all the buzz is about on the following pages — we’re ready for company and waiting for you to arrive!

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"THIS IS BUFFALO? WHOA, I think I like it here!"

A FIRST-TIME VISITOR FINDS A LOT TO LOVE IN THE UNEXPECTED BUFFALO

(Continued on page 4)
BUFFALO RIVERWORKS

Buffalo’s newest waterfront hotspot includes a brewery and beer garden along the water’s edge.

I think I like it here!
I could hear live music in the distance. Relaxed-looking couples walked arm-in-arm down the sun-soaked wooden boardwalk. Gleeful kids ran around laughing and playing. A massive, spandex-clad group had assembled on the grass under a soaring overpass for some restorative, end-of-the-work-week yoga. And folks had taken to the water by boat, paddleboard and even bicycle (yes, water bicycles).

“This is Buffalo!?” I thought. “Whoa, I think I like it here.”

I’ve been to many city waterfronts, but Canalside was not a typical touristy area with a few vendors and scattered activities. It was thriving! I kept thinking to myself that Buffalo was doing something right. The planners, designers, and organizers hadn’t just thrown this together; instead, it felt like they were really paying attention to the details — down to the smallest things like colorful Adirondack chairs that create these cozy zones for folks to take a load off and just enjoy the scene. I loved trying out a water bike — a little pontoon with pedals —
and getting a unique perspective from the water. What a neat way to get some exercise and take in the views of the grain silos from the heyday of the Erie Canal.

I had heard for a few years that Buffalo had been quietly reinventing itself. But how had such a cool city eluded me for all these years? To this first-time visitor, Buffalo was flourishing; it felt alive. There was an infectious energy in every friendly face.

We rented bikes and jumped on the Queen City Bike Ferry to the far side of the Buffalo River, and were soon on our way riding along a bike path past wooded nature preserves with wild grasses and the glistening waters of Hoyt Lake.
Lake Erie. Lest we forget we were still in the city, the skyline and signature grain silos stood tall in the distance. It felt like we were a world away from the frenzy of activity just across the river.

After our ride and in need of some refreshment and relaxation, we headed to the lively Resurgence Brewing Co. on the city’s once-neglected West Side. The interior was a bright, refurbished warehouse with a soaring ceiling, lots of exposed beams...and a giant Jenga game. But it was the back patio that I fell for — local folks sipped IPAs and frothy lagers at large, wooden picnic tables topped with bright red umbrellas. Friends played a round of cornhole. And twinkling lights dangled overhead as dusk fell on the city.

I was in Buffalo for a huge concert and lightshow on the beautiful front lawn of the newly refurbished Hotel Henry at the Richardson Olmsted Campus. The towers of the former Buffalo State Hospital were illuminated with a stunning lightshow, set to the music of the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra. It was a fantastic spectacle of sight and sound. While I sat there gazing at the show, I felt lucky to be among these Buffalonians and just soaked up their palpable pride in their city.

Settling into my room in the historic Hotel Henry that night, I thought about this underrated gem of a city. The sheer number of fun things to do, see, and eat in Buffalo is such a pleasant surprise.
HOTEL HENRY  » The 88-room Hotel Henry opened in 2017 within the Richardson Olmsted Campus. Designed by Henry Hobson Richardson, it is a National Historic Landmark.

Did you know Buffalo is home to seven of Frank Lloyd Wright’s masterworks? I was amazed at the multitude of incredible landmark buildings and homes in this city. Name a great American architect and he likely put his stamp on Buffalo. Wright, Louis Sullivan, H. H. Richardson, Frederick Law Olmsted — their legacies all live on here in the buildings and parks they designed. Just as surprising are the many new breweries bringing life back into long neglected neighborhoods. My whirlwind introduction to this charming city had left me eager for more.

I’m not from Buffalo, and I had never visited before. From the eyes of this non-native, Buffalo is booming; it feels alive with a youthful enthusiasm and entrepreneurial spirit. And it’s easy to understand why. After decades of decline, the city is back with a vengeance. After years of waiting, change has truly come.

I’m excited to keep returning to see what’s next.
“BUFFALO-STYLE.”

The flavor gracing the menus of nearly every pub in North America takes on a whole new meaning in the city that created it. It was Buffalo’s Anchor Bar that changed the course of American food history in 1964 by inventing the Buffalo-style chicken wing. In the decades since, Buffalo’s corner taverns have perfected variations on the wing, each with its own secret recipe, and always complemented by ample helpings of blue cheese.

But Buffalo-style goes beyond the unique sauces and preparation techniques found in the birthplace of the wing. The history, character and atmosphere found in each of the 12 pubs along the new Buffalo Wing Trail are as unique and flavorful as the wings. Here’s an eater’s guide to the delicious dozen on America’s tastiest drive. Your wet naps are waiting.

**ORIGINAL WINGS**

If you’re making a pilgrimage to the birthplace of the chicken wing, do yourself a favor: Instead of entering the Anchor Bar from the parking lot, walk around the corner to the Main Street entrance, stop at the original wooden bar, and pause.

This very spot changed the course of American food history in 1964, when the hungry friends of Dominic Bellissimo, who was tending bar at the time, arrived looking for a late-night snack. Dominic’s mother — owner Teressa Bellissimo — took the chicken wings originally intended for a soup, fried them, tossed them in hot sauce and served them up.

The Anchor Bar subsequently became a mecca for wing lovers, evidenced by over 500 license plates hanging on the barroom walls from every state, Canadian provinces and most of Western Europe.

With roots dating back to 1935, the Anchor Bar has grown to a dozen locations and sells its signature sauce in almost 3,000 supermarkets and as far away as Kyoto, Japan. While the Main Street location serves several varieties of wings, it’s the medium that are the closest interpretation to Teressa’s original recipe from all those years ago. » 1047 Main St., Buffalo / anchorbar.com
**PAINTED WINGS**

Bar-Bill Tavern’s founder, Joe Giafaglione, used the precision he honed during a career in engineering to perfect the wings of this East Aurora institution. Staff methodically hand-paint each wing with housemade sauces using a paint brush, and every order of wings comes with exactly five drums and five flats. Bar-Bill’s limited menu also includes Buffalo’s renowned beef on weck sandwiches, hand carved on the spot.

Patrons pack the covered front patio and narrow bar, which features a wall filled with hundreds of glass mugs for members of “The Mug Club.” For $50, customers can purchase a mug with their name on it that stays at the tavern and allows an indefinite supply of $1 domestic draft beers; over 3,000 are now members. The most frequent customers earn a space for their mug behind the bar. A poster of Johnny Cash near the back of the tavern reminds patrons of another important fact: Bar-Bill is cash only.

185 Main St., East Aurora / barbill.com

**SOUTH BUFFALO WINGS**

The Gaelic sign greeting customers walking into the Blackthorn Restaurant & Pub says it all — “Cead Mile Failte” or “a hundred thousand welcomes.” Irish heritage, warmth, wit and hospitality abound in this Seneca Street establishment, from the Celtic music to portions of the bar imported from the Old Sod.

The Blackthorn has a menu filled with Irish fare, comfort foods and the “South Buffalo Wing,” a delicious interpretation of a standard wing with some extra spices and flavor served with housemade blue cheese. But the best-kept secret of the Blackthorn lies upstairs, in the backroom home of the storied Blackthorn Club, which has been around for over 100 years. The late Tim Russert — proud son of Buffalo and moderator of NBC’s Meet the Press — loved the pub and was slated to join the club’s ranks until his unexpected death in 2008. His presence looms large in a series of photos in the clubroom, along with pictures of St. Patrick’s Day parades and other events from the club’s storied history.

2134 Seneca St., Buffalo / blackthornrestaurant.com

**CLASSIC WINGS**

If only the walls at Cole’s Restaurant & Bar could talk. Memorabilia collected through the years covers nearly every square inch of this 84-year-old staple of the Elmwood Village. There’s a rowboat that had its moment in the 1960 Olympics hanging from the rafters, a series of carousel horses and dozens of college pennants.

Cole’s honors its rich past while also keeping up on current trends. The bar has nearly three dozen microbrews on tap and the wing options are doubling this year. Chef Nick Rada spent two years living in Asia and brought back new flavors like sticky sweet soy sauce and sweet chili gochujang to add to the ranks of the classic versions the Shatzel family has served since taking over the pub in 1972. And Cole’s is one of the only spots on the trail where you can pair five wings with a beef on weck sandwich, an only-in-Buffalo combo that should be experienced at least once.

1104 Elmwood Ave., Buffalo / colesonelmwood.com

**SMITTY WINGS**

Along Abbott Road in South Buffalo, the “Smitty wing” rules the roost. Doc Sullivan’s Pub serves this born-in-the-neighborhood take on the wing, which mixes a half-dozen spices into a traditional hot sauce. “Smitty” is a nod to the pub’s previous name and the Smith family who ran it; the secret recipe has been passed down through generations of ownership for the last 40 years. “Smitty” hot, medium and mild replace the typical flavor scale found at most restaurants. The result is a perfectly crispy, saucy wing with a full-bodied flavor.

Another recent addition to Doc Sullivan’s menu is the beef on weck wing, a fusion of two of Buffalo’s most popular foods. Covered in a horseradish aioli, salt and caraway seeds, these wings are a delicious new take on a Buffalo classic. Lots of natural light, a central wooden bar and photos of historic Buffalo on the walls make Doc Sullivan’s a comfortable neighborhood pub to stop in — and keep returning to.

474 Abbott Rd., Buffalo / facebook.com/DocSullivans
The warning signs at Duff’s are everywhere — on the walls, the menus, the large white buckets served for discarded wings and even on apparel. “MEDIUM is HOT. MEDIUM HOT is VERY HOT. HOT is VERY, VERY HOT.” The adjusted flavor scale for Duff’s sauces even inspired a group of Saturday Night Live writers, who created an early 1990s sketch based on their Duff’s experience. You’ll appreciate SNL’s “Super Fire Hot Chicken Wings” online even more after dining at Duff’s.

Open since 1946, Duff’s added “Famous Wings” to its title after a glowing Buffalo News review in the 1980s. It has grown to include several area locations, including one President Obama visited in 2010. But the original Sheridan Drive location remains the star. Duff’s fries their wings once to seal in the juice, then again to make them crispy. It results in a wing high on the crispy, saucy and juicy spectrum. Pro tip: Eat like a local and order a side of fries to dunk in your blue cheese and gravy.

Elmo’s Bar & Restaurant is a no-frills bar located in a strip mall off a four-lane highway that serves up some of the most unique — and tasty — wings in Buffalo. Elmo’s has been honing its wing game since owner Adrian Meredith took over in the early 1990s, developing a from-scratch Cajun sauce that was unprecedented in Buffalo and heavily incorporates grilling into its process. Now, most wing orders
are grilled, and nearly half are “double-dipped:” fried, tossed in sauce, grilled, doused in a different sauce, and served.

The result is a wing bursting with a combination of flavors unlike anywhere else on the trail. Over a half-dozen double-dip options are available; the “BBQ hot” is a fusion of tang and heat, while the “Cajun honey mustard” is both sweet and spicy, with the char-grilled smokiness rounding out the flavor profile. The simple interior of the bar features late 1990s Sabres jerseys, a tribute to the days when the team used to chow down here after practice. » 2349 Millersport Hwy., Getzville / elmosonline.com

OLD SCHOOL WINGS

The old saying of “If it ain’t broke, don’t fix it” would certainly apply at Gabriel’s Gate. This staple of Buffalo’s Allentown neighborhood for the last half-century has kept its wings consistent throughout the years — a touch crispy, with a splash of Frank’s Red Hot. Gabriel’s Gate is the standard for a classic wing done right.

Gabriel’s Gate — formerly a brick row house constructed in 1864 that formerly served as an antique shop — is teeming with character, from the tin ceilings and saloon-style chandelier to the hardwood floors, wooden booths and two wood-burning fireplaces. A series of mounted animal heads stare down customers from the high ceiling bar. Its long and narrow interior opens to a back patio that has a running fountain in the summer.

Gabriel’s is the kind of pub you could only find in Allentown — one of Buffalo’s oldest neighborhoods and the city’s creative quarter filled with historic architecture, public art and a host of galleries, bars, nightclubs and restaurants. » 145 Allen St., Buffalo / (716) 886-0602

BLUE CHEESE WINGS

In the shadow of Buffalo’s towering grain silos sits Gene McCarthy’s pub, an icon of the city’s Old First Ward since 1964. Grain scoopers who lived in the neighborhood and worked in the silos whet their whistles at Gene’s after a long day’s work. The pub’s interior décor — shamrocks painted on the ceiling, a Fighting Irish banner and a portrait of John F. Kennedy hang from the walls and reflect the Ward’s rich Irish heritage. As kayakers, rock climbers and artists reinvigorate the nearby grain silos, Gene’s has added to its traditional appeal with a recently installed brewery next door that serves a dozen craft beers.

Gene’s also delivers a delicious twist on the Buffalo wing by taking its partnership with blue cheese to a whole new level. The McCarthy’s-style wing features a sauce that combines blue cheese with hot and BBQ flavors. It’s topped with crumbly blue cheese and served with a side of blue cheese. At Gene’s, when they say #NeverRanch, they mean it. 73 Hamburg St., Buffalo / genemccarthys.com

SICILIAN WINGS

Originally a stagecoach stop on the road between Buffalo and Rochester, the Glen Park Tavern has been an institution in the village of Williamsville since 1887. Some 130 years later, the tavern — under the ownership of the Grenauer family since the late 1990s — remains a beloved local landmark. The original wooden bar, wood-hewn ceiling and photos of 19th-century Williamsville on the walls remind customers of the tavern’s rich history.

The tavern prides itself on quality ingredients, including jumbo wings that are some of the largest on the trail, and an especially creamy blue cheese dressing made from scratch. Nearly two-thirds of the staff at the tavern have worked there for over 20 years and meet regularly to review the menu and food, which recently spurred the development of a secret ingredient that helps their sauce stick to the wing. Locals swear by the Glen Park’s Sicilian wing, which is covered in Parmesan cheese, garlic, basil and oregano. 5507 Main St., Williamsville glenparktaverybuffalo.com

GLEN PARK TAVERN
Upon entering the Lenox Grill, you might expect to see Ted Danson tending bar. The pub, set several feet below ground and clad in dark wood — bears a striking resemblance to the set of Cheers, the kind of place “where everybody knows your name” or will soon enough.

The Lenox Grill is set within Buffalo’s oldest continuously operating hotel, which dates to the turn of the 20th century and has housed an impressive roster of guests including Duke Ellington, Henry Fonda, Harry Belafonte and a young F. Scott Fitzgerald. The pub, opened more recently, has distinguished itself with an eye-popping beer list of over 550 bottled varieties and a kitchen open later than anywhere else on the trail (3 a.m. on weekends, with a 4 a.m. bar closing time). Its wings have gained local acclaim thanks to enterprising chef Michael Strom, who introduces a new weekly wing special to the bar, from peanut butter-and-jelly to s’mores. Other noteworthy flavor options include the BBQ honey Sriracha and Korean BBQ.

**Special Sauce Wings**

Some 12 years after the Buffalo-style wing’s inception, Phyllis Dimpfl decided to try her own variation at Mammoser’s Tavern in Hamburg. The result was a wing unlike anywhere else in town. Phyllis loved spicy food, so she devised a homemade sauce that was a marked departure from the Frank’s Red Hot-based sauces Buffalonians were used to. She created Mammoser’s Original Wing Sauce, which is sold by the bottle at the restaurant and in local supermarkets. The sauce, which lists four different varieties of pepper in its top 10 ingredients, provides a slow burn and an extra kick of spiciness.

Mammoser’s has a distinctive interior, with many of the original wooden features of the former 19th century stable still visible at the bar. Phyllis’ son Pete now runs the tavern, which has been in the Dimpfl family since 1948. Another noted distinction here is the fact that Mammoser’s uses no butter or margarine in its wing-making process, resulting in a drier wing that’s incredibly flavorful and juicy on the inside.

**Korean BBQ Wings**

16 S. Buffalo St., Hamburg
(716) 648-1390

For more information about the Trail, including a map and video, go to buffalowingtrail.com
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210 Franklin Street, Buffalo, NY 14202
Buffalo’s Elevator Alley has become a 21st century playground.

By Brian Hayden

owering grain silos form the backdrop of nearly every experience on Buffalo’s waterfront, from strolling Canalside’s boardwalk to biking the lakeside trails along the Outer Harbor. Buffalo has one of the world’s largest collections of silos, a throwback to its industrial heyday when Great Lakes freighters off-loaded and stored millions of bushels of grain in them.

(Continued on page 18)
THE BUFFALO RIVER
Kayakers, water bikers and
boat tours share the river
on a typical summer day.
Industry declined, and for decades, locals viewed the empty concrete behemoths lining the Buffalo River as an impediment to enjoying the waterfront. No longer. Today, the silos have become a magnet for kayakers, rock climbers, zip liners, theater-goers and craft beer connoisseurs. Their repurposing and redevelopment embody Buffalo’s rebirth and mission to take what’s uniquely ours — a remarkable built environment — and turn it into someplace extraordinary to visit.

Here are some of the top ways to enjoy Buffalo’s “Elevator Alley.”

**FROM UP HIGH**

The world’s first grain silo zip line has launched from **Buffalo RiverWorks**, an entertainment complex along the Buffalo River featuring an urban adventure course carved from the ruins of grain silos. Thrill-seekers climb to the top of the world’s largest Labatt Blue six pack, a group of silos painted to resemble Buffalo’s favorite Canadian beer, then launch off for a bird’s eye view of the waterfront. Another group of RiverWorks silos offer interior and exterior rock climbing, while further down the Buffalo River, **Explore Buffalo’s “Silo City: Vertical” tours** take urban adventurers on a journey past old industrial machinery to the top floor of the structures.

[bufaloriverworks.com](http://bufaloriverworks.com) / [explorebuffalo.com](http://explorebuffalo.com)

**WITH A BEER**

RiverWorks also opened the world’s first brewery inside of a grain silo in 2017. Belly up to the bar carved out the side of the silo for a fresh beer brewed just a few feet away. Relax in the beer garden formed from the remnants of another former silo. In other cities, day drinking on an old industrial property would be called trespassing. In Buffalo, it’s called Sunday afternoon.

**FAMILY FUN AT CANALSIDE**

Canalside is Buffalo’s new waterfront playground. But we’re not talking monkey bars and teeter-totters, instead it’s water bikes and paddleboats, giant Jenga, pirate cruises and experiences that’ll have your kids begging for just five more minutes. Spend your summer vacation on the water by renting kayaks or paddleboarding through Buffalo’s Elevator Alley, a unique collection of grain silos that speak to our city’s industrial past. Let the little ones crawl and climb on the wooden tugboat in the oversized sandbox just steps from the boardwalk. Canalside is also home to its own floating museum, the **Buffalo Naval & Military Park**, where the kids can get a first-hand look inside three decommissioned WWII warships, including a submarine!

Grab a scoop (or two) of your favorite ice cream at either **The Dish** or **The Hatch** and enjoy a sunset stroll along the water. Finish your waterfront walk with a trip up the 100-step observation tower and soak up some stunning views of Lake Erie.

As if that’s not enough to convince you Buffalo is where all the cool kids go, Canalside is also the future home to a **new children’s museum** and **historic carrousel** opening in early 2019.

Be cool. Come visit. » [canalsidebuffalo.com](http://canalsidebuffalo.com)
FROM THE WATER

Rent a kayak, water bike or standup paddleboard from several points along the Buffalo River — including Canalside, RiverWorks, Silo City and Mutual Riverfront Park — for an up-close and personal view of the concrete canyon of silos that surround either side of the Buffalo River. Or hop on a Buffalo River History Tour from Canalside — a guided boat cruise — to learn the backstory of the structures. On your journey, you may even catch a whiff of Cheerios, which have been produced by Buffalo’s General Mills plant on the river since 1941.

buffaloriverhistorytours.com

BUFFALO’S LARGEST PUBLIC ART INSTALLATION IS ON THE CONNECTING TERMINAL SILO, WHICH APPEARS NIGHTLY IN A PROJECTION OF COLORS AND PATTERNS TO THE DELIGHT OF CANALSIDE VISITORS WATCHING FROM ACROSS THE BUFFALO RIVER. AND SILO CITY HAS BECOME ONE OF BUFFALO’S MOST UNIQUE PERFORMANCE VENUES. THE Cavernous silo interiors host poetry readings, musical performances and an annual summer theater production. The acoustics and echo inside the massive, hollow structures provide an experience unlike any other venue. » silo.city

WITH ART

THE ROYCROFT INN
In addition to its historic architecture and furnishings, the Roycroft serves a legendary Sunday brunch. Particularly special in the summer, you can dine outside on the peristyle among the beautiful gardens. Enjoy a complimentary mimosa to cap off your trip to lovely East Aurora.
40 South Grove St., East Aurora roycroftinn.com

JESSICA KELLY
Freelance writer and photographer, with a focus on food, travel and events.
ART INSIDE AND OUT

Come to Buffalo and stare at our walls

BY ED HEALY

Buffalo’s street cred as an up-and-coming art destination took a great leap forward last year as muralists applied thousands of gallons of paint to the city’s walls. East Side, West Side, everywhere you turn, there’s an artist at work, making the streets of the city shine with color, line and light. The formerly non-descript, utilitarian, taken-for-granted walls of Buffalo’s buildings are being brought to life through the efforts of the Albright-Knox Art Gallery’s Public Art Initiative, a program that focuses attention and resources on the power of painting the town.

Buffalo is also bursting with great art on the inside of our museums and galleries. The Albright-Knox boasts a collection of some of the finest modern and contemporary art in North America, while right across the street, the Burchfield Penney Art Center features the very best of regional artists, including the great watercolorist and landscape painter Charles E. Burchfield.

Other art hot spots include Hallwalls Contemporary Arts Center, the CEPA Gallery, the Anderson Gallery and Buffalo Arts Studio where you can meet artists at work in their studios. Inside or out, Buffalo’s art scene is sizzling.

visitbuffaloniagara.com/public-art
THE VIBRANT ENERGY HERE IS PALPABLE.
— The Chicago Tribune

Hamburg Arena Painting by Charles Clough
168 participants and volunteers poured, splattered, smeared and brushed colors onto a canvas over the course of an entire day.

Dream Keepers by Alice Mizrachi
Students in a summer youth program worked with Mizrachi to develop and complete this mural.
**537 E. DELAVAN AVE.** *Dance Everyday* by Shantell Martin (shown working on the mural) / Martin’s trademark linework – black ink on white surfaces – radically transformed this East Side building wall.

**SHEA’S 710 THEATRE** *Noodle in the Northern Lights* by Jessie Unterhalter and Katey Truhn / This expansive mural runs the entire length of the Tupper Street side of Shea’s 710 Theatre and adds a splash of color to the city’s Theatre District.

**NFTA ALLEN/MEDICAL CAMPUS STATION** *Gut Flora* by Shasti O’Leary Soudant / These 11-foot tall structures inspired by bacteria greet transit riders arriving at the Buffalo Niagara Medical Campus subway station.
MIRRORS BUFFALO’S PAST, A NEW WAVE OF IMMIGRANTS AND REFUGEES FROM MEXICO, ETHIOPIA, THAILAND, MYANMAR, IRAQ AND COUNTRIES LARGE AND SMALL FROM AROUND THE WORLD HAVE ARRIVED IN THE QUEEN CITY WITH THEIR OWN TRADITIONS, CUSTOMS AND RECIPES. THANKS TO THESE RECENT ARRIVALS, BUFFALO’S MELTING POT OF ETHNIC CUISINES HAS GROWN BY HUNDREDS OF NEW DISHES.

ANYWHERE YOU VISIT IN BUFFALO, YOU’RE GREETED WITH DELICIOUS OFFERINGS FROM AROUND THE WORLD. CRVING PHO? HEAD TO THE WEST SIDE’S PHO LANTERN OR PHO DOLLAR. NEED A TACO FIX? FIND AUTHENTIC EATS AT LA DIVINA MEXICAN STORE. FOR A MORE MODERN TWIST STOP AT DOWNTOWN’S CASA AZUL.

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Boats Depart from Niagara Falls, USA ★ MaidoftheMist.com ★ 716.284.8897
BUFFALO IS UNDERGOING A ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME TRANSFORMATION, as its spectacular architectural legacy is restored, repurposed and returned to active use. Visitors can sleep in a hotel that was a former asylum, rock climb and drink craft beer among the ruins of grain silos, enjoy live theatre and musical performances in reclaimed movie palaces, churches and social clubs, and tour two stunning Frank Lloyd Wright homes that have been meticulously restored. Buffalo’s past glory is woven into every aspect of today’s visitor experience and tours by boat, bike, bus and foot make every inch of it easy to reach.

GRAYCLIFF ESTATE
Set on a spectacular eight-acre site overlooking Lake Erie, this Frank Lloyd Wright-designed summer home is nearing the completion of a multi-year, multi-million-dollar restoration » experiencegraycliff.org

RESTORE IT AND THEY WILL COME
Buffalo’s past glory lives on in its stunningly rejuvenated architecture
BY BRIAN HAYDEN

BABEVILLE
This 19th century Gothic Revival-style church was rescued from the wrecking ball by singer Ani DiFranco. It now serves as the home of her Righteous Babe Records, Hallwalls Arts Center and two concert venues. babevillebuffalo.com
Darwin Martin House

Frank Lloyd Wright described his Darwin Martin House as a “well-nigh perfect composition.” Few would disagree. This National Historic Landmark represents a high-water mark in Wright’s prolific career. martinhouse.org
What better way to experience one of the great cities of American architecture than by spending the night in a historic hotel? Buffalo’s architecturally significant accommodations include two National Historic Landmarks, a Four-diamond AAA-rated property, a masterwork by the first female member of the American Institute of Architects, an Inn that has never received less than the highest possible rating on Trip Advisor, and a hotel featuring a rooftop bar that provides a bird’s eye view of downtown Buffalo.

**INNBUFFALO**

As of this publication, InnBuffalo has never received less than five stars on Trip Advisor. Never. Let that sink in for a moment. Located in the heart of Buffalo’s beautiful Elmwood Village neighborhood, InnBuffalo occupies a mansion built by businessman Herbert H. Hewitt in 1898. » innbuffalo.com

**THE CURTISS HOTEL**

The former Harlow C. Curtiss building in downtown Buffalo is now home to a 68-room hotel, Chez Ami restaurant, VUE rooftop lounge and a hot springs that’s the first of its kind in Buffalo. curtisshotel.com

**HOTEL HENRY**

Set in the former Buffalo State Hospital, the Hotel Henry Urban Resort Conference Center features 88 rooms, a magnificent ballroom and the 100 Acres restaurant, and is located just around the corner from Buffalo’s Museum District. hotelhenry.com

**THE LAFAYETTE**

Located in the heart of downtown, The Lafayette was designed by Louise Blanchard Bethune, said to be the first female architect in the United States. The Lafayette is also home to the Public Espresso coffee shop, the Lafayette Brewing Company and Groom Service Beauty & Dry Bar. » thehotellafayette.com

**THE MANSION ON DELAWARE AVENUE**

Buffalo’s first boutique hotel continues to provide a luxury experience to its guests, including 24-hour butler service and complimentary Land Rover car service throughout the city of Buffalo. mansionondelaware.com

**THE ROYCROFT INN**

Part of the National Historic Landmark Roycroft Campus, the birthplace of the American Arts & Crafts Movement, the Inn is the perfect spot for lovers of fine design and craftsmanship. » roycroftinn.com
The Buffalo Transportation Pierce-Arrow Museum &
The 1927 Buffalo Filling Station by Frank Lloyd Wright

263 Michigan at 201 Seneca ~ Downtown Buffalo 14203

Featuring: Pierce Arrow, Thomas Flyer, world famous Corvettes & muscle cars, vintage bicycle collection, motorcycles, carriages, 1900 horse drawn Jello wagon, electric vehicles, hood ornament collection, Trico display, home of The Womens’ Transportation Hall of Fame.

Check our web site for general admission days & hours.
Group guided tours (for 30 or more) by appointment.
Great place for corporate parties & events!

pierce-arrow.com
716-853-0084
The 2018 Hemmings Motor News Great Race will bring **120 OF THE FINEST ANTIQUE AUTOMOBILES IN THE WORLD TO BUFFALO** during the third week of June. Buffalo’s **Pierce Arrow Museum**, home to one of the most impressive collections of vintage cars, motorcycles and bicycles in North America, will host the start of the race on **Saturday, June 23**. Teams and cars from Japan, England, Germany, Canada and every corner of the United States will converge in Buffalo before departing on the nine-day, 2300-mile adventure that ends in Halifax, Nova Scotia.
Vintage autos dating back to 1916 will participate in the rally. The Great Race stop in Buffalo is free and open to the public. Visit greatrace.com for more information.

Can’t make the starting line for the Great Race? The Pierce Arrow Museum has enough automobile memorabilia and artifacts to get your motor running at any time of the year. Check out pierce-arrow.com to learn more.

RACE WINNER • A Buffalo-made vehicle, the Thomas Flyer, won the Great Race of 1908, a journey across the Northern Hemisphere from New York to Paris via the plains of Siberia at a time when auto travel was still in its infancy. Pictured are Buffalonians George Schuster, the winning driver, with mechanic George Miller after the race’s completion. The 2018 race will help commemorate this 1908 event.
Buffalo is one of America’s great food towns. And no trip to the BUF is complete without sampling our smorgasbord of regional specialties.

Get the party started with an order of Buffalo wings at one of the stops along the new Buffalo Wing Trail, but save some room for a beef on weck sandwich, a charbroiled hot dog, a Friday night fish fry and maybe a slice of Buffalo-style pizza.

Here’s our insider’s guide to the best of classic Buffalo eats for visitors based in the downtown core. Each of these establishments is within walking distance of the above ground section of the Metro Rail, which is free of charge between Erie Canal Harbor and Fountain Plaza.

**SWANNIE HOUSE**

People have been bellying up to the bar at Swannie House (170 Ohio St.) for more than 120 years, making this modest corner tavern a genuine Buffalo classic. But it’s more than seniority that makes the Swannie a must stop on any Buffalo culinary expedition. Local connoisseurs swear by the Swannie’s beer-battered, Buffalo-style haddock fish fry, calling it one of the best in the city. Still hungry? OK, head over to the Erie Canal Harbor Metro Rail stop to begin the rest of the crawl.
LAFAYETTE BREWING CO.
Making your way up Main Street, take the Metro Rail to the Lafayette Square stop and head to the Lafayette Brewing Company (391 Washington St. / labrewco.com) for a mouthwatering delicious beef on weck slider. Located inside the architectural splendor of The Hotel @ the Lafayette, the Lafayette Brewing Company serves a tasty version of one of the great American sandwiches: thinly sliced roast beef piled high on a kimmelweck roll accompanied by plenty of horseradish.

PRIMA PIZZA PASTA
Jump back on the Metro Rail and head to the Fountain Plaza stop near Chippewa Street for the next leg of your journey. Prima is a little slice of heaven. Sorry thin crust.

No disrespect deep dish. Buffalo-style pizza is just right — a hefty, but not too heavy base supports plenty of tomato sauce and generous toppings of mozzarella and pepperoni. When in downtown, Prima Pizza (396 Pearl St. / primapizzapasta.com) is the go-to place for a pie.

JIM’S STEAKOUT
Your next stop is Jim’s Steakout (92 W. Chippewa St. / jimsteakout.com). Many late nights on the Buffalo bar scene have ended at one of Jim’s locations scattered throughout Buffalo. Why?

A chicken finger sub, of course. Served hot, medium or mild, this traditional Buffalo sub has been the finger licking culmination to a night on the town for generations of Buffalonians. Is the chicken finger sub good for what might be ailing you? There’s only one way to find out.

TED’S HOT DOGS
Our final stop is another staple of the Buffalo food pyramid — charbroiled hot dogs — served by one of the city’s truly legendary dining establishments, Ted’s (124 W. Chippewa St. / tedshotdogs.com). For more than 90 years, Ted’s has grilled its franks over a bed of glowing hardwood charcoal, infusing them with an irresistible smoky tang.

Having a truly memorable dining experience is never just about the food. Often your dining companions, mood, service — heck, even the weather — contribute to the affair. With that in mind, the criteria I’ll apply for sharing this, a list of my five current faves for eating, drinking, or hanging out, is simple: great food and, if not perfect, at least earnest service.

1 LAS PUERTAS
Las Puertas is my favorite place to eat right now, and it’s also my favorite place to take people, and to point visiting press toward. A young chef from Mexico by way of a French culinary school in Montreal who decides to open a chic little restaurant on Buffalo’s West Side is a story that may seem far-fetched, or even like a lot of hype, to outsiders. And then you eat there. And you don’t care about the story or how chic the damn place is. The service and the food surpass any expectations one might have, no matter how much or how little they know about the James Beard Award-nominated chef, his staff, or this tiny little haunt. 385 Rhone Island St., Buffalo laspuertas-buffalo.com

2 MARBLE + RYE
Marble + Rye is my go-to when I am either famished or celebrating. I guess that means it offers me both comfort and joy. The menu is rife with many beautiful and delicious small plates, a houseground burger (which I’m addicted to), a handmade pasta program that makes you weep over all the bad pasta you’ve unwittingly consumed in your lifetime, and cocktails, cocktails, cocktails. Not to mention the chef’s sensitivity to the seasons and hyperfocus on sourcing. Marble + Rye has been open a couple of years, but it’s proven to just get better with time. 112 Genesee St., Buffalo marbleandrye.net

3 755 RESTAURANT & LOUNGE
Feasting with friends seems like it should call for some sort of occasion, but why wait? Every day we are alive is an occasion! Niagara Falls’ 755 Restaurant & Lounge is the perfect location for a friendly feast. The menu illustrates a restaurant trying to please all the people all the time, and who can blame them? They’re in Niagara Falls! But if you’re wise and stick to its

home-style Lebanese dishes, you’ll have a meal you and your fellow diners aren’t likely to soon forget. If you’re like me, you’ll spend the next week wishing you could eat at 755 again, so save yourself a bit of regret and remember to place a large to-go order before you leave. 755 West Market St., Niagara Falls, NY 755westmarket.com

4 99 FAST FOOD
My daughters and I have been eating at 99 Fast Food since they were little. Some people call it Pho 99, or just 99, but no matter its moniker, the most reliably delicious pho and sundry other Thai/Vietnamese delights awaits inside this Bailey Avenue diner. Casual, cheap, and always delicious, it’s hard to deny the validity of any business that’s soothed your soul for nearly two decades. Be sure to make liberal use of the condiments on each table, and don’t skip out on the chilled Vietnamese coffee. 3396 Bailey Ave., Buffalo 99fastfood.com

5 LLOYD TACO FACTORY
As a family, we eat at Lloyd Taco Factory at least once a week. Where else can you get fast service, a variety of boldly flavored, wildly delicious scratch-made fare that uses the highest quality ingredients (many of which are local), and a craft cocktail six days a week? I love the burritos and tacos, obvi (Wu Tang Chicken FTW!). There’s also a beet salad with pickled, fresh, and roasted beets, and deep-fried spheres of gooey chévre. Not to mention the crunchy eggrolls stuffed with warm cheese and locally-grown Flat #12 mushrooms. It’s so affordable for the quality, and it’s always, always good. Really, we eat here so often my kids could fill in when a staffer calls in sick. 1503 Hertel Ave., Buffalo whereslloyd.com

Christa Glennie-Seychew is a food writer currently working as a consultant. She is also the founder of Nickel City Chef.
JOE CASCIO
THE SOUNDS OF THE CITY

ASBURY HALL/9TH WARD @ BABEVILLE
Set in a converted church and owned by Buffalo-born singer Ani DiFranco, the two-tiered venue — with Asbury upstairs and the 9th Ward downstairs — is an angelic destination for musicians and fans.
Notable visits: Modest Mouse, St. Vincent
341 Delaware Ave. » babevillebuffalo.com

BUFFALO IRON WORKS
Take an early-1900s factory space, strip it to the beams for acoustics, then convert it into a killer performance space inside Buffalo's Cobblestone District for jam bands, tribute acts and ensembles of all kinds. It's the perfect venue to meet both old and new Buffalo.
Notable visits: Leon Russell, Sloan
49 Illinois St. » buffaloironworks.com

MOHAWK PLACE
Grungy and glorious Mohawk refuses to fade away. Left for dead in 2013, it was revived to continue its role as a backdrop for the city's finest rock, punk and hardcore, and host to touring acts en route to bigger things.
Notable visits: My Morning Jacket, The White Stripes
47 E. Mohawk St. » buffalosmohawkplace.com

NIETZSCHE’S
Mardi Gras masks on the walls. Signatures scrawled on the ceiling. Genre-defying music everywhere. Guests can count on enjoying it all while immersed in the eclectic vibe of Allentown's philosopher-inspired club.
Notable visits: Ani DiFranco, Phish
248 Allen St. » nietzsches.com

BY MICHAEL FARRELL
What is the sound of Buffalo? Is it the anthemic rock guitar solos that echo from car stereos and keg parties? Is it the jazz, blues or funk formulated by homegrown musicians? Is it the wild punk and hardcore that embodies a blue-collar city’s clenched fists and stiff upper lip? It’s all of it, crafted in ample doses, and served inside some of the liveliest and most distinctive venues that music fans can hope to find. Do you want to feel the sound of Buffalo? Start here.

FIND BUFFALO’S BEAT IN ITS BEST MUSIC VENUES

TOWN BALLROOM
PAUSA ART HOUSE
PAUSA — set inside a nondescript Allentown house just around the corner from some of the city’s most colorful barrooms — is a shelter from the typically amplified scene. It plays host to styles ranging from chamber music to jazz, folk and world music.
Notable visits: Bobby Millitello, John Lombardo & Mary Ramsey
19 Wadsworth St. » pausaarthouse.com

TRALF MUSIC HALL
Intimate enough for seated singer/songwriter shows, yet spacious enough to accommodate the sound of alt-rock impresarios and crunchy jam collectives, the Tralf initially surprises, yet always delivers.
Notable visits: Jason Isbell, Prince
622 Main St. » tralfmusichall.com

SPORTSMEN’S TAVERN
Walk inside and you’ll find a world-class honky-tonk that caters to the finest in local and touring alt-country, bluegrass and Americana, all in a small tavern setting that plays much bigger than its square footage.
Notable visits: Junior Brown, The Bottle Rockets
326 Amherst St. » sportsmensbuffalo.com

TOWN BALLROOM
Nestled in the heart of the city’s Theatre District, the Ballroom is a spacious, multi-tiered club that serves as downtown’s preeminent host for visiting alt-rock tastemakers, millennial MacBook artists or Canadian guitar heroes.
Notable visits: Father John Misty, The National
681 Main St. » townballroom.com

KC KRATT
Saxophonist and bandleader George Scott has been a musician for more than 50 years. He’s played in Toronto and with the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra—but these gigs came years after he first fell into the embrace of the Queen City’s historic Colored Musicians Club on Broadway.
“This place is one of the jewels of Buffalo,” says Scott, who first walked into the cozy CMC at 13 years old and is now its president. “It’s Buffalo history. We’ve had a cross-section of everyone who’s been here, particularly if they were into the music. It’s everybody’s club.”
Whether because of its first floor museum, or the Sunday night jam sessions in its speakeasy-style upstairs space where legends Dizzy Gillespie and Miles Davis once jammed, the CMC is an indispensable piece of the city’s fabric. And George Scott has seen it all.
Why is this place so special for Buffalo’s music community?
George Scott: “Back in the day, this was the hub for musicians. Whether they were playing here or finishing a gig somewhere else, they ended up here — and you had crowds of people waiting outside just to catch a glimpse of who might come in here.”
Is this the type of place that musicians feel like they can just come in and be themselves?
Scott: “When I was young guy, I would sit in between players who were old enough to be my grandfather, but they gave such guidance and knowledge. It’s always been a nurturing place for young musicians to come here and learn.”
A museum dedicated solely to **wooden carousels**. The home where a **U.S. President** was sworn into office. A **vintage diner**. The only **metal kazoo factory** in North America.

No matter how you stumble upon some of Buffalo’s most unique attractions, they can all be described in the same way: **unexpected**.

Tucked into what feels like every corner of our region is one hidden gem after another, just begging to be uncovered. So grab the car keys, a travel buddy and your sense of adventure before you head out to experience these anything-but-ordinary attractions in Buffalo.

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**THEODORE ROOSEVELT INAUGURAL NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE**

The presidential journey of Theodore Roosevelt began here, at the stately mansion of Ansley Wilcox, where the 26th President was sworn into office after the assassination of President William McKinley in 1901. This beautifully-restored Victorian home provides an immersive experience that puts visitors right back into that momentous day in American history. 

[trs. site.org](http://trs. site.org)

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**STEEL PLANT MUSEUM**

Built upon the foundation of the steel industry, Buffalo’s economy took shape in the early 20th century – thanks to Bethlehem Steel, the world’s largest steel plant at the time. Today, this small but mighty museum pays tribute to the local steel industry and the tens of thousands of locals it employed during American steel’s heyday.

**Insider Tip:** Time your visit to coincide with the annual Steelfest event that takes place every September. 

[steelplantmuseumwny.org](http://steelplantmuseumwny.org)
**SWAN STREET DINER**
A vintage diner has found a new home in Buffalo’s ever-changing Larkinville neighborhood. This lovingly restored 1937 dining car cooks up nostalgic fare: think meatloaf melts and strawberry milkshakes, with a side of contemporary panache. The diner’s custom artwork inside and out complements its overall vintage vibe. Whether you stop in for breakfast or lunch, start your meal with an order of the mini donuts and sample the sugary trifecta – cinnamon, glazed and powdered sugar.

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

**KAZOO FACTORY & MUSEUM**
This quaint factory once churned out one million metal kazoos every year. Today, it’s a working museum that highlights the history of the kazoo and the step-by-step manufacturing process. While you keep in tune with the tour, remember that neither the process nor the machines have changed since 1916! A stroll through their eclectic gift shop is the perfect way to round out your visit to this hidden gem.

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

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**FOUNDING FATHERS PUB**
Pay homage to America’s commanders-in-chief by stopping in for a pour at one of the city’s favorite watering holes. The walls of this 1847 building are bursting at the seams with history of the highest office in the land. Think you’re a know-it-all? Prove it! The pub hosts Trivia Night the first Tuesday of every month, not to mention that the man behind the bar may dole out some questions of his own on any given evening. Oh, and don’t forget about the free nachos and popcorn available every day – that should make your decision an easy one.

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

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**HERSCHELL CARROUSEL FACTORY MUSEUM**
Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, this century-old, factory-turned-museum produced hand-carved wooden carousels with striking detail and craftsmanship during the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Today, the museum is open April-December and features interactive exhibits and wooden carousels that are ready to ride. It really is the perfect excursion for visitors full of wonder – of any age.

[carrouselmuseum.org](http://carrouselmuseum.org)

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**CRAFT COCKTAILS**

1. **THE DAPPER GOOSE**
Award-winning cocktails and a family-like staff make this Black Rock bar and restaurant one of the city’s best. Try the “Broken Garden Tools” for a celery-and-parsley-flavored drink you’ve probably never had before.

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

2. **LUCKY DAY WHISKEY BAR**
The sound of jazzy live music, the detail of the interior woodwork and a warm cozy feel, Lucky Day is downtown’s speakeasy. The wall of more than 500 variations of whiskey, bourbon, rye, and scotch can leave you feeling intimidated. But never fear, the knowledgeable staff will craft the perfect drink for your tastes.

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

3. **ANGELICA TEA ROOM**
A traditional concept with a modern and whimsical twist, Angelica Tea Room offers enchanting libations with décor to match. Daily happy hour specials and yummy tea sandwiches and snacks make this a delightful spot for both locals and visitors.

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

4. **BILLY CLUB**
Sleek and chic, this Allentown gem is the perfect place to sip a drink and people watch. Try one of their signature concoctions—like the “Buck Wild” made with their own loganberry liqueur—or ask the friendly bartenders to mix you up something special.

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

5. **BALLYHOO**
Located near the Seneca Buffalo Creek Casino, RiverWorks and the KeyBank Center, Ballyhoo is the perfect place for before- or after-event drinks. A cross between a tiki bar and classic dive, the bar’s motto of “not that fancy” means all are welcome.

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

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Pat Sandora-Nastyn is the owner and creative producer at PSN Creative, and one half of BillyandPatVlog on YouTube.
Already home to 22 professional theater companies, Buffalo’s reputation as a center for the arts continues to grow. You’ll find Broadway musicals at Shea’s Performing Arts Center, once an opulent 1920s movie palace of real grandeur in the heart of the city’s downtown; classic and contemporary musicals at MusicalFare Theatre; the greatest works of dramatic literature at the Irish Classical Theatre Company; works by African-Americans and people of color at Ujima Theatre and the Paul Robeson Theatre; work by up-and-coming and undiscovered playwrights at the Alleyway Theatre; avant-garde plays at Torn Space Theater; an eclectic menu of musicals, comedies and drama at the lovely and intimate Kavinoky Theatre and child-centered productions from Theatre of Youth in the beautifully-restored Allendale Theatre in the historic Allentown neighborhood.

visitbuffalonniagara.com/itinerary/theater/
STEP INTO THE SPOTLIGHT
DON’T MISS THIS GOLDEN SEASON

SHEA’S BUFFALO THEATRE

M&T Bank ———
2018 - 2019 BROADWAY SERIES

AUG 8 - AUG 19, 2018
Disney's Aladdin
THE HIT BROADWAY MUSICAL

SEP 22 - SEP 29, 2018
Charlie and the Chocolate Factory
THE NEW MUSICAL

OCT 30 - NOV 4, 2018
Fiddler on the Roof

NOV 20 - DEC 9, 2018
Hamilton

FEB 26 - MAR 3, 2019
Miss Saigon
THE TONY AWARD-WINNING BEST MUSICAL

MAY 14 - MAY 19, 2019
Dear Evan Hansen

www.sheas.org
TICKETS: Call 800-745-3000 or visit Shea’s Box Office, 650 Main St, Buffalo, NY 14202
For groups 15+ or box seats, call 716-829-1153.

Presented by Shea’s & Albert Nocciolino
Shows, dates, times, prices, artists subject to change.
**FOOD TRUCK TUESDAY**  » APRIL 10-OCTOBER 2
One of the largest weekly food truck gatherings in the eastern United States happens from spring to fall in Larkinville, Buffalo’s revitalized warehouse district. From wood fired pizzas to pulled pork sandwiches, this event draws thousands weekly and has become the most popular way to spend a Tuesday in Buffalo.
larkinsquare.com

**LADY WINDERMERE’S FAN**  » IRISH CLASSICAL THEATRE COMPANY
JUNE 1-24
irishclassical.com

**BUFFALO RIVERFEST PARK CONCERT SERIES**
WEDNESDAYS, JUNE 6-SEPTEMBER 5
(no concert July 4)
thevalleycenter.com

**KEYBANK LIVE AT LARKIN**
WEDNESDAYS, JUNE 6-SEPTEMBER 5
(no concert July 4)
larkinsquare.com

**TIFT AT TWILIGHT AT TIFT NATURE PRESERVE**
JUNE 20
sciencebuff.org

**ALLENTOWN ART FESTIVAL**  » JUNE 9-10
The Allentown community becomes a living gallery as hundreds of talented artists and vendors line Delaware Avenue, live performers entertain on every block, the aroma of food trucks fills the air and thousands of people flock to this creative neighborhood. allentownartfestival.com

**SHAKESPEARE IN DELAWARE PARK**  » JUNE 21-JULY 15 & JULY 26-AUGUST 19
shakespeareindelawarepark.org

**JUNETEENTH FESTIVAL**
JUNE 16-17
This two-day celebration of African American families, culture and tradition, one of the largest in the nation, draws more than 100 vendors to commemorate the Emancipation Proclamation. juneteenthofbuffalo.com

**ROYCROFT SUMMER FESTIVAL**
JUNE 23-24
rolaweb.com

**PARKSIDE GARDEN & ARCHITECTURE TOUR**
JUNE 24
parksidebuffalo.org

**BUFFALO PRIDE FESTIVAL**
MAY 29-JUNE 3
With cultural events, art exhibitions and a colorful parade, show your support and pride for Buffalo’s LGBTQ community by joining one of the biggest parties of the year!
buffalopridefestival.com

**FRENCH AND INDIAN WAR ENCAMPMENT AT OLD FORT NIAGARA**
JUNE 29-JULY 1
Old Fort Niagara sure has its fair share of stories to tell, as it changed hands from the French, to the British, and finally to the Americans in its nearly 300 year history. This re-enactment brings to life the British army’s capture of the fort from the French.
oldfortniagara.org
▲ TASTE OF BUFFALO » JULY 7-8
Prepare for the best food that Buffalo has to offer at the Taste of Buffalo. With over 50 local restaurants dishing out samples, live music and culinary demonstrations, the largest two-day food festival in the U.S. is a foodie’s paradise! tasteofbuffalo.com

▲ GARDEN WALK BUFFALO » JULY 28-29
This is the largest garden tour in the U.S. — and it’s free. Whether you’re a casual green thumb or fully-fledged master gardener, you’ll be awestruck as you tour over 400 public and private gardens, from eclectic backyard gardens to the majesty of Buffalo’s Olmsted parks. gardenwalkbuffalo.com

OPEN GARDENS
THURSDAYS & FRIDAYS DURING JULY
gardensbuffaloniagara.com

BUFFALO NIAGARA BLUES FESTIVAL
JULY 14
wnyblues.org

WALDFEST
JULY 15
springarden.com

CANAL FEST OF THE TONAWANDAS
JULY 15-22
canalfest.org

▲ EDEN CORN FESTIVAL » AUGUST 2-5
This charming festival is a perfect opportunity to chow down on a cob or two of summer’s sweetest harvest. edencornfest.com

▲ PINE GRILL JAZZ REUNION » AUGUST 5 & 12
Paying tribute to some of the finest jazz musicians to grace the stage of the former Pine Grill (and Buffalo), this two-Sunday jazz festival at Martin Luther King Jr. Park is another shining example of Buffalo’s rich African-American heritage. aaccbuffalo.org/pine-grill-jazz-reunion-

▲ GALBANI ITALIAN HERITAGE FESTIVAL
JULY 12-15
buffaloitalianfestival.com

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JULY 15-22
canalfest.org

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cmctheclub.com

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SCOTTISH FESTIVAL AT BUFFALO NIAGARA HERITAGE VILLAGE » AUGUST 18-19
This homage to Scottish culture has been a staple of the region's summer festival schedule for over 30 years. From Scottish fare, games and bag piping to tours of the village’s historic buildings, this event is not to be missed!  

LEWISTON JAZZ FESTIVAL » AUGUST 24-25
lewistonjazz.com

BUFFALO IRISH FESTIVAL » AUGUST 24-26
buffaloirish.com

ELMWOOD AVENUE FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS » AUGUST 25-26
eafterriver.net

CURTAIN UP! » SEPTEMBER 14
facebook.com/CurtainUpBflo

NATIONAL BUFFALO WING FESTIVAL » SEPTEMBER 1-2
Join thousands of wing fanatics as they make the annual Labor Day pilgrimage to the birthplace of this saucy, spicy signature dish of Buffalo!  
buffalowing.com

MUSIC IS ART FESTIVAL » SEPTEMBER 8
Founded by Goo Goo Dolls bassist Robby Takac, Music is Art is a daylong festival filled with non-stop live music, dancing performances, food and drink, and fireworks. 
musicisart.org

BUBBLEFEST
SEPTEMBER 15
sciencebuff.org

THE GREAT PUMPKIN FARM FALL FESTIVAL
WEEKENDS, SEPTEMBER 15 – OCTOBER 28
greatpumpkinfarm.com

BUFFALO HUMANITIES FESTIVAL
SEPTEMBER 20-22
buffalohumanities.org

BORDERLAND FESTIVAL
SEPTEMBER 22-23
borderlandfestival.com

ROYCROFT FALL ART SHOW
SEPTEMBER 29-30
roycroftcampus corporation.com

BUFFALO INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL
OCTOBER 4-8
buffalointernationalfilmfestival.com

HAMPTON AT SHEA’S PERFORMING ARTS CENTER
NOVEMBER 20-DECEMBER 9
The smash Broadway musical retelling the story of one of our founding fathers makes its way to Buffalo as a highlight of the Shea’s 2018-2019 season. 

YMCA TURKEY TROT
NOVEMBER 22
ymcabuffaloniagara.org

WORLD’S LARGEST DISCO
NOVEMBER 24
worldslargestdisco.com

EAST AURORA CAROLCADE
DECEMBER 15
facebook.com/EACarolcade

NEW YEAR’S EVE BALL DROP
DECEMBER 31
firstnightbuffalo.org

BUFFALO AUTO SHOW
FEBRUARY 7-10, 2019
buffalaoautoshow.com

BUFFALO SOUP-FEST
FEBRUARY 2019
buffalosoupfest.com

GENIUS LOC: BURCHFIELD’S SPIRITS OF PLACE 1921-1943
AT BURCHFIELD PENNEY ART CENTER
DECEMBER 14, 2018–MARCH 31, 2019
Works from national museums, private collections, and the Burchfield Penney Art Center illustrate this critical period in watercolorist Charles Burchfield’s life and career—when he became one of the most famous artists in the country. 

ST. PATRICK’S DAY PARADE
MARCH 17, 2019
buffalostpatricksdayparade.com

DYNGUS DAY » APRIL 22, 2019
Everyone’s Polish on Dyngus Day, an old-time celebration of Lent’s end that occurs the Monday following Easter. Don your red attire and grab your squirt gun for this zany all-day party on Buffalo’s East Side, home to the world’s largest Dyngus Day bash! 
dyngusday.com

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dyngusday.com

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For our complete event calendar, go to visitbuffaloniagara.com/events
Thundering waterfalls take center stage at Niagara Falls State Park. Feel the intensity of the falls in the Cave of the Winds, cruise the powerful churning waters on the Maid of the Mist®, and more! Experience five great attractions, up to 33% off. Purchase your Niagara Falls USA Discovery Pass at niagarafallsstatepark.com and see this thrilling natural wonder from every angle.
Winter in Buffalo isn’t for everyone.

ICE BIKES AT CANALSIDE

TOBAGGANING AT CHESTNUT RIDGE PARK
But you’re not everyone, are you?

OK, WE GET IT. NOT EVERYONE LIKES WINTER.

But for the ones who do, our neck of the northern woods is the place to be. Come the first deep freeze, Niagara Falls transforms itself into an icy wonderland fit for a fairy tale; Buffalo’s Canalside fills with skaters, curlers and ice bikers enjoying one of the largest outdoor rinks in the country; and the hills south of the city offer some of the best skiing, sledding and tobogganing you’ll find in the eastern United States. In the coldest of winters, an actual ice bridge forms between the U.S. and Canada, linking our countries in a truly magical way. If it’s not on your bucket list, it should be.
Buffalo is a hotbed of cool treats. Off-the-wall concoctions created by Buffalo’s newest ice cream entrepreneurs can be found around the corner from classic shops that evoke the golden age of banana splits and roadside stands featuring the freshest frozen custard. For a guide to Buffalo’s ice cream scene, check out visitbuffaloniagara.com/icecream

**PARKSIDE CANDY**
Frozen treats in a beautifully restored historic ice cream parlor » parksidecandy.com

**HERTEL AVENUE POUTINE & CREAM**
“Freak Shakes” served in a mason jar eatpoutine.com

**KING CONDRELL’S CANDY & ICE CREAM**
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LafBrewCo.com
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A WELL-DESIGNED DESTINATION

Sample the small-town charm and hip amenities in eclectic East Aurora

A movie theater with a vintage marquee sits across the street from a huge five-and-dime store with a red striped awning. An elegant post clock adds to the air of classic Americana. But a closer look behind the quaint storefronts and general sense of small town coziness reveals the amenities of a hip urban neighborhood featuring excellent coffee shops and restaurants, high end stores and boutiques, walkability and craft beer.

BY KAREN HEALY
NEW FOR 2018: THE BORDERLAND FESTIVAL

The inaugural Borderland Festival will celebrate the rich history and renaissance of the Buffalo region’s artisan culture. The festival will showcase the best of Buffalo’s music, food and art in one of the most pastoral and scenic venues in the region, Knox Farm State Park. Festivalgoers can expect an eclectic experience that celebrates the region’s culture, surrounded by a diverse line-up of regional and national music acts. This two-day celebration is scheduled for September 22-23, 2018. For more information, visit borderlandfestival.com.

Anchoring this charming village is the National Historic Landmark Roycroft Campus, the tree-shaded birthplace of the American Arts and Crafts Movement. Founded by an All-American eccentric named Elbert Hubbard, the Roycroft Guild produced handcrafted furniture, stained glass, books, copper and leather goods for nearly half a century beginning in the 1890s. After a period of decline, the campus, which includes the 28-room Roycroft Inn, has undergone a dramatic restoration and revival. Tours, workshops and the Copper Shop Gallery, which carries crafts, furniture, jewelry and art from craft artists around the country, make this a must see for lovers of fine design and old school craftsmanship.

East Aurora’s history of artisanal excellence has inspired a new generation of craftspeople, entrepreneurs and shopkeepers. Shoppers will find handcrafted wood pieces and more at Rowandale Farms Artisan Center. The Painted House carries hand-painted furniture and gift items. Just outside of town, you’ll find the Schoolhouse Gallery (yes, it really was a one-room schoolhouse circa 1850!) selling custom-designed furniture, lamps and picture frames of Thomas Pafk and other Roycroft Renaissance artisans.

Even the new 42 North Brewery in the heart of the village celebrates the East Aurora way: its interior was fashioned by local artisans using wood and bricks reclaimed from the partial deconstruction of the H.H. Richardson-designed State Hospital in nearby Buffalo. Order an Asylum Robust Porter and toast their good taste!

Contemporary East Aurora has become a haven for foodies who look for locally-sourced ingredients and creative menus. That’s just what you’ll find at Elm Street Bakery, where eclectic dishes are served for breakfast, lunch and dinner. (Try the blueberry muffins…they’re amazing!).

For the quintessential East Aurora experience, stop at Vidler’s 5 & 10. (You can’t miss it: it’s the building with the statue of Ed Vidler perched on the roof — East Aurora’s very own Vidler on the roof!). This 5 & 10 store has been selling an astonishing assortment of sundries since 1930. Where else can you find malted milk balls, back scratchers, tin signs, garden gnomes and Gumby key chains all in the same place?

To complete your visit in this quirky small town, head outdoors. East Aurora is nestled in gently rolling countryside and home to several beautiful parks and preserves. Beaver Meadow Audubon Center and Knox Farm State Park offer a combined 900 acres of hiking, biking, and walking trails. After all the great food and beer (and muffins, don’t forget the muffins!) you’ve sampled, you’ll want to get a little exercise!

Delicious food, great beer, natural beauty, a National Historic Landmark — it’s all here in eclectic East Aurora!

– Gerald Mead
BUFFALO By Bus

THE NO. 20 GIVES YOU PLENTY TO EXPLORE

ITCH THE CAR ON YOUR NEXT VISIT TO BUFFALO.

It’s never been easier to navigate our city using ridesharing and our light rail system along Main Street. But perhaps most useful — and hiding in plain sight — is the unofficial visitor shuttle of Buffalo, the number 20 Metro bus.

The No. 20 ties together several of Buffalo’s most popular neighborhoods, including downtown, Allentown, the Elmwood Village and the Museum District. It shuttles passengers through the heart of the city on Elmwood Avenue and drops them within feet of top attractions, hotels and restaurants.

Purchase a $5-day pass at the Buffalo Metropolitan Transportation Center on Ellicott Street, head out to North Division and Ellicott to pick up the No. 20 (buses run between 15 and 30 minutes apart depending on the time of day). Get on and off to your heart’s content. Or, hop on the bus from anywhere along Elmwood Avenue for a $2 one-way fare. Here are some of the top spots to visit, organized by stops along the route:

NORTH ST.
This presidential-themed stop includes the Karpeles Manuscript Museum, which includes a collection of presidential portraits from Washington to Reagan. A short walk away is the Theodore Roosevelt Inaugural National Historic Site, one of only four sites outside the nation’s capital where a U.S. President took the oath of office.

ALLEN ST.
This stop drops you in the middle of Allentown, Buffalo’s creative quarter filled with bars, restaurants, shops, cafes and public art. Grab a jalapeno-and-peanut butter burger and a craft beer at Allen Burger Venture, then listen in at Nietzsche’s, which has live music every night of the week.

NIAGARA SQUARE
At 32 stories tall, Buffalo’s Art Deco City Hall dominates this public square in the heart of downtown. Head to the observation deck on its 28th floor for stunning views, or take a free tour of the building offered every weekday at noon from the lobby.

WEST UTICA ST.
Cheers! You’re a stone’s throw from the Elmwood Village’s first brewery, the three-story Thin Man Brewing Co.; Joe’s Deli and Mythos, one of Buffalo’s many storied Greek family restaurants.

WEST CHIPPEWA ST.
Why not start with dessert? The Chocolate Bar, just steps away from Elmwood features one of Buffalo’s best selections of confections. Wander among the collection of bars, restaurants and clubs lining this hub of downtown’s nightlife scene.

BY BRIAN HAYDEN
Get out of the confines of the car, breathe to the beat of the streets, listen to the surrounding sounds, give a good-neighborly nod to people you pass. Buffalo by bike is a feast for the senses. Buffalo’s more than 150 miles of new bike lanes includes the Queen City Bike Ferry that connects Canalside with an extensive network of trails on the Outer Harbor. If you’re visiting Buffalo and want to see it by bike, grab one of the 200 Reddy bikes found at dozens of stations around Buffalo.

Here’s how Reddy Bikeshare works:
- Download the SoBi app on your mobile device. Ensure that your phone’s GPS is enabled to find bikes nearby.
- Use the app to reserve a bike or simply walk up to it and enter your account number on the bike’s keypad. Enter your PIN to release the lock.
- The hold feature allows you to make multiple stops during your ride without a parking fee. Press the “Hold” button and lock the bike to a rack.
- When you reach your destination, lock the bike and check the keypad to ensure your trip has ended.

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Photographs shared on Instagram by, from left, @cawthra111, @of5andfashion, @kimberleymkroll, @kumakino, @mallorymordaut, @keep.punching.joe, @rmaadel, @noahmintzmastering, @pink.calico.ninja, Britney Godfrey (@bgodfrey730), Candace Russell (@cobaltwaters), Christine Phelps (@chrislyphelps), Nicholas Kaczmarek (@nicholasnac4), Cordell Cordaro (@cordellcordaroart) picturing Rachel Cordaro (@rachelcordaroart), Seamus Gallivan (@seamusgallivan), and The Bird’s Nest Circus Arts (@birdsnestbuffalo).
When you’re in Buffalo, you walk in the footsteps of the great landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted. When you bike around the Ring Road in Delaware Park, when you watch children splashing in the wading pool at Martin Luther King, Jr. Park, or when you head out for a summer evening of Shakespeare in the Park, you’re in Olmsted’s terrain. If your passions take you to the Botanical Gardens, or you visit the Albright-Knox or Burchfield Penney art museums, take a boat ride on Hoyt Lake or wander through the Japanese Garden at the foot of the History Museum — it was Olmsted who made it possible.

In 1868, Olmsted and his partner, Calvert Vaux, conceived of the first city-wide park and parkway system in the entire country. The Olmsted firm’s vision included a system of six major parks and traffic circles, linked by pretty parkways.

Today, the Olmsted Parks and boulevards provide the setting for Buffalo events year-round. In spring tourists flock to the Cherry Blossom Festival in the Japanese Garden, soon followed by a dazzling display of color in the Delaware Park Rose Garden where 33 rose beds overflow with thousands of blooms. Summer includes festivals, races, farmers’ markets, elegant galas at the Botanical Gardens and concerts by the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra. People picnic in the parks, and fortunate diners gaze over Hoyt Lake — complete with colorful boats and fountain — while at the Terrace restaurant in the Marcy Casino.

Buffalo’s Olmsted Park System serves Buffalo’s citizens and visitors better than F.L.O. could have possibly imagined. On this 150th anniversary of his achievement, we celebrate his genius with gratitude.

For a complete guide to Buffalo’s Olmsted Parks and 150th anniversary activities, visit bflo parks.org.
It’s quite a surprise when most people hear about it for the first time, but thousands of garden tourists know this to be true: Buffalo is home to the largest and most compelling garden tourism event in all of North America – Garden Walk Buffalo. Every summer, on the last two-day weekend in July, more than 400 private gardens show their amazing flowers, quirky art, and over-the-top garden designs — for free – to some 60,000 visitors. Featured in hundreds of magazines, newspapers and blogs, Garden Walk is one the marquee events in a city that is blossoming once again.

Garden Walk Buffalo began 24 years ago when 29 neighbors decided to spruce up their block and share their gardens with the public. From this modest seed, a garden culture has blossomed and an entire city neighborhood has been reborn. Inspired by Garden Walk, Buffalo’s garden-oriented events have spread throughout the summer. Open Gardens, modeled after the longtime tradition in the U.K. of “leaving the latch off the garden gate,” offers some 70 gardens to view on Thursdays and Fridays during the month of July. There are also 14 smaller scale garden tours that run from June through August, making our region one of the most exciting and photo-worthy garden destinations imaginable. Consider yourself invited to visit Buffalo and see the flowers!

– Sally Cunningham

gardensbuffaloniagara.com
The new Icons exhibit on display at The Buffalo History Museum puts you face-to-face with a lifetime’s worth of Buffalo sports memories and the cast of characters that made them all possible. It’s more than memorabilia in glass cases. It’s a collection of sacred relics.

**IT’S BUFFALO’S ORIGIN STORY.**

**LET’S GO BUFFALO!**

HISTORY MUSEUM EXHIBIT CELEBRATES THE CITY’S SPORTS ICONS

This thing hits you before you even reach the top of the stairs. Somewhere, in the back you can hear Rick Jeanneret’s Buffalo Sabres play-by-play call. The echo of his voice through the room mixed with the ambient crowd noise from the exhibits had me reliving some of the most famous Buffalo sports moments. Part of me expected to turn the corner and see Rick high above the arena looking down on the action, headphones on, yelling one of his famous catchphrases. I wasn’t looking at artifacts from an unfamiliar time or place. I was experiencing the moments all over again.

Seeing Buffalo Bandits legend John Tavares score his record-breaking goal or former Sabre Chris Drury tie game five against the Rangers with seven seconds left still raises the hair on the back of my neck. The big moments surround you and the effect of the exhibit leaves you feeling like you’re right there.

There is so much to love about the Icons exhibit. An interactive booth lets you call the play-by-play of big moments in Buffalo sports. A vertical leap test measures what kind of hops you have. Of course, it’s got the requisite jerseys and helmets, but it’s also got the actual swords the Sabres had made to commemorate the birth of the team, and the protective mask Pat LaFontaine wore after he broke his jaw.

**LET’S GO BUFFALO!**
The best part about the exhibit isn’t just about the big names and big moments. It made room for the bit players too. I never thought I would see the jersey of my all-time favorite Buffalo Bill, Henry Jones, but there it was, front and center. And the highlights don’t stop with Drury’s goal or Maxim Afinogenov’s game-winning goal and Superman dive across the ice. While watching all of this you get to notice things you might not have caught before, like how Rick Jeanneret and Jim Lorentz, in some of the biggest moments, remained quiet and let fans soak it all up, or the ease with which Tavares notched that goal and the relief on his face as he raised his arms in celebration. It’s all so, so good. It’s all of our favorite things about sports, regardless of what team you root for.
HE RELATIVELY PRISTINE LANDSCAPE of Niagara Falls State Park is a tribute to the great American landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted. Olmsted was the visionary behind the Free Niagara movement of the late 19th century that resulted in the creation of America’s first state park in 1885. Stroll the expansive grounds to begin your experience of the natural Niagara. Stop by Three Sisters Island, said to be Olmsted’s favorite spot in the entire park.

The wonders of Niagara don’t stop at Terrapin Point, however. Just downstream from the world’s most famous waterfall, you’ll find several miles of hiking trails that take you deep into the heart of the magnificent Niagara Gorge, far from the viewing platforms, souvenir stands and easily accessed attractions that command the typical visitor’s attention.

The gorge requires some exertion, but for travelers who enjoy a side of solitude and tranquility along with the legendary main course, it’s more than worth the effort.

For an easy hike with great views, stop by the Niagara Gorge Discovery Center on the northern edge of downtown Niagara Falls. Here you’ll find the start of the mile-long Great Gorge Railway Trail. Built on the route of the former Niagara Falls and Lewiston Railroad, a narrow-gauge electric rail line constructed in 1895, the trail descends gently into the gorge, offering stirring views of the Falls and the Whirlpool Bridge. You may not find a more spectacular rails-to-trail hike in the entire world.

From downtown Niagara Falls, it’s a short drive north on the Robert Moses Parkway to

NIAGARA GORGE
The Niagara Gorge invites you to wander among the wonders. You’ll be rewarded when you reach the Class Five rapids of the Niagara Whirlpool.

This stretch of unnavigable and untamed river is highlighted by striking rock formations, soaring canyon walls and, of course, the impressive tumult and turbulence of the river right at your feet. It’s hard to believe you are only minutes by car from one of the most popular tourist attractions in the entire world.

Devil’s Hole State Park. Take a moment to enjoy the spectacular vista before descending the winding staircase to the base of the gorge. As you walk upstream you’ll be struck by the ferocity of the current as the Niagara River makes its way to Lake Ontario. Step carefully and stay focused as you make your way along the edge of the river. There are no barriers or guardrails and at times the trail runs precariously close to some steep drop offs.

Charlie Fashana works for a local advertising agency 19 IDEAS, is a busy dad of two little ones and lover of all things Buffalo.
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Frommers

“We had a chance to spend three days in Buffalo. We loved it.”

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“Hands-On Fun for the Whole Fam!”

“We enjoyed it so much that we got a membership! Everyone (toddler through 4th graders) had so much fun. The activities are age-appropriate across the board. It is a great experience and a great way to spend the day with the family.”

Reviewed by Jeannine L, a TripAdvisor traveler » Dearborn, MI » July 31, 2017

BUFFALO IS UNDERGOING A ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME TRANSFORMATION, BUT DON’T TAKE OUR WORD FOR IT. HERE ARE TESTIMONIALS AND ENDORSEMENTS FROM VISITORS, BLOGGERS AND PUBLICATIONS THAT ARE HELPING TO SPREAD THE BUFFALOVE!

“One of 52 Places To Go in 2018”
The New York Times
“America’s Friendliest City”
TRAVEL+LEISURE

“The Albright-Knox has one of North America’s finest collections of modern art.”

THEODORE ROOSEVELT INAUGURAL NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

“Standing in the place of history”
“This is another of Buffalo’s important connections with the history of our country, a rare opportunity to experience a significant event in exactly the place where it happened. There is a feeling of reverence almost to stand in the room where Theodore Roosevelt took the oath of office to become president of the United States.”
Reviewed by Hereandhereafter, a TripAdvisor traveler Kailua-Kona, HI • July 13, 2017

“Buffalo, without a doubt, is one of the great eating cities.”
ROADFOOD

“Buffalo is an unexpected alternative to yesterday’s hot urban places.”
AFAR

“Buffalo has one of the finest collections of architecture. in any city this size.”
TORONTO STAR

“Canalside has transformed Buffalo’s lake shore.”
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

“You will party harder, eat better, and make more new friends than anywhere else in America.”
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QUESTIONS? ASK US!

At the Buffalo Niagara Visitor Center, you’ll find a friendly face, maps, brochures, Buffalo merchandise, schedules for upcoming events and directions to anywhere you’d like to go. Our representatives will answer your questions about our city and region. Stop by and let us help you discover Buffalo and Niagara Falls!

The Visitor Center is located on the first floor of the historic Brisbane Building at the corner of Washington and Clinton (403 Main Street) in downtown Buffalo. We are open Monday through Friday 9 am–5 pm (and Saturdays 10 am-2 pm, from June to September). For more information, call (716) 852-2356 or (800) 283-3256.
AYING I LIVE IN BUFFALO IS A CONVERSATION-STOPPER.

I can be on a plane talking to a stranger, meeting an old friend or talking to my family, who after almost 10 years, still can’t imagine how I can be happy living in what they consider a cold, lost part of the planet. The look is the same: a mix of pity and bewilderment. It’s like I have announced I have a terminal illness.

I always feel pressed to explain.

I live in Buffalo by choice. I chose this city after living in numerous better-loved places, including Los Angeles, New York, Washington, D.C., Paris, San Francisco and Berlin. In Buffalo, I have sunk roots, raised two kids from toddlers to teens and found the space and grace to grow as a writer, professor, parent and person.

At first, I too, was skeptical of the city, with her industrial roots and notorious winters. But Buffalo is coy. Like an aged aristocrat, she’s proud, deeply-wrinkled and only willing to tell her stories to worthy listeners.

Listening is worth it.

Buffalo came of age in the late 19th century as the western terminus of the Erie Canal. This position brought wealth, culture and beautiful old bones. That includes parks designed by Frederick Law Olmsted, buildings by Frank Lloyd Wright, H. H. Richardson and Louis Sullivan and an implicit understanding that theater, art and music matter and must be nurtured.

And it’s cheap. I often see cutting-edge shows at half the price I’d pay in fancier cities. I rarely stand in line or wait in traffic. Silo City is among the coolest places I’ve ever seen a show — and I’ve seen shows at bunkers in Berlin and in ruins in Jerusalem.

Hardship brings wisdom, humility and kindness; Buffalo and her residents have these traits in abundance. It’s a place where people care about neighbors, where they’ll bring you soup during a snowstorm and mow your lawn if you are not well. You don’t even have to ask.

Buffalo tells her stories in unassuming, surprising and often intimate ways. I was buying fruit years ago at a local orchard when I learned it was a stop on the Underground Railroad. Our library has the original copy of Mark Twain’s Huckleberry Finn. I visit it for free; often I am the only one in the room.

Buffalo also has water. And wind. And weather. The confluence of the three and Niagara Falls, just 20 minutes away, inspire me and make me aware of time. Summer means kayaks and bikes and sailboats. I have friends who sail to Toronto for dinner. My 15-year-old son and his friends ride their bikes to Canada to go to the beach. Fall means foliage. In winter, we ski.

There is a sense of wonder, fear and muted glee as the city gears up for the first big storm. When it hits, the city quiets; it’s like suddenly being inside a black and white film. Time stops. School and work disappear. Outside pressures vanish. Families and neighbors gather around fireplaces, make hot chocolate, drink wine, shovel snow and talk.

Outsiders pity us. But, we relish these sacred moments.

We also have among the best snow crews in the world. I feel safer in Buffalo during a snowstorm than anywhere else in the world, except perhaps Finland. For decades, Buffalo snow has given us a bad reputation nationally, but it’s also connected us. It’s no wonder we have some of the best sports fans in the nation.

Ostentatious cities buzz and tempt visitors with adrenaline and obvious appeal. I love Buffalo for her understatement, her soft underbelly and her secrets. She’s worth getting to know.

“I love Buffalo for her secrets.”

Jody Kleinberg Biehl is the head of the journalism program at the University at Buffalo and is a former foreign correspondent, who spent five years based in Berlin working for the San Francisco Chronicle and as an editor at Der Spiegel.
YOUR GUIDE TO GETTING AROUND BUFFALO NIAGARA
Flip over for Buffalo’s most photogenic spots. Pull gently to remove and unfold map.

Metro Rail free fare zone
(no auto traffic between Huron and Erie Canal Harbor)

Metro Rail continues underground (pay zone)
If there aren’t any pictures, then it didn’t really happen, right? While you discover all the unexpected wonders of Buffalo, from the architectural marvels and good eats to natural beauty and friendly people, we want to see your photos. So be sure to tag #TravelBUF on social media for a chance to be featured!

SAY CHEESE, BUFFALO!

The Buffalo Museum of Science maintains Tifft Nature Preserve, a natural sanctuary within the city limits. @EHELIOS

Showing some Buffalo pride in the Theatre District. @ARTISWHY

The oldest active fireboat in the world, the Edward M. Cotter cruises out onto Lake Erie for a skyline view. @BUFFALOPHOTOBLOG

Inside and out, the Botanical Gardens burst with color. @IAMCLAYDAVIES

Downtown drone photographers get all the right angles. @CHRISTOPHERHYZY
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**Juneteenth** is one of the summer’s top festivals.

Even in a snowstorm, no one circles the wagons like Bills fans.

The oldest active fireboat in the world, the Edward M. Cotter cruises out onto Lake Erie for a skyline view.

Go on a quest to snap a selfie at the Eternal Flame.

Juneteenth is one of the summer’s top festivals.

The American bison, one of the Buffalo Zoo’s most popular animals.
SAVE UP TO 75%

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KATE SPADE  MICHAEL KORS  NIKE  SAKS OFF 5TH  UNDER ARMOUR

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